



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report



2023-2639

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 7498 Van Ness Avenue,
Hubbard, Ohio 44425, Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Crime Scene Review, Information Provided/Obtained, Evidence Collection

Involves: Hubbard Twp. Police Department (O)

Date of Activity: 10/04/2023

Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

On Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at approximately 2307 hours, Ohio Attorney General's – Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) – Special Agent (SA) Charlie Snyder (Snyder) was dispatched via "Whose Responding" notification program to Hubbard Township (Trumbull County) Ohio reference an officer involved critical incident. The notification included instruction to contact Hubbard Township Police Department Chief Ronald A. Fusco (Fusco).

Snyder contacted Fusco by telephone and learned law enforcement officers reportedly responded to a domestic quarrel in his jurisdiction (2180 Hubbard Masury Road, Hubbard, Ohio 44425). The male portion of that incident fled on foot from the residence into nearby wooded area, and observed armed with possibly two long guns. Officers from other local jurisdictions also responded and assisted with search and pursuit of the subject. At 7498 Van Ness Ave., Hubbard Township, Ohio, law enforcement officials made contact with the subject, who was reportedly still armed and suffered injuries from gunfire from the pursuing law enforcement personnel. Fusco believed law enforcement personnel who discharged their weapons were from other local jurisdictions. The injured subject was removed from the scene, suffering from gunshot wound(s). Fusco requested BCI personnel respond to the scene and assist in the investigation.

Snyder advised Fusco of his approximate travel and arrival times and responded to the scene request post-haste, arriving at the Van Ness Avenue location at approximately 0025 hours on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. Upon arrival, Snyder observed several nearby streets blocked with vehicles and yellow-barricade tape.

At the scene, Snyder met with BCI Special Agents Charles Moran (Moran) and Nicholas Valente (Valente). The injured subject was identified as Shawn M. Thomas (Thomas), who had been transported to Mercy Health – Saint Elizabeth Hospital (1044 Belmont Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44504 – telephone: 330-746-7211) by emergency medical services. Snyder was assigned to proceed to the hospital to learn Thomas' condition and collect any evidence, statements or other pertinent information.

At approximately 0100 hours, Snyder arrived at Mercy Health – Saint Elizabeth Hospital and was escorted to the surgery area. Snyder learned Thomas had suffered a fatal upper right ballistic chest wound. Thomas' death was declared at 0055 hours by Doctor Gruber. Snyder was allowed to access operating room #1, where decedent

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Thomas was at that time located. Snyder then secured six iPhone images of the decedent Thomas.

Also present in the operating room area, Snyder met with Ohio State Patrol – Trooper Qaiser and Hubbard Township Police Officer Ronald Reed. Reed was in possession of items removed from decedent Thomas at the hospital. Those items included a large plastic bag purported to contain clothing from Thomas; a brown paper bag containing a pair dark color athletic style shoes, a surgical type glove containing a pair of handcuffs reportedly removed from decedent Thomas after his arrival at the hospital. Hospital personnel also provided to Snyder a watch that had been also removed from decedent Thomas. These items were the secured into Snyder's vehicle for further evaluation and possible forensic analysis processing.

At approximately 0152 hours, Snyder had telephone communication with Mahoning County Coroner's Investigator Madeline Rosile, notifying her of decedent Thomas' death and incident information. Rosile advised she would contact her team of personnel and would also respond to Mercy Health – Saint Elizabeth Hospital. Rosile requested that Snyder stand-by until her arrival.

At approximately 0220 hours, Rosile arrived at the operating room area and was briefed by Snyder of case information. Rosile inquired about next-of-kin notifications. Snyder contacted Moran at approximately 0229 hours with request for that information. Moran subsequently verified decedent Thomas' wife, [REDACTED] (telephone: [REDACTED]) had been notified of Thomas' death by unidentified Hubbard Township Police Officers. Rosile also advised the decedent would be transported to Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office (CCME) for forensic autopsy and indicated the procedure would be conducted later this date. Snyder was also advised his contact information was provided to CCME personnel for contact and notification of the examination's time.

At approximately 0315 hours, Snyder secured from St. Elizabeth hospital, returning to the incident scene. There Snyder again met with Moran and Valente, reviewed information and organized task assignments. Snyder also transferred the evidence/property items from decedent Thomas acquired at the hospital. That exchange was documented on BCI Inventory/Receipt form at approximately 0400 hours. Snyder was assigned to also attend and witness the autopsy of decedent Thomas, when scheduled at CCME.

At approximately 0515 hours, Snyder secured from the incident scene.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-10-04: 23_2639 Evidence Receipt 10_04_23

Attachment # 02: IMG_0060

Attachment # 03: IMG_0061

Attachment # 04: IMG_0062

Attachment # 05: IMG_0063

Attachment # 06: IMG_0064

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CASE# 2023-2639

Inventory/Receipt Attachment

I received the below listed property from (person/location): S/A CHARLIE SNYDER - BCI #90

Item	Description	Location Found	Found by Whom
①	PLASTIC BAG CONTAINING CLOTHING		CS90
②	PAPER BAG CONTAINING BLACK SHOES		CS90
③	PLASTIC BAG CONTAINING WATCH		CS90
④	PLASTIC BAG CONTAINING SURGICAL GLOVES		CS90
—	— THAT CONTAINS ONE HANDCUFF		—
NOTHING MORE			
<p>ABOVE LISTED ITEMS RECEIVED AT ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY ROOM FROM DECEASED SHAWN M. THOMAS</p>			

Signed [Signature] BCI 90
Inventory Agent

Date 10/04/2023

Items	Released By	Received By	Date/Time
①, ②, ③, ④	<u>[Signature]</u> BCI 90	X SA <u>[Signature]</u> #27	10/04/23 0400

