



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



2023-0795

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1433 State Route 7, Brookfield Township, Ohio 44403, Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Interview of Witness Officer
Involves: Trooper Scott Boyle (W)
Activity Date: 4/11/2023
Activity Location: Ohio State Highway Patrol – Southington Post – 3424 U.S. 422, Southington, Ohio 44470
Authoring Agent: SA Charles Moran #67

Narrative:

On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 0613 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chuck Moran (Moran) and SA Joe Goudy (Goudy) interviewed Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Trooper Scott Boyle (Boyle), who was accompanied by his staff representative, Jeff Skinner, from the Ohio State Troopers Association. The interview took place at the OSHP Post in Southington, Ohio. The interview was audio and video recorded.

Trooper Boyle read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form prior to the interview.

Trooper Boyle was identified as being a law enforcement officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the March 21, 2023, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1433 State Route 7, Brookfield Township, Ohio. Reportedly, Trooper Boyle did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Trooper Boyle.

Trooper Boyle said his radio call sign on March 21, 2023 was 747. He has been employed by the OSHP for about six years. He has been a law enforcement officer for a total of six years. He was in the United States Air Force and served as a Military Police (MP) officer for six years. During the incident, Trooper Boyle wore his standard OSHP trooper uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He wore a black jacket with OSHP patches and a badge affixed to it during the incident. He also wore a concealed ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove OSHP unit #3015, a marked unit with OSHP emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a law enforcement officer during the incident. He stated he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident nor during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Trooper Boyle confirmed that he did not discharge a firearm during the incident. SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle if he watched any of the available body-worn camera (BWC) videos after

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the incident. Trooper Boyle said he only watched his BWC video one time after the incident and then another time when he returned to work a few days later. Trooper Boyle said he watched the portion of the Brookfield Township Police Department (BTPD) BWC that was release to the news media one time.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle to provide details about the incident that occurred on March 21, 2023. Trooper Boyle said he spoke with a Liberty Township Police Department (LTPD) one or two nights before the incident and the LTPD officer mentioned the subject Fred Wild (Wild), being in the area and having felony warrants. The LTPD officer told Trooper Boyle that the LTPD was also likely going to request felony warrant(s) for Wild. The next day, Trooper Boyle learned about the vehicle pursuit involving Wild and multiple law enforcement agencies in Trumbull County.

At the start of Trooper Boyle's shift before the incident, OSHP dispatch informed him that the BTPD had information about Wild's location from a homeowner in the area. There was information that Wild was a "flight risk" and told the homeowner that he would leave the property in the morning. Trooper Boyle and other OSHP troopers went to Brookfield Township and met with other law enforcement officers from other agencies at a mechanic shop near the homeowner's property. They spoke about a plan and viewed an overhead map, but it was difficult to see the exact layout of the property and buildings. Trooper Boyle said he was going to cover the east side of the building with OSHP Sergeant (Sgt.) Grimm.

The law enforcement officers parked their cruisers on the road in front of the residence and walked about ¼ of a mile down a road on the property. Trooper Boyle could hear music "playing in the distance." Trooper Boyle recalled a "spotlight" activating as the law enforcement officers were walking on the road on the property and he was worried Wild might see them coming. They continued moving into the wood line and Trooper Boyle saw a light emanating from a window. Trooper Boyle said during the briefing, law enforcement officers discussed that the stolen vehicle that Wild had was likely parked further back on the property. Trooper Boyle said they approached the cabin and he had "no idea" that Wild had the truck parked next to the cabin.

Trooper Boyle said a "stick snapped" and he saw Wild approach a cabin window and look out of it. Wild bent down and possibly saw a law enforcement officer because "he jumped through the window of the cabin and then through the window of the truck." Other officers activated lights and Trooper Boyle saw the truck parked next to the cabin for the first time. Trooper Boyle said he was trying to "process" what was happening.

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Trooper Boyle said he saw the other officers moving toward the truck and he moved to an area near the front of the truck. He stated (09:06), "And I'm standing right in front of the snow plow and I pull up on him (raised hands and arms as if raising a rifle up), as I do that I see him putting the truck in drive so I start rolling out of the way and I hear him smashing the throttle. He's you know, peeling out, um, I mean, just roasting the tires and he's peeling out so I get out of the way and then right as that was, all happened I was still moving to the side um, I heard the shots being fired."

Trooper Boyle said the reason he did not shoot was because the truck was moving and he was concerned about "crossfire." He also said he was "pinned up against the cabin." Trooper Boyle said Wild "somehow" stopped the truck and officers approached and cleared the vehicle. Trooper Boyle checked Wild for weapons and a pulse. Trooper Boyle said he saw a bullet wound to the back of Wild's head and it was clear he was deceased. Trooper Boyle and another officer cleared the cabin.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle to describe the lighting conditions. Trooper Boyle said the spotlight affected the officers' night vision as they walked down the road. Trooper Boyle said, "You couldn't see anything." He described that he could see the light through the cabin window but could not see the outline of the cabin.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about the briefing between officers. Trooper Boyle said the BTPD officer(s) provided information they received from the homeowner and it was clear that this was not the first time Wild stayed on the property. SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about the information regarding the truck being located further back on the property. Trooper Boyle said based upon the information provided, he believed the truck was parked at a different structure further back behind the cabin where Wild was located. Trooper Boyle said it "was a complete surprise" to him that the truck was parked near the cabin.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about his movements toward the truck when the incident occurred. Trooper Boyle pointed to a wooded area to the east of the cabin when he spoke about how he saw Wild jump through the cabin window and into the truck. When that happened, Trooper Boyle pointed to the southeast corner of the cabin and said, "And then I kind of run up to the corner right here." Trooper Boyle said he moved to the area because he wanted to "get in a good position." He recalled thinking about where Wild was going to go because there were trees in front of the truck. Trooper Boyle stated, "But he was plowing those trees over."

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SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about what he felt and what he believed was going to happen when Wild put the truck in gear and began driving forward. Trooper Boyle said he raised his rifle up and toward Wild because he believed he was a “threat” but he did not fire because he knew officers were on the passenger side of the truck and were in the direction of where his potential shots would have been aimed. Trooper Boyle stated, “I mean, I felt threatened um, when I ran up to the front of the truck.” SA Moran asked, “What do you think could have happened to you if you didn’t move or move out of the way?” Trooper Boyle responded, “I would have got tore up underneath that plow um, he had it raised just enough, yeah, it wouldn’t have been good.”

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle how he knew that there were officers on the passenger side of the truck. Trooper Boyle saw Trumbull County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) Deputy [REDACTED] approach the passenger side and try to break the window. Trooper Boyle saw the “silhouettes” of officers from the Vienna Township Police Department (VTPD) and the BTPD on the passenger side of the truck. SA Moran asked about the light Trooper Boyle saw as the officers were around the truck. Trooper Boyle said he believed that the Lordstown Police Department (LPD) officer had a very bright light activated at that time.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle if any verbal commands were provided to Wild. Trooper Boyle said he remembered hearing, “Show me your fucking hands!” Trooper Boyle added “Just trying to get him to stop you know, like we’re supposed to.” SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle if Wild showed any indication that he was going to follow or comply with verbal commands. Trooper Boyle said he believed Wild was “on something” because his eyes were “huge.” Trooper Boyle stated (17:28), “So I know he was in like, flight mode um, he was trying to get the hell out of there. He wasn’t responding to anything anybody had to say um, he was just trying to get the hell out of there. So, I mean, he didn’t care what was in front of the truck or anything.”

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about the acceleration of the truck. Trooper Boyle said he could hear the “tires spinning” and he could hear “rocks getting thrown up.” He also heard the “rev of the engine.”

SA Goudy asked Trooper Boyle if there was anyone around him or near his location that fired their weapon(s). Trooper Boyle said he was not certain of who was around his location, but he remembered seeing OSHP Sgt. [REDACTED] standing on a pile of rocks or pallets nearby (made a motion to his left and slightly behind). Trooper Boyle pointed to an area on the overhead scan map where the rocks or pallets were located (near the front of the truck when it was parked). He

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recalled seeing Sgt. [REDACTED] after he cleared out of the way of the truck and turned to his left and saw Sgt. [REDACTED] on the rocks or pallets. Trooper Boyle stated, "I would say he had some threat his way as well."

SA Goudy asked Trooper Boyle if he saw Wild do anything else when he entered the truck. Trooper Boyle said he did not see any additional movements other than what he described. Wild was possibly "scared that he was probably going to get caught" and he did not say anything during the incident.

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle about his motion to move out of the way of the truck. Trooper Boyle said he "peeled off this way" (pointed to the north of the southeast corner of the cabin). Trooper Boyle added, "It was tight. I remember looking down and the plow was right there (made motion with right hand moving from his right to left)."

SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle if the involved law enforcement officers discussed the incident at length. Trooper Boyle said that everyone was in "disbelief" and he said the outcome he expected was that Wild was going to surrender. Trooper Boyle said regardless of the trouble that Wild caused, no one wanted the incident to happen. Trooper Boyle said (23:24), "This is kind of a unique situation for me. We don't go arrest our own warrants often, you know? If we can use different resources, we can. However, this specific situation we knew he was a flight risk, he's been running, and it kind of felt like we had the advantage over him um, but, yeah, this is kind of a unique situation, we don't have a lot of experience with you know, going and getting these warrants."

The first portion of the interview ended at 0637 hours. Trooper Boyle indicated that he wanted to review his BWC video. SA Moran used Axon Investigate to play Trooper Boyle's BWC video. (File Name: Axon_Body_3_Video_2023-03-21_0108_X60A2773V.mp4.)

Trooper Boyle showed SA Moran some moments at the BWC video timestamp of 01:16:19 where his BWC recorded Wild driving the truck forward. These moments also recorded Sgt. [REDACTED]'s position in close proximity to the front of the truck just before the gunshots were fired.

The second recorded portion of the interview began at 0650 hours with the same parties in the room. SA Moran asked Trooper Boyle if there was anything else that clarified or confirmed his memory of the incident after reviewing his BWC video. Trooper Boyle stated, "Yeah, that was the first time that I actually got to see Sgt. [REDACTED] that he was actually in the way of the plow

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there so, um, I mean, I'm surprised he didn't get hit by the plow." Trooper Boyle added, "He had a direct threat towards him."

The second portion of the interview ended at 0651 hours.

Reference Item:

The video recorded interviews (portion 1 and portion 2) were copied to a DVD+R and were submitted to the BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU) case file as Reference Item M.

Attachments:

1. BCI Criminal Investigation Notification Form - OSHP Trooper Scott Boyle
2. 2023-04-11 - Audio - Interview of OSHP Trp. Scott Boyle Part 1 - 803_0763
3. 2023-04-11 - Audio - Interview of OSHP Trp. Scott Boyle Part 2 - 803_0764
4. 2023-0795 Overhead diagram w-o placards



Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Scott C. Boyle
Printed Name of Interviewee

4/11/23 / 0613
Date / Time

[Signature] 747
Signature of Interviewee

SA CAPRIS MORAN 067
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] 067
BCI Agent (Signature)

03/21/2023
2023-0795
BCI for TCSO
OICI
1433 SR 7, Brookfield, Ohio
SA Dan Boerner #135
To Scale



- 1 - FC 223 REM
- 2 - FC 223 REM
- 3 - FC 223 REM
- 4 - FC 223 REM
- 5 - FC 223 REM
- 6 - FC 223 REM
- 7 - Hornady 5.56
- 8 - Hornady 5.56
- 9 - Hornady 5.56
- 10 - Hornady 223 REM
- 11 - Hornady 223 REM
- 12 - Hornady 223 REM
- 20 - Projectile

