



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



2024-1376

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Interstate 77 Southbound
at Exit 85 , New Philadelphia, OH 44663

Investigative Activity: Interview of Other Person
Involves: Melissa Henderson (O)
Activity Date: 05/30/2024
Activity Location: BCI - Richfield
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Joseph Goudy #83

Narrative:

On Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 1206 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joseph Goudy conducted an interview with Melissa Henderson (Henderson) related to the officer involved critical incident that occurred on May 3, 2024, in New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Henderson has a child in common with the decedent, Kendell Woodard (Woodard). The interview was conducted over the telephone.

After explaining the reason for the interview, SA Goudy asked Henderson if Woodard had visited her prior to May 3, 2024. Henderson stated that it had been a while since she had last seen him in person. The last time Henderson spoke with Woodard was over the telephone, sometime in late March or April. She stated that he was planning on visiting his son. When Henderson was asked if Woodard would just show up unannounced, she stated that he would not. Henderson stated that she did not know why Woodard would be in the New Philadelphia area or anywhere in northern Ohio due to him living in Dayton.

When Henderson was asked if Woodard showed any signs of depression when she spoke on the phone with him, she stated that he did. When Henderson was asked to elaborate on that, she stated that she could hear it in general conversations with him. Henderson further stated that things like current events that were going on across the world were getting to him. Henderson stated that she was not aware of anything that triggered any depression issues due to only speaking with him a few times a year. Henderson also did not recall any suicidal thoughts or statements made by Woodard.

For further details, please refer to the attached audio interview conducted with Melissa Henderson

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References:

None

Attachments:

1. 2024-05-30 Audio Interview of Melissa Henderson

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