



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



2021-0584

Officer Involved Critical Incident – Interstate 270 Northbound on
Big Walnut Creek Bridge, Columbus (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Officer Matthew Peddicord (W)
Date of Activity: 03/05/2021
Author: SA Ryan D. Scheiderer, #89

Narrative:

On March 05, 2021, at approximately 2325 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Ryan Scheiderer interviewed Mifflin Township Police (Mifflin Township) Officer Matthew Peddicord (Officer Peddicord) at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office K-9 Facility regarding the March 5, 2021, fatal shooting incident between Andrew Teague (Teague) and members of the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) and Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO). The following is a summation of Officer Peddicord's statement and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording.

Officer Peddicord was acting as a Field Training Officer (FTO) and riding passenger with Officer Cody Palmer (Palmer) in a marked Mifflin Township cruiser. While monitoring FCSO radio traffic, they heard information about a vehicle refusing to stop for police containing a subject, later identified as Teague, wanted on a felonious assault warrant. Officer Peddicord stated there was additional radio traffic advising the subject was armed or possibly armed. Officer Peddicord instructed Officer Palmer to respond to the northern part of their township in case the pursuit entered their jurisdiction. As the pursuit headed eastbound on Weber Road from I-71, Officer Peddicord instructed Officer Palmer to parallel the vehicles. Eventually the Mifflin Township cruiser met up with FCSO Deputy Michael Severance (Deputy Severance (K-9 6)) and several CPD cruisers who were following Teague's vehicle around the area of Cleveland Avenue and Fifth Avenue. Officer Peddicord stated he was unsure if FCSO Chief Deputy Jim Gilbert (Chief Gilbert) was involved at that time, but stated at some point Chief Gilbert joined other units and followed Teague's vehicle in his unmarked SUV. Officer Peddicord stated that at that time, none of the law enforcement vehicles had their emergency lights activated because the subject vehicle was being tracked by CPD's helicopter. Eventually the vehicles made their way southbound on I-71 S to I-70 E and then exited on SR 256 and then onto I-70 W. Teague's vehicle was in the far left lane and then suddenly shot across several lanes and exited onto I-270 N. Chief Gilbert wasn't able to make the exit so Deputy Severance and the Mifflin Township cruiser continued to follow Teague.

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Officer Peddicord stated Car 23 was attempting to set up a spike-strip on I-270 around Broad Street which caused northbound traffic to slow. As Teague's vehicle approached the stalled traffic, it moved from the far left lane to the right berm and stopped. Officer Peddicord stated they were about to initiate a felony-stop when Teague's vehicle did a U-turn in the roadway and headed southbound in the northbound lanes. Deputy Severance and the Mifflin Township cruiser activated their emergency lights and sirens and attempted to catch up to Teague, who fails to stop and is observed "weaving" in and out of lanes of traffic. Chief Gilbert airs across the radio that all units are to terminate pursuing Teague's vehicle. Deputy Severance and the Mifflin Township cruiser killed their lights and sirens and started to enter a crossover in the median when Officer Peddicord witnesses Teague's vehicle crash into oncoming northbound vehicles. Deputy Severance and the Mifflin Township cruiser respond to the location of the crash by traveling southbound in the northbound lanes.

As their car arrived in the area of the crash, Officer Peddicord observed Teague exit the driver's side of his vehicle and point a pistol towards the Mifflin Township cruiser. Officer Peddicord observed a "puff" of smoke from Teague's pistol. Officer Peddicord announced Teague had a firearm and both officers exited their cruiser. As Officer Peddicord and Officer Palmer ran towards Teague with their pistols drawn, Officer Peddicord observed Deputy Severance pass them in his cruiser. Officer Peddicord heard gunshots followed by someone announcing "shots fired" and then observed Teague near a car. Officer Peddicord stated it looked as if Teague was trying to enter the car to "carjack" it. There were additional gunshots and then a CPD officer advised Officer Peddicord that Teague was "down." Officer Peddicord observed Teague lying on the ground near the east berm with what appeared to be a gunshot wound to the head. Officers secured Teague and started CPR on him. Teague succumbed to his injury.

Officer Peddicord clarified that he never observed any of the CPD cruisers with their emergency lights activated, but there were several CPD cruisers in the area including a K-9 Unit. Officer Peddicord denied firing his pistol or deploying any weapons against anyone during the incident. Officer Peddicord denied being injured during the incident. Officer Peddicord stated Officer Palmer did not fire his pistol and did not use any other weapon against anyone during the incident. Officer Peddicord stated Officer Palmer advised him that during the incident he fell due to the oil on the roadway. Officer Peddicord stated the Mifflin Township cruisers don't have dash-mounted cameras, but officers wear Body Worn Cameras (BWC's). Officer Peddicord did provide SA Scheiderer with a USB thumb-drive containing BWC footage from the Mifflin Township officers. Officer Peddicord had no further information.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01 :Mifflin Twp Officer Matthew Pedicord Audio Interview 3.05.2021

References:

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01 – CD/DVD – DVD Mifflin Township PD BWC Videos

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