



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



2021-1431

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma,
OH 44134

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Sgt. Nathan Savetski – Parma Police Department
Activity Date: 8/18/2021
Activity Location: Parma Police Department, 5555 Powers Blvd., Parma, OH 44129
Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

Narrative:

On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at 0956 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) and SA Jared Prill (Prill) interviewed Parma Police Department (PPD) Sergeant (Sgt.) Nathan Savetski (Savetski), who was accompanied by his attorneys, Adam Chaloupka and Danielle Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Parma Police Department. The interview was audio recorded.

Sgt. Savetski read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

Savetski was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 13-14, 2021, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134. Reportedly, Savetski 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 this officer.

Savetski stated that on June 13-14, 2021, his radio call sign was "605." He has been employed by the Parma Police Department for about 11 years. He has been a police officer for a total of 14 years. During the incident, Savetski wore his standard navy-blue color police SWAT uniform which included "Police" on the front and back. He also wore an external ballistic vest. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police 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 or during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Savetski was the SWAT Commander for the central region of the team. Savetski stated that he first learned about the incident when he received a telephone call from Parma Police Captain Dave Zarzeczny (Zarzeczny) informing him that there may be a SWAT call out. Savetski was told there was a vehicle pursuit and the male subject was now in his residence. Sometime later, Savetski was told to come into work, so he responded to the PPD to gather his gear. He then drove a police cruiser to the scene.

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Savetski was one of the first SWAT officers to arrive on scene. He met with Zarzeczny and the Parma police chief. The decision was made to call the full SWAT team out to the scene. As SWAT officers began to arrive on scene, Savetski began replacing patrol officers with SWAT officers at various locations around the scene. Savetski said that negotiators were on scene and communication had been established with the subject. Savetski said that the impression he got, when he first spoke with negotiators, was that negotiations were going well. Savetski also stated that he observed the subject come outside screaming and yelling. Savetski said, one time, the subject pulled his pants down. Savetski stated that the negotiators and the subject would agree to times for the subject to come out of the residence and surrender; but each time the subject was supposed to exit the house, he did not.

Savetski said that as the incident was continuing on, he learned that there was an incident at the BP gas station involving the subject and a gun. Savetski said it was unclear at that time whether the suspect pulled the gun or shot at the off-duty officer. A short vehicle pursuit occurred and then the subject entered his residence.

Savetski said that after hours of unsuccessful negotiations, they eventually deployed gas (chemical munitions) into the front area of the residence. Gas was deployed using the 40mm launcher and the Draco system. Note that the Draco system is a device that is put on the end of the extension arm of an armored vehicle. The Draco holds CS or OC gas that is command initiated. The vehicle is driven up to the residence so that the front of the arm enters the residence. The gas is then released with the assistance of a fan into the residence. Savetski said that once gas was deployed, it did not elicit any noticeable response from the subject. Savetski said that based on his experience, once the Draco system is used, suspects will typically exit the house. He said the Draco puts a lot of gas into the structure, and this usually causes the suspect to surrender. Savetski said that in this case, that did not happen and the suspect did not exit the residence.

Savetski said that around midnight, he remembers hearing gunfire from inside of the house. Savetski said, at that time, Scott Jackson had taken over as SWAT commander. Savetski said he is not sure if the robot was in the house during the first rounds of gunfire; but at some point, the robot was in the house and the suspect shot it.

Savetski said that after he was relieved as SWAT commander, he stayed on scene. At that time, his role was to plan for a redeployment of officers if the situation did not resolve. Savetski also assisted with getting his team members rotated out with the western region SWAT team officers.

Savetski said that he was in the command vehicle, which was parked down the street from the subject's residence. He heard a radio call stating that shots were fired inside the house. Savetski

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exited the command vehicle to get a better view of the residence. Savetski saw a couple of the negotiators standing nearby, so he walked over to them to ask what was going on. Savetski then heard more gunfire, and it was put out over the radio that officers had returned fire. Savetski said that from his position, he could not see the suspect or any of his actions.

After officers fired shots into the residence, they attempted to utilize the robot to check on the subject. However, it was determined that the robot was no longer operable. Eventually, an officer radioed that they could see the subject lying face down in the kitchen area with blood around him.

Savetski said that throughout the incident, officers used the LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device) to give commands to the suspect. Savetski said that the LRAD is basically a loudspeaker that has a volume control where it can be made very loud.

The interview concluded at approximately 1013 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.



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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).

NATHAN SAVEISKI
Printed Name of Interviewee

08/10/2021 0955
Date / Time


Signature of Interviewee

Jon Lohr
BCI Agent (Printed)

 #50
BCI Agent (Signature)