



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



2023-2008
Officer Involved Critical Incident – Terminal Road By Dayton
Airport, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Paramedic Matthew Buker (W)
Date of Activity: 08/02/2023
Activity Location: Buker, Paramedic Matthew – Business – 8705 Peters Pike, Vandalia, OH 45377, Montgomery County
Author: SA Lauren Frazier, #129

Narrative:

On Wednesday, August 2, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on August 2, 2023, between OSP Troopers and two subjects, Rodney and Elaine Helman.

On August 2, 2023, Special Agent Lauren Frazier interviewed Vandalia Fire Department Paramedic Matthew Buker. The interview was conducted at the Vandalia Fire Department and began at 1210 hours.

Buker stated that on August 2, 2023 at 0700 hours, he was advised to relieve the previous crew that was staged on scene since the standoff had started. At approximately 0715 hours, Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) Troopers brought a victim, who had been shot in the hand, via cruiser to medics on scene, later identified as [REDACTED]. Buker observed several fingers on the victim's right hand, damaged from an apparent gunshot wound. He was handed off to other medics on scene to begin rendering aid.

OSP advised Buker that there was an additional gunshot wound (GSW) victim at the scene. The scene was in the process of being secured, when Buker stated that he got into a cruiser with a Trooper and responded to the scene. Buker stated that he staged there, until officers drug the male subject, later identified as Rodney Helman, out of the passenger side of the semi, and in to the roadway. Buker observed that the male subject was handcuffed behind his back and he began rendering aid at approximately 0740 hours. He advised dispatch that he needed additional units to handle more patients.

Buker stated that himself and a SWAT medic did initial stabilization on the male subject. Buker said that he observed two gunshot wounds, including one on the subject's right collar bone and

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

one on the subject's left mid back/shoulder area. Buker described that the subject had multiple bumps, bruises, and abrasions, including a black contusion to his right eye. Buker said that himself and the SWAT medic applied chest seals, started an IV, and assisted with bag-valve respirations.

Buker said that a second Vandalia Fire Department medic unit arrived on scene. After medics assessed the female subject's injuries, command staff decided that her injuries were more urgent and she was transported. Therefore, when a third unit arrived, a Butler Township Fire Department medic unit, the male subject was transported at approximately 0800 hours. Buker stated that he was primary care for the subject and was assisted by Butler Township medics Lt. Ullery (driver), Justin Berneka (caregiver), and Dave Grantonic (caregiver).

During transport, the subject's handcuffs were removed, and soft restraints were used. Buker stated that several medical interventions were made during transport, including a drill IV to the right shoulder bone, sedatives given, and tube intubation. Buker stated that an OSP Trooper followed the squad to Miami Valley Hospital, where the subject was transported. Buker said that the subject was lucid and complained about his wrist (due to lying on handcuffs) and chest (trouble breathing). No statements about the incident were made by the subject. Once medics arrived at Miami Valley Hospital, the subject was taken to Trauma 1 where hospital staff began treatment and took over care.

Buker was told by the victim that the male and female subjects had taken almost 90 days worth of diabetic and blood pressure medication, which he stated could have an effect on blood pressure and blood sugar levels. The interview concluded at 1224 hours. A copy of the audio recorded interview is attached (attachment #01).

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-08-02 Paramedic Matthew Buker Audio Interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.