

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



2020-3388

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1062 Oberlin Drive, Columbus, Ohio

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Bruce Robinson (W)

Date of Activity: 12/27/2020

Activity Location: Starbucks – 1970 Hilliard–Rome Rd, Columbus, OH 43228,

Franklin County

Author: SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

Narrative:

On December 22, 2020, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was asked to investigate an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI), which involved the Columbus Division of Police (CPD). BCI was notified CPD responded to a suspicious person/vehicle complaint in the area of 1062 Oberlin Dr., Columbus, Ohio. When officer(s) arrived on the scene, they encountered Andre Hill in the garage of the above residence. During the contact, a CPD officer discharged his firearm at Mr. Hill, who later died from the gunshot injuries. Special Agent (SA) Perry Roeser was contacted and asked to assist with the OICI. Special Agent (SA) Richard Ward was assigned as the lead investigator from BCI.

SA Ward asked SA Roeser if he would interview Bruce Robinson, the owner of the Chevrolet Tahoe that Andre Hill drove to the area of Oberlin Dr. the night of the encounter with Columbus Police. SA Roeser contacted Robinson on Sunday, December 27, 2020, by phone. SA Roeser asked Robinson if he was available to discuss his vehicle and how Mr. Hill came into possession of it. Robinson said he was open that day and could meet at 1230 hours.

At approximately 1223 hours, SA Roeser traveled and met with Robinson at the Starbucks parking lot at 1970 Hilliard-Rome Rd, Columbus, Ohio. Robinson agreed to an interview in SA Roeser's unmarked police vehicle. After SA Roeser gained the necessary information for the report, he explained to Robinson his Tahoe was found at the scene of an OICI. SA Roeser asked Robinson how his vehicle may have arrived there. Robinson said he allowed Andre Hill to use his truck while he was out of the state for a funeral.

Robinson said he is self-employed as a general contractor and Andre works for him as a sub-contractor. Robinson said his business was primarily bathroom remodels and Andre has worked for him for 6-7 months. Robinson said he left for a funeral on Sunday, December 19, 2020, and returned on Tuesday, December 22, 2020.

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SA Roeser asked Robinson how he learned of his vehicle being found at the crime scene. Robinson said while still out of the state, a local news crew was at his home asking his child questions about the vehicle. Robinson said his child put the phone on speaker and the news personnel told him they tracked the license plate and told him of the officer-involved shooting that was under investigation. Robinson said he called around to different people to see what happened. Robinson said he called Andre's phone but got no answer. Robinson also said he attempted calls to Andre's friend and his daughter but got no response.

Robinson said when he got back into town on December 22, 2020, between 1500–1600 hours, he still had no idea what had happened to his vehicle, unsure if his truck was stolen or something else. Robinson stated he finally got in touch with Andre's daughter, Krissa, and the two exchanged information, trying to put things together. Robinson noted Krissa said to him over the phone that she thought her dad was involved. Robinson also said Andre's brother called him back and the two discussed what they had heard. SA Roeser asked Robinson what Andre's brother's name was and he said he could not remember. SA Roeser asked Robinson if he could offer anything else that would assist investigators with the OICI. Robinson could not.

Robinson asked about the property taken from his vehicle from the search warrant. SA Roeser advised Robinson he would look into the situation and get back to him. The interview concluded at 1222 hours. For additional details, the interview was audio-recorded; see attachment.

Special Agent Richard Ward was advised of the contact.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01:2020-12-27-08-12-13 Bruce Robinson

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