


Witness Statement Form

Incident Date: 01/17/2024 Time: 18:38 Incident # 2024-015839
 Address of Occurrence: 7702 Canton Ave District: 4 Zone: 1
 Officer Name: P.O. David Morrison Badge# 1017 Bureau/District 4 Platoon C
 Citizen Name: Robert Perkins

Witness Statement

On Wednesday, January 17th, 2024, at 18:38 hours, while assigned to Z/C 4A35, accompanied by P.O. Bloxton #32, we responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave for a Shot Spotter Radio Assignment. While enroute to the assignment we received multiple updates from Radio Dispatch that a male, later to be identified as Robert Perkins, was armed with a rifle and was shooting from his residence of 7702 Canton Ave.

Upon our arrival, P.O. Bloxton and I observed Perkins through the front first floor window of the above address. P.O. Bloxton observed a rifle sitting on a table in the back of the room and began speaking with Perkins while I provided cover with my duty weapon, covering the southern windows and doors of the residence. Perkins was making statements on a loudspeaker from inside the residence while P.O. Bloxton was attempting to de-escalate the situation. After several minutes of P.O. Bloxton trying to de-escalate with Perkins, Perkins went upstairs and dialogue was re-established by P.O. Bloxton with Perkins, speaking with him through a window while I continued to provide cover. While P.O. Bloxton was speaking to Perkins, Perkins made a statement to P.O. Bloxton stating, "I want you to kill me." P.O. Bloxton continued to attempt to de-escalate the situation when a citizen at 7629 Spafford Rd. began shouting at Perkins. At this time 4S33 Sgt Wills # 9321 responded to the scene. At this time Perkins retreated to the back of the room and we lost visual contact with him. 4S32 Lt. Schneider #8566 also responded to the scene. At this time, myself, P.O. Bloxton, Sgt Wills and Lt. Schneider moved to a better covered position in defilade in the driveway of 7712 Spafford Rd. Shortly after moving to our covered position Perkins began firing a rifle from the second floor. I did not observe Perkins firing the rifle but could hear it from my position. From our position I continued to observe Perkins through windows located on the Southside of 7702 Canton Ave. I could see Perkins move throughout the house, sometimes carrying a rifle. I held my position until SWAT arrived relieved me of my position and moved to cover adjacent to the driveway of 7712 Spafford Rd.

Signature:  #1017 Badge# (if applicable) 1017
 Address/Agency Name: 9333 Kinsman Rd. / Cleveland Division of Police Date: 01/18/2024
 Phone Number: 216-623-5400 Email address dmorrison@clevelandohio.gov


LT. V. SCHNEIDER #8566

Use Additional Pages if Needed

I remained in a covered position at 7712 Spafford Rd while SWAT attempted a call out of Perkins. From my position I heard Perkins fire his rifle several times but never observed Perkins shooting from my position. From this position I heard a second volley of gunfire coming from Perkins residence.

~~SWAT made entry shortly after these shots were fired.~~

~~I completed the Crime Scene Log for the scene.~~

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