



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



2024-3996
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 780 Taylor Road,
Gahanna, Ohio 43230 (L)

Investigative Activity: Civilian Witness Interview
Involves: Joshua Childs
Activity Date: 03/04/2025
Activity Location: 400 W Johnstown Rd, Gahanna OH 43230
Authoring Agent: SA Kyle Douglass

Narrative:

On Tuesday, March 04, 2025, at 1134 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) interviewed Joshua Childs (Childs), relative to the officer-involved critical incident involving Gahanna Police Department (Gahanna PD) which took place on Thursday, December 19, 2024. The interview took place at 400 West Johnstown Road in Gahanna, OH. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this individual.

Prior to the interview, Childs was advised of the nature of the interview and agreed to answer questions regarding the incident on December 19, 2024. The interview was digitally recorded.

Childs explained he is an owner/operator who contracts as a delivery driver for Capital Express. On December 19, 2024, Childs was driving eastbound on Taylor Road when he observed police activity in the area of 780 Taylor Road. Childs recalled seeing a Gahanna PD officer on Taylor Road retrieving items from the back of his cruiser and another Gahanna PD officer with a rifle in the grassy berm on the south side of Taylor Road.

Childs observed additional police officers on the north side of Taylor Road. Childs stopped his truck in the eastbound lane and started recording video on his cell phone. Childs recalled seeing Gahanna PD officers "getting in line" and yelling out what he thought were verbal commands or instructions. Childs could not recall specifically what Gahanna PD officers were saying but believed he heard something regarding a weapon.

After what he described as moments later, Childs heard multiple gunshots. Childs said he was familiar enough with firearms to recognize that multiple guns were being fired and possibly multiple calibers. At the time of the incident, Childs believed he heard approximately thirty (30) gunshots. Childs was unable to observe who was firing their

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weapons from where he was inside his vehicle. After the gunfire had concluded, Childs believed he heard someone call out for a medical kit, and witnessed a Gahanna PD officer retrieve what appeared to be a medical kit from a cruiser and run it back to the shooting incident location.

Childs denied observing the individual Gahanna PD was involved in the encounter with, and did not know if the individual was in possession of a gun.

Childs did not have any direct interaction with anyone from Gahanna PD during the incident. Childs described the incident as rapidly evolving. Childs recalled seeing a Gahanna PD officer who appeared to be a supervisor in the area before the shooting incident who did not have his weapon unholstered. "It just didn't seem like anything was really going on," Childs stated, and said at the time the situation did not appear to be urgent.

The interview concluded at approximately 1156 hours.

Childs video records portions of the incident on his cell phone, which he initially provided to Gahanna PD. The video recording was subsequently turned over to BCI on February 11, 2025. Video review pending, please refer to correlating investigative report for additional information.

The interview was audio recorded. The recording was added to the case file and is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.

References:

1. Civilian Cell Phone Video - Joshua Childs

Attachments:

1. 2025-03-04 Joshua Childs Interview Audio

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