



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



2024-2255

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 818 Cherryberry Dr.,  
Columbus, OH 43228 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Leah Marie Sedor (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 08/02/2024  
**Activity Location:** – 818 Cherry Berry Drive, Columbus, OH  
**Author:** SA Ryan D. Scheiderer, #89

**Narrative:**

On August 02, 2024 at approximately 0140 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) obtained a recorded statement from Leah Sedor (Sedor) regarding an August 1<sup>st</sup> shooting incident involving officers from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) and Benjamin Wheeler (Wheeler) that occurred at 818 Cherryberry Drive in Columbus, Ohio. Wheeler was shot and killed inside the residence at that location during the encounter with officers. The contact with Sedor took place inside SA Scheiderer's BCI vehicle and CPD Detective Lowell Tittus was present to observe the interview. The following is a summation of the contact with Sedor and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording.

Sedor resides at 818 Cherryberry Drive with the following people:

- Gerald Beane, her boyfriend's father (Gerald or "Jerry")
- Christine Beane, Gerald's wife (Christine)
- Benjamin Wheeler, Christine's son (Wheeler)
- William Beane, boyfriend (William)
- Derek Beane, William's son (Derek)

Sedor explained that she lives in the basement at this address with her boyfriend, William. On this date, William left the residence for work and Sedor was talking to him via telephone in the

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basement. Sedor could hear a commotion upstairs and could tell Wheeler was upset about something. Sedor stated Wheeler ran outside the rear entrance door, and then reentered the residence and started screaming, but she wasn't sure what he was saying because it was muffled from being in the basement. Sedor heard Wheeler "threaten" Jerry and after that, Derek, who had been upstairs in his bedroom, joined Sedor in the basement and advised her that police were on their way to the residence. Sedor advised that Wheeler had mental health issues and his behavior had been escalating for a couple of months. Sedor stated Wheeler believed people were trying to "snipe" him and always paranoid. Sedor stated Wheeler had made prior threats to kill people, but it was always downplayed because of his mental health situation. Sedor clarified that the threat she heard Wheeler wage against Jerry was "I aint scared to beat your old ass."

Shortly after Derek joined Sedor in the basement, Christine yelled down to them and advised that the police were on scene and that everyone needed to exit the residence. Sedor and Derek then exited the residence and Wheeler remained in his bedroom. Once everyone exited the residence, Sedor witnessed officers outside the residence attempting to contact Wheeler in an attempt to get him to exit. Eventually, things escalated and the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team arrived, so the residents were moved down the street away from the residence. Sedor was not able to observe any of the interactions between Wheeler and officers after that. Sedor and the others were later notified by CPD officers that Wheeler had been shot and killed by officers. Sedor didn't have any additional information.

#### **Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: Leah Sedor Audio Interview 8.02.2024

#### **References:**

No references.