



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

2022-0001

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 2307 10th Street SW, Canton,
Ohio

Investigative Activity: Information Provided/Obtained

Involves: Joseph Edward Butts (O)

Date of Activity: 01/01/2022

Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

On Saturday, 2022-01-01, Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Charlie Snyder (Snyder) was initially assigned by Special Agent Supervisor David Posten to conduct a neighborhood canvass for potential witnesses in this incident. SA Snyder proceeded to attempt contacts at residential houses having view of the incident scene.

SA Snyder first went to the residence at 1000 Smith Avenue SW, Canton, Stark County, Ohio, located on the southeast corner of the intersection with 10th Street SW. As Snyder approached that address, he encountered a subject standing on the curb area in front of that address, subsequently identified as Joseph Edward Butts (Butts). When contact effort at 1000 Smith Avenue was unsuccessful, SA Snyder then started to proceed toward the opposite side of the street; where he encountered, met and spoke with Butts.

SA Snyder asked Butts if he had been present and/or witnessed any portion of the incident or had any pertinent information. Butts responded having not been there when the incident occurred and asked if SA Snyder could provide him information. SA Snyder refused the request and asked why Butts was there. Butts advised he was a "neighborhood activist" and was checking on health and welfare of his friends. SA Snyder asked Butts for his contact information; Butts subsequently provided. SA Snyder asked Butts why someone from northeast Canton would be in the southwest part of Canton. Butts was obviously uneasy with the question. Butts provided his contact information and SA Snyder provided Butts with his business card. Butts was requested to contact SA Snyder should he learn anything pertinent to this incident. Butts agreed to do so.

SA Snyder proceeded with attempting the neighborhood canvass assignment and other assigned scene duties. As his assignments continued, Butts was observed numerous additional times on the fringe area of the designated crime scene area and for a considerable period of time. Several times when SA Snyder and Butts were in proximity to each other, SA Snyder extended pleasantries. SA Snyder and Butts' contacts were non-confrontational and cooperative.

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Note: Butts' identification was confirmed through an OHLEG subsequent online check.

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