



CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

1215 W 3rd St
Cleveland, OH 44113
(216) 443-6000

Officer Narrative
CCSO2024-000134

Case Number CCSO2024-000134
Subject INVOL - INVESTIGATION FOLLOWUP
Narrative Type Primary Report
Entered On 3/29/2024 12:00:00 AM
Entered By 191 - Divis, Randy

Narrative

On January 18, 2024 I, (Det. R. Divis #191) was assigned CAD 2024-000134 in connection with a Cleveland Division of Police Officer Involved Shooting, the following are the results of this investigation:

On 01/17/2024 at 18:33:02 the Cleveland Division of Police fourth (4th) District Dispatch Center received a ShotSpotter alert through the Mobile Computer Aided Dispatch System indicating that twelve (12) rounds were fired in the area of 7702 Canton Court, Cleveland, Ohio 44105. Reference ShotSpotter ID: 476-265693, Cleveland Division of Police CAD: 2024-00015839. The CDP 4th District Dispatch received a call from the resident of 7521 Canton at 18:34:46 advising a male was burning things in the street, has flashing lights and speakers and just fired approximately ten (10) shots.

At 18:33 six (6) Cleveland Division Police Officers responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. including; Det. Little #2177, Ofc. Reynolds #1236, Ofc. McCartney, Ofc. Kane #997, Ofc. Ayers #635 and Ofc. Lyberger. Reference CDP CAD#2024-015839. Ofc. Kane details in his report that upon arrival he was notified by a neighbor that the shooter was Robert Perkins. Ofc. Kane reported that Robert Perkins fired multiple rounds from his house. Ofc. McCartney details in his report that Robert Perkins was discharging a rifle from his residence. Ofc. Reynolds detailed in her report that upon arrival she heard multiple shots coming from within 7702 Canton Ave. Ofc. Lyberger detailed in her report hearing multiple shots being fired from Robert Perkins' residence.

At 18:38:29 Shot Spotter ID 476-265695 detected four (4) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave. At 18:38:54 ShotSpotter ID 476-265697 detected seven (7) rounds being fired at 7702 Spafford Ct.

At 18:38 two (2) Cleveland Division of Police Officers responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. including: Ofc. Bloxton and Ofc. Morrison. Reference CDP CAD#2024-015839. Ofc. Bloxton details in his report that he was able to make contact with Robert Perkins through his front first floor window. Ofc. Bloxton observed what he believed to be an AR-15 rifle as Robert Perkins walked around the first floor stating that discharging his firearms was an outlet for him. Ofc. Bloxton attempted to de-escalate the situation however Perkins made numerous comments that he wanted them (CDP) to kill him. Perkins went upstairs and began communicating with Ofc. Bloxton through a second floor window when a neighbor came by and yelling towards Perkins. Perkins relocated to the first floor and picked up his rifle and extra magazines. When Perkins reached for his rifle Ofc. Bloxton was ordered to seek cover by Lt. Schneider #8566. Once behind cover, Ofc. Bloxton heard two (2) gunshots which were broadcasted over his radio by a fellow officer who witnessed Perkins firing his rifle out of the home. Ofc. Morrison provided cover to Ofc. Bloxton during this portion of the incident and reports Perkins stating "I want you to kill me" while he was speaking to Ofc. Bloxton.

At 18:49 two (2) Cleveland Division of Police Officers responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. including: Ofc. Peters #1300 and Sgt. Wills #9321. Ofc. Peters details in his report that while touring the area he heard multiple gun shots. Upon arrival to the intersection of Spafford and Canton Ofc. Peters observed a house (7702 Spafford) playing extremely loud music with a green neon sign in the window which displayed the following message "Fair Warning today will be the end".



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Sgt. Wills detailed in his report that while responding to an unrelated incident in the area, Sgt. Wills heard multiple gunshots in close proximity to his location. Sgt. Wills responded to the intersection of Spafford and Canton and assisted in setting up a perimeter. Sgt. Wills was familiar with Robert Perkins from an incident that occurred on 01/05/2024 involving Perkins firing a shotgun into vacant houses and requiring a psychiatric evaluation. Due to his familiarity, Sgt. Wills contacted the Crisis Response Team. While on scene, residents of Canton and Spafford were yelling that their homes had been shot into. Sgt. Wills details in his report that Perkins fired multiple shots out of his 2nd story window and that Det. Nezbeth confirmed the muzzle was pointing north potentially towards a neighbor's house. The Crisis Response Team informed Sgt. Wills that a vehicle was struck by gunfire on Spafford and the occupants were completing a report at the CDP Third District Police Department. Sgt. Wills conferred with Lt. Kincaid and a staging area was set up at E. 78th and Broadway Ave. Cleveland Emergency Medical Services were contacted and advised to stage at that location. Members of the Cleveland Swat Unit later arrived on scene and took control of the situation. Ofc. Peters was with Sgt. Wills and Ofc. Reynolds on scene. Ofc. Peters also detailed in his report seeing a neon sign on a house at the southwest corner of Spafford and Canton that read "Fair warning today will be the end". Ofc. Peters witnessed Perkins broadcast over a microphone various phrases stating that he was ready to die and that there were no good people left in the world.

At 18:52:40 ShotSpotter ID 476-265698 detected two (2) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave.
At 18:53:13 ShotSpotter ID 476-265699 detected two (2) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave.
At 18:53:37 ShotSpotter ID 476-265700 detected four (4) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave.
At 18:54:49 ShotSpotter ID 265701 detected three (3) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave.
At 18:55:40 ShotSpotter ID 476-265702 detected five (5) rounds being fired at 7702 Canton Ave.

At 19:00 six (6) Cleveland Division of Police Officers responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. including: Lt. Schneider #8566, Ofc. Selleny #1873, Det. Myers #2569, Ofc. Foster #1863, Ofc. Corrigan #2572 and Ofc. Potchatek #2016. Ofc. Potchatek details in his report hearing multiple volleys of gunfire near the area of 7702 Canton Ave. but states he was out of view of the gunfire. Ofc. Corrigan details in her report hearing a series of gunfire at approximately 02:15 from the direction of 7702 Canton Ave. but was unable to see anything from her location. Ofc. Foster details in their report being aware of gunfire on the area of 7702 Canton Ave. with the last volley of gunfire being at 02:15 on 01/18/24. Det. Myers details in their report hearing multiple sets of gunfire in the area of Canton Rd. at approximately 02:15 on 01/18/24 but was unable to see anything due to their location at the time. Ofc. Selleny detailed in his report responding to the intersection of Spafford and Canton. Ofc. Selleny reports hearing gunfire shortly before 03:00 on 01/18/24 being fired from the residence the male suspect was occupying. Ofc. Selleny heard mention that the bearcat had been struck by gunfire then received an additional update of "male in custody". Lt. Schneider details in his report responding to 7702 Spafford and observing Ofc. Bloxton and Ofc. Morrison making contact with Perkins. Lt. Schneider observed Ofc. Bloxton give verbal commands to Perkins to not grab a rifle that was in Perkins' vicinity and Lt. Schneider ordered Ofc. Bloxton and Ofc. Morrison to seek cover. Lt. Schneider heard two (2) gunshots from the upper level of 7702 Spafford. At that time Sgt. Wills requested CCS and SWAT.

At 19:14 two (2) Cleveland Division of Police Officers responded to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. including: Ofc. Sanchez #966 and Ofc. Wright #2206. Ofc. Wright detailed in her report responding to the area of 7702 Canton Ave. with Ofc. Sanchez and hearing gunshots immediately upon exiting their police cruiser at 1914. Ofc. Wright took cover and assisted in establishing a perimeter until SWAT arrived on scene. While on scene Ofc. Wright observed Robert Perkins walking around his residence with what appeared to be a rifle in hand. Ofc. Sanchez details in his report hearing gunfire upon arrival to the scene and establishing a perimeter. Ofc. Sanchez also reported observing Perkins walking around his residence with an AR style rifle in hand.



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On 01/17/23 between the hours of 19:36 and 19:44 eleven (11) members of the Cleveland Division of Police SWAT Unit arrived on scene at 7702 Spafford Ave. to include: Lt. Kaloczi #8493, Sgt. Blaine #9222, Ofc. Crytzer #1178, Ofc. Gelske #1943, Ofc. Onofrei #2040, Ofc. Readinger#1328, Ofc. Morley #1108, Ofc. Bartlebaugh #1521, Ofc. Ramey#2201, [REDACTED]. At the time of this incident the following members were assigned to 7702 Spafford Rear Cover: Ofc. Bartlebaugh, Ofc. Ramey, Ofc. Morley, Ofc. Readinger. At the time of the incident the following members were assigned within the armored vehicle (bearcat): Sgt. Blaine, Ofc. Gelske, Ofc. Onofrei, [REDACTED]. At the time of this incident Lt. Kaloczi was assigned to the offsite incident command post. At the time of the incident Ofc. Crytzer was assigned within the Cuyahoga County Swat bearcat on scene.

Command Post: Lt. Kaloczi detailed in his report that he responded to incident command post located near E. 77th and Spafford Alley. Lt. Kaloczi was offsite and heard shooting and radio transmissions however did not see anything on scene transpire.

Rear Cover: Ofc. Readinger detailed in his report that while responding to 7702 Spafford and working rear cover, at approximately 02:14 on 01/18/24 he heard multiple shots coming from 7702 Spafford. Ofc. Readinger heard more shots coming from 7702 Spafford and was informed the suspect struck the bearcat multiple times. Ofc. Readinger heard multiple shots fired again and was informed the suspect fired at the County Swat bearcat and that officers returned fire, possibly striking the suspect.

Ofc. Morley detailed in his report that after responding to 7702 Spafford he heard approximately eight (8) to ten (10) shots fired from the east side of the home while he was providing rear cover. Several minutes later Ofc. Morley heard a volley of shots from the front of the residence but Ofc. Morley was unable to see who was firing.

Ofc. Ramey detailed in his report after responding to 7702 Spafford Ave. and providing rear support, Ofc. Ramey heard Perkins fire shots from the rear of the home towards rear cover zone cars at approximately 02:14. Ofc. Ramey heard several shots fired from the front of 7702 Spafford Ave, then heard Sgt. Blaine radio that the armored vehicle was being shot by the suspect. Ofc. Ramey observed shotgun rounds being fired from the top hatch of the CDP armored vehicle (bearcat).

Ofc. Bartlebaugh detailed in his report that he responded to 7702 Spafford Ave. and assisted in providing rear cover. Ofc. Bartlebaugh heard the suspect shooting from 7702 Spafford. Ofc. Bartlebaugh began repositioning CDP vehicle #9110 in order to transport Ofc. Readinger to a more advantageous position when Ofc. Bartlebaugh saw shotgun pellets flying towards the front of 7702 Spafford Ave.

Ofc. Crytzer detailed in his report that he responded to 7702 Spafford Ave. on 01/17/2024 and that during this incident, Robert Perkins was consistently shooting a rifle at residences, moving vehicles and officers on scene. Ofc. Crytzer was assigned rear cover but was transitioned to the Cuyahoga County armored vehicle (Bearcat) at approximately 01:45. Once in the armored vehicle, the vehicle was positioned on the southern side of 7702 Spafford where Ofc. Crytzer could observe the front of the residence and outside windows. While in the county armored vehicle Ofc. Crytzer observed the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle make continuous audible announcements for the suspect to exit the residence through the front door with nothing in his hands and surrender to the officers. Once a search warrant was signed, the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle used a ram extension to force the front door open. The suspect was seen with a rifle in hand and he attempted to re-secure the damaged door. After approximately thirty (30) minutes, Ofc. Crytzer heard five (5)- eight (8) shots coming from inside of the residence that sounded like rifle fire. Ofc. Crytzer observed officers in the northern perimeter run from their positions of cover. Ofc. Crytzer observed the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle get hit in the windshield with rifle rounds and sustain damage. Sgt. Blaine broadcasted from within the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle



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that his vehicle had sustained damage to the front windshield and he was unsure if the glass could take anymore shots from the suspect before compromising the integrity of the glass. Sgt. Blaine announced that he was repositioning his vehicle and that the suspect was shooting a rifle from a second floor window. Ofc. Crytzer looked towards the residence when he heard two (2)-five (5) shots that seemed towards the County Swat armored vehicle. The front passenger of the vehicle, who was a Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Deputy stated the vehicle sustained heavy damage on the passenger front window. The deputy inspected the window and determined that it was most likely compromised. Officers within the County Swat armored vehicle broadcasted that they also sustained possible compromised window damage and needed to reposition as well. Ofc. Crytzer observed the top hatch of the Cleveland armored vehicle open and saw the rear door open and then close. Ofc. Crytzer observed muzzle flash from Swat Officer [REDACTED]. The Cleveland armored vehicle broadcasted they had shots fired from Swat members and believed the suspect was down.

Armored Vehicle (Bearcat): Sgt. Blaine detailed in his report that he responded to 7702 Spafford Ave. and was inside of the Lenco Armored Bearcat. Sgt. Blaine reported there was a several hour standoff with a male and the male made no attempts to answer the repeated calls from the Crisis Negotiation Team. The suspect ignored callouts from the armored vehicle PA system as well as the long Range Acoustic Device. Sgt. Blaine reported the suspect was pacing around 7702 Spafford Ave. with an AR-15 style rifle. The suspect would periodically speak through a microphone and Sgt. Blaine heard him state he was sent to kill the bad guys. The suspect went upstairs and appeared to load magazines. The suspect brandished an AR rifle from the upstairs window and fired multiple rounds. The male suspect fired multiple rounds from an AR-rifle into the windshield of the bearcat which Sgt. Blaine believed was in an attempt to injure the driver or front passenger of the vehicle. Sgt. Blaine ordered the driver of the bearcat to reposition the bearcat in an attempt to stop the suspect from shooting the same location on the bearcat as Sgt. Blaine was unsure how many more rounds the bearcat could safely withstand. Sgt. Blaine opened the turret in the bearcat and ordered [REDACTED] to man the turret. Sgt. Blaine ordered [REDACTED] to provide support cover to the turret so if the target re-emerged and target the front of the bearcat the CDP Swat team could return fire. Sgt. Blaine relocated himself to the right side of the bearcat and heard rounds being fired from [REDACTED] shotgun.

Ofc. Gelske detailed in his report that he responded to 7702 Spafford Ave. and was the driver of CDP Unit #9112, Cleveland Swat Armored Vehicle (Bearcat). At approximately 0214 Ofc. Gelske observed Robert Perkins upstairs in the center window fire several rounds into the driver's side windshield. Ofc. Gelske backed the vehicle up in case Perkins continued firing. Ofc. Gelske observed Perkins in the upstairs right window and yelled out to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Perkins' position. Perkins began firing at the bearcat. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] returned fire.

Ofc. Onofrei detailed in his report that he responded to 7702 Spafford Ave. and was inside of the armored vehicle. Ofc. Onofrei witnessed Perkins firing at the armored vehicle's windshield at approximately 02:14. Ofc. Onofrei opened the hatch for the turret and raised a platform for the turret. [REDACTED] stepped onto the platform with the shotgun to provide cover in case the suspect came back to the window with the rifle. Ofc. Onofrei witnessed [REDACTED] then fire his shotgun.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were interviewed on 02/16/2024 in connection with this incident. [REDACTED] stated he responded to this incident on 01/17/2024 at approximately 1930 hours. [REDACTED] was in the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle at the time of this incident. [REDACTED] confirmed firing one (1) round from his department issued shotgun out of the turret of the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle when he saw the male (Perkins) aim his rifle at the County Swat armored vehicle. [REDACTED] observed the male lower his rifle. [REDACTED] observed the male shoulder his weapon and point it at multiple zone cars causing [REDACTED] to fire his shotgun at the male three (3) more times. [REDACTED] ears were ringing so he could not tell if anyone else had shot. Once it was confirmed that



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the male was down the Swat team breached the door for a second time, entered and secured the scene and rendered medical aid to the male. Please refer to supplemental interview report and video for further details.

██████████ stated he responded to this incident on 01/17/2024 at approximately 2000 hours. ██████████ was in the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle for the time leading up to this incident. ██████████ observed Perkins fire multiple rounds at the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle windshield. ██████████ exited the armored vehicle and went towards the right side of the vehicle. ██████████ advised that Perkins had also fired at the County Swat armored vehicle. ██████████ observed Perkins in a window with a rifle. As ██████████ observed Perkins turn to the left, ██████████ fired three rounds at Perkins from his department issued rifle from the rear passenger side of the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle. ██████████ took cover behind the bearcat because he was unsure if more rounds were going to be fired at the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle. Once the Cleveland Police drone operator was able to confirm Perkins was down, ██████████ and other members of the Cleveland Police Swat team made entry and secured the residence. Once the residence was secured the Swat medic began providing medical attention to Perkins and ██████████ cleared the residence. Please refer to supplemental interview report and video for further details.

After the initial arrival of the Cleveland Swat Unit arrived on scene, five (5) additional Cleveland Police Officers arrived on scene including: Sgt. Tessin #9265, Det. Hannon #2065, Ofc. Goon #329, Ofc. Pierce 2146, and Ofc. Thomas #2208. Ofc. Perkins and Ofc. Thomas note in their reports they were taking cover behind 7619 Spafford and heard the incident but did not witness it. Sgt. Tessin detailed in his report hearing a volley, a shorter round of gun fire and then seeing the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle backing up as bullets were ricocheting off the window follow by another short round of gunfire. Ofc. Goon details in his report that he saw what he believed to be multiple rounds striking the Cleveland Swat armored vehicle but did not observe anything after that. Det. Hannon detailed in his report observing the suspect (Perkins) open a rear window and fire multiple shots in the direction of officers who were taking cover behind zone cars located at E. 75th St. and Canton. Within one minute of this Det. Hannon observed bullets bouncing off of two Swat vehicles. Det. Hannon did not see anyone return fire but could hear the difference between the suspects' gunfire and Swat firearms due to the silencer's muffled noise. Det. Hannon detailed in his report the Swat Officers fired just after taking direct fire from the suspect.

The Cleveland Emergency Medical Services (CEMS) were contacted and requested to respond to 7702 Spafford Ave. Robert Perkins was transported to the Metrohealth Medical Center Emergency Department located at 2500 Metrohealth Dr, Cleveland, Ohio 44109 by CEMS Unit #11 occupied by Medic Walton and Medic Cox. Robert Perkins was pronounced deceased in Metrohealth Emergency Department Trauma Bay #14 by Dr. Claridge. Please refer to medical records for further details.

This matter will be forwarded to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office for further review.