



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



2024-1015
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 100 Block 8th Street, N.E. New
Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Investigative Activity: Information Provided/Obtained, Interview with Witness
Involves: Charles E. Caton (W), Glenda Sue Caton (W)
Date of Activity: 03/31/2024
Activity Location: Caton, Charles E. – Home – 121 8th Street, NE, New Philadelphia,
OH 44663
Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

Background:

On Sunday March 31, 2024, at 2221 hours, Ohio Attorney General's – Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was dispatched through Who's Responding notification system to a Critical Officer Involved Incident involving reported gunshot injuries, at 834 East High Street and Tell Avenue SE, in New Philadelphia (Tuscarawas County) Ohio. Personnel from the Tuscarawas County Sheriff Office (TCSO) were indicated as involved. Initial reporting indicated at least one citizen and one law enforcement officer were injured and enroute to hospital(s) for treatment. BCI Special Agent Charlie Snyder was dispatched to assist the on-call team at 2224 hours.

Action Taken:

On March 31, 2024, at approximately 2345 hours, Snyder learned that residents at 121 8th Street NE, New Philadelphia, Ohio had reportedly been witnesses to this incident. Snyder went to that residence and discovered lights were on inside the residence and occupants were apparently awake. Snyder knocked at the front door that was answered by Charles E. Caton (Charles), and wife Glenda Sue Caton (Glenda). Snyder identified himself and the purpose of this contact. The Catons invited Snyder into their residence, where an audio-recorded interview followed, beginning at approximately 2350 hours.

Prior to conducting the interview, the Caton's advised they had previously been interviewed by the Tuscarawas County Sheriff Office.

The Caton's provided their identification and contact information upon request. They agreed to participate in the interview and provided the following information.

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The Caton's advised that they had returned to their residence at 1930 hours and were watching television, when they heard a loud "bang that I knew wasn't ordinary". Charles advised that he opened the front door and observed people running down the street and that someone had hit the house. Charles advised knowing "Alex" who owns the house that was hit by a truck. Charles advised, because of his prior firefighter background, he took his cellular telephone and went to the location to see if he could be of assistance. Charles advised that when he reached Alex's house, he heard people screaming and that he had ran and got away.

Charles advised that he then began to walk back towards his residence when a cruiser turned on 8th Street. Charles then learned the cruiser was a Sheriff Office vehicle. The Sheriff Deputy was then heard screaming, "Get out of the car - get out of my car! - get out of my car" followed by three gunshots. Charles advised he was unable to see what occurred at the vehicle because he was fifty to seventy-five yards away. He indicated his sight as also hampered because of the lack of street lighting and the flashing lights on the Sheriff Office cruiser but was able to see that there was a commotion going on. Charles then observed the Sheriff Office cruiser driving away from the area. Charles indicated he could not tell where the Deputy Sheriff was located when he heard him yelling. He then added that the Deputy Sheriff was also yelling, "He's got a gun - somebody's going to get shot", causing Charles to believe the subject from the truck had a gun and shot the Deputy Sheriff. Charles then recalled that he could hear the Deputy Sheriff yelling loudly and distinctly five or six times, "...Get out of my car!" and then heard three gunshots, after which the Sheriff Office vehicle drove away.

Charles indicated as he got closer, he discovered the Sheriff Deputy was lying on the street. Charles indicated he did not go to the Deputy at that time and that other persons, including neighbors, had. Glenda advised there were a lot of people there at this time.

Glenda advised, she also began walking towards the crash area slowly and learned there was a lot of commotion going on. She indicated someone, a male from the crowd of people, yelled for Glenda to get back and that he had a gun, and someone would get shot. Glenda advised this was just prior to the Deputy Sheriff firing shots. Glenda advised, she then walked away from the commotion and then heard what she believed were three, fast in sequence gunshots.

Charles then added that when the Sheriff Office vehicle pulled up on the corner, the Deputy Sheriff was being directed to where the subject from the truck had gone. Charles recalled someone telling the Sheriff Deputy, "He's in the alley - back-up, back-up", but he could not recall if the Deputy Sheriff had in fact backed up at that time.

When asked, Charles and Glenda both advised not having seen any of the weapons that were involved in this incident.

Both Glenda and Charles agreed to offer their continued future cooperation in this matter. They also were requested if they talk with neighbors who may be witnesses to this event, to direct them to BCI for purposes of interview.

At approximately 0003 hours, the Caton's interviews concluded.

Note: This report summarizes information deemed by the author of the most relevance to the investigation and does not contain all questions and answers from the interview. This report

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was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-03-31 Charles and Glenna Caton – Interview 240331_0320