



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



2023-2059

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 205 US 250, Polk, Ohio 44866

Investigative Activity: Witness Interview – Nathan Dunham
Activity Date: August 5, 2023
Activity Location: 205 US 250, Polk, Ohio 44866
Authoring Agent: SA Matthew Armstrong #146

Narrative:

On August 5, 2023, at approximately 2259 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matthew Armstrong (Armstrong) interviewed Nathan Dunham (N. Dunham), the son of Larry Dunham. Nathan arrived at the scene hours after the shooting had occurred. The interview took place in the front yard of the residence and was audio recorded.

The following is a summary of the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. The information was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Throughout the interview, N. Dunham provided the following information:

His father L. Dunham had been married to his mother Angela Dunham (A. Dunham) since October 1988 and has had an alcohol issue since 2007. L. Dunham had lived in the residence where the shooting occurred since approximately April 2015. Although A. Dunham and L. Dunham were married they had not lived together for several years. For the past few months A. Dunham had been staying with L. Dunham on and off because he was having medical issues. She had stayed with him consistently for the previous two and a half weeks.

When L. Dunham was drinking, he was more agitated. It was difficult to have a conversation without him becoming agitated and verbally aggressive. He was anti-authority and anti-government. His father had been in the military but never made it out of bootcamp. He believed his father's disdain for the government had existed since the time he exited the military. He described his father as a paranoid person who did not want the government to know anything about him.

He knew of his father being suicidal on one occasion in the late 1970's or early 1980's. His aunt had walked into a barn and found L. Dunham sitting with a gun ready to kill himself.

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He estimated L. Dunham had between 20 and 50 firearms. L. Dunham also possessed a live grenade which he believed was from the military. He believed it was live because of the caution his father had used when handling it.

On Easter Sunday 2023, he and his family were at L. Dunham's house. L. Dunham went to the kitchen and pulled a gun from a drawer. N. Dunham believed he was going to commit suicide or kill others in the house and then kill himself. He and his father then engaged in a fight and N. Dunham took control of multiple guns and unloaded them. During the fight, he struck his father multiple times in the face which resulted in his father going to the hospital. After his father was released from the hospital, his mother began staying with L. Dunham to help get him to his doctor appointments.

Attachments:

2023-08-05 Interview - Nathan Dunham and Angela Dunham