



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



2023-0408  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1680 Stringtown Rd., Grove  
City 43123 (L)

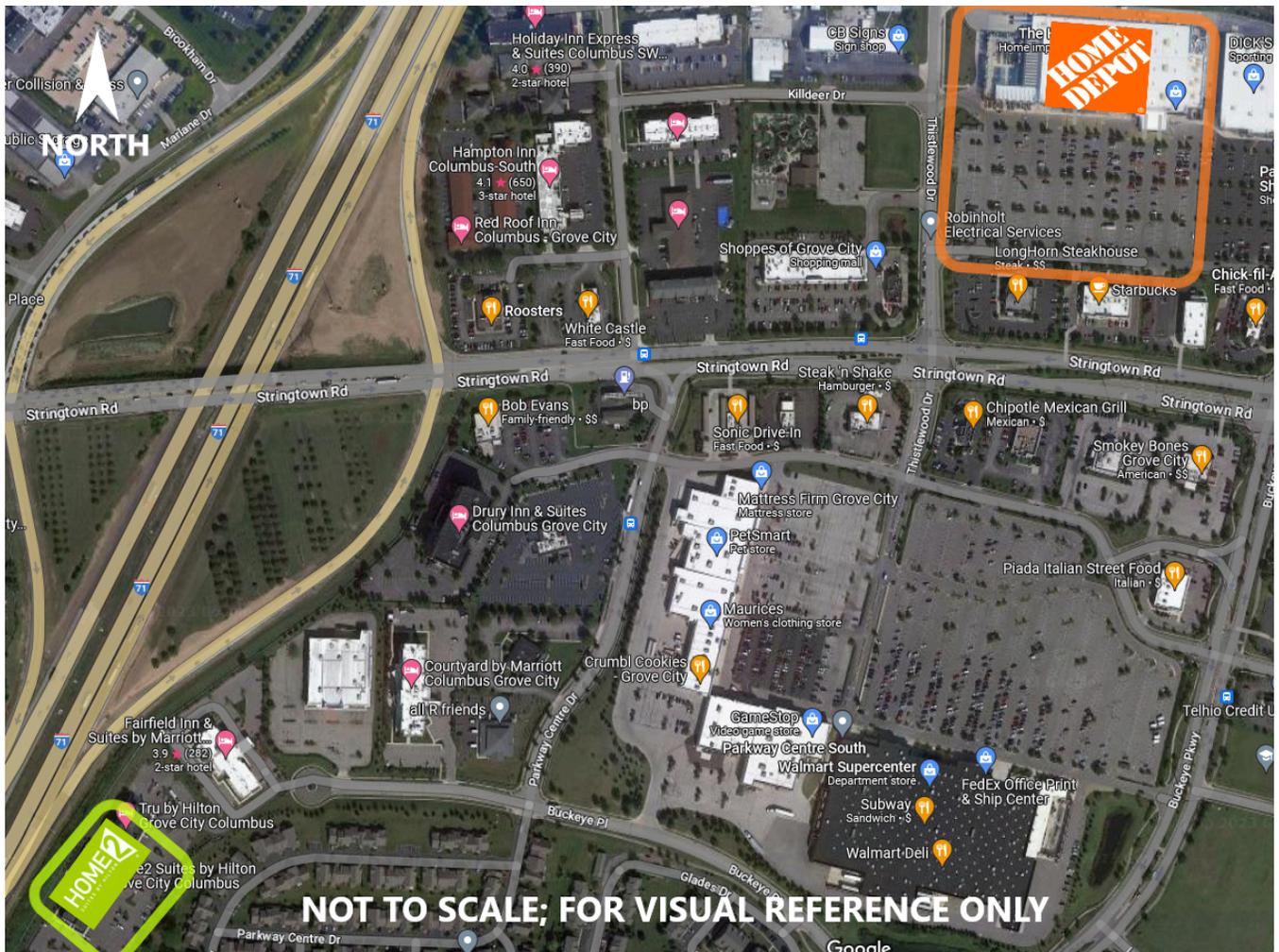
**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Officer Derek Jones (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 02/12/2023  
**Author:** SA James H Gore, #168

**Narrative:**

On February 12, 2023 at approximately 0119 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) James Gore interviewed Grove City Police Officer Derek Jones (badge #155). Ofc. Jones was identified as one of several officers from Grove City who responded to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident involving members of the Columbus Police Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team. The incident occurred in the parking lot of the Home Depot, 1680 Stringtown Rd., Grove City, on the previous evening shortly after 2000 hours. The purpose of the interview was to obtain an account Ofc. Jones' observations and actions regarding the incident. The interview took place in front of the Home Depot.

Ofc. Jones advised he has been employed at Grove City for more than three years. Ofc. Jones is assigned to Patrol, and his normal shift 1400 hours to 2200 hours, with Wednesdays and Thursdays off.

Ofc. Jones explained that there was a call placed to Grove City Dispatch by a female who said she knew of a male subject at one of the Grove City hotels who had a warrant. Ofc. Jones said the warrant was for rape and GSI (gross sexual imposition). He said that the officer in charge, Ofc. Judd, reported that it appeared to be good information, so officers began to set up a perimeter in the area of the Home2 Suites hotel.



Ofc. Jones continued, it was later determined that the subject was going to be at the Home Depot, and Columbus SWAT was in the area. Ofc. Jones said he was directed by Ofc. Judd to respond to the area of Home Depot. Ofc. Jones said he was monitoring the contractor entrance at Home Depot when a SWAT officer in an unmarked vehicle approached him and asked him to back out of the area. Ofc. Jones said he relocated to the Best Buy and Michaels parking lot along with Ofc. Watt.

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Ofc. Judd relayed that SWAT located the subject and they were making contact with him. Ofc. Jones said several seconds later he heard gunshots. Ofc. Jones explained he approached the area cautiously because he was not familiar with all of the unmarked vehicles. He said as he approached, he observed that some vehicles had a car boxed in. He said he heard some shouting, and as he approached the scene from the north side, he observed a subject on the ground. Ofc. Jones said it was apparent that he was pulled from the vehicle, and he had gunshot wounds. Ofc. Jones said he assisted with lifting the subject onto a cot.

Ofc. Jones recalled that some of the SWAT officers asked if the Grove City officers had any cones available, because they wanted to roughly mark the areas where there were spent shell casings. He said he assisted with placing cones next to the casings, but he did not move anything.

SA Gore later reviewed Ofc. Jones' vehicle and body-worn camera footage, and he found that the footage was consistent with Ofc. Jones' recollection.

An audio copy of Ofc. Jones' interview was attached to this report for reference. Video files from Ofc. Jones' vehicle and body-worn camera are available for review, but they were not attached to this report due to the large size of the files.

#### Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-0212-01-24-16 Grove City PD Ofc. Derek Jones Interview – SA Gore

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