



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



2025-0883

Officer Involved Critical Incident – I-75 NB / Mile Marker 14,
Evendale, Ohio (Hamilton County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Officer Robert Otte (W)
Date of Activity: 03/19/2025
Activity Location: – IR 75 NB (MP 14), Evendale, OH
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On March 19, 2025, at approximately 0913 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Dave Hornyak conducted a telephone interview with Sharonville Police Officer Robert Otte with respect to the officer-involved critical incident that occurred earlier that morning on I-75 in Evendale, Ohio. Officer Otte confirmed that he was providing a statement to BCI voluntarily. The telephone interview was audio recorded.

The details below summarize what the author believed to be the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report 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 audio recording be reviewed.

Regarding the incident, Officer Otte advised the following:

Officer Otte heard radio traffic indicating that Evendale police officers located a stolen vehicle that had been involved in an earlier pursuit out of West Chester Township in Butler County. He stated that the vehicle also fled from Sharonville police officers during a subsequent vehicle pursuit. During that investigation, he heard radio traffic from a Lockland police officer who identified himself on the radio as "[REDACTED]". The Lockland police officer advised that he located a Black male subject wearing a brown Carhartt jacket walking on I-75 North. He then heard the Lockland officer broadcast that the subject had something in his hands, was not following orders, and was advancing toward him. He then heard the Lockland officer say that he had the subject at gunpoint.

Officer Otte responded to assist the Lockland officer. As he was responding, he heard radio traffic indicating that shots had been fired. Officer Otte retrieved a first aid kit and responded to the scene. As he was approaching the scene, he encountered a Lockland police officer who

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appeared visibly distressed. He said the Lockland officer was walking away from the scene, and he sent him to be with another officer. Officer Otte then went to assist other officers with medical aid. At the time he arrived, an officer was cutting off the involved subject's clothing. Examining the subject, Officer Otte identified a gunshot wound to the subject's chest and left thigh area. He recalled a Cincinnati police officer administering chest compressions until paramedics arrived. Throughout the entire time he observed the subject, the subject remained unresponsive. He stated that it was his opinion that officers made every effort to save the involved subject's life.

The interview concluded at 0917 hours. The recording was attached to this investigative report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-03-19 / Off. Robert Otte interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.