



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



2021-0888
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 500 South Cleveland Ave.,
Westerville, Ohio 43081 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: John Shearer (W)
Date of Activity: 04/21/2021
Activity Location: Shearer, John – Business – 400 West Main Street, Westerville, OH 43081, Franklin County
Author: SA Jennifer Comisford, #163

Narrative:

On April 21, 2021, at approximately 1226 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Jenny Comisford (SA Comisford) interviewed Paramedic/Firefighter John Shearer (Shearer) of the Westerville Division of Fire (WFD). The purpose of the interview was to obtain additional information regarding an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on April 12, 2021, at Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital (St. Ann's) involving Columbus police officers, hospital security, and a male identified as Miles Jackson (Jackson).

Shearer's interview was conducted at WFD Station 111, located at 400 West Main Street, Westerville, OH 43081. Also present for the entirety of the interview was attorney Cathrine Harshman. The conversation was audio recorded and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the attached audio for complete details. The following is a summation of Shearer's voluntary interview.

It was reported that Columbus Division of Fire (CFD) personnel transported Jackson to St. Ann's on the morning of April 12, 2021 due to a suspected overdose. Later that morning, Jackson left the hospital against medical advice (AMA). A short time later, WFD personnel transported Jackson back to St. Ann's on a suspected overdose.

Shearer has been employed by WFD for approximately 11 years. Shearer confirmed he was part of an EMS crew (WFD Medic 111) that transported Jackson to St. Ann's on the afternoon of April 12, 2021. Other members of the crew were identified as WFD Firefighter/Paramedic Greg Kacsandi (Kacsandi) and WFD Firefighter/Paramedic Jordan Smith (Smith). Shearer identified himself as the "Medic in Charge." Shearer recalled they were dispatched around 1130 hours to the "Chase Building" near Cooper Road on report of an ill person.

Upon arrival, Shearer observed two unidentified officers with Westerville Police Department

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(WPD) and Chase security personnel on scene. Shearer was approached by a WPD officer who explained they believed the male (now identified as Jackson) to be "Joseph Williams," and that WPD was attempting to verify his identity. The officer further stated that Jackson was not answering questions very well, seemed lethargic and confused, and for those reasons WPD requested medics respond.

WFD personnel proceeded to speak with Jackson and check his vitals. He was reportedly "dozing off" and appeared confused during questioning. Jackson's pupils were "pinpoint and fixed," and Shearer suspected "something narcotic related." Jackson also admitted to possibly taking Percocet. Jackson was described as non-combative and cooperative. After completing their assessment, medics determined Jackson would be transported to the hospital.

Prior to loading Jackson in the rear of the medic, Kacsandi requested WPD conduct a pat down. Shearer witnessed an officer notify Jackson of the pat down, but did not thoroughly observe the pat down being conducted. Shearer described the WPD officer as "large" with sleeve tattoos. Shearer was not made aware as to whether Jackson was in police custody, nor did he observe Jackson in handcuffs.

While enroute to the hospital, Smith administered Narcan to Jackson. Shearer explained that Narcan is utilized for suspected narcotics overdose. Upon arrival at St. Ann's, WFD transferred care to hospital staff in room 9.

It should be noted that a subpoena will be issued to WFD for documentation pertaining to Jackson's care on April 12, 2021.

The interview concluded at approximately 1245 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01:2021-04-21 Firefighter John Shearer Interview