

Investigative Report

2022-1251

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 2280 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH, 43215



Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves:

6/27/2022

Activity Date:
Activity Location:

900 N. Hague Ave, Columbus, OH

Authoring Agent:

SA John Butterworth

Narrative:

On Monday, June 27, 2022, at 1235 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Butterworth (SA Butterworth) and SA Matthew Collins (SA Collins) interviewed Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Deputy (Dep.) (Dep.) (Dep.), who was accompanied by his attorney, Nicole Wannemacher, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at 900 N. Hague Ave., Columbus, OH. The interview was audio recorded.

Dep. read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

This report only summarizes 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. 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

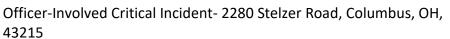
Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name:	Rank: Deputy (Dep.)
Badge Number:	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: Unmarked
Radio Call Sign:	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Satterfield
Radio Channel Utilized: Investigations Warrants/Back Channel	Mobile Data Terminal: Not Present
Cruiser Description: Unmarked FCSO Ford Explorer	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: Deputy driver, Deputy passenger
Assignment: SWAT	Normal Shift: 1200 to 2200
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Not Present
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized



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Shift Day of Incident: 1200 to 2200	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within
	Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Well rested	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: 12 years	Length at Current Agency: 12 years
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid):	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
None	
Uniform Worn: Green BDU pants, black shirt	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried
with ballistic vest with SHERIFF in large font	on Person/Belt/Vest: Duty equipment
on the front and back	on resemption
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Not Present
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: Deputy
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: SWAT	OPOTC Certification: See OPOTA report
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Within the last two
	weeks and yearly training.
Prior Shooting Incidents: Involved Officer	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints:
after December 14, 2017	None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that
might Impair Your Duties at Time of	might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Incident: None	
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident:
	Unknown

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Staccato	Model: P Duo 2011
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial:
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right hip with 2 to 3 inch drop holster.
Magazine Capacity: 19	Total Rounds as Carried (including
	chamber): 20



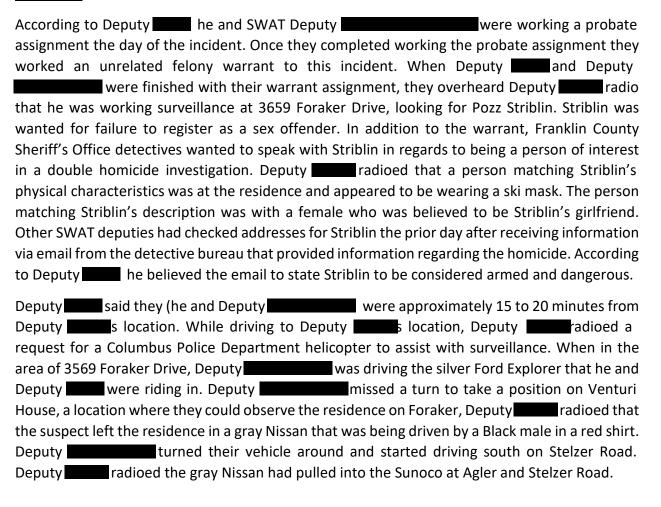
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Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Click here	Number of Rounds Fired: 6 or 7
to enter text.	
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Reported to be	Type of Holster, if any: Right hip, drop
current	holster.

Narrative:

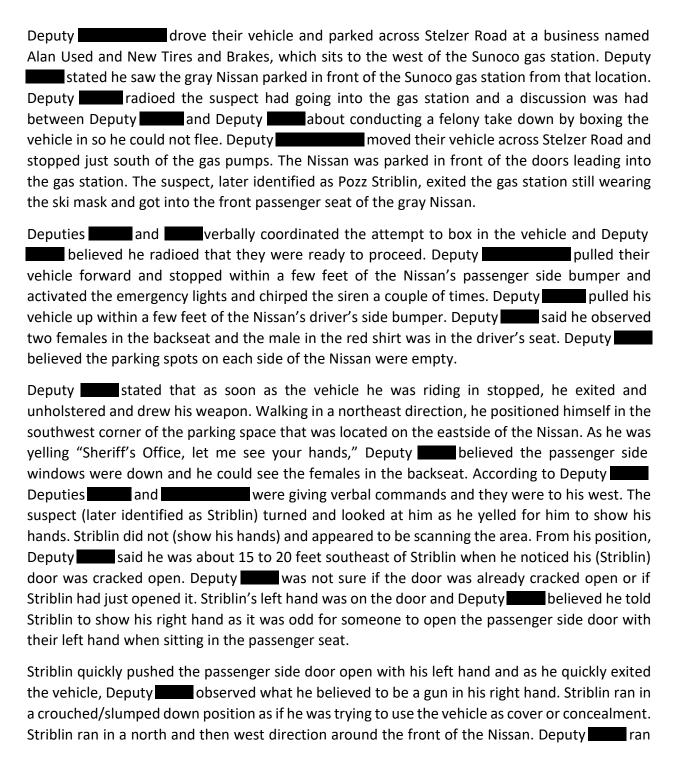




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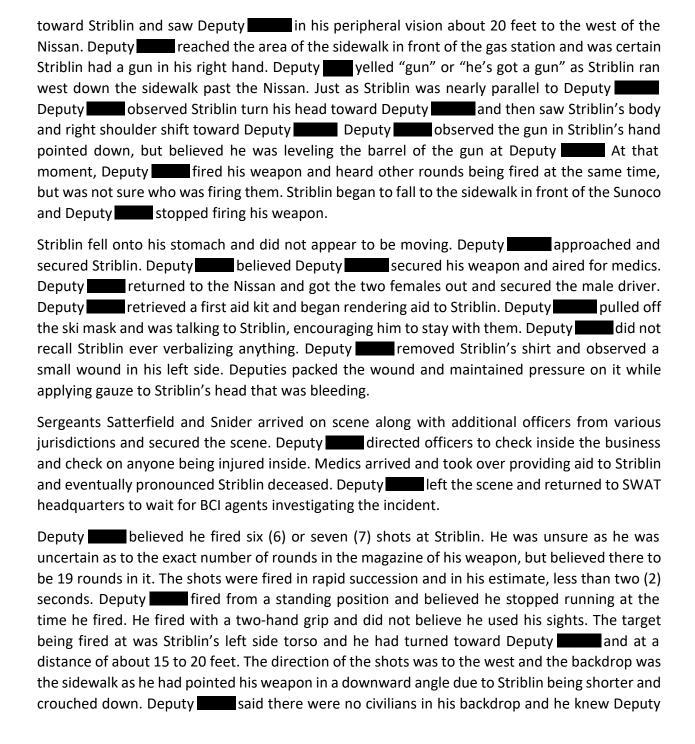




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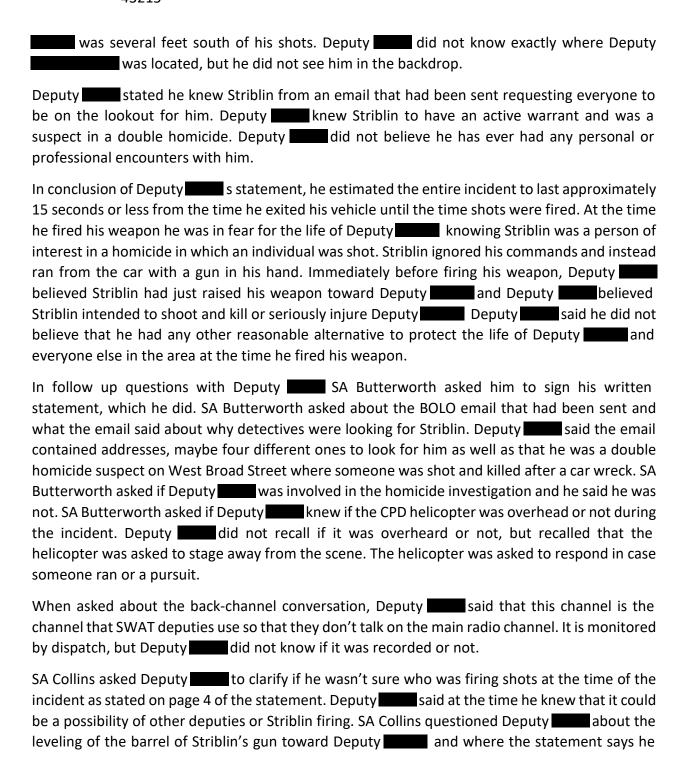




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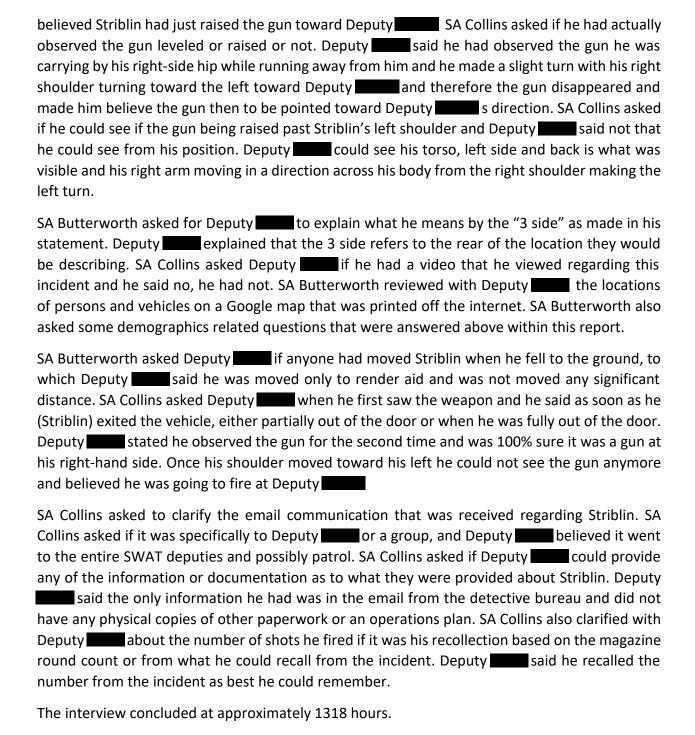




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The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.



Criminal Investigation Notification

- This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which
 your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to
 give any statement or answer any questions. This is <u>not</u> a "Garrity" interview (where you
 could be required to answer).

6/27/020 Date / Time

This statement regards my involvement in an incident that occurred on Tuesday, June 7. 2022, between approximately 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m., in Franklin County, Ohio. I am voluntarily providing this statement as part of the investigation being conducted by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

My date of hire with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office ("FCSO") is January 11, 2010. I do not have any prior law enforcement or military experience. I have a bachelor's degree in Criminology from The Ohio State University. I am currently assigned to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), I have been in that assignment for the past nine and a half (9 $\frac{1}{2}$) years. My call number is I have completed specialized training for my SWAT assignment, I am also a firearms instructor for pistol, rifle and shotgun, as well as an OPOTA instructor. My hours may vary depending on the needs of the mission, but my regular duty hours are from 12:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., with Friday, Saturday, and Sunday off. I work out of the SWAT headquarters located on North Hague Avenue.

At the time of this incident, I was wearing green BDU (battle dress uniform) pants and black t-shirt with a ballistic vest that stated SHERIFF in large font on the front and on the back. The FCSO has not yet issued body-worn-cameras, so I was not wearing one at the time of this incident.

I was carrying my FCSO-issued Staccato P Duo 2011, loaded with FCSO-issued Winchester 147 grain 9mm ammunition. I believe I carry that weapon with 19 in the magazine and with an additional round in the chamber (19+1), but I am not 100% certain that I had 19 in the magazine. That weapon was also equipped with a Delta Point Pro red-dot sight. I am current on my range qualifications with that weapon. I was not carrying a backup firearm.

I do not wear glasses or contact lenses and my uncorrected vision is good. I do not wear a hearing aid and my hearing is good. I do not suffer from any disabilities. I had not worked any special duty in the 24 hours prior to my shift. I had not consumed any alcohol or medication (over the counter or prescription) in the 24 hours prior to my shift.

On the day of this incident, I was in an unmarked FCSO car which does not have a camera. I was working with a partner, Deputy We worked a probate that day with SWAT Deputy and SWAT Sergeants Snider and Satterfield. Once we finished working that, Deputy and I went to work an unrelated felony warrant. Deputy was driving, and I was in the passenger seat when SWAT Deputy aired that he was conducting surveillance on 3659 Foraker Drive and that there was an individual in a ski mask going in and out of the house. Deputy was watching that house as it was a potential location for an individual named Pozz Striblin who was a person of interest out of a double homicide, and he was also wanted for failure to register as a sex offender. I knew this because other SWAT team members had checked addresses looking for him the day before because a BOLO (be on the lookout) was issued via email from our detective bureau. I believe the email gave information regarding the homicide that he was a suspect in, and that he should be considered armed and dangerous. Per Deputy the individual in the ski mask matched the physical description of the Pozz Striblin as he was a smaller individual, at 5'2-5'3 and approximately 115-120 lbs. He was also with a female, who was believed to be his girlfriend. We were approximately 15-20 minutes from Deputy location and Deputy immediately began driving to Foraker Drive. On the way there, Deputy continued to air the movements of the suspect. At some point, Deputy aired for the Columbus Police Department helicopter as he thought it was the suspect and that he may run

because he seemed very in tuned to every vehicle and hypervigilant of his surroundings. As we were driving north on Stelzer Road, we decided we would turn onto Venturi House, as the 3 side of 3659 Foraker Drive abuts Venturi House. However, Deputy missed the turn on Venturi House and as he did so, Deputy aired that suspect left in a gray Nissan that was being driven by a black male in a red shirt. Deputy turned around on Stelzer Road and we were now going southbound. Deputy aired that the vehicle pulled into the Sunoco at Agler and Stelzer Road.

Deputy Continued south down Stelzer Road and turned right (west) into Alan Used & New Tires and Brakes which is directly across Stelzer Road and to the west of the Sunoco gas station. I saw the gray Nissan parked in front of the Sunoco gas station. Deputy aired the suspect went into the gas station. Deputy and I discussed on the back channel doing a felony take down and boxing the suspect's vehicle in so he could not flee. Deputy drove across Stelzer Road, and we stopped just south of the gas pumps. The suspect's vehicle was parked in front of the doors leading into the gas station. The suspect exited the gas station (still wearing the ski mask) and got into the front passenger seat of the gray Nissan.

Deputy and I verbally coordinated our attempts to box in the suspect vehicle and I believe I marked over the back channel when we were ready to proceed. Deputy pulled forward and stopped within a few feet of the suspect vehicle's passenger side bumper and activated our lights and chirped the siren a couple times. Deputy pulled up within a few feet of the suspect vehicle's driver's side bumper. I saw that there were two females in the backseat and the male in the red shirt was in the driver's seat. I believe the parking spots on each side of the suspect's vehicle were empty.

As soon as Deputy stopped our car, I exited the car and unholstered and drew my weapon. I walked northeast, so that I was on the southeast corner of the parking space to the east of the suspect's vehicle. I believe the passenger's windows were down. I saw the females in the backseat, and I was yelling "Sheriff's Office and Let Me See Your Hands!" I believe Deputies also gave verbal commands and that they were on to my west. The suspect turned and looked at me and I yelled for him to show me his hands. He did not and he appeared to be scanning the area. From my position approximately 15-20 feet southeast of the suspect, I noticed that his door was cracked open (I am not sure if it was already cracked open or if he had just opened it) and that he had his left hand on the door. I believe I then yelled for him to show me his right hand, as it was odd to open a passenger's door with the left hand when sitting in the passenger's seat.

The suspect quickly pushed the passenger's side door open with his left hand and as he quickly exited the vehicle I saw what I believed to be a gun in his right hand. He ran in a crouched/slumped down position (like he was trying to use the vehicle as cover/concealment), north and then west around the front of the vehicle. I ran towards the suspect, and I saw Deputy out of the peripheral of my eye. I believe he was about 20 feet to the west of the suspect's vehicle. Once I reached the sidewalk in front of the gas station, I was certain the suspect had a gun in his right hand. I believe I yelled "Gun!" or "He's got a gun!" The suspect ran west down the sidewalk, past the vehicle he had been sitting inside. Just as he was nearly parallel to Deputy I saw him turn his head and look towards Deputy Suddenly, I saw his body and right shoulder shift towards Deputy (whereas the gun had previously been in his hand pointed down) and from my position, I believed he was leveling the barrel of the gun at Deputy It is at that moment that I began firing my weapon. I heard other rounds being fired but

at the same time, I was not sure who was firing them. I saw the suspect begin to fall to the sidewalk in front of the Sunoco and I stopped firing my weapon.

The suspect fell on his stomach and he did not appear to be moving. Deputy approached and secured him. I believe he also secured his weapon and aired for medics. I got the two females out of the car, and I believe the male driver was already in the prone position outside the driver's side door and I secured him. I retrieved my personal first aid kit and began rendering aid to the suspect. I believe Deputy pulled off his ski mask and was talking to the suspect and encouraging him to stay with us. I do not recall the suspect ever verbalizing anything. I cut the suspect's shirt off and saw a small wound in his left side. Deputy and I packed the wound and maintained pressure. We also applied gauze to the suspects head that was bleeding.

Sergeants Satterfield and Snider arrived, as did additional officers from various jurisdictions and they began securing the scene. I told the responding officers to go inside and make sure that no one was injured in the gas station. Medics arrived and took over rendering aid to the suspect and I believe pronounced the suspect. Enough officers had arrived at this point that they were putting cones over some of the shell casings and crime scene tape was going up. I left the scene with Deputy Jenkins and returned to SWAT Headquarters to wait for BCI Agents to collect my firearm and take photographs. I was willing to provide a walk through to the agents, but none was requested. This ended my involvement in this matter.

I believe that I fired 6-7 shots at the suspect. I am unsure because I am not certain of the exact number of rounds I had in my magazine, but I believe I had 19 in it. I fired those shots in rapid succession, and I would estimate I fired all my shots in less than 2 seconds. I did not have any cover or concealment when I fired. I fired from a standing position, and I believe I was

I used my sites. My target was the suspect's left side torso, as he had turned towards Deputy

I would estimate the suspect was approximately 15-20 feet from the suspect when I fired my weapon. The direction of my shots was west. My backdrop was the sidewalk, as I pointed at a downward angle because the suspect was not very tall and crouched down. I did not see any civilians in my backdrop, and I knew Deputy

was several feet south of my shots. I did not know exactly where Deputy

was located but I did not see him in my backdrop.

I knew the suspect was Pozz Striblin from the email that had been sent requesting everyone be on the lookout for him. I knew he had an active warrant and was a suspect in a double homicide, but I do not believe I have ever had any personal or professional encounters with him.

This entire incident evolved rapidly. I would estimate that it was approximately 15 seconds or less from the time I exited my car until the time shots were fired. At the time I fired my weapon, I was in fear for the life of Deputy I knew the suspect was a person of interest in a homicide in which an individual had been shot. The suspect had ignored my commands and instead ran from the car with a gun in his hand. Immediately before I fired my weapon, I believed that the suspect had just raised his weapon toward Deputy I and I believed he intended to shoot and kill or seriously injure Deputy I do not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative to protect the life of Deputy I and everyone else in the area at the time I fired my weapon.

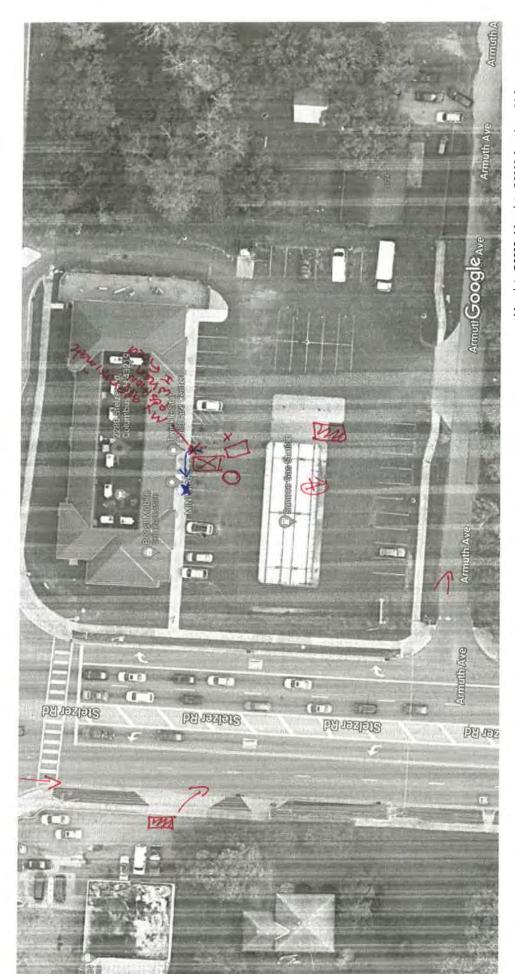
This concludes my statement. I am willing to answer any additional questions you may have at this time.

Badge #

Google Maps 2280 s

2280 Stelzer Rd





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