



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



2023-2210

Officer Involved Critical Incident - ██████████ Howland
Township, OH 44484 Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Interview of ██████████
Activity Date: 8/28/2023
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Joseph Goudy #83

Narrative:

On August 23, 2023, at 0955 hours, SA Goudy interviewed ██████████ (██████████), the mother of Randall Fife (Randall) and ██████████ (██████████). ██████████ stated when she got home from the grocery store at approximately 2000 hours the previous evening (8-22-23), the door to her residence was locked. ██████████ stated when her oldest son (Randall) opened the door for her he had a shotgun in his hands. When ██████████ asked him what was going on, he said people were after him and that he had to protect himself. Later in the interview, ██████████ stated no one was after him. Randall allowed her to bring in her groceries. ██████████ tried to calm his fears by telling him no one is going to get him. ██████████ then stated Randall said "what about the punk upstairs." When ██████████ asked Randall if he was referring to his brother (██████████), Randall stated that's not my brother. I don't even think that you are my mom. Randall stated to ██████████ "I don't know who you people are."

When ██████████ came down the stairs, Randall pointed the gun at ██████████ ██████████ then told ██████████ to get into the back bedroom. ██████████ tried to calm Randall down more by telling him to put the gun down. Shortly thereafter, ██████████ stated she then went into the back bedroom with ██████████ and barricaded themselves inside. While she and ██████████ were in the back bedroom, Randall was walking around the house talking to himself. ██████████ further stated, ██████████'s girlfriend ██████████ (██████████) was upstairs hiding under the bed alone. When asked if Randall tried to force his way into the bedroom they were barricaded in, ██████████ said "no, he never tried to come back."

██████████ stated Randall got worse right after his father died in 2020. ██████████ stated Randall's father was very good at getting him under control. When ██████████ was asked what Randall was doing while they were in the back bedroom, ██████████ stated he was talking to himself and the voices in his head. ██████████ further stated Randall referred to God and said "He's ready to go" and that "he's not afraid to die." ██████████ stated they could not see him from the bedroom but could hear him moving around the house. When SA Goudy asked ██████████ when she called 911; ██████████ stated she did not because she was in fear that Randall would hear her. According to the time of the text, at 2013 hours, ██████████ texted her daughter Maxine to call 911 and continued on texting Maxine everything that was going on. ██████████ stated she was texting with Maxine and a crisis negotiator named Kristen throughout the incident.

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Around the time when the SWAT team entered the residence, ██████ stated she thought her house blew up due to how loud it was. At this point, ██████ stated they were yelling that they were “back here,” when they heard the officers enter the residence. ██████ stated it sounded like “fireworks” were going off. ██████ stated they were concerned about Went being upstairs alone and that was why they didn’t try to escape through the first-floor window. When ██████ eventually exited the bedroom, she stated she and ██████ were handcuffed and escorted out the backdoor. ██████ didn’t see where Randall was when she exited, other than knowing he was in the front room and that they (law enforcement) made her go in the opposite direction.

When SA Goudy asked ██████ if Randall has acted like this previously, she replied, “lots and lots and lots of times.” ██████ further stated there were no guns involved previously. ██████ stated every time they had taken him to the hospital, all they would do is give him medicine and send him home. ██████ was frustrated with the lack of mental health assistance. When asked what Randall does during the day; ██████ stated he spends every day at home and sits in his chair in the living room talking to himself. ██████ further stated they stopped watching television in fear that the voices Randall hears will increase. ██████ stated he sometimes doesn’t sleep for days.

When ██████ was asked if Randall ever made threats towards her or ██████ ██████ stated, with the exception of the incident, he had never threatened them. SA Goudy asked ██████ if Randall had ever threatened anyone else. ██████ stated Randall always referred to, “getting Brenden.” ██████ stated Brenden lives in California. From time to time, Randall will call him or facetime him. ██████ further stated, “Brenden has to think he’s totally nuts.” ██████ stated Brenden has never done anything to him. When asked how Randall is around law enforcement; ██████ stated Randall is “kinda paranoid and scared.” ██████ further stated Randall had never threatened to harm any law enforcement and was always compliant.

For further details, please refer to the audio interview conducted with ██████████ A copy of the audio recording has been attached to this report.