



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Investigative Activity: Case Closing
Involves: Camille Artice Weems (S)
Date of Activity: 06/22/2022
Activity Location: Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation – 1560 SR-56 SW, London, OH 43140, Madison County
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

To: Mark J. Tekulve, Clermont County Prosecutor/ Lara Baron-Allen, Felony Chief

CC: Special Agent Supervisor Will Jones, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation

From: Special Agent Steven Seitzman, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Date: July 1, 2022

Case Title: Miami Township Officer-Involved Critical Incident- Officer [REDACTED]

Case Number: 2022-1139

Preface:

The following prosecutor summary serves as an overview of the criminal investigation of an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at 947 SR-28 Business in Miami Township, Clermont County, Ohio. The incident occurred between Camille Artice Weems (Weems) and Miami Township Police Department (MTPD) Officer [REDACTED] (Officer [REDACTED]). The investigation was conducted by Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Steven Seitzman at the request of MTPD Chief of Police Mike Mills.

This report only summarizes the investigative activity and information gathered by BCI. Every fact, detail, and full summary of all interviews is not presented in this report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be reviewed in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Audio and/or video recordings exist for some of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

Synopsis of the Incident:

On May 20, 2022, at 1717 hours, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested

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by the Miami Township Police Department (MTPD) in Clermont County to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident that occurred on the same date in the parking lot of 947 Business 28, Milford, OH 45140.

On May 20, 2022, at 1627 hours, MTPD officers were dispatched to conduct a welfare check on Camille Artice Weems (Ms. Weems) at her residence located at 947 Business 28, Apt. 16. The welfare check was requested by a neighbor, Casey Greenberg, after Ms. Weems called him stating that someone was coming to kill her and that she needed to get out of the city/state. Ms. Weems was uncooperative with the responding officers, so the officers eventually left. At approximately 1700 hours, neighbors contacted MTPD after Ms. Weems was seen in the parking lot shirtless and armed with a pistol. Ms. Weems fired the gun several times prior to police arrival.

MTPD officers Robert Bunnell, [REDACTED] Ann Morgan, William Hickey, and Sgt. Daniel Tobias responded. The officers located Ms. Weems in the parking lot, still shirtless and armed with a pistol. Ms. Weems crouched down, pointed the pistol in the direction of the officers, and fired it at them. Officer [REDACTED] returned fire with an AR-15-style rifle. Officer [REDACTED] truck Ms. Weems, causing her to fall to the ground. Officers approached Ms. Weems and rendered medical aid to her. Ms. Weems was transported to the Eastside Christian Church (5874 Montclair Blvd., Milford, OH 45150) to meet with Air Care personnel; however, she ultimately succumbed to her wounds. Air Care personnel declined to transport Ms. Weems. A Clermont County Coroner's Office representative responded to the Eastside Christian Church and took possession of Ms. Weems' body.

BCI Special Investigations Unit Special Agent Supervisor Will Jones, Special Agent Steven Seitzman (lead agent), Special Agent Doug Eveslage, Special Agent Kenneth Smith, and Special Agent Dave Hornyak responded to conduct the investigation. BCI Crime Scene Unit Special Agent Aja Chung responded to process two scenes, as some of the rounds presumably fired by Ms. Weems, hit a nearby business across the street.

Summary of the Investigative Process:

- OICI scene processed by the BCI Crime Scene Unit.
- Weems' autopsy was attended by BCI Special Agent Kenneth Smith.
- Officer [REDACTED] duty rifle, Ms. Weems' pistol, and casings collected at the scene were examined at the BCI laboratory.
- Obtained a written letter of request for BCI assistance.
- Obtained body-worn camera and cruiser camera footage.
- Obtained Officer [REDACTED] training records and personnel file.
- Retrieved dispatch radio recordings, dispatch log, and 911 calls.
- Obtained Prior MTPD Incident Reports involving Ms. Weems.
- Obtained a copy of the MTPD's Use of Force policy.
- Obtained the EMS Run Report.
- Obtained Ms. Weems' final autopsy report.
- Obtained MTPD crime scene log.
- Obtained all other known pertinent records or recordings.

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Investigative Interviews:

Several individuals were interviewed as a part of this investigation. The following were interviewed as witnesses: Skyler Strahler, Kalila Wilson, Trevor Smalls–Miller, Lori Smalls–Miller, Kelly Horton, Cynthia Centers, Casey Greenberg, Brian Woolever, Spencer Brown, Paul Burgio, Jr., Kyle Hollins, William Jake Harkleroad, John Gallagher, Stephanie Messer, Cole Messer, Miami Township Assistant Fire Chief Dan Mack, MTPD Officers William Hickey, Robert Bunnell, Ann Morgan, and Sgt. Daniel Tobias.

MTPD Officer ██████ was interviewed on May 26, 2022, in the presence of his Fraternal Order of Police attorney, Stew Matthews. Fraternal Order of Police (Ohio Labor Council) Senior Staff Representative Barry Gray was also present for the interview.

SA Seitzman summarized the statements of the witnesses he found to be most relevant to this investigation. The summaries are provided below; however, it is recommended that each individual report be reviewed in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation.

Skyler Strahler and Kalila Wilson (Strahler) and (Wilson):Ms. Weems walked outside the apartment building to the parking lot. She walked toward Strahler and Wilson's parked vehicle, which they were inside of. She stopped approximately 20–30 feet away and said something to the effect of, "Call the police all you want." She then brandished a firearm and "waved it up in the air" and fired one shot in the air. She went back inside the building for a short period of time, then exited back out into the parking lot. Strahler and Wilson were exiting the vehicle at that time. Strahler told Wilson to run (with the baby). Ms. Weems then came right up to Strahler and said she did not want to hurt or kill a baby before pointing the gun directly at Strahler. Strahler told her it did not have to be like this. Ms. Weems replied that the police were going to kill her anyway because she was black and "that's what the police do." Ms. Weems then changed her aiming point and fired two shots across the parking lot (Strahler indicated the direction as parallel to State Route 28). Strahler was approximately one foot away from Weems at the time and ran away as she fired.

Strahler then called 911 to report the incident. Strahler and Wilson both estimated that approximately 30–45 seconds elapsed before the police arrived on–scene. Strahler had made it to the building but was not looking at Weems or the police when he heard multiple gunshots. He turned to look, heard two more gunshots, and then saw Weems fall to the ground.

Strahler believed that Weems shot at the police and was then struck by return fire. Strahler estimated that, in all, he possibly heard 10–15 rounds.

Strahler added that he heard police tell Weems to put the weapon down before she was shot.

Trevor Smalls–Miller (Smalls–Miller):

Ms. Weems came to Smalls–Miller's apartment on May 19, 2022, the night prior to the OICI. She requested help handling a firearm, as she was having difficulty with the safety. Smalls–Miller showed her how to operate the firearm.

On May 20, 2022, he heard a gunshot outside of his apartment. He did not see who was firing,

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but he remembered telling his child to stay low to the ground. He looked outside and saw a shirtless Ms. Weems walking toward a vehicle in the parking lot. He saw Ms. Weems point the gun at the people who were in the vehicle she approached. He then saw her fire a round in the opposite direction of the apartment building. He then heard a third shot, but he was not looking outside of his window. After he heard the third gunshot, there was a "hailstorm of gunfire" and he watched Ms. Weems "drop right there." Smalls-Miller opined that there were four officers and each fired at least five or six times, so he heard approximately twenty shots that all overlapped.

Casey Greenberg (Greenberg):

Ms. Weems came to his apartment on May 19, 2022, the day prior to the OICI. Ms. Weems asked for help with a handgun she had just purchased. He and his roommate, Smalls-Miller, showed her how to use the handgun. This was the first time he ever met Ms. Weems. While they showed her how to use the handgun, she told them someone wanted to kill her but did not go into detail. Ms. Weems seemed coherent and normal to him at the time.

On May 20, 2022, at approximately 1614 hours, Camille called him and sounded extremely paranoid. She said her phone and computer were hacked and people had all of her information. She said "someone was out to kill her" and needed to get out of the state. He called the MTPD non-emergency number at approximately 1623 hours to have officers respond to check Ms. Weems' welfare. He relayed to the dispatcher that Ms. Weems had a gun, and he did not feel safe in his apartment.

He advised MTPD officers arrived and eventually left. Approximately 15-20 minutes after the officers left, he recalled hearing a shot. He saw Ms. Weems in the parking lot from inside his apartment. He stated she was not wearing a shirt. He said she fired approximately three shots in total. He recalled seeing her shooting toward the mechanic's shop across the street. He also recalled her firing another shot "toward the restaurants going towards the highway." He was uncertain where she aimed the third time. He saw her approach a bystander's car and engage him in conversation.

He then recalled the police officers' arrival. He saw Ms. Weems "crouch down and start shooting directly at the police." He said she was in a squatting position and had her arms stretched out in front of her. She then shot in the direction of the police, who were parked near the entrance to the parking lot. He estimated she fired approximately three shots at the police officers.

He could not see police officers return fire, but he heard gunshots from the area where they were. He said they fired "a lot" of shots. He said it sounded like the police officers fired from pistols. He stated he saw one police officer with an AR-15 rifle. He advised that he saw officers approach Ms. Weems to administer first aid.

Spencer Brown (Brown):

Brown advised he was traveling on SR-28 Business and saw four police cruisers with emergency lights on but no sirens. The cruisers passed him and pulled into the Berry Lane Apartments. He was traveling eastbound on SR-28 Business and was blocked by the police cruisers. He observed an officer exiting his vehicle. He rolled his windows down and heard yelling from the police officers. He then saw a woman (whom he initially thought was a male) pointing and

waving a black pistol. He then saw her fire a round. The officers did not engage at that time. Approximately twelve to thirteen seconds later, the female crouched down, which he presumed was to get a better look, and as she stood up, she pointed the firearm with both hands and fired toward the police officers. He then heard other firearms discharging, which he believed was law enforcement. He estimated police officers shot approximately six shots. He was uncertain how many police officers had fired. The female dropped to the ground. The police officers approached the female and administered first aid.

John Gallagher (Gallagher):

Gallagher was in the area of Berry Lane Apartments, where he observed several police cruisers. He saw one of the police cruisers parked diagonally on SR-28 Business facing the apartment complex. He watched as the officer exited with a rifle and went around to the other side of his vehicle. Gallagher looked toward the apartment building and saw a subject walking toward the police officers. He described the subject as an African American. He initially thought the subject was a male because he did not believe the subject was wearing a shirt. He said he saw red on the bottom of the subject and thought it might be the subject's underwear. As the subject was walking toward the police officers, he saw the subject's right hand come up with what he believed was a gun. He said the gun was pointed toward the police cruisers. He heard one isolated shot, then four or five shots. He then saw the subject on the ground. He advised that he only heard the shots and did not see anyone shoot. He recalled looking and seeing an officer with a rifle next to a patrol car either on SR-28 Business or in the driveway to the apartment complex.

Stephanie Messer (Messer):

Messer was driving eastbound on SR-28 Business with her family. As she was driving, she saw several police cruisers westbound on SR-28 Business with emergency lights on. Some of the police cruisers turned right into the Berry Lane Apartments, while the others blocked her lane of travel. Then, Messer looked to her right and saw what she believed to be a shirtless African American male "coming at" the police officers with a black pistol in her right hand. She later found out the subject was a female. She said the female subject raised the gun as she walked toward the officers. As Messer backed her car away from the area, she saw the female subject fire a shot at the police officers. Eight to ten seconds later, the female subject then knelt on the ground, stood up, and fired a second shot. She then heard "several closer fires" and the female subject dropped to the ground. She assumed the closer shots she heard were from police officers, but she never saw an officer shoot. After the shots stopped, the officers approached the female and rendered medical aid.

Messer advised her juvenile son, Cole Messer, captured a portion of the OICI with his cell phone. He sent the video file to SA Seitzman for review.

MTPD Officer William Hickey (Officer Hickey):

While Officer Hickey was responding, he heard radio traffic indicating the subject pointed a gun at someone and fired it again in the air. He said officers arrived simultaneously. He was the fourth police officer to arrive, behind Officer Robert Bunnell, Officer [REDACTED] and Officer Ann Morgan. As he arrived, he heard a gunshot. He assumed the gunshot came from Ms.

Weems. He advised agents he was in fear for his safety after hearing the gunshot. He retrieved his AR-15 rifle from the front compartment of his cruiser.

Officer Hickey heard Officer ██████ say over the police radio, "She's pointing a weapon at our units." He then heard another shot. He advised that from his angle, he could only see Ms. Weems' torso. He could see Ms. Weems walking toward the officers and assumed the shot came from her, though he did not see her fire. He recalled feeling that he was in danger. He moved around his cruiser to get a better view, at which point he heard officers yelling, "Drop the gun!" several times. He then heard several shots from the "AR." He saw Officer ██████ firing upon Ms. Weems. He saw Ms. Weems fall to the ground. At that point, he saw her with a pistol in her hand. He described the pistol as having a silver slide and a black grip. He remembered hearing more commands from several officers for Ms. Weems to "Drop the gun!" Eventually, officers approached Ms. Weems to render aid.

MTPD Officer Robert Bunnell (Officer Bunnell):

At approximately 1700 hours, Officer Bunnell was dispatched to the Berry Lane Apartments for a person in the parking lot with a gun. He was the first officer to enter the apartment complex. He saw Ms. Weems in the parking lot holding a gun in her right hand. He recalled Ms. Weems initially holding the gun down to her right side, but he also remembered her waving the gun back and forth as she walked toward the officers. He turned his car to the left into the grass, where he parked behind a bush for cover. He retrieved his department-issued AR-15 rifle. He remembered hearing a gunshot at that time. He said the gunshot sounded as if it was coming from the area of Ms. Weems. He feared for his life after hearing the shot. He maneuvered around his vehicle and lost sight of Ms. Weems. He remembered hearing another shot, which sounded like it came from Ms. Weems' location. He then heard Officer ██████ fire rounds. He looked behind him and saw Officer ██████ firing his rifle. He heard Officer ██████ yell that Ms. Weems was down. The officers gave Ms. Weems commands to drop her weapon. Officers formulated a plan and subsequently moved up to Ms. Weems to render aid.

MTPD Officer Ann Morgan (Officer Morgan):

Officer Morgan explained that she was dispatched to the Berry Lane Apartments to "check the welfare" of Ms. Weems with other officers, including Crisis Intervention Trained civilian Matt Hale. The call was cleared after Ms. Weems refused their assistance. About thirty minutes later, officers responded to the parking lot of the Berry Lane Apartments for a report of a topless female in the parking lot who discharged a firearm in the air. As Officer Morgan arrived, she heard MTPD Officer ██████ yelling, "Drop the gun! Drop the gun!" Officer Morgan said, "I'm pretty certain before I had it in park I heard a round go off." She remembered that she had forgotten her "AR" (duty rifle) and hesitated to go back for it. During that time, she thought she heard another round fired. She said that she could not see Ms. Weems at that point, but the last time she saw her, she was walking towards the police vehicles. Officer Morgan said that she heard one more shot that she believed came from Weems' firearm, and then she "heard the numerous AR rounds going off." She moved into position behind another police vehicle, and that is when she saw that Ms. Weems was down. She noticed Ms. Weems' gun just a few inches away from her hand on the ground. Officers gave several verbal commands, then they moved forward to administer first aid to Weems.

Involved Officer:

Officer [REDACTED] (Officer [REDACTED]):

On May 20, 2022, at approximately 1640 hours, he responded to 947 SR-28 Business, Apt. 16 (Berry Lane Apartments) for a welfare check on Ms. Weems. The information he had was that Ms. Weems was armed with a gun and believed people were after her. He responded with MTPD Officer Ann Morgan and MTPD Mobile Crisis Responder Matt Hale. The call was cleared after Ms. Weems refused their assistance.

At approximately 1700 hours, MTPD officers responded to the parking lot of the Berry Lane Apartments for a dispatch of a person with a gun. While he was responding, he was informed over the police radio that shots were fired. He followed the first arriving officer into the parking lot. When he arrived, he could see a shirtless African American female, whom he later learned was Ms. Weems, walking toward them with a black handgun. He was unable to recall which hand Ms. Weems was holding the gun in. He remembered Ms. Weems firing a single shot at the officers. He ducked down and yelled at Ms. Weems to drop the weapon. He then retrieved his department-issued AR-15 rifle from his cruiser. He gave Ms. Weems more commands to put the gun down; however, she continued to quickly advance toward the direction of the officers. He said Ms. Weems fired again at the officers. He recalled focusing on the barrel of Ms. Weems' gun. He said Ms. Weems pointed the gun directly at him. He remembered thinking to himself that he was about to get shot. He was in fear for his safety. He took aim and fired his AR-15. He estimated he fired three or four times. After he shot, he watched her fall to the ground. He changed positions and gave commands for her to drop the gun. Officer [REDACTED] approached Ms. Weems with Officer Ann Morgan, Officer Robert Bunnell, and Sgt. Daniel Tobias to render aid.

Subsequent Investigation:

SA Seitzman reviewed all the body-worn camera and fleet camera footage. He found MTPD Officer [REDACTED] fleet camera to be the most useful in understanding the events during OICI. The time standard watermarked in the cruiser camera videos is Zulu. The eastern daylight time zone is found by subtracting four hours from the time in the watermark. SA Seitzman noted the following:

- 21:02:26—Officer [REDACTED] advised over the radio that "She's aiming it at our units now."
- 21:02:37—Officer [REDACTED] yelled at Ms. Weems to "Put the gun down!"
 - Ms. Weems advanced toward the officers.
- 21:02:40—Ms. Weems crouched down, pointed her gun in the direction of the police officers, and fired a single shot.
- 21:02:44—Officer [REDACTED] broadcast on the police radio, "Mary-thirty, shots fired, shots fired."
- 21:02:49—Ms. Weems fired another single shot in the direction of the police officers.
- 21:02:50—Officer [REDACTED] returned fire, striking Ms. Weems. He fired six rounds from his AR-15 rifle.

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- Ms. Weems turned away from the officers and fell to the ground.
- 21:03:54—Officers approached Ms. Weems.
 - Sgt. Daniel Tobias kicked the gun away from her.
- 21:03:58—Sgt. Tobias and Officer Morgan began rendering aid to Ms. Weems.

BCI Firearms Laboratory Reports:

On July 1, 2022, SA Seitzman received the BCI Firearms Laboratory report. SA Seitzman reviewed the report and noted the following:

- Ms. Weems' Taurus 9mm weapon was operable.
- The 9mm casing located in the mulch landscaping near the entrance to Building B was attributed to Ms. Weems' weapon.
- The 9mm casing located near Ms. Weems' body was attributed to Ms. Weems' weapon.
- The 9mm casing located near a green pick-up truck in the parking lot was attributed to Ms. Weems' weapon.
- The 9mm casing located near the wheel of the maroon Chevrolet Impala was attributed to Ms. Weems' weapon.
- The bullet fragment located inside 944 SR-28 Business (Harky's Motorsports) under a Ducati motorcycle was fired from Ms. Weems' weapon.
- Officer [REDACTED] Sig Sauer AR-15 rifle was operable.
- The five .223 casings located near the entrance of 947 SR-28 Business were attributed to Officer [REDACTED] weapon.
- The .223 casing located on the roof of Officer [REDACTED] cruiser on May 21, 2022, was attributed to Officer [REDACTED] weapon.
- The jacketed .223 bullet fragment located near the grass island by the maroon Chevrolet Impala was found to be inconclusive.
- The jacketed bullet fragment retrieved during Ms. Weems' autopsy was found to be inconclusive.

Postmortem examination/autopsy:

The postmortem examination of the body of Ms. Weems was performed at the Hamilton County Morgue on May 21, 2022. The postmortem examination was completed by Deputy Coroner and Forensic Pathologist Dorothy E. Dean, M.D. The postmortem examination was observed by Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agent Kenney Smith and MTPD Sgt. Josh Bail. The final coroner's report was received by SA Seitzman on June 22, 2022.

SA Seitzman reviewed the coroner's report and noted the following:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]

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