



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



2024-1513
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 6382 Georges Creek Drive,
Columbus, OH 43110 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Camara E Gates (W)
Date of Activity: 05/16/2024
Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On May 16, 2024 at approximately 1040 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents James Mulford (SA Mulford) and Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) conducted a follow-up interview with Camara Gates (Gates). The follow-up interview was deemed necessary by BCI to obtain additional information from Gates as a witness to the Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which had occurred earlier that day involving the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) and Rafael Warfield (Warfield). Gates indicated she understood the nature of the interview and agreed to answer questions regarding the incident.

This interview was audio recorded and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the recording for specific quotes. The following is a summation of the interview.

Gates admitted she knew Warfield by name and was in a relationship with him, despite earlier denying she knew Warfield's name and that she was dating Warfield. Gates also admitted to being intoxicated and having an argument with Warfield after they got back from the bar, prior to the OICI. Gates explained she and Warfield's argument was physical, and they were "tussling" with each other. Gates said she and Warfield were in the living room, and recalled she and Warfield shoving each other, but stated Warfield did not hit her. Gates yelled for Erykah (King) to help her deescalate the situation. Gates said she and King then went upstairs and left Warfield in the living room. Gates estimated her altercation with Warfield lasted three to five minutes.

Gates observed Warfield throwing clothes out of the front door, but did not see Warfield break the glass table in the living room. Gates said she and King started to become afraid of Warfield's behavior and King called the police.

Gates recalled Warfield making threats to kill himself with a knife. Gates described a knife with a green handle that had been in Warfield's possession that night, but denied Warfield tried to stab her with it. Gates said King had told her Warfield was holding the knife up to his own neck.

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Approved By SA James A. Mulford on
06/03/2024

Gates could hear Warfield making suicidal threats such as, "I'll do it," and "I'll really do it this time."

Gates was asked about hearing gunshots and responded, "I only heard like one or two but it was probably like four." Gates also stated the police made entry into the apartment within seconds of her hearing gunshots. After she was instructed by police to come out of the building, Gates said she saw blood inside the apartment and on her shoes but did not know whose it was or where it came from.

Gates did not believe Warfield was under the influence of anything besides alcohol on the night of the OICI. Gates reported Warfield had been "clean" for two months. Gates said Warfield's drug of choice before getting clean was opioids.

Gates was asked what kind of gun Warfield was known to carry. Gates said in regards to Warfield's gun, "It's definitely not nothing big," and explained the gun could fit into Warfield's pocket. Gates did not believe Warfield had a gun in his possession when they were at the bar, and indicated he keeps it at King's apartment.

Gates explained Warfield had made vague statements which might have been considered suicidal such as "I don't wanna be here anymore," and "I can't handle it," as well as "I'm done, I'm over it."

Interview concluded at approximately 1051 hours.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-05-16 – Camara Gates Interview Audio (#2)