

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



2022-2121 Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 6463 Tara Brooke Court, Hamilton, OH 45011 (L)

| Investigative Activity: | Interview with Officer |
|-------------------------|---|
| Involves: | Officer Bryan Bowlin (S) |
| Date of Activity: | 10/20/2022 |
| Activity Location: | Hamilton Police Department - Business - 331 South Front Street , Hamilton, OH 45011, Butler County |
| Author: | SA Lauren Frazier, #129 |

Narrative:

On October 8, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer–Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred at 6463 Tara Brooke Court, Hamilton, Ohio, which resulted in the death of Stephaun Jones. BCI Special Agents (SA) Steve Seitzman, Rick Ward, and Lauren Frazier interviewed Officer Bryan Bowlin (Officer Bowlin) with the City of Hamilton Police Department about his involvement with the OICI.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview. Please refer to the audio recording for additional information.

The interview with Officer Bowlin (Badge #139) was conducted on October 20, 2022, at 1429 hours at the City of Hamilton Police Department located at 331 South Front Street, Hamilton, Ohio. Attorney Jeffery Grey and City of Hamilton Union Representative James Carpenter were present for the interview. Officer Bowlin was read the Criminal Investigation Notification Form (see attachment #01).

Officer Bowlin has been a police officer at the City of Hamilton Police Department for approximately five years (since July of 2017) and went to the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy. Officer Bowlin previously served as a technician for communications in the Marine Corps for approximately 4 years prior to entering law enforcement.

On October 8, 2022, Officer Bowlin stated that he was wearing a clearly marked City of Hamilton police uniform. He heard via radio that there was a "person with a gun" on Fairgrove Avenue. When Officer Bowlin arrived on scene, he said that people were providing assistance to a male who had been shot. Dispatch advised that the subject with the gun had fled and was on Morris Road. Officer Bowlin and City of Hamilton Officer James Leisinger began towards Morris Road to help locate the subject.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

Officer Bowlin said that he knew at this time that the subject had a gun and had shot someone. Officer Bowlin heard via radio that Fairfield Township officers tried to tase the subject, which was ineffective and the subject fled into the woods. Officer Bowlin stated that he went to a culde-sac on Tara Brooke Court to help set up a perimeter. Officer Leisinger followed him and at some point, Officer Bowlin got into the passenger seat of Officer Leisinger's cruiser.

Officer Bowlin and Officer Leisinger were approached by several residents, stating that they had seen the subject walking down Tara Brooke Court, described as a Black male with dreads and a camo jacket. The subject description matched the description that had been given over the radio of the subject with the gun.

Officer Bowlin and Officer Leisinger were near 6463 Tara Brooke Court, when Officer Leisinger observed the subject walking toward them on the sidewalk. Officer Bowlin jumped out of the passenger side of the cruiser and observed the subject reaching into his pockets. He told the subject several times to show his hands. The subject was facing officers and moved toward the street and pulled a handgun out of his right pants pocket. Officer Bowlin verbalized, "gun, gun, gun." He ran to a car immediately to his right for cover to "engage the threat." Officer Bowlin said that he heard a pop and then he shot two rounds toward the subject from his department-issued AR-15 rifle from approximately 30 yards away.

Officer Bowlin stated that Butler County Sheriff's Office Deputy Duane Monroe arrived on scene shortly after shots had been fired. Deputy Monroe secured the subject's gun and helped render aid to the subject. Officer Leisinger handcuffed the subject and multiple officers arrived on scene, before Officer Bowlin and Officer Leisinger separated themselves from the scene. Officer Bowlin and Officer Leisinger in the back of Leisinger's cruiser.

SA Seitzman provided a near scale diagram of the scene for Officer Bowlin to reference. Officer Bowlin stated that Officer Leisinger's cruiser was moved to allow the fire engine to fit. He marked where the cruiser and subject were when the OICI occurred. See attachment #02 for a copy of the diagram.

Officer Bowling stated that the subject "aggressively put his hands in his pocket and pulled out a gun." He said that he was terrified and concerned for himself and others' safety.

The interview concluded at 1458 hours. A copy of the audio recording is also attached (see attachment #03).

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Criminal Investigation Notification – Officer Bryan Bowlin Attachment # 02: Diagram Officer Bryan Bowlin Attachment # 03: 2022-10-20 / Interview with Hamilton Police Officer Bryan Bowlin

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

Exhibit 1



Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation



Criminal Investigation Notification

- 1. 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.
- 3. 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 **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

an Name of Interviewee

10/20/22@ 143

Signature of Interviewee

STEVE SEITZMAN BCI Agent (Printed)

gent (Signature)

BCI-INVEST-34 Revised 03/17

Exhibit 2



Bryan Bowlin 10/20/22

Exhibit 3

Included as a separate file.