



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



2022-2608

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 28 N. Paint St, Chillicothe

Investigative Activity: Initial Response

Activity Date: 11/17/2022

Activity Location: 28 N. Paint St. Chillicothe

Authoring Agent: SA Matt Collins, #151

Narrative:

On November 17, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Collins (SA Collins) was contacted by Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Kevin Barbeau and requested to respond to 28 Paint St., Chillicothe for an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI). While en route, SA Collins was informed he was going to be the Lead Investigator or Case agent. SA Collins was briefed by SA Ryan Scheiderer who was already on scene. SA Collins was told an unknown subject had come to the sheriff's office, located in downtown Chillicothe and spoke with a Ross County Sheriff's deputy. During the interaction, the deputy was shot as well as the unknown individual. SA Scheiderer was in the process of getting access to the building surveillance video/s. SA Collins was told there was not much information to go on as the involved-subject's identity was unknown. Ross County Deputy Eric Kocheran was the officer involved. Kocheran was transported by squad to Adena Hospital before being transported to Grant Medical Center in Columbus in critical condition. The unknown involved-subject was transported to Adena Hospital where he'd succumbed to his injuries.

With the subject's identity and the cause of the circumstances being unknown; SA Collins believed it to be important in identifying the subject and ensuring it was an isolated incident with no other parties involved remaining in the area. SA Scheiderer said he was checking into obtaining a rapid I.D. (portable fingerprint reader). SA Collins asked SA Scheiderer to inquire of any License Plate Readers (LPR) available, in order to attempt to identify any vehicles in the area which were unaccounted for or otherwise suspicious. SA Collins had also spoken with SAS Barbeau in reference to any possibility of utilizing facial recognition software. SAS Barbeau advised he was going to look into it and determine if it was possible, given the factors of obtaining a photograph of good quality.

When SA Collins arrived, additional agents were already on scene interviewing witnessing officers. SA Collins was already informed the witnessing officers were all after-the-fact. There was no information coming from those interviews suggesting anyone knew who the involved-subject was or why he was there. Due to them not having an LPR, a Chillicothe police officer had written down license plates of vehicles located on the east side of N. Paint Street (across the street from the SO). Once interviews were completed, SA Collins instructed agents to conduct a broader canvass of the surrounding area in an attempt to locate any vehicles being out of place.

While agents began conducting the canvass, a key fob for a Dodge vehicle was located in a pants pocket of the involved-subject (see additional investigative reports related to the discovery of the fob and the



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subsequent discovery of the vehicle; Also, see *Figure 1* below for area orientation). When the vehicle was located at 72 N. Bridge St., it was identified as belonging to a Jamie Canterbury (female). A search for Canterbury began in order to check her welfare and to see if she possibly knew the identity of the subject who had her keys. Just as agents were gathering information on the recently located vehicle and its owner, a corresponding effort was taking place from BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) and the BCI lab, identification section (fingerprint analysis). Nicholas Mitchell was identified as the involved-subject through fingerprint analysis.

SA Collins instructed agents to initially check the vehicle to ensure there was no person inside the vehicle, otherwise in a medical emergency (exigent circumstances). Once the vehicle was found to be unoccupied, SA Collins requested it be secured until it could be legally searched further. SA Collins requested agents to proceed to the last known address of Canterbury, again to check the welfare and attempt to speak with her regarding any reason Mitchell had her key fob (see investigative report related to that conversation).

SA Collins was receiving information from the BCI Criminal Intelligence Unit (CSU) analyst Jennifer Lester. Through the information provided, it was learned Mitchell's mother was deceased, his father was unknown and he had a brother (David Poole) in Portsmouth, OH. SA Collins learned from other agents speaking with Canterbury, she was a live-in girlfriend and did not know many details of Mitchell's family. In coordination with Portsmouth Police Department (PPD), a next of kin, death notification was made by the PPD with Poole. SA Collins provided PPD with his phone number, to be given to Poole, for additional information. Later SA Collins spoke with Poole by phone (see Investigative report related to conversation).

SA Collins was directed to utilize Ross County Sheriff's Office Detective Sergeant Jason Gannon as the point of contact in obtaining future information for the BCI's investigation, moving forward.

Figure 2 is a photograph of Mitchell from the Ross County Sheriff's Office building surveillance video. SA Collins provided that photo to agents whom were conducting the canvass, in the case someone recognized him or otherwise knew Mitchell.



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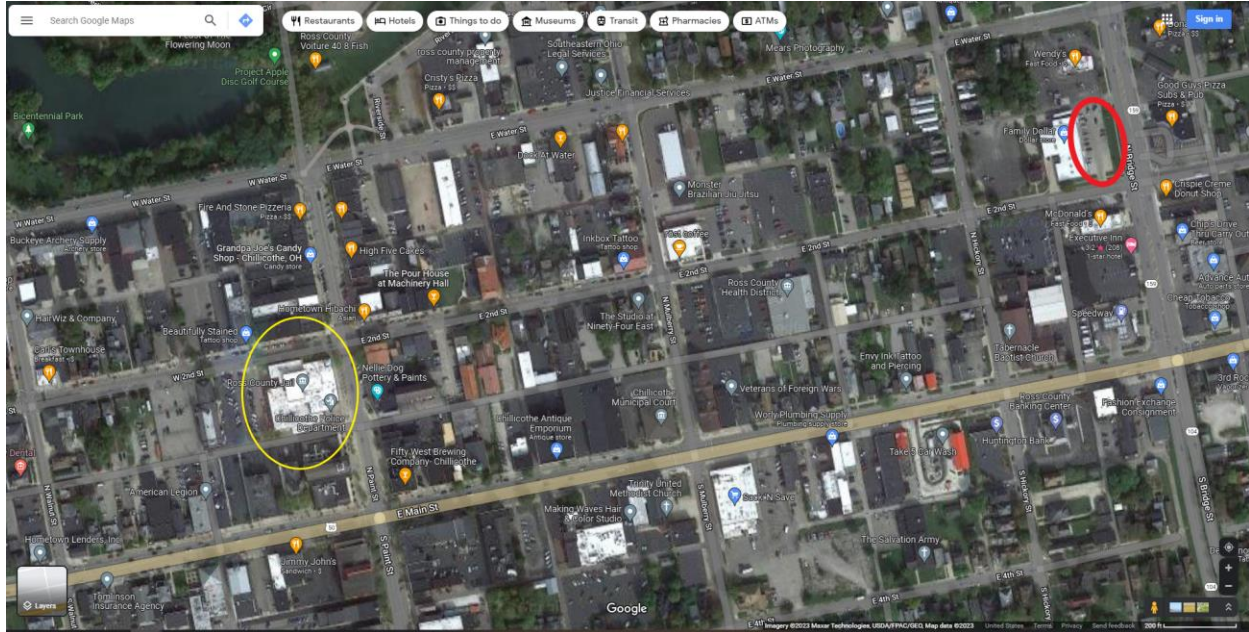


Figure 1: Google Map of the area; Ross County Sheriff's Office (yellow circle); Location of where the Dodge Challenger was located (red circle).



Figure 2: Still Photograph of Mitchell just before the shooting incident.

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