



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



2022-1564
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1132 Ashwood Drive, South
Charleston, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Dep. Holly Risner (W)
Date of Activity: 08/16/2022
Activity Location: East District CCSO – Business – 3130 East Main Street, Springfield,
OH 45502, Clark County
Author: SA Kenneth J. Smith, #53

Narrative:

On July 24, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, Clark County. During the OICI, Deputy Matthew Yates was shot and killed by subject, Cole White. The incident occurred after White had killed his mother, Jodie Arbuckle. Multiple agencies and SWAT Teams responded and attempted multiple rescue efforts of Deputy Yates. During the standoff the mobile home caught fire and White was killed in the fire.

On August 16, 2022 at 1254 hours, BCI Special Agents Richard Ward (SA Ward) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Clark County Deputy Holly Risner (Deputy Risner) regarding her involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the CCSO East District Office. FOP OLC Attorney John Sauter was present. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Dep. Risner has worked for the Clark County Sheriff's Office for 15 years. She is currently assigned to road patrol. On weekends, her assigned shift is 2200 to 2200 hours. She was assigned to Moorefield Township as a contract deputy.

On July 24, 2022, she was working in Moorefield Twp. She saw a call come up on her in-car computer for a woman who had broken into a trailer and shot 5 or 6 times. There was some confusion and there were two other priority calls on the board. Deputy Risner acknowledged

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.

that she would be enroute to that call. There were only three deputies working and there were updates to the call over the radio. Sgt. Chad Stalder and Deputy Yates also responded and arrived prior to Deputy Risner. Det. Brian Melchi had been working an extra duty detail and he also responded after an update regarding a female screaming that someone had been shot. It took Deputy Risner approximately 8–10 minutes to arrive and she was the last on scene.

When Deputy Risner arrived, the other deputies were all lined up at the door to the trailer. Deputy Risner took cover behind a tree nearby. Deputy Yates proceeded to kick the door several times to no avail. Deputy Risner yelled to him to mule kick the door. Deputy Yates proceeded to put his shotgun down and mule kicked the door and it crashed in. Deputy Yates picked the shotgun up and made entry to the left and Sgt. Stalder made entry to the right and yelled, "Clear". Deputy Risner then heard what she remembered as two gunshots and saw smoke come from the right side through the roof of the trailer. Sgt. Stalder ran out of the trailer and came to the tree where Deputy Risner had taken cover. At the same time, Det. Melchi ran to the right end of the trailer near the street. Sgt. Stalder and Dep. Risner then made their way to a bigger tree with more cover. Dep. Risner didn't want to put information out over the radio knowing that Dep. Yates' radio was on inside the trailer. She eventually made a transmission that they needed more units and that Dep. Yates was down.

Upon her arrival, Deputy Risner saw a female that was across the street from the trailer screaming. She assumed that the woman was the caller and Dep. Risner saw the other three deputies with their helmets on stacked up at the door and proceeded to cover them from the earlier described tree.

Dep. Risner had no other involvement in the incident after the initial entry was made.

The interview was concluded at 1307 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022-08-16 / Deputy Holly Risner audio interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.