



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



2022-0310  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 913 Lebanon Street, Monroe,  
Ohio (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Dustin Booth (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 03/03/2022  
**Activity Location:** Rittgers & Rittgers Law Offices – 12 East Warren Street, Lebanon,  
OH 45036, Warren County  
**Author:** SA Richard Ward, #55

**Narrative:**

On Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 1134 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) Special Agents Richard Ward and Steve Seitzman met with Brandi Booth (Booth) at her attorney's office, Rittgers & Rittgers Law Offices – 12 East Warren Street, Lebanon, Ohio, Warren County for the purpose of an interview. Also present for the interview was Attorney Konrad Kircher via video link, Attorney Ryan McGraw, Brandi's mother Jodi Price (Price), and mother-in-law Melodie Neace (Neace), Dustin Booth's mother.

Booth stated around the end of January of 2022, Dustin began not acting like himself and talked about the earth being flat among other manic behaviors. Booth stated he talked about being sent from God and to "bring the hammer down on people doing wrong." On February 1, 2022, the Monroe Police and Crisis Care were called because of Dustin's behavior. After being evaluated by the Crisis Care worker, Booth stated the care worker determined Dustin needed emergency care and was transported to the Atrium Hospital (Middletown, Ohio) for in-patient care and evaluation. According to Booth, Dustin was evaluated by the emergency room physician; then the psychiatrist who had to approve Dustin be held for additional evaluation. Booth stated he (Dustin) was released on February 7, 2022. Agent Ward asked if she received any additional information from the Atrium Behavioral Health and Booth stated Dustin had removed her from being authorized to receive status updates/information. Neace stated she was authorized to receive information and was the person who picked up Dustin from the hospital on the 7th. According to Neace, Dustin was provided medicine from the hospital and had taken Ativan for only three days.

Agent Ward asked Booth what Dustin's behavior was once he was released from the hospital and Booth stated his behavior was such that he should not have been released from the hospital. Agent Ward asked Booth about an incident that occurred on February 9, 2022. Booth stated on this date, Dustin wanted to purchase a new truck, but she didn't believe he was well

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enough to drive and took his keys. Because of this, Booth stated Dustin smashed her cellular telephone with a hammer. According to Booth, Dustin called the police where she took the phone and informed the police of the circumstances. Booth stated she was wanted Dustin sent back to the hospital and informed the dispatcher Dustin was a "danger to himself and others."

On this date, Booth stated several Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers arrived along with one Monroe police officer. Booth and Neace both stated the police did not pursue any enforcement actions nor contacted Crisis Care for Dustin, but both Neace and Booth believed Dustin should have been sent back to the hospital. Booth believed if Dustin had been taken on that day to the hospital, he would be alive today. Agent Ward asked Booth if Dustin was suicidal and Neace and Booth both stated no.

On February 11, 2022, Dustin had left the residence in the early morning hours and came home around 5:30am. Booth stated she had packed a bag to for her and the children to stay with her mother that day because of Dustin not letting the children go to bed the night before. After a doctors appointment in the morning, Booth stated she drove through her neighborhood and observed Dustin in his truck; windows down, and blaring music. According to Booth, Dustin exited the truck, danced around and re-entered the truck. Booth stated Dustin began to pass out money to people and threw money from the windows of the truck. Booth stated she contacted the police and reported Dustin's behavior; specially, Dustin was a danger to himself and others and to get him help.

Booth stated she observed a police officer attempt to stop Dustin, but Dustin did not comply and drove to their residence. Once at the residence, Booth stated Dustin ignored the officer's request to stop and walked into the the house via the garage. Booth stated she remained at the scene and spoke to the Crisis Care worker at a neighbor's residence with a police officer present. Booth stated she remained until the police decided to pull back and she stayed with her mother. Booth stated she communicated with Dustin on one occasion and he wanted the her and the children to return home. Booth stated she informed Dustin she was staying at a hotel.

Agent Ward asked if she knew Justin [Duh] became involved and she stated yes. Booth stated she was asked by Detective Ledford, who had texted her mother's cell phone and asked if she had spoken with Dustin. Booth stated Ledford informed them they were in communication with Justin [Duh] and had a plan have Dustin leave the residence and conduct a traffic stop. Booth stated she did not understand why the police would let Justin into the residence and not go inside the themselves even though she offered the police a key to access the residence.

After the incident was over, Booth stated Ledford informed her that Dustin was shot in the leg and was transported to the hospital. Booth stated she was happy that Dustin would now been given the help he needed at the hospital. Once at the hospital, they were informed Dustin was dead and was shot fifteen times.

Agent Ward concluded the interview with Brandi Booth at 1222 hours. Attached below is the audio recorded interview.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-03-03 / Brandi Booth audio interview

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# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**