



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



2024-1015
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 100 Block 8th Street, N.E. New
Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Officer Christopher Porter (W)
Date of Activity: 04/01/2024
Activity Location: Porter, Officer Christopher – Business – 122 2nd Street, New
Philadelphia, OH 44663
Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

Background:

On Sunday, March 31, 2024, at 2221 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was dispatched through Who's Responding notification system to an officer-involved critical incident at 834 East High Street and Tell Avenue SE, in New Philadelphia (Tuscarawas County) Ohio. Personnel from the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) were reported to be involved. Initial reporting indicated at least one citizen and one law enforcement officer were injured and enroute to hospital(s) for treatment. BCI Special Agent Charlie Snyder (Snyder) was dispatched to assist the on-call team at 2224 hours.

Action Taken:

On April 1, 2024, at 0049 hours, Snyder conducted an audio-recorded interview with New Philadelphia Police Department (NPPD) Officer Christopher John Porter (Porter). This interview took place at the NPPD, located at 122 2nd Street, SE, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663. During this interview, Porter provided the following information relative to this matter.

Porter confirmed being on duty during this incident, working the afternoon, 1400 to 2200 hours shift. Porter advised having been a NPPD Police Officer since December 1, 2014.

Porter advised that calls started coming into the police department reporting a vehicle accident involving a house. He indicated initially there were a lot of unknowns about the incident. Porter advised responding from NPPD where he had been on station when the calls began. Porter indicated while enroute to the accident scene, additional information was received, advising a subject was running from the vehicle. As Porter neared the scene, radio traffic indicated there had been gunshots fired. On arrival at the scene, Porter observed

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.

numerous bystanders in the area, believing they may have been area residents. Porter indicated observing the truck in the house, as he neared the scene. Bystanders were indicating to Porter the subject had traveled south from that location. Porter indicated approaching the scene by driving eastbound on Fair Avenue.

Porter reports turning at the corner from Fair Avenue onto 8th Street SE, when he believed shots were being fired. Porter advised that he was unable to hear them. Porter then indicated that through radio traffic he learned that shots fired were from law enforcement. When Porter turned the corner, he observed several people gathered around TCSO [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who was down on the ground. Porter advised NPPD radio that there was a "man down". He then grabbed his NPPD vehicle's medical kit, exited his NPPD vehicle and began to provide first aid to the wounded deputy.

Porter described [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s condition as conscious, alert, lying on his back with his face/head to the east and feet to the west. Porter observed a possible yellow-colored tee-shirt wrapped around his left hand. Porter could observe bleeding from the area of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s left hand as well.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] told Porter the suspect had stolen his cruiser. A description of the suspect was subsequently obtained. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also advised he had been shot in his left hand during the altercation with the suspect. Porter advised [REDACTED] [REDACTED] never specifically reported the suspect had shot him and at that point, Porter believed that was what had happened.

Porter indicated providing first aid to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s left-hand finger and saw possible tissue protruding from the rear of the finger. Porter believed [REDACTED] had limited movement of the finger. Porter assisted in wrapping [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s finger and aided in checking the [REDACTED]'s leg where [REDACTED] indicated also having pain.

Porter reported that the wrecked truck's registration was checked, and the owner's driver's license photo of the owner was shown to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. According to Porter, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] identified the owner as the same suspect he had encountered. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also advised Porter that he believed he had shot the suspect in the neck.

Porter believed that the Dover Fire Department - Emergency Medical Services ambulance transported [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to the hospital from the scene.

Porter added his actions only involved rendering aid to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Porter also advised that he had sent two other NPPD officers to aid in the search for the suspect.

Porter then surmised from information obtained from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the suspect and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had gone around the SCSO cruiser, with the suspect getting into the driver's side and [REDACTED] getting into the front passenger side in effort to extricate the subject from the vehicle. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also indicated having shot the suspect when the suspect took [REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s cruiser. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] did not indicate to Porter how his finger had been shot.

Porter indicated having no additional or relative information in this matter. Porter agreed to

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.

continued assistance and cooperation in this matter.

At approximately 0057 hours, the interview concluded.

Note: This report summarizes information deemed by the author of the most relevance to the investigation and does not contain all questions and answers from the interview. This report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-04-01 NPPD Officer Christopher Porter 240401_0323