



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



2021-1251

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 2280 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH
43215

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: Officer Robert Layton

Activity Date: 6/7/2022

Activity Location: 2280 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH 43215

Authoring Agent: SA John Butterworth

Narrative:

On Tuesday, June 07, 2022, at 2246 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Butterworth (SA Butterworth) interviewed Columbus Police Department (CPD) Officer (Ofc.) Robert Layton (Layton). The interview took place at 2280 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH, 43215. The interview was audio recorded.

Ofc. Layton read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

Layton was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 7, 2022 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 2280 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH, 43215. Reportedly, Layton did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Layton stated his radio call sign on June 7, 2022, was 251. During the incident, Layton wore his standard police uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He also wore a concealed ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove CPD cruiser #251, a Ford Police Interceptor, marked with CPD emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI.

During the interview with Officer Layton, he stated he was working special duty at Easton (Town Center) when a call came over the radio about a shots fired and an officer needing assistance, officer in trouble call. Officer Layton responded to the area as he was close to the incident. Upon arrival at the scene, Officer Layton was the first marked police cruiser and as he pulled up, he stated he observed a deputy in a tactical uniform whom he approached and asked about what happened. He pointed out a person on the ground, handcuffed with a red hoodie and asked if he could secure him. Officer Layton picked him off the ground, searched him and placed him in the rear of his police cruiser. Eventually that person, whom he did not know the identity of, was



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moved from his cruiser to a Mifflin Township Police cruiser as he did not have a camera in his cruiser.

Officer Layton provided a description of the man as a black male, 18 to 20 years old wearing a red hoodie, and was handcuffed prior to his arrival. Upon placing him in the cruiser, Officer Layton went back to where the deputies were and observed deputies were holding bandages and providing aid to the man on the ground.

SA Butterworth asked what happened after the deputies were giving aid and Officer Layton said he began looking around the scene and eventually he began putting up crime scene tape to secure the scene. Officer Layton said he asked the deputies providing aid if they needed anything else and they did not.

Officer Layton spoke with a couple of witnesses briefly about what they say and asked them about staying around and waiting for investigators to speak with them. A female Officer Layton spoke with talked to him about hearing someone yell "drop the gun" and then heard shots being fired. A male who was at the gas pumps also agreed to wait as he had observed the incident in his rear-view mirror. Officer Layton did not have their identities, and described that he was in a support role at the scene as this was not a Columbus police call or scene. Officer Layton assisted with placing traffic cones over top of spent cartridges to protect them at the scene and then remained in a support role until he was able to secure from the scene.

The interview concluded at approximately 2258 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



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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).

ROBERT B LAYTON
Printed Name of Interviewee

6-7-22 2248 HRS
Date / Time

[Signature]
Signature of Interviewee

SA Jesse Butterworth #35
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)