



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



2022-0381

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 507 Ritchie Ave, Akron, OH 44320,
Summit County

Investigative Activity: Officer Involved Critical Incident

Activity Date: 2/22/22

Activity Location: 507 Ritchie Ave., Akron, OH 44320

Authoring Agent: S/A Justin Soroka

Details:

On February 22, 2022, at approximately 0630 hrs., S/A Justin Soroka received a call from S/A/S Ed Lulla in reference to an agent request. Police Officers with the Akron Police Department were involved in a critical incident, and the Akron Police Department was requesting crime scene assistance with the investigation.

On February 22, 2022, at approximately 0905 hrs., S/A Justin Soroka arrived at 507 Ritchie Ave. in the City of Akron and met with Detective Sergeant Mike Orrand. Det. Sgt. Orrand stated that Akron Police were called to the residence for a disturbance with a man with a gun. Two Police Officers were positioned at an open side door when the subject reportedly presented himself several times to the officers armed with a handgun. During one of these encounters, both Police Officers reportedly fired at the subject, who went back into the interior of the residence out of view. Later, SWAT Team members deployed a robot into the residence and located two people deceased in the living room. A search warrant for the residence had been obtained through the Akron Municipal Court. S/A Larry Hootman and S/A Ashley Ornelas arrived to assist with the investigation.



507 Ritchie Ave.

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S/A Soroka photographed the scene as it was found. 507 Ritchie Ave. was a two-story residence that faced Ritchie Ave. to the west. The front door entered into a small foyer and then into a living area. An "L" shaped, sectional couch was positioned against the west wall, with part of it extending to the east away from the wall and separating the living area from the foyer. One of the deceased males, Raymond Jones, was located in a seated position on the north side of the sectional couch. Suspected bloodstains were observed on the rug in front of the couch. To the north of the couch lying on the floor was the deceased male, Lawrence Rodgers, who reportedly brandished the handgun. Multiple cartridge cases were observed around him. To the east of the living area was a dining room. Two cell phones were observed on the dining table and three cartridges were observed on the floor.

To the east of the living area and the foyer was a short hallway. On the floor near the threshold into the hallway, suspected bloodstains were observed on the floor and on the bottom of the door. At the end of the short hallway to the east was the kitchen. Off of the hallway to the south was a stairwell that led down to a landing and to the side door, which was located on the south side of the residence. Three suspected bullet impacts were observed in the wall of the hallway to the north of this stairwell. The south, side door is reportedly where the Police Officers who fired their weapons were at. A single car driveway was located between the south side of the residence and the neighboring home. Three vehicles were parked in the driveway, one of which was in front of the side door, with the two others parked closely in front of and behind it. Outside of the entry door, Akron Police had located two rifle cartridge cases and two handgun cartridge cases. A stairwell to north of the entry door led down to a full basement.

A stairwell off of the foyer/living area led to the second floor. A full bathroom and three bedrooms were located on the second floor. A stairwell on the second floor led to a finished third floor. A bedroom and storage area were located on the third floor.

In the living area, the deceased male on the couch appeared to be seated in a natural position. He was wearing a black, polo style shirt, black shorts, and tennis shoes. Several defects were observed in the shirt in the general area of the upper torso, and trauma was observed to the face of the deceased. Tissue and, what appeared to be, facial hair, consistent with that of the deceased, were observed to the south of the deceased of the couch, and to the south of the deceased on an interior wall approximately 3.06' from the floor. Lodged in the fabric of the couch near the head of the deceased was a suspected bullet jacket fragment. The bullet fragment was collected and identified as item #19. Suspected bloodstains were observed on both legs of the deceased. The suspected bloodstains consisted of multiple, irregularly shaped stains, and did not appear to be associated with any of the trauma observed on the victim. With the permission of the Summit County Medical Examiner's Office, the stains on the left leg were marked as Stain C, and a representative sample was collected and identified as item #25. A cell phone was observed on the armrest of the couch next to the deceased and was marked as item #6.

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Det. Sgt. Orrand attempted to place the unknown make cell phone in airplane mode but was unable to. The armrest was raised revealing a storage compartment. In the storage compartment, a Taurus 38 Special revolver, bearing serial number 1095232 was located. The cylinder was opened and found to contain 6 cartridges marked with the headstamp "RP 38 SPL ". The cartridges were packaged in an envelope, which was packaged with the gun and identified as item #27.

The suspected bloodstain on the floor near the hallway door was marked as Stain A. A representative sample was collected and identified as item #23. The suspected bloodstains on the rug in the living room in front of the couch were marked as Stain B. A representative sample was collected and identified as item #24.

To north of the couch on the floor was the deceased male who reportedly brandished the handgun. The deceased was lying on the floor, partially on his right side between an ottoman and a floor speaker, with his head to the west and his feet to the east. The deceased wore pajama/lounge style pants, no shirt, and was partially wrapped in, what appeared to be, a blanket. The deceased wore no shoes, and suspected bloodstains were observed concentrated in an area on the tops and sides of his feet. Cartridge cases observed around the feet of the deceased were marked as item #1 through item #4, and item #12. A cartridge case on the floor to the south of the deceased was marked as item #5. All cartridge cases were found to be marked with the headstamp "USA 9mm Luger". The investigator with the Summit County Medical Examiner's Office conducted his investigation. The ottoman was removed and a handgun was observed still partially in the right hand of the deceased, with the deceased's right, index finger resting to the rear of the trigger guard. The handgun was removed and found to be an H&K P-30 9mm, bearing serial number 129096165 DE. The slide was locked back and the magazine was removed. There was no cartridge found in the chamber. The H&K, seventeen capacity magazine did not contain any cartridges. The magazine was packaged in an envelope and then packaged with the handgun and identified as item #20. In the deceased's left pants pocket, 7 cartridges were located, 5 marked with the headstamp "USA 9mm Luger", and 2 marked with the headstamp "FC 9mm Luger". They were packaged together and identified as item #21. Located earlier in the left pants pocket of the deceased were two cell phones. Akron Detectives requested that they be collected to assist with their investigation. A Samsung Galaxy S-10 was collected and identified as item #17, and an unknown make cell phone was collected and identified as item #18. The cell phones were packaged, but not sealed, and turned over to Detective Mike Williams at approximately 1055 hrs. The deceased was removed and an additional cartridge case marked with the headstamp "USA 9mm Luger" was located. It was collected and identified as item #22. Another cartridge case was located behind the couch, between it and the west wall. The cartridge case was marked with the headstamp "FC 9mm Luger" and was identified as item #26.

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Living Area with Placards in Place

In the dining room on the table, an iPhone was marked as item #7 and an unknown make cell phone was marked as item #8. The iPhone had a broken screen, but it appeared that the phone was still receiving power. S/A Soroka was not able to place it in airplane mode. S/A Soroka was able to place item #8 in airplane mode. On the floor in the dining room, a cartridge near the north wall was marked as item #9, a cartridge under the table was marked as item #10, and a cartridge near the east wall was marked as item #11. All cartridges were marked with the headstamp "USA 9mm Luger".

Outside of the south, side door, two rifle cartridge cases to the east of the doorway in a narrow strip of dirt between the residence and the driveway were marked as item #13 and item #14. S/A Soroka observed the marking "LC" on the headstamp of the cartridge cases, but was unable to make out the other markings. A handgun cartridge case located to the east of the doorway and on the bumper of the Ford F-150 parked in the driveway was marked as item #15, and a handgun cartridge case located on the driveway behind the truck was marked as item #16. Both were marked with the headstamp "Speer 9mm Luger". S/A Soroka searched the narrow strip of dirt both visually and with the use of a metal

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detector and did not locate any additional cartridge cases. S/A Soroka searched underneath the vehicles and the grass to the south of the vehicles both visually and with the use of a metal detector and did not locate any additional cartridge cases.



South, Side Door with Placards in Place

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The residence was searched by Akron Detectives and Akron Crime Scene Personnel. Some items were collected by Akron Police that do not appear on S/A Soroka's inventory receipt. S/A Soroka visually examined the walls and ceiling of the stairwell leading to the south, side door, as it was reported that the subject may have fired his handgun at police. The walls and ceiling of the stairwell were made of plaster over lath boards, and the plaster was missing or falling off in several areas. S/A Soroka did not locate any suspected bullet impacts. S/A Soroka asked that Akron Crime Scene Personnel search the stairwell leading to the south, side door for bullet impacts and cartridge cases, which they did. S/A Soroka also asked that Akron Crime Scene Personnel search the basement beneath and around the stairwell, which they did. They did not report finding any suspected bullet impacts or cartridge cases. S/A Soroka asked Akron Crime Scene Personnel to follow up with whomever had reviewed the Police Officers' body camera footage. They did so and reported that it did not appear that the subject fired at the Police in the stairwell.

The circular shaped, suspected bullet impact in the north wall of the hallway near the stairwell was marked as BI 1.0. The bullet appeared to penetrate the wall and terminate. The plaster was cut away and no secondary impact site was observed in the lath board. The floors of the hallway and kitchen were examined, however no bullet was recovered.

The irregularly shaped bullet impact in the north wall of the hallway near the stairwell was marked as BI 2.0. The bullet appeared to penetrate the wall and terminate. The plaster was cut away and a jacketed bullet was recovered. The bullet was consistent in shape and size with a rifle bullet. The jacketed bullet was identified as item #28. The approximate direction of travel was from south to north.

The irregularly shaped bullet impact in the north wall of the hallway near the stairwell was marked as BI 3.0. The bullet perforated the wall traveling into the dining room. The bullet perforated a table cloth, traveling beneath the dining room table, and appeared to terminate in the wooden trim work beneath a bay window on the north wall. The trim work was cut out and a jacketed bullet was recovered. The bullet was consistent in shape and size with a handgun bullet. The jacketed bullet was identified as item #29. The approximate direction of travel was from south to north.

The living room was examined for suspect bullet impacts. Two defects were observed in the couch back near the head of the deceased. That portion of the couch was cut open. The stuffing was examined both visually and with the use of a metal detector. No bullets were recovered.

The scene was mapped in by S/A Larry Hootman with the use of the Faro 3D scanner.

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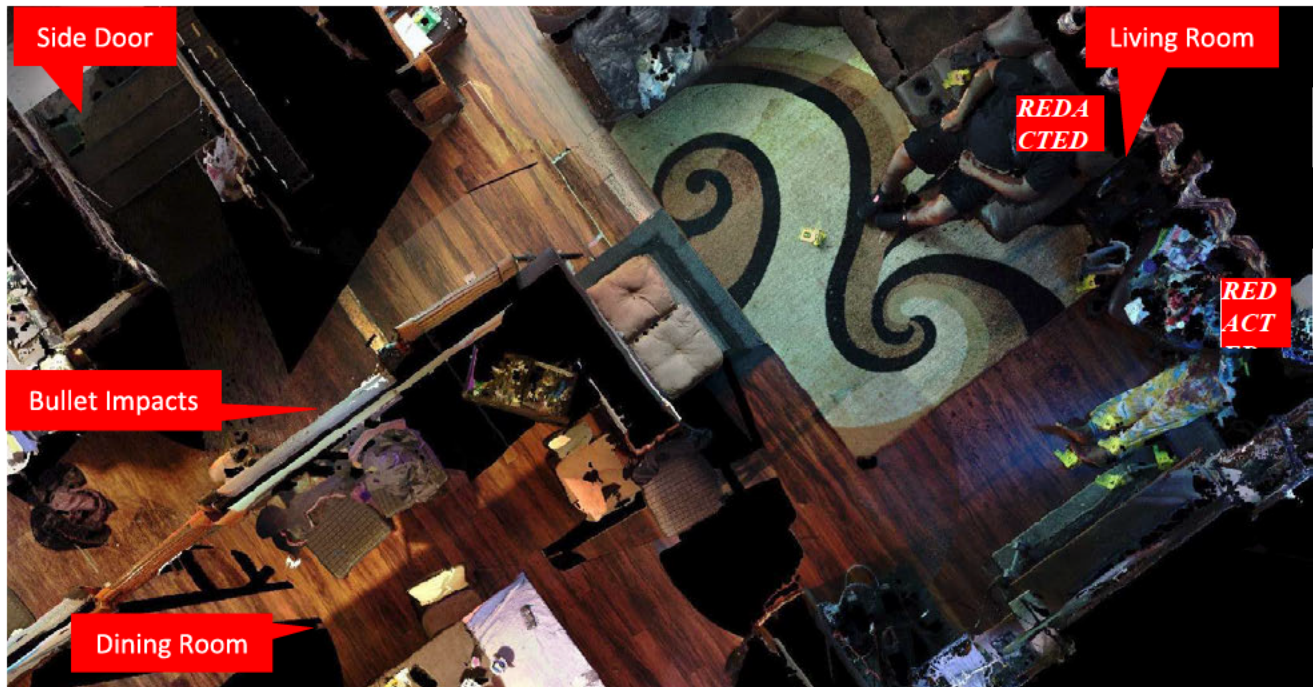


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Top Down View of Scene from Faro 3D Scanner

All items collected were sealed and then initialed by S/A Soroka. An inventory receipt was completed by S/A Ornelas and signed by Detective James Soroky. All items collected, with the exception of item #17 and item #18, and copies of the inventory receipt were given to Det. Soroky. The original photographs, inventory receipt, and a copy of the search warrant were uploaded into the Matrix. In reviewing the inventory receipt, S/A Soroka noted that item #17, item #18, item #20, item #21, and item #22 were incorrectly listed as being located with Lawrence Jones. The correct location is Lawrence Rodgers. Det. Soroky was made aware of the error. CD copies of the photographs and the Faro 3D scans were dropped off at the Akron Police Department on February 25, 2022 for Det. Sgt. Orrand.

A copy of this report should be sent to:

Akron Police Department
Detective Sergeant Mike Orrand
MOrrand@AkronOhio.gov

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