



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



2022-1673
Officer Involved Critical Incident – Smith Road Near Van Tress
Road, Clinton County, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Dale Wolfe (V)
Date of Activity: 08/11/2022
Activity Location: Ohio State Highway Patrol – 184 Nelson Rd., Lebanon, OH 45036,
Warren County, Lebanon, OH 45036, Warren County
Author: SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

Narrative:

On August 11, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Perry Roeser responded to the Wilmington, Ohio area about an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that involved the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). While en route to the area, SA Roeser was re-directed to Ohio State Highway Patrol Post 83, at 184 Nelson Road, Lebanon, Ohio, for a witness interview with an individual shot at by the involved subject, Ricky Shiffer.

SA Roeser arrived at OSP Post 83 at 1356 hours, and located the witness, Dale Wolfe (Wolfe), seated in OSP Sergeant Stanfield's office. After SA Roeser explained BCI's functions, Wolfe agreed to an interview. The interview with Wolfe began at 1404 hours. Wolfe stated he worked full-time for the Ohio Army National Guard as a Readiness NCO, First Class E7. Wolfe said he managed eighty-three officers with their healthcare, college, and benefits needs.

Wolfe stated earlier that morning, he left the guard base at 0930 hours in a black 2019 Ford GF van and was headed to Columbus, Ohio, for supplies. Wolfe said while driving northbound on I-71, he noticed no traffic behind him, which he thought was odd. Wolfe said he then saw a white car behind him with OSP troopers in the roadway following the white car. Wolfe explained soon after he noticed the troopers and the white car behind him, he saw the overhead emergency lights on the cruisers go on and all approaching vehicles quickly closing the distance to him.

Wolfe said he moved to the right-hand lane of travel as the white car approached his van. Wolfe said as the white car passed his van on the left side, his driver's side rear middle window (just behind his head) was shot out. Wolfe explained that the bullet passed through the vehicle and exited the passenger's rear window. Wolfe explained he believed the weapon was a rifle based on the sound and his knowledge of firearms. SA Roeser asked Wolfe if he

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could determine where the shooting occurred on the roadway. Wolfe said he thinks it was 1–2 miles before State Route 73. Wolfe noted the van he was operating had pre-existing damage to it, including a missing mirror on the driver's side exterior door. Wolfe said he did not see the firearm in the white car as it was driving past him. Wolfe noted after the shooting that he pulled over to the berm. One of the last OSP cruisers in the pursuit pulled up next to him and inquired about his condition. Wolfe told the trooper he was fine. Wolfe said he exited his van at the next off-ramp, State Route 73, and gathered his emotions. Wolfe said he searched for the nearest OSP post and located Post 83 in Lebanon to report the incident.

Wolfe explained he remembered passing the same white car earlier on I-71 with no issues. SA Roeser asked if he noticed any behavior issues with the operator as he passed it. He said, "no". SA Roeser asked Wolfe for a description of the vehicle and the operator of the car. Wolfe said the car was a 4-door sedan with Florida license plates, and the driver was a white male. Wolfe said he remembered the white male was eating or chewing on something as he initially passed him. SA Roeser asked Wolfe how much time passed between the initial passing of the white car and the shooting time. Wolfe said about 5–10 minutes. SA Roeser asked Wolfe how fast he traveled when the bullet struck his van. Wolfe said his cruise control was set at 70 MPH. Wolfe noted he estimated the white car and OSP cruisers were traveling at 90 MPH plus when they passed him.

Wolfe stated he thought he might have been targeted because of the government tags on the van's rear bumper. Before leaving the OSP post, Sgt. Stanfield handed SA Roeser a written statement from Wolfe and notes from his questioning before SA Roeser arrived, see attachment #2. The interview between SA Roeser and Wolfe concluded at 1417 hours and was audio-recorded. For additional details, see attachment #1 for a copy of the audio recording.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022-08-11 / Dale Wolfe interview

Attachment # 02: Dale Wolfe written statements

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

STATEMENT

PAGE 1 OF 3

REPORT #	STATEMENT DATE/TIME (MM/DD/YY HH:MM) 8/11/22 11:30 AM	OTHER REFERENCE #
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I, Dale Wolfe, hereby make this voluntary statement to
SCOT. M.D. STANFIELD #471 at Highway Patrol Post 83

on Aug 11, 2022. I was traveling north on I71 towards Columbus, Ohio. I was driving a Government Van, 15 Pax, Black in color. While driving up the highway I looked in my rear view mirror and noticed one car, white in color, and a highway state trooper behind the white car. The trooper was riding in the middle of the highway, keeping traffic behind him. I thought to myself, what was going on? Just a few minutes later I saw many police cars with their lights on. The white car and all police were coming up behind me very fast. I started to move off the highway when the white car came up to my left side. When passing my van he shot at me. The round went through my middle rear window and out the other side window. After being shot at I stopped to compose myself. After verifying I was good I made my way to Post 83 to make a report.

Q. WHERE WERE YOU GOING TO? COMING FROM?

A. WOODLAWN, OHIO, OHIO NATIONAL GUARD TO COLUMBUS, OHIO.

Q. WHEN WAS YOUR VEHICLE SHOT?

A. ^{ROUND} ENTERED LEFT PASSENGER WINDOW, EXITED RIGHT PASSENGER WINDOW. ALL DAMAGE OTHER THAN WINDOWS IS OLD. SIDES & BACK.

INFORMANT'S SIGNATURE <u>X Dale Wolfe</u>	STREET ADDRESS <u>1723 Oak Ridge Dr</u>		
PRINT NAME <u>Dale Wolfe</u>	CITY <u>Lancaster</u>	STATE <u>IN</u>	ZIP CODE <u>477825</u>
WITNESS SIGNATURE <u>X</u>	[REDACTED]		
REPORTING OFFICER SIGNATURE <u>X SCOT. M.D. STANFIELD</u>	UNIT <u>471</u>	DATE <u>8-11-22</u>	

(OSP-203.07)



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

STATEMENT

PAGE 2 OF 3

REPORT #	STATEMENT DATE/TIME (MM/DD/YY HH:MM) <u>8/11/22 11:30 Am</u>	OTHER REFERENCE #
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I, Dale work, hereby make this voluntary statement to
SGT. M.D. STANFIELD #471 at HIGHWAY PATROL POST 83
on 8-11-22

Q. ARE YOU INSURED AT ALL?

A. NO

Q. DID YOU HAVE ANY PASSENGERS AT THE TIME?

A. NO

Q. HOW MANY TIMES WERE YOU SHOT AT?

A. ONCE

Q. DID YOU SEE THE DRIVER AS HE SHOT AT YOU?

A. NO

Q. DID YOU EVER SEE THE WEAPON ^{WAS} USED TO SHOOT AT YOU?

A. NO

Q. DID YOU HEAR THE SHOT? OR THE JUST THE GLASS BREAK?

A. SHOT AND GLASS

Q. WHAT TYPE OF WEAPON/CALIBER DO YOU THINK IT WAS?

A. SOUNDED LIKE RIFLE OR SIMILAR

Q. ABOUT WHAT TIME/LOCATION DID THIS OCCUR?

A. BEFORE SR. 73 AROUND 9:45 AM (ISH) .

INFORMANT'S SIGNATURE <u>X Dale work</u>	STREET ADDRESS <u>1783 Oak Ridge Dr</u>		
PRINT NAME <u>Dale work</u>	CITY <u>Lewistown</u>	STATE <u>IN</u>	ZIP CODE <u>47025</u>
WITNESS SIGNATURE <u>X</u>			
REPORTING OFFICER SIGNATURE <u>X SGT. M.D. STANFIELD</u>	UNIT <u>471</u>	DATE <u>8-11-22</u>	

(OSP-203.07)



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

STATEMENT

PAGE 3 OF 3

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I, Dale work, hereby make this voluntary statement to
Sgt N.D. Stanfield # 471 at Highway Patrol Post 83
on 8.11.22

Q. DID YOU SEE HIM SHOOT AT ANY OTHER VEHICLES?

A. NOT THAT I COULD SEE.

Q. AND YOU WERE IN THE RIGHT LANE WHEN YOU WERE SHOT AT?

A. RIGHT LANE OF TWO LANES TOTAL.


Q. WAS THE VEHICLE PASSING AS HE SHOT AT YOU? OR DID HE SLOW AND DRIVE PARALLEL TO YOU?

A. HE WAS FLYING BY ME WHEN HE SHOT AT ME

Q. ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD?

A. ONE OF THE TROOPS DROVE PARALLEL TO ME, MOUTHED IF I WAS "OK", I SAID "GO, GO, GO", AND HE TOOK OFF AFTER THE VEHICLE. NOTHING ELSE TO ADD

(Handwritten scribbles)

INFORMANT'S SIGNATURE <u>X Dale work</u>		STREET ADDRESS <u>1725 Oaks Ridge Dr</u>	
PRINT NAME <u>Dale work</u>		CITY <u>Lancaster, OH</u>	STATE <u>OH</u>
WITNESS SIGNATURE <u>X</u>		ZIP CODE <u>47025</u>	
REPORTING OFFICER SIGNATURE <u>X Sgt. N.D. Stanfield</u>		UNIT <u>471</u>	DATE <u>8.11.22</u>

(OSP-203.07)