



**Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**



**01/14/2013 REPORT RECEIVED FROM CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Summary**

On January 14, 2013 Special Agent (SA) Mark Kollar received reports from the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office detectives regarding the ongoing investigation into the officer involved shooting in East Cleveland, Ohio.

**Details**

On January 14, 2013 Special Agent (SA) Mark Kollar received reports from the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office detectives regarding the ongoing investigation into the officer involved shooting in East Cleveland, Ohio. The reports received were as follows:

01/04/13 – Interview of Sgt. Ali Pillow – N/A

<b>File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493</b>	<b>File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)</b>
<b>Case Agent: Mark Kollar</b>	<b>Authoring Agent: Mark E. Kollar</b> <i>MK</i>
<b>Date of Report: 01/14/2013</b>	<b>Exhibit #: N/A</b>
<b>Investigative Activity: Report Received from CCSO</b>	<b>Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet</b> <i>Dennis Sweet</i>

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# CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## SUMMARY REPORT

### INCIDENT CLEVELAND POLICE DEPARTMENT PURSUIT/SHOOTING 11/29/2012

On January 14, 2013, while assigned to Special Investigation in cooperation with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification (BCII) and the East Cleveland Police Department (ECPD). I Detective Sergeant and Detective David Jacobs, Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) were assigned to interview Cleveland Police Department (CPD) Sergeant Ali Pillow #9045. The Interview took place at the Justice Center, Sheriff's Office 1215 West Third Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

#### Synopsis:

Prior to specific questions concerning the captioned incident Sgt. Pillow was told this was a criminal investigation not an administration investigation and any statement given was strictly voluntary. Sgt. Pillow stated he understood his rights and he agreed to speak to investigators.

Home address: [REDACTED] Cleveland, Ohio 44119

Cell Phone [REDACTED]

#### Details:

On November 29, 2012, Sgt. Pillow stated that he was working the VGRIP detail along with other members of the Gang Unit. The members included Detectives Brown, Gomez, Ruffin, and Robinson. Sgt. Pillow said he was in unit 8803 with a WEWS channel 5 photographer. They were in the area of East 55<sup>th</sup> when a detective contacted him saying a pursuit was coming from the second district headed towards them. Sgt. Pillow said he was monitoring two (2) radio channels, the Special Events channel and the Narc 2 channel. Sgt. Pillow said the detective contacted him on the Narc 2 channel so he switched over to listen to the radio traffic regarding the pursuit. At that point Sgt. Pillow said he saw several police vehicles with lights and sirens go past doing approximately eighty (80) to eighty-five (85) MPH on the highway. Sgt. Pillow said that during the pursuit he heard over the radio a 5<sup>th</sup> district supervisor say "no 5<sup>th</sup> district cars get involved in this pursuit". Sgt. Pillow said he also remembers hearing someone say "it's a pop can".

Sgt. Pillow went on to say that he stayed back because he had the reporter in the vehicle with him and he did not want to put him in harm's way. According to Sgt. Pillow from his perspective

the suspects were firing at police officers and the communication from the radio and dispatcher was very confusing. Sgt. Pillow said that he ordered his unit to just monitor the radio because there were plenty of police involved in the pursuit and enough back up already. Sgt. Pillow said he would pull over to let police vehicles pass because he wanted to stay far away from the pursuit but wanted to monitor to stay abreast of the situation. Sgt. Pillow remembers hearing over the radio someone saying "they hit a police car" and "shots fired" but could not recognize the person who said it. Sgt. Pillow said when he was in the area of Superior and Euclid Avenue he could hear gun shots very faintly.

Sgt. Pillow said when he arrived at the Heritage Middle School everything was over and he did not see anything that happened at the school. Sgt. Pillow said he told the reporter to stay in the vehicle until the crime scene was secure. Sgt. Pillow said once he arrived at the crime scene he spoke with Lt. Wilson and Sgt. Edens and asked if they needed him to do anything. According to Sgt. Pillow, Lt. Wilson asked him to help clear everyone out of the crime scene; at that point detectives Brown and Gomez arrived on Wymore. Sgt. Pillow wanted to add that when he arrived at the crime scene some officers were already leaving but he did not know who they were. While at the crime scene after he helped clear everyone out, Sgt. Pillow spoke with Sgt. Putnam who told him that some of his guys fired but he did not fire. Sgt. Pillow said he remembers seeing bullet holes in both the suspect vehicle as well as police vehicles. Sgt. Pillow added that he never saw the suspect vehicle during the pursuit and he did not see the suspects at crime scene. He did not take any pictures while at the crime scene. Sgt. Pillow said detectives Ruffin and Robinson never made it to the crime scene because he had reassigned them earlier that night to assist Ohio State Patrol (OSP). Sgt. Pillow said he remembers an East Cleveland Police Officer say it was their crime scene so he decided to leave. Sgt. Pillow said when he was leaving he ran into ATF Agent Lance Mullen, who was assigned to work VGRIP with him, on Terrace. They never went back to the crime scene.

Sgt. Pillow wanted to add that to him it sounded like the suspects were in a traveling shootout with the police and a very stressful atmosphere.

  
Detective Dave Jacobs

  
Detective Sergeant Clifford E. Pinkney