



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



2022-0310
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 913 Lebanon Street, Monroe,
Ohio (L)

Investigative Activity: Document Review
Involves: Dustin Booth (S)
Date of Activity: 02/28/2022
Author: SA Douglas Eveslage, #66

Narrative:

On February 28, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Douglas Eveslage (SA Eveslage) located an article on the Dayton 24/7 News named "Family of man killed by Monroe Police release details of life leading up to shooting." This article was a follow up report about the February 12, 2022, City of Monroe Police Department's Officer-Involved Critical Incident involving Dustin Booth that BCI was requested to investigate.

SA Eveslage attached the Booth family's statement that Dayton 24/7 News posted online. See attachment for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Dayton News Booth Family Statement

Exhibit 1

These are the things the family of Dustin Booth want you to know.

Dustin was 35 years old. He was married for 11 ½ years to Brandi. They have two sons, Braxton, age 12, and Bentley, age 10.

Dustin was a great husband and father. He coached the boys in multiple youth sports leagues. He worked for AK Steel, now known as Cleveland Cliffs, for 13 years. He also had a side business power washing and cleaning the exterior of homes. He worked hard to provide for his family.

Dustin had no criminal record.

In late January, Dustin had a psychotic break. He began emphatically stating that the earth was flat, that there was no Antarctica, and that there was a stairway to heaven. He was passionate in his attempts to convince the family to believe him. He also believed he was a god, and confidently stated that the world will be much better when he is in charge, which would be imminently.

In the early morning hours of February 1, after a week of this consistently bizarre behavior, Dustin's wife and mother agreed that they needed to call the police to obtain help for Dustin's illness. When the police arrived at the Booth home, Dustin sat on the ground and calmly explained his delusional theories to three officers. A crisis intervention specialist arrived and confirmed that Dustin needed to be hospitalized. Dustin was handcuffed without resistance and taken to Atrium Medical Center.

Dustin remained in Atrium's behavioral health unit until February 7, when he was discharged. The family does not believe he should have been discharged, as he was still delusional. When he was discharged, Brandi was told that Atrium could not keep him any longer because he was **not a threat to himself or others**. Brandi was told by Atrium personnel to call the police again if there are further incidents, so that Dustin could then be "probated," meaning held by mental health care providers under the order of the probate court. No one in the family was told to remove guns from the home.

Within two days of discharge, another incident occurred where Dustin smashed Brandi's cell phone with a hammer. The police were again called. The police came to the home and Brandi and Dustin's mother both begged them to take Dustin to the hospital. The police determined that Dustin had not done anything illegal and, since he was **not a danger to himself or others**, they could not take him to the hospital. The crisis intervention specialist was not called this time; rather, the police made the determination on their own.

In the few days after being discharged from Atrium, Dustin went on a shopping spree, including the purchase of a new pickup truck. On Friday afternoon, February 11, around 2:00 p.m., Brandi was driving in their neighborhood transporting one of the boys when she saw Dustin at a stop sign in his new truck. Dustin got out of the truck and did a dance. He then got back in the truck and drove through the neighborhood trying to give money to people and throwing money out the window. He then went into a neighbor's garage for no apparent reason.

Upon seeing the concerning behavior the afternoon of February 11, Brandi called 911 and made the recorded report which has been released to the public. She told dispatch that Dustin was “a danger to himself or others,” because that is the language she had learned was necessary to get Dustin in-patient help. All she wanted was for Dustin to be hospitalized so he could be himself again.

The police came to the neighborhood soon after the 911 call. Dustin saw them and drove to the Booth home. Dustin remained in the house for about five hours (approximately 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.) with the police outside the house trying to get Dustin to come out. Eventually, the police gave up and withdrew, again stating that Dustin was **not a threat to himself or others**.

When the police left the residence, a close friend of Dustin arrived and entered the home. He and Dustin relaxed and ate pizza. But the friend was communicating with Monroe police without Dustin’s knowledge and was orchestrating, at police direction, a plan to get Dustin out of the house so the police could seize him. The friend succeeded in getting Dustin to leave the house, with Dustin a passenger in the friend’s vehicle.

After the friend and Dustin drove away from the house, the police executed a traffic stop, according to the plan concocted between the police and Dustin’s friend. The culmination of the traffic stop was the death of Dustin.

The family has so many unanswered questions. Among those are the following: 1) Why was it so hard to get help for Dustin? 2) Why did the police organize a plan to take him into custody and then kill him, knowing he was mentally ill? We look forward to the conclusion of the investigation to obtain answers.

Friends and family are planning a candlelight vigil Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. at the scene of the shooting.