

Investigative Report

2021-0957

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 3171 Legion Ln, Columbus



Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Angela Moore Activity Date: 4/28/2021

Activity Location: 3171 Legion Ln, Columbus

Authoring Agent: Matt Collins, #151

Narrative:

On Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 1100 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Collins (SA Collins) and SA Jim Mulford (SA Mulford) interviewed Angela Moore (Moore), relative to the officer-involved shooting which took place on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The interview took place at 3171 Legion Lane. Also present during the interview was Tonya Brooks-Thomas, Senior Executive Director of Specialized Alternative Families and Youth (SAFY). Tonya was first on the phone until her arrival in person. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Moore. SA Collins understood that Moore was the foster mother of Ma'Khia and Janiah Bryant. SA Collins also understood Moore was the former foster mother of Shai-onta Craig (Craig) and Tionna Bonner (Bonner).

In the onset of the interview, SA Collins asked Moore who all resided with her at 3171 Legion Ln. Moore stated it was Janiah Bryant, Ma'khia Bryant, and Beautiful Medley (Beautiful) who lived with her. Ma'Khia had been in Moore's home since February 14, 2021. Janiah had been in Moore's home since September 13, 2019. Moore indicated that Ma'Khia had been in another foster home prior to Moore's.

Referring to the day leading up to the incident, Moore indicated that Bonner was in town from Cleveland for Moore's birthday (Monday 4/19) and she had stayed that night. Craig was present as well.

Moore stated that all of the girls mentioned above were involved in a surprise birthday party for Moore on April 19th. Including Ma'khia and Janiah's grandmother, Jeanene Hammonds, Jody Johnson, Felicia Embels, and Annette Thompson.

Moore was asked if the current and former foster children knew of one another or had otherwise previously hung out with each other and whether they got along. Moore said, "They all like sisters." SA Collins asked if there were any problems or issues on Monday. Moore first stated



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no, but then said she was aware of, later that night, Janiah saying something about Bonner and Craig being in Janiah's room and that it was messy.

On Tuesday the 20th Moore took Ma'Khia and Janiah to school. She took Janiah to her bus stop at 0615 hours and then dropped Ma'Khia off at Independence High School at around 0700 hours. Moore then went onto work and had to be there by around 0800 hours.

Moore said Bonner had stayed at the house with Beautiful (13yr). Moore explained Beautiful had remote learning days on Tuesdays and this particular week was Moore's first time going back to work full-time (not working from home). Moore said she was concerned with leaving Beautiful there alone, so she'd asked Bonner to stay with her. Moore described a recent incident where Beautiful's mother, Melisha Medley, came to her house unannounced, during school hours and did not Moore was going to be home.

Bonner had called Moore and told her Beautiful was not doing any school work, claiming Janiah had her (Beautiful's) Chromebook. Moore did not believe it to be true but she texted Janiah anyway, asking about the Chromebook. Moore showed SA Collins a series of text messages she had with Janiah on Tuesday. She further allowed SA Collins to take photographs of the text messages. Moore said she was aware Bonner and Beautiful were "going back and forth" about Beautiful's schoolwork. Beautiful then left and had gone to her grandmother's (Brenda) house. Bonner had left to go to T-Mobile, sometime after that.

Moore said it was around 1500-1530 (she was basing her time on when she knew, the earliest Ma'Khia would have been able to get out school and arrive home) when she would have received a call from Bonner complaining about Ma'Khia and Janiah. Bonner told Moore that Ma'Khia had a knife. Moore said she did not think much of it, because the girls all typically got along. Moore said Bonner was "still on this room thing." Moore told Bonner she would take care of it when she got home and not to worry about it.

At some point Janiah had called her and said something about Bonner and them arguing. Moore believed Janiah had hung-up on her and that was why she texted Janiah, asking her that. Moore said that she told Janiah that everyone needed to get out of her house.

Moore said one of the girls must have called Jeanene Hammonds because Jeanene Hammonds called her and said the girls were there arguing and she was going to be taking Ma'Khia and Janiah away until things calmed down. Moore further indicated she believed Jeanene Hammonds was there and she later seen Jeanene Hammonds on the Ring doorbell camera. Moore said she believed Ma'Khia wouldn't leave and had stayed in the house.



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Moore indicated she had either received a call or had called Craig as and was wondering what was going on. Craig, too, said something to the effect of, "they got a knife." Craig had further said, Jeanene Hammonds couldn't control Ma'Khia and Janiah. Craig told Moore, Jeanene Hammonds was telling Ma'Khia to put down the knife, but she wouldn't.

Moore stated she attempted to call Bonner, Craig, and Jeanene Hammonds on her way home from work; however, nobody answered. Then at some point, Bonner called Moore and Moore said she was still downtown (Columbus). Bonner told Moore, the police shot Ma'Khia.

Moore provided SA Collins with several video clips from either her Ring doorbell or her surveillance camera over the garage. As Moore was providing SA Collins with the video clips she realized, at that time, Ma'Khia had come home early from school (1410 hours on video).

Moore was asked if anyone had said, "they're coming at us knives" or if anyone was being threatened. Moore stated nobody had said they were coming at them, but only that they had a knife.

Moore was asked if, prior to the April 20th incident, had she seen any acts of violence from either of the foster children mentioned above, while in her care. Moore indicated she had not witnessed Craig or Bonner act in the manner of tearing things up. Moore also indicated Ma'Khia and Janiah never displayed any physical aggression to anyone. Moore indicated that all of them displayed verbal arguments with others. Moore spoke of an incident a couple weeks prior to the shooting incident. Moore stated Janiah called the police because Janiah and Ma'Khia had got into an argument and she wanted to leave. Janiah made a statement about not being able to stay in the home because she would kill Ma'Khia if she had to stay.

Moore was asked if she, herself, had to call the police within the last couple months. Moore indicated she had called the police because their younger brother, Myron, had done something with the Christmas tree. She said she had called because Beautiful was "AWOL." Moore further explained it is protocol for her to call the police any time the children are out after their curfew. She said Beautiful returned later that night but she had to report it because Beautiful was not home before curfew.

Moore said she called the police recently because he car got shot. Moore further stated she had been on Refugee Road when the incident occurred and it was not at her residence.

Moore was also asked if she was missing any knives and she indicated yes. Moore directed agents to her kitchen counter, where she had a knife block. SA Collins took two photographs of the counter and knife block, which had a single knife missing from the block.

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The interview concluded at approximately 1225 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The recording is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.



