

## Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

**Investigative Report** 

2021-1431

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134



Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: Officer Darryl Smigelski – Parma Police Department

Activity Date: 8/18/2021

Activity Location: Parma Police Department, 5555 Powers Blvd., Parma, OH 44129

Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

#### Narrative:

On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at 0845 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) and SA Jared Prill (Prill) interviewed Parma Police Department Officer (Ofc.) Darryl Smigelski (Smigelski), who was accompanied by his attorneys, Adam Chaloupka and Danielle Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Parma Police Department. The interview was audio recorded.

Ofc. Smigelski read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

Smigelski was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 13-14, 2021, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134. Reportedly, Smigelski did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Smigelski stated that on June 13-14, 2021, his radio call sign was "523." He has been employed by the Parma Police Department for about 10 years. He has been a police officer for a total of 10 years. During the incident, Smigelski wore his standard navy-blue color police SWAT uniform which included "Police" on the front and back. He also wore an external ballistic vest. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Smigelski stated that there was a SWAT call out. When he arrived at the scene on South Park Boulevard, it was getting dark outside. Smigelski stated that he grabbed a ballistic shield and walked over to other officers that were already on scene. Smigelski relieved another officer and then took a position next to the armored vehicle that was positioned furthest to the north. Smigelski stated that he was told the subject was currently in the residence, and that he had fired a shot at a gas station earlier in the day. Smigelski was told that communication had been made with the subject.

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Page 1 of 2 Supervisor Approval: SAS David Posten #6 8/24/2021 7:49 AM



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Smigelski stated, that on a few occasions, he was able to observe the subject inside the residence. This occurred when the subject would come to the front living-room area. Smigelski stated that he was not able to see the subject's hands from his vantage point, so he was not able to observe the subject holding a weapon. Smigelski recalled the subject walking around the kitchen. He stated that he could only see the upper part of the subject's body. He also stated that the subject was moving slow. Smigelski stated that gas (chemical munitions) had already been deployed into the residence at that time, and there was no noticeable response from the subject.

Smigelski said, at the time that officers fired their weapons, he had previously been relieved and he was gearing down several hundred feet away.

The interview concluded at approximately 0853 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.



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### **Criminal Investigation Notification**

- 1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- 3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Signature of Interviewee

BCI Agent (Printed)