

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

**Investigative Report** 

2022-1356

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1659 S. Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301



Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Gavann Lockhart

Activity Date: August 25, 2022

Authoring Agent: Special Agent Cory Momchilov #64

On Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 2025 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) and SA Chuck Moran interviewed Akron Police Department (APD) Officer Gavann Lockhart (Lockhart) who was accompanied by his attorney, Jason Wells, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at 1460 Triplett Boulevard, Akron, Ohio. Fraternal Order of Police Akron Lodge #7 President Clay Cozart was also present during the interview.

The interview was audio recorded.

Officer Lockhart was identified as being a police officer who had some level of involvement in the June 27, 2022, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1659 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio. Reportedly, Officer Lockhart did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident and arrived on scene after the shooting. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

On June 27, 2022, Officer Lockhart was the passenger of marked APD cruiser, Car 23, and his partner, Officer Marcum was the driver. Officer Lockhart was wearing his standard APD uniform.

SA Momchilov stated to Officer Lockhart that it was his understanding that he responded to a shooting scene on June 27, 2022. Officer Lockhart replied, "Yes." SA Momchilov then asked, "What caused you to respond to that scene?"

Officer Lockhart explained that he and Officer Marcum were working District 23 which Officer Lockhart described as "relatively close to the freeway." Officer Lockhart stated, "The chase went out, we started heading in that direction, we ended up on Perkins and Route 8. We were posted there, my partner believed they had said they were heading north when they were actually heading south. We sat there for a bit, cleared that up, headed south. I believe we got off at Wilbeth, Wilbeth but I'm not one-hundred percent on that because I wasn't driving, I was pretty much just looking out. We saw the chase go by us, so we paralleled down a different street and then we ended up coming up to Wilbeth and Main but this is after everything had already ended, they had already called shots fired. We stopped, parked the car, blocked off the intersection at Main and Wilbeth. We both started heading towards where we believe the shooting was. My partner, I believe broke off and went with a different group, so I have no idea what he did. I fell

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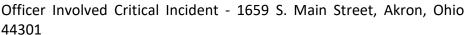
Page 1 of 3 Supervisor Approval: SAS David Posten #6 9/19/2022 12:11 PM



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

**Investigative Report** 

2022-1356





back, went back held perimeter because I had dropped my baton, so I turned around and found it, held perimeter until they sequestered the officers, which was pretty quick then I sat with one of the officers until he did his safety walk through."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Lockhart which officer he sat with. Officer Lockhart responded,

SA Momchilov asked Officer Lockhart if he (Officer made any statements to him. Officer Lockhart responded, "No."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Lockhart if he had heard any other radio traffic concerning the pursuit. Officer Lockhart replied, "So I had heard that there was a shot fired out of the window but they were alright which was what initially gave us the, we should probably be here, be somewhere in the area in case something else happens because we're not looking at the map, I don't know who else is following behind them. We were relatively close when it went out, they were, so they were going south on Route 8 as we were coming up to the Perkins exit. So had we been a little bit faster, if we turned right maybe a minute or two prior, we would have been in the chase, so we weren't far from it when it started because 23, it boarders 24 but they're relatively close."

Officer Lockhart advised that he did not see or hear any portion of the shooting.

SA Momchilov asked Officer Lockhart if he had conversation with any of the involved officers about the shooting. Officer Lockhart replied, "No."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Lockhart if he had his body-worn camera activated. Officer Lockhart replied, "I believe it was activated up until the point where I went off to perimeter." Officer Lockhart advised that he did see the vehicle the individual was driving from the other side of the street but did not have any involvement with it.

Officer Lockhart did not complete a typed supplement or report.

At the end of the interview, Officer Lockhart was afforded the opportunity to view his bodyworn camera footage. Officer Lockhart declined.

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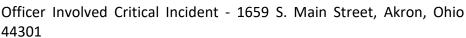
Page 2 of 3 Supervisor Approval: SAS David Posten #6 9/19/2022 12:11 PM



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

**Investigative Report** 









The above images are from Officer Lockhart's body-worn camera footage. Based Upon Officer Lockhart's body-worn camera footage, Officer Lockhart is seen running towards the scene, turning around and then heading towards the perimeter.

## **Attachments:**

The audio recording of the interview is attached to this report.

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Page 3 of 3 Supervisor Approval: SAS David Posten #6 9/19/2022 12:11 PM