

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



2023-0290 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1818 Jisco West Rd, Jackson, OH 45640 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer, Interview with Witness

Involves: Jesse Reynolds (W)

Date of Activity: 01/31/2023

Activity Location: - 1818 Jisco West Road, Jackson, OH 45640, Jackson County

Author: SA Andrew Russell

Narrative:

On Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 17:51 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Andrew Russell (SA Russell) interviewed Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) Deputy (Dep.) Jesse Reynolds (Reynolds). The interview took place near 1818 Jisco West Road, Jackson, Ohio 45640. The interview was audio recorded.

Reynolds was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the January 31, 2023, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1818 Jisco West Road Jackson, Ohio. Reportedly, Reynolds 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.

Reynolds stated he was dispatched with Lieutenant to assist Deputy Leif Smith (Smith) and Sergeant Jason Wilson (Wilson) at 1818 Jisco West Road in Jackson, Ohio. Reynolds stated he was informed the subject in the building was Mr. Beach and the probation office was called and requested to respond. Reynolds advised probation officers arrived on scene and approached the shed with to attempt to talk to Beach through a window of the shed. Reynolds added that after looking through the window, yelled that Beach had a hatchet and everyone returned to cover of their vehicles. Reynolds added that lots of commands were given to drop the hatchet and exit the shed. Reynolds stated at that point he requested the residents of 1818 Jisco West Road, later identified as Shawn Norman (Norman) and Mellisa Graham (Graham) stay inside their cabin for their safety.

Reynolds stated a probation officer attempted to look in the window again and moved a curtain by using a piece of pipe (found in the area) and upon looking in yelled "he's

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got a gun." Reynolds added at that point he made Graham and Norman leave the cabin. Reynolds added he was told to grab his rifle and cover the shed, which he did. Reynolds added he could tell that his supervisors were trying to talk with the Beach for some time, but he refused to come out. Reynolds advised he was told to go and pick up a search warrant. Reynolds added he drove to the sheriff's office, met the prosecutor, wrote an affidavit, and swore out a warrant with the Judge. Reynolds stated he returned to 1818 Jisco West Road and saw two unknown negotiators from the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) were attempting to contact Beach with a throw phone.

Reynolds stated he then returned to his original cover position and Deputy Nick Spangler (Spangler) arrived on scene. Reynolds added Spangler and Beach had gone to school together and talked with Beach through the window, but it was difficult to hear Beach, so officers continued to request Beach pick up the OSHP throw phone. Reynolds stated he was told deputies would breach the door and let it "breathe." A term commonly used by law enforcement, which means to open the door and back out to see what transpires. Reynolds added he saw Spangler, and Smith approach the door, had a shield and pistol, Smith breached with a ram and stepped through and then he heard scream "put the gun down" then heard a single shot fired. Reynolds added that Sheriff Frazier then ran up to the shed and removed items that were in the way of where Beach had fallen. Reynolds stated that he heard yell "quit resisting" and deployed a Taser. Reynolds added that he ran to his cruiser for a first aid kit and assisted with handing gauze and a litter to deputies, then assisted in carrying Beach to the ambulance. That was the end of Reynolds' involvement in this incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 18:03 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.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-01-31 Deputy Jesse Reynolds Interview

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