



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



2023-2059

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 205 US 250, Polk, Ohio 44866

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Ashland County Sheriffs Office (O)
Date of Activity: 08/08/2023
Activity Location: Dunham, Larry D. – Home – 205 US 250, Polk, OH 44866, Ashland County
Author: SA William Conn, #51

Narrative:

Summary of witness interview, Officer Involved Critical Incident.

August 5, 2023 at approximately 22:15 hours.

211 US RT 250, Polk, Ohio 44866

Carol Hess

215 US RT 250, Polk, Ohio 44866

D.O.B. April 24, 1965

On the above listed date and time, Special Agent William Conn conducted an interview with Carol Hess regarding the Officer Involved Critical Incident. S/A Conn asked Mrs. Hess to explain what she observed happening on the evening of August 5, 2023 as it related to the OIC. Mrs. Hess stated that at approximately 1730 hours, her brother, the decedent, came to her residence, which is two houses S/W of the the decedent residence (OIC scene), and was on her her back porch. Mrs. Hess states that the decedent appeared agitated and intoxicated and he had a pistol in the waistband of his shorts. Mrs. Hess stated that her husband, Lyle Hess, who was also present on the back porch, had the decedent remove the pistol from his waistband and unloaded the weapon. Mrs. Hess states the decedent talked rapidly and agitatedly about how he had no money coming in, being out work, and his medical problems. Mrs. Hess states due his state of intoxication it was difficult to understand everything the decedent was talking about.

Mrs. Hess states after about maybe an hour or less the decedent left the back porch and

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returned to his residence, taking the pistol with him. Mrs. Hess states about an hour later she received a phone call from Ashley Austin, the neighbor directly east of decedent's residence, stating that there was a problem with her brother and that he was sitting at her firepit with two loaded guns, and asking if she could come over quickly. Mrs. Hess states she immediately returned to the decedent's residence and found him seated in his backyard with a pistol in his waistband and pocket. Mrs. Hess states she began to argue with the decedent about what he thought he was doing walking about with guns and scaring the neighbors, and he should stop all this. Mrs. Hess states that the decedent started fumbling around with the pistols, at one point dropping one of the pistols on the ground. Mrs. Hess further states that the decedent stated that "they took everything from him and he was done." Mrs. Hess stated that she became very fearful for her own safety and that of the neighbors due to the decedent's erratic behavior. Mrs. Hess states she began to return to her residence when the decedent said: "If anyone calls the police I'm going out in a blaze of glory." Mrs. Hess states she returned to her residence and called 911 to report the incident and request police help. Mrs. Hess states that she heard sirens approaching but did not see the police arrive or hear any shots due to the fact that she was inside her residence at the time of the incident.

This concluded Mrs. Hess's statement.

This concludes the witness statement summary.