



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



2022-2876

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 256 N. Swain, LaRue, Ohio (L)

Date of Activity: 12/20/2022
Author: SA Joshua S. Rammel, #175

Narrative:

On December 20, 2022, Special Agent (SA) Josh Rammel (Rammel) and SA Chris Hamberg (Hamberg) conducted an interview with Detective Matthew Creps (Creps) of the Marion Police Department. The interview was in regard to the officer-involved shooting (OIS) that occurred on the morning of December 20, 2022, along the railroad tracks near North Section Street in LaRue, Ohio. The interview was conducted at the Marion Police Department located at 233 West Center Street, Marion, Ohio. The interview was recorded using a digital audio recorder. A copy of the interview was attached to this investigation.

The interview started at 1407 hrs. SA Rammel, SA Hamberg and Creps all introduced themselves at the beginning of the interview. Creps also indicated he was currently employed with the Marion Police Department and had been since 1999. Creps provided his date of birth as September 15, 1977.

Creps advised that he understood why he was meeting with SA Rammel and SA Hamberg and agreed to continue with the interview at that time. Creps informed SA Rammel and SA Hamberg that he was not a member of the Special Response Team (SRT), whom conducted the initial search warrant and were involved with the OIS, but Creps is a member of the joint drug task force between Marion Police Department and Marion County Sheriff's Office. Creps stated that he was assigned to the perimeter during the search warrant.

Creps advised that the drug task force obtained the search warrant and since the SRT was executing the search warrant on Swain Avenue, Creps was assigned to be security for the drone unit at the command post near the water plant.

During this time, it was announced over the radio that the alleged suspect had left his residence and was walking along the railroad tracks, with members of the SRT following. Creps and other members of the drug task force were requested to hold the perimeter along the tracks on North Section Street.

Creps indicated that he could see the flashlights belonging to the SRT along the tracks and could hear multiple commands for the alleged suspect to get on the ground. Creps also mentioned that he could hear the alleged suspect yelling back to the SRT. Creps stated that he was initially on North Section directly at the railroad crossing but moved south of the crossing as the alleged suspect and SRT approached.

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Creps told SA Rammel and SA Hamberg that the alleged suspect kept yelling at the SRT and the SRT kept providing commands to the alleged suspect. Creps informed SA Rammel and SA Hamberg that eventually the K9 handler issued a command for the suspect to comply or he would release the K9.

Creps advised that from his position, he was able to see the suspect clearly and right before the K9 approached the alleged suspect, Creps was able to see the alleged suspect reach towards the area of his hip. As the K9 made it to the alleged suspect, Creps observed the alleged suspect fire towards the K9 and potentially towards the SRT. At that time, the suspect fired additional rounds, as the SRT also fired in return. Creps advised that the alleged suspect fired approximately two to three rounds, and the SRT fired approximately seven to eight rounds in return. Creps informed SA Rammel and SA Hamberg that all of the rounds fired by the SRT were fired from the west end of the North Section Street railroad crossing, and the alleged suspect was further west down the tracks.

Creps said that he was wearing a body camera during this time and the footage would show all of this. Creps also indicated that he was wearing plain clothes with an outer carrier vest on identifying Creps as law enforcement.

Creps indicated that the Delaware County SRT was also present during the OIS, but Creps does not think any of them fired a round.

Creps advised that he did not think there was any additional information to provide to SA Rammel and SA Hamberg at this time, and the interview was concluded at 1416 hrs.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Interview with Matt Creps 2022-12-20