



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: Special Investigations Unit Initial Response
Involves: Larry Dunham (S)
Activity Date: August 5, 2023
Activity Location: 205 US 250, Polk, Ohio 44866
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Nick Valente #139

Narrative:

On Saturday, August 5, 2023, at approximately 2112 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente received notification through the Who's Responding cell phone application of an officer-involved shooting that occurred at 205 US 250, Polk, Ohio 44866, and involved the Ashland County Sheriff's Office (ACSO). SA Valente responded to the ACSO. Upon arrival at the ACSO, at approximately 2222 hours, SA Valente learned the involved deputies had just been photographed by SA Ed Staley, provided their weapons to SA Ed Staley, and declined to participate in interviews with BCI that night. SA Valente spoke with ACSO Lieutenant Donald Sims (Lieutenant Sims). Lieutenant Sims reported ACSO deputies were dispatched to the officer-involved shooting scene for a report of a suicidal and homicidal male. The subject was believed to have pointed a weapon at the deputies who fired at the subject causing his death. SA Valente provided Lieutenant Sims with a booklet that explained BCI's handling of officer-involved shooting investigations.

SA Valente then joined SA Bill Conn, SA Matt Armstrong, and Special Agent Supervisor Jon Lieber at the officer-involved shooting scene, 205 US 250 Polk, Ohio 44866. The BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) also responded to officer-involved shooting scene. Upon arrival at the officer-involved shooting scene, SA Valente noted the backyard of the property was secured with crime scene tape. BCI CSU agents conducted a search of the backyard where the deceased subject was plainly visible lying face up in the grass near the back of the home, with his head to the north and feet to the south. Refer to the Investigative Report detailing the scene processing for additional details on that process.

SA Valente joined SA Conn in conducting an interview with Ashley Austin and Brandon Weiler who resided at 203 US 250 Polk, Ohio, directly to the right of the subject's home. Both parties reported the subject was intoxicated and loitering in their backyard earlier that night. Both parties reported they did not witness the shooting incident but heard the sound of apparent gunshots. Refer to the Investigative Report detailing their interviews for a more thorough accounting of what these parties relayed to agents.

SA Valente then conversed with SA Armstrong and was apprised of additional information provided to agents by other family members of the subject who had gathered near the scene.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-2059

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

Refer to the Investigative Reports written by SA Armstrong for details on the subject's background as provided by these parties.

At approximately 0155 hours, SA Valente took possession of 28 items of evidence that were collected by BCI Crime Scene Unit agents. BCI personnel then cleared the scene. SA Valente transported the evidence items to BCI Richfield, 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, Ohio, and secured them in temporary evidence storage. For additional details regarding the transport of evidence refer to the Investigative Summary detailing that process.