



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



2023-0228

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 18697 Bagley Rd., Cleveland, OH
44130, Cuyahoga County

Investigative Activity: Witness Interview
Activity Date: April 26, 2023
Activity Location: BCI - Richfield
Authoring Agent: SA Matthew Armstrong #146

Narrative:

On April 26, 2023, at approximately 1206 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matthew Armstrong (Armstrong) and SA Nick Valente (Valente) interviewed Rebecca Thompson (Thompson). Thompson was the girlfriend of Bryan Bailey and present in the Emergency Department at Southwest General Medical Center on October 18, 2022. The interview was audio recorded and took place at Thompson's residence located at 17785 Whitney Rd., Building 3, Apartment 505, Strongsville, Ohio.

The following is a summary of 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. The information 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.

Throughout the interview, Thompson provided the following information:

Thompson began dating Bailey on August 15, 2022. When Bailey woke up on October 18, 2022, she sensed that something wasn't right with him mentally. She did not know if it was his emotions or if he was missing his mother who had passed away, but he told her he wanted to go talk to his grandmother.

Bailey lived with his grandmother on Whitney Road in Strongsville but had stayed that night with Thompson at her residence. Thompson took Bailey to his grandmother's house. She went upstairs there and fell asleep while Bailey talked with his grandmother.

She did not know how long Bailey was talking with his grandmother but she recalled being woken up by Alyssa, Bailey's cousin. Alyssa was in a panic saying Bailey was trying to harm himself with a pair of scissors. Alyssa told her Bailey was trying to stab himself in the heart and the neck with the scissors but she was able to get the scissors away from him. Thompson indicated she was asleep when that happened.

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The police and EMS were called and Bailey agreed to go to the hospital for help. Thompson rode in the ambulance with Bailey and he was transported to Southwest General Medical Center (SGMC).

Thompson believed Bailey had been diagnosed as being bi-polar. Bailey was not taking medication for mental illnesses. She was unaware of whether he was prescribed medication for mental illnesses. She said Bailey did not have any anger toward law enforcement. Thompson did not know details about Bailey's drug history. She said she smoked marijuana all day every day but Bailey did not smoke marijuana with her because he was on probation. Although she did not know specifics about Bailey's drug use, she said it would not surprise her if she learned he had methamphetamine, heroin, or fentanyl in his system. Thompson said she did not provide Bailey with any illicit substances and she did not see him use any drugs that day.

When the ambulance arrived at SGMC, the medics took Bailey into the emergency department. She had to enter the hospital through the main entrance. When she was permitted to go back and be with Bailey, she noticed Bailey had become extremely tired. She thought he may have been medically sedated and asked Bailey if they gave him something. Bailey told her he was not given anything.

At one point, a nurse came in and said they needed to get a urine sample from Bailey. Bailey was sleeping and she told them she could try to wake him up but she was not going to forcefully wake him up because he was sleeping and she normally can't "just wake him up." Thompson explained, Bailey had previously told her that when he is in a deep sleep he believed he was actually present in his dreams. She had also been told by multiple other family members that when Bailey is in a deep sleep, you cannot try to wake him up or he will become aggressive. Because of that, she had never tried to wake Bailey when he was asleep.

The staff then let several hours pass without coming in to check on Bailey. The next thing she remembered, a male nurse came in to get a urine sample. She described him as a White male, with brown or blond hair. He was a little shorter than Bailey and stocky in stature. She estimated he was between 32 and 45 years of age.

The male nurse, in a rude, mean, and vile manner said "Mr. Bailey. If you do not wake up right now and provide us with a urine sample, I will go get two police to forcibly hold you down as I force a catheter in you" (18:12). She told the nurse if that's what he was going to do, she could not be there. The nurse then told her "Ma'am, you do what you have to do" (19:00). Thompson

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then left the room and Bailey was still snoring. Thompson explained when the male nurse came in and said this, Bailey never woke up or acknowledged the nurse.

When Thompson came back to Bailey's room, she saw two police officers, two male doctors, one female nurse, and a male nurse all in Bailey's room. She knew something was not right. The staff then escorted her to a separate room where she later learned Bailey had died.

Thompson said Bailey had previously told her he had a bad heart but she did not know the extent of it. She believed it played a role in his Bailey's death.

Attachments:

2023-04-27 Interview Rebecca Thompson