



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



2022-1472
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 2793 Waterpark Drive, Mason,
OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Victim
Involves: Thomas Henry Cromwell (S), Kelly Rose (V)
Date of Activity: 07/12/2022
Activity Location: Mason Police Department – Business – 6000 Mason–Montgomery Road, Mason, OH 45040
Author: SA Kenneth J. Smith, #53

Narrative:

On July 12, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer–Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at the Baymont hotel, located at 2793 Waterpark Drive in the city of Mason. During the OICI, an operator with the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team mortally wounded a suspect and recent River City Correctional Center escapee, Thomas Cromwell (Cromwell), during a hostage rescue situation.

On July 12, 2022, at 0434 hours, BCI Special Agents Doug Eveslage (SA Eveslage) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Kelly Rose (Ms. Rose) regarding her involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the Mason Police Department Interview Room. The interview was audio and video recorded on Mason Police Department’s video system.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. 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 audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Ms. Rose described that she had rented a room at the Baymont Inn and ran into an acquaintance named Deanna (Hilton) in the parking lot. Deanna introduced Ms. Rose to two male subjects in the parking lot. One of the subjects ended up being Thomas Cromwell (Cromwell) but was introduced to Ms. Rose as “Q”. Cromwell and Ms. Rose ended up talking about how Cromwell needed a room for the night and was willing to pay her for her room with Cash App. Ms. Rose couldn’t get into her room for another 45 minutes and ended up taking Cromwell to the Arby’s nearby to get food at the drive through while she waited for her room. Ms. Hilton took the other male subject and drove somewhere else.

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Ms. Rose and Cromwell returned to the Baymont Inn. Ms. Rose got her room and checked in. Cromwell went to her room with her and they sat there talking for about 45 minutes when the police knocked on the door. Ms. Rose described that the police had knocked on the door and said "Room Service". Neither she nor Cromwell opened the door and then Cromwell told her that he had warrants and demanded her phone and said that he needed to get ahold of somebody and get out of there. He attempted to climb out the window and saw more police outside. He said that they were everywhere and then started barricading the door. Ms. Rose said that he retrieved a knife and stated that it was bad [situation].

They remained in the room for hours and described a cop named "Adam" had made contact on the phone, eventually. Ms. Rose stated that Cromwell was trying to talk to his mom and sister and somehow the police interfered with her phone, in which Adam was on the phone every time Cromwell tried to make a call. Ms. Rose fell asleep for awhile and stated that she felt that Cromwell didn't want to hurt her, but was using her to get what he wanted. She also stated that she kept trying to remain calm and not freak out.

The police eventually shut off the television and the air conditioning which agitated Cromwell because he enjoyed watching himself on the news. Ms. Rose attempted to call a friend to come get her dog and kept getting Adam. Cromwell ended up telling Adam that she (Ms. Rose) wanted to let the dog go, but he wouldn't let her go and that she wanted to talk to her mom. Cromwell continued to argue with Adam. Ms. Rose was eventually able to call her sister through an app. Ms. Rose stated that Cromwell told her that he didn't want to hurt her, but also talked about "death by cop shit". She stated that Cromwell told her "either they're going to let me go and I'm going to be free or they're going to kill me and I'm going to be free".

She stated the police broke into the room and that bullets were flying and that Cromwell had grabbed her and got behind her and was holding the knife up to her. She then saw blood (on Cromwell) and he went limp. She stated the police then pulled her out of there. Ms. Rose stated that she was not injured during the shooting. She described the knife as being up against her neck. She stated that they fell onto the sofa bed and Cromwell was behind her. Ms. Rose stated that Cromwell was yelling at the police and was shot before he could finish his sentence. SA Smith asked if she thought that Cromwell was saying that he was going to kill her at that point. Ms. Rose stated "I think so." SA Smith asked Ms. Rose if she felt her life was in danger at that point. She stated that she hadn't been afraid earlier, but that she had been afraid that it would get more dangerous at the end.

Ms. Rose learned during the standoff that Cromwell was a Cincinnati White Boy and she also learned that his name was Tommy, when she heard his mother screaming it on the phone. He eventually told her his full name. Ms. Rose also learned that the other subject who was with Deanna Hilton was the other escapee from River City.

The interview was concluded at 0516 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022-07-12 / Kelly Rose Interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.