

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



2023-2008 Officer Involved Critical Incident - Terminal Road By Dayton Airport, OH (L)

Investigative Activity:	Interview with Officer
Involves:	Officer Hunter Carty (W)
Date of Activity:	08/10/2023
Activity Location:	Carty, Officer Hunter – Business – 10 East First Street, London, OH 43140, Madison County
Author:	SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

## Narrative:

On August 2, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) to investigate an Officer–Involved Critical Incident (OICI), which occurred on the morning of August 2, 2023. The incident between law enforcement and the involved subjects, Rodney and Elaine Helman, started in Madison County, Ohio. It ended on Airport Access Road in Montgomery County, Ohio.

On August 10, 2023, Special Agents Richard Ward and Perry Roeser interviewed London Police Officer (Madison County) Hunter Carty (Carty) as part of the OICI investigation. It was reported to BCI that Carty was one of the first officers that came into contact with the Helman's.

The interview with Carty occurred at London Police Department, 10 E. First Street, London, Ohio, and started at 0840 hours. Carty stated he had been a police officer in London for three years and was assigned to the midnight shift. Carty graduated from the Columbus Police Academy and had no law enforcement experience before joining the London Police Department.

Carty explained on the night of August 2, 2023, he heard (over the in-car radio) Sergeant Michael Orahood, his supervisor, on a traffic stop on the east side of the town. Carty stated he started to move toward Sgt. Orahood when he then heard the target vehicle took off from the traffic stop. Carty said he turned on his lights and siren and headed toward the pursuit. Carty explained when he arrived at the TA truck stop at US Rt 42 and I-70, he drove to the rear of the truck stop, based on the radio traffic. Carty said he heard the semi-truck revving its engine. Carty learned the subjects entered an unlocked truck at the rear parking lot. Carty said he grabbed his rifle and his stop sticks from the trunk of his cruiser and coordinated a plan with Sgt. Orahood. Carty said, Sgt. Orahood, Madison County Deputy West Davis, and himself deployed the stop sticks on the truck's tires without incident. Soon after the stop sticks were

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deployed, the semi-truck took off from its parking space. Carty said the stop stick positively affected the front passenger side tire. As the truck passed the law enforcement vehicles in the TA parking lot, Carty said the truck came into contact with his cruiser's driver's side door, damaging it.

Carty stated a pursuit ensued north on State Route 42 in Madison County and ended near the airport in Vandalia, Ohio. Carty was admittedly confused with the pursuit route out of Madison County. Carty said he observed reckless behavior, and at one point, the truck was traveling westbound on US Rt 40 in the eastbound lane (oncoming traffic). Carty said once in the Clark County area, the semi-truck took a Springfield exit, traveling through downtown Springfield and west out of the city. Carty thinks the pursuit lasted about two hours.

Carty said he was approximately 150–250 feet back when the semi-truck stopped near the airport. He said the Ohio State Highway Patrol Bearcat (SRT team) joined the pursuit at some point (I–675 and I–70) and parked parallel to the truck when it stopped on the roadway. During the standoff, Carty said they were told an assault was about to take place on the semi-truck. Carty said he later heard flashbangs and gunfire go off and saw three (3) SWAT members on the truck's passenger side. Carty said his view was only on the back of the semi-truck, and he had no idea who fired first. Carty said the first to exit the truck was the hostage. Carty explained that when the subjects were dragged away from the truck, they screamed in pain.

After the assault on the semi-truck, Carty said his chief of police told him to follow the hostage, and get all pertinent information. Carty contacted **sectors** in the back of a medic unit as he was being treated for injuries to his hand. Carty then said he drove a paramedic to the primary scene in his cruiser for care on the Helman's. Carty said when he arrived back at the scene, he saw Elaine Helman on the ground just outside the passenger's side door, and Rodney Helman was on the roadway at the rear of the truck.

Carty was relieved from the scene and headed back to London, Ohio. Carty explained he documented his actions on an incident report before he went off duty. Carty stated he did not exercise any use of force on the Helman's.

The interview with Carty concluded at 0856 hours and was audio recorded. See attachment #1 for a copy of the recorded interview.

## Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-08-10 / Officer Hunter Carty audio interview

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## Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.