

Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



01/31/2013

REPORTS RECEIVED SGT. JAMES RUTH

Summary

In January of 2013, investigators met and interviewed officers of the Cleveland Police Department. These interviews took place at 4055 Highlander Parkway Richfield, Ohio.

Details

On January 18, 2013 Sgt. Pinkney and Sgt. Ruth met with Ofc. Teresa Gomez at the BCI Richfield Office. Gomez was interviewed in regard to her participation in the officer involved shooting that occurred on November 29, 2012.

On January 24, 2013, Sgt. Gardner and Sgt. Ruth met with Ofc. Kenneth Brown at the BCI Richfield Office. Brown was interviewed in regard to his participation in the officer involved shooting that occurred on November 29, 2012.

Sgt. Ruth reduced the interviews to writing for submission to the case file.

The interviews were video recorded. The recording and associated documentation were submitted to the case file as Exhibits #141 and 142, respectively.

File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493	File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)
Case Agent: Mark Kollar	Authoring Agent: John Saraya
Date of Report: 01/31/2013	Exhibit #: 141 and 142
Investigative Activity: Report received from Sgt. Ruth	Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet

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OFFENSE/INCIDENT: HOMICIDE/OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

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LOCATION, 14410 TERRACE ROAD, EAST CEEVELAND, OHIO 44112		
Additional details of offense or accident program of investigation, etc.		
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1/18/2013 CLEVELAND POLICE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DOO: 11/29/1	2	

On January 18, 2013 Detective Sgt. James Ruth (ECPD) and Sgt. Cliff Pinkney (CCSO) met with Officer Teresa Gomez (CPD) badge #2538 along with her Union Attorney (Pat D'Angelo). Gomez was advised we were conducting a criminal investigation regarding the officer involved shooting that took place on November 29, 2012 in the area of 14410 Terrace Rd East Cleveland, Ohio 44112. Investigators asked Gomez if she would speak to investigators relative to this incident and Gomez stated yes.

Investigators asked Gomez to give us some general information about herself. Cleveland, Ohio and her date of birth is Gomez stated she lives at 12/9/66. Gomez gave us her cell phone number as . Gomez stated she has been with the Cleveland Police Department for 16 years currently assigned to the Gang/Narc unit and her supervisor is Sgt. Pillow. Gomez stated she is not on any medication and does not wear any type of corrective lenses. Gomez states she was wearing plain clothes and was carrying departmental issued equipment. Gomez stated her partner was Kenneth Brown. Gomez stated Brown was driving on this night. Gomez stated they had no type of recording device with them. Gomez stated on the night of this incident her call sign was 8847 but could not remember the car number. Gomez stated they had their car radio on Narc #2 and their portable was monitoring channel #5. Investigators asked Gomez if she had been involved in any other officer involved shootings. Gomez stated no. Investigators ask Gomez if he has any type of specialized training. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if she qualified with her city issued weapon. Gomez stated she qualified with her weapon this year in the summer along with her in service training for use of force. Investigators asked Gomez if she had any prior discipline. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez to tell us how they first became involved in this incident and to describe in detail their involvement in the pursuit.

Gomez stated they were in the area of St. Clair when they heard over the radio that a car was traveling eastbound on 90 approaching dead man's curve and the people in the car were shooting at police. Gomez stated her partner switched over to Narc #2 and advised Sgt. Pillow that the car was heading in their direction and they were supposedly shooting at police. Gomez stated they never saw the vehicle nor did they take part in the pursuit. Gomez stated at one point they did get onto 90 eastbound saw the zone cars but never the suspect vehicle. Gomez stated they exited on E.72 and saw all of the zone cars. Gomez stated her partner radioed Sgt. Pillow and advised him that there were enough cars so they were not getting into the pursuit.

Detective Sgt. J. Ruth ECPD/Sgt. C. Pinkney CCSO

Friday, January 18, 2013

APPROVED BY

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

OFFENSE/INCIDENT: HOMICIDE/OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

LOCATION: 14410 TERRACE ROAD, EAST CLEVELAND, OHIO 44112

Additional details of offense or accident program of investigation, etc.

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1/18/2013 CLEVELAND POLICE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DOO: 11/29/12

Investigators asked Gomez if they ever made it to the scene. Gomez stated yes they did. Investigators asked Gomez what she saw once she was on scene. Gomez stated they only responded to the scene because they heard on the radio that someone was reloading and then they heard someone say shots fired along with send EMS. Gomez stated had to park down the hill from the scene. Gomez stated when they finally did arrive on scene they were asking over the radio if suspects were in custody. Gomez stated they were advised all suspects were in custody so they went to the scene. Investigators asked Gomez what channel did the they hear the pursuit on. Gomez stated channel #5 which they were monitoring. Investigators asked Gomez once they were at the bottom of the hill toward the scene did they hear any shots fired. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if they were working V-Grip this night. Gomez stated yes. Investigators asked Gomez what she saw when she got on scene. Gomez stated officers were standing around near the playground with a puzzled look on their faces, which was the same look she had. Investigators asked Gomez if she saw anyone go by the suspect car. Gomez stated no and that East Cleveland Police were taping off the area. Investigators asked Gomez if she used her phone to make any phone calls, text messages or take pictures while on scene. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if she saw any other officer use a cell phone to take pictures of the scene. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if anyone has asked her to lie or otherwise influence her statement to investigators. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if there were any other questions that we did not ask that she felt were important. Gomez stated no. Investigators asked Gomez if she knew how long the pursuit was from the first time she heard it until it ended. Gomez stated 15 minutes maybe. Investigators asked Gomez if she ever spoke to any officer while on scene. Gomez stated she spoke to Lt. Brown about how it started downtown with the shots. Gomez was thanked for her time and the interview ended.

Investigation Continues...

Detective Sgt. J. Ruth ECPD/Sgt. C. Pinkney CCSO

Friday, January 18, 2013

ED BY INVESTIGATING OFFICER

OFFENSE/INCIDENT: HOMICIDE/OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

LOCATION: 14410 TERRACE ROAD, EAST CLEVELAND, OHIO 44112

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PAGE 1 OF 2

1/24/2013 CLEVELAND POLICE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DOO: 11/29/12

On January 24, 2013 Detective Sgt. James Ruth (ECPD) and Detective Sgt. Scott Gardner (ECPD) met with Officer Kenneth Brown (CPD) along with his Union President (Jeff Follmer). Brown was advised we were conducting a criminal investigation regarding the officer involved shooting that took place on November 29, 2012 in the area of 14410 Terrace Rd East Cleveland, Ohio 44112. Investigators asked Brown if he would speak to investigators relative to this incident and Brown stated yes.

Investigators asked Brown to give us some general information about himself. Cleveland, Ohio and his date of birth is 7/26/68. Brown stated he lives at . Brown stated he has been with the Brown gave us his cell phone number as Cleveland Police Department for 20 years currently assigned to the Gang/Narc unit and his supervisor is Sgt. Pillow. Brown stated he is not on any medication and does not wear any type of corrective lenses. Brown states he was wearing plain clothes and was carrying departmental issued equipment. Brown stated his partner was Teresa Gomez. Brown stated he was driving on this night. Brown stated they had no type of recording device with them. Brown stated on the night of this incident his call sign was 8842 but could not remember the car number. Brown stated they had their car radio on Narc #2 and their portable was monitoring channel #5. Investigators asked Brown if he had been involved in any other officer involved shootings. Brown stated no. Investigators ask Brown if he has any type of specialized training. Brown stated he spent 10 years in the Navy. Investigators asked Brown if he qualified with his city issued weapon. Brown stated he qualified with his weapon this year in the summer along with his in service training for use of force. Investigators asked Brown if he had any prior discipline. Brown stated over 10 years ago he received a reprimand. Investigators asked Brown to tell us how they first became involved in this incident and to describe in detail their involvement in the pursuit.

Brown stated they were in the area of Superior and E.60th when they heard over channel #5 that officers were in pursuit of a car that shot at police. Brown stated he heard the pursuit was approaching dead man's curve so he advised Sgt. Pillow on Narc #2 of the pursuit. Brown stated they then made their way to the freeway without lights or siren on. Brown stated once they arrived in the area he observed several zone cars go by with lights and sirens on. Brown stated he never saw the suspect vehicle at this time. Brown stated they got onto the freeway and then got off on E. 72nd. Brown stated he turned westbound on St. Clair to go the opposite direction because there were so many police cars he didn't want to get himself killed.

Detective Sgt. J. Ruth ECPD/Detective Sgt. Scott Gardner ECPD

Thursday, January 24, 2013

APPROVED BY INVESTIGATING OFFICER

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LOCATION: 14410 TERRACE ROAD, EAST CLEVELAND, OHIO 44112

Additional details of offense or accident program of investigation, etc. PAGE 2 OF 2

1/24/2013 CLEVELAND POLICE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DOO: 11/29/12

Brown stated he did finally make it to the shooting scene after everything was over. Brown stated they had to park on a side street and walk up to the scene. Brown stated once on scene he spoke to Sgt. Pillow for a minute and then walked back to the car and left. Investigators asked Brown if he ever heard the shots being fired over the radio. Brown stated the only thing he heard over the radio was something about it looks like they are reloading, an officer stating shots fired and then someone calling for EMS. Investigators asked Brown if he could remember where he was when he heard this over the radio. Brown stated they were in the area of Wade Park. Brown stated he went the opposite direction from the chase. Brown stated Gomez made a comment about them going in the wrong direction and Brown advised her he knew better. Investigators showed Brown a map of the area and asked him to show us were he parked. Brown stated it was on Wymore near Euclid. Brown stated when they walked up to the scene East Cleveland already had the scene taped off. Investigators asked Brown if could remember any statements made by any of the officers on scene. Brown stated some of the bosses were talking but the officers looked shocked. Investigators asked Brown if he saw the suspect car once he arrived on scene. Brown stated ves and that he was about 30 feet from the suspect car. Investigators asked Brown if he spoke to any of the officers while on scene. Brown stated he talked to a few of the officer he knew, but it wasn't about the shooting. Investigators asked Brown if he could describe the lighting in the parking lot. Brown stated he couldn't recall. Investigators asked Brown if has spoken to any of the officers involved in the shooting since the incident. Brown stated no. Investigators asked Brown if he used his phone to make any phone calls, text messages or take pictures while on scene. Brown stated no. Investigators asked Brown if he saw any other officer use a cell phone to take pictures of the scene. Brown stated no. Investigators asked Brown if he ever used his radio during this incident. Brown stated as he was walking up to the scene he asked over the radio if all the suspects were in custody. Brown stated he was advised all were in custody and that is when he walked up to the scene. Investigators asked Brown if he heard about any officers being injured. Brown stated no. Investigators asked Brown if anyone has asked him to lie or otherwise influence his statement to investigators. Brown stated no. Investigators asked Brown if there were any other questions that we did not ask that he felt were important. Brown stated no and the interview ended.

Investigation Continues...

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Detective Sgt. J. Ruth ECPD/Detective Sgt. Scott Gardner ECPD

Thursday, January 24, 2013

APPROVED BY

INVESTIGATING OFFICER