

# Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



#### 12/21/2012 INTERVIEW OF DISPATCHER DIANE ECK

#### **Summary**

On Friday, December 21, 2012 Cleveland Police Dispatcher Diane Eck arrived at 4055 Highlander Parkway in Richfield, Ohio, the BCI&I Richfield Northeast Regional Office for an interview. Also in attendance were Sergeant James Ruth, and Attorney Patrick D'Angelo.

### **Details**

Diane Eck is currently employed by the Cleveland Police Department and is assigned as a Third Shift Dispatcher. She has been with the Cleveland Police Department for 13 years and has no other prior public service to her credit. Eck's shift begins at 10:30 PM and continues until 6:30 AM. She has received a majority of her dispatch training from in-service and on-the-job training sessions.

In addition to her normal Cleveland Police Department assigned hours, Eck also works what she calls "unlimited overtime." Other than her "cheater" glasses, Eck stated her overall general health

However, she was not under the influence of any non-prescribed medications, drugs or alcohol, either at the time of the interview or the time of the pursuit.

On November 29, 2012, Eck was what the radio room considered the "relief" dispatcher. As the relief she was walking through the communications center and compiling the lunch list. As she came around to Dan Moore, she could tell that he was a little "confused and flabbergasted." Eck soon found out that the second district, which Moore was dispatching, was involved in a pursuit. Because Moore was a new employee, Eck sat down with Moore and began typing the pursuit for him. As she had been involved in many situations like this, she advised Moore that he should run the license plate and research the driver in the Records Management System (RMS) and she would dispatch the pursuit.

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When Eck took the radio traffic over from Moore, she thought the pursuit was somewhere around 176<sup>th</sup> Street. Eck stated she noticed something wasn't right from the beginning as she could tell by the tone in David Siefer's voice. Eck stated that she believed that there were approximately 3 or 4 different officers had called different parts of the pursuit. For the most part, each of the officers' voices were higher pitched than she was accustomed to hearing.

As the pursuit continued, Eck remembered the officers broadcasting different information.

- "They are loading a gun."
- "Shots fired."
- On the east side, "Tire was blown."
- Near West 14<sup>th</sup> at the Steelyard "He just threw something out."
- "Watch for crossfire."

Additionally, Eck had Moore calling all the jurisdictions as the pursuit continued. "If the pursuit was going through that location, we called them to let them know." Once the pursuit ended, Eck advised that the radio became quiet. "There was little traffic after that. The supervisors were calling for support, like SIU, AUI, and those types of things."

When asked about the pursued vehicle occupants, Eck advised that through the radio broadcasts she assumed both occupants were black males. "One was wearing a ball cap or stocking cap. It would have been rare for a woman to be involved in something like this." Eck said. She continued to advise that it wasn't until the next day she found out that the passenger was actually a female.

Eck returned to her relief duties after the pursuit and allowed Moore to continue dispatching District 2's radio traffic. Eck text messaged Paul Box, Randy Patrick, and Jim Hummel after the pursuit to check on their wellbeing. Hummel was the only officer to reply to Eck. Eck claims that was not unusual as she and her fellow employees communicate with officers regularly through text and cellular telephone. Eck estimates she has approximately 20 of the officers' cellular telephone numbers. "They are our extended family. This is a family work environment."

Eck concluded by stating that she and Moore were concerned for the officers' safety as she recognizes through her 13 years of experience that they have a serious and dangerous job. She stressed that she is constantly worried for their safety.

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## **Subject Information**

Name:

Diane R. Eck

Address:

Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Telephone:

Employment:

Cleveland Police Department

DOB:

11/02/1958

SSN:

Sex: Race: Female

Height:

White 5'05"

Weight: Hair: 180 Brown Brown

Eyes: S/V/W:

Witness

FBI#:

BCI#:

