



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



2021-0957
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus,
OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Darlene Carter-Palm (W), Ma'Khia Bryant (S)
Date of Activity: 04/20/2021
Activity Location: Bryant, Ma'Khia – Home – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus, OH
43232, Franklin County
Author: SA Shane R. Hanshaw, #102

Narrative:

On Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at approximately 2111 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Hanshaw interviewed Darlene Carter-Palm (Palm), relative to the officer-involved shooting which took place on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The interview took place near the residence of Angela Moore (Moore), located at 3171 Legion Lane in Columbus, Ohio. The interview with Palm was conducted in SA Hanshaw's vehicle, using a handheld recording device. The purpose of interview was to obtain all relevant information regarding the activities that occurred on this date at 3171 Legion Lane in Columbus, Ohio.

This report is intended to be a summary of the interview and does not contain all points discussed in the interview. The audio recording in its entirety is attached to this report.

At the onset of the interview, Palm stated she lives on Gallant Drive, two streets over from the current location. Palm said on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday she waits at the intersection of Damsel Street and Legion Street for her children to be dropped off by their school bus.

Palm said at approximately 1642 hours, her child texted her and said she was getting close. Palm returned the text to her daughter indicating she was ready to pick her up. Palm traveled to the intersection of Damsel Street and Legion Street, backing her car into Damsel Street, pointing toward Legion Street.

Palm said as she was sitting in her car, she observed a group of people in the yard of a residence two doors to the right of her location. Palm said she thought all of the people in the group were girls. One of the girls kept going in and out of the house. Palm did not see any fist fighting or physical activities, she just noticed something was going on.

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Palm said within three to five minutes after her arrival, she saw a police officer pull up. When the officer arrived, he was parked one or two doors down from the residence. As the officer got near the mailbox, Palm said a young girl, approximately 16 or 17 years of age, came toward the officer. Palm said she saw the officer immediately pull his gun and fire four times. Palm said she did not see any weapons or physical confrontation from the girls and the officer approached quickly and aggressively.

Palm said she thought the girl was going to the officer for help, or to explain what was going on. Palm said she didn't see any communication between the girl and the officer. Palm said she did not hear any voices or communication, but her windows were not all the way down. Palm said she did not hear any arguing or screaming.

When asked, Palm said she did not notice any other vehicles arriving at the residence, but there were others girls there. Palm recalled a girl wearing a hot pink sweat suit and said there were probably about five other girls in the yard.

Palm said after the incident, she got out of her car and asked if they had called an ambulance and the police officer said one is on the way. Palm said the police officer was putting on gloves. Palm said she did see the officers compressing on the girl's chest.

When asked, Palm said she did not see anyone else lying on the ground. Palm said when the cop pulled up, everyone was standing. She did not see anyone fighting or rolling on the ground. Palm said the only girl that she saw on the ground was the young girl that approached the police officer.

When asked about the girl that approached the officer, Palm said she could not see her entire body. Palm said there was a car parked between her and the girl, and she could only see the girl's upper body. Palm described the car that was between her and the girls as being a dark blue or black vehicle. Palm said after the girl was shot, she lost sight of the girl as she fell behind the dark colored vehicle. After Palm got out of her car and approached the scene, she could see the girl lying at the end of the driveway on the concrete.

Based on the vehicles parked in the street in relation to the spacing of the houses, Palm estimated that she was about 100 feet from the incident when it occurred. Palm said she does not personally know the officers or any of the girls that were in the group.

Palm was later asked by a police officer to move her car to make room for an ambulance.

The interview with Darlene Carter-Palm was concluded at approximately 2135 hours.

A copy of the audio recorded interview with Darlene Carter-Palm is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Interview with Darlene Carter-Palm

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