



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



2022-1356

Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 1659 S. Main Street, Akron, Ohio
44301

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Ryan Hall
Activity Date: August 02, 2022
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Cory Momchilov #64

Narrative:

On Tuesday, August 02, 2022, at 1115 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) and SA Joseph Goudy interviewed Akron Police Department (APD) Officer Ryan Hall (Hall) who was accompanied by his attorney, Michael Callahan, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at the law offices of Malarcik, Pierce, Munyer, & Will. Fraternal Order of Police Akron Lodge #7 President Clay Cozart was also present during the interview.

The interview was audio and video recorded.

Officer Hall was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 27, 2022, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1659 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio. Reportedly, Officer Hall did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Officer Hall stated his radio call sign on June 27, 2022, was Car 8. Officer Hall has been a police officer for approximately two and a half years, all with the APD. Officer Hall wore his standard police uniform. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. Officer Hall was the passenger of Car 8, a Ford Explorer marked with APD emblems and emergency lights; his partner, Officer Fields, was the driver. Officer Hall considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI. He does wear corrective lenses. Officer Hall stated he was unsure if he had his glasses on at the time of the incident. Later, after Officer Hall was afforded the opportunity to view his body-worn camera footage, he stated he could tell that he was wearing his glasses due to the reflection from a cruiser.

Prior to the interview, SA Momchilov was advised that Officer Hall had typed a supplemental report that documented his involvement in the June 27, 2022. Officer Hall wished to read the narrative out loud and then he would answer any follow-up questions if needed.

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AKRON POLICE DEPARTMENT	CASE# 2022-00078920
SUPPLEMENT REPORT	

NARRATIVE

My partner, Officer Fields #1506, and I, Officer Hall #1530, were assigned to work uniformed patrol in District #8. . The chase was south on State Route 8. A unit was in a pursuit. The supervisor of the pursuit gave a directive of units not involved to block intersections. The pursuit was west on E. Wilbeth Rd. We blocked an intersection in the area of Mission Dr and E Wilbeth Rd until the suspect vehicle and pursuing cruisers passed by. The unit calling the chase then stated that suspect vehicle was slowing. We turned west onto E Wilbeth Rd. Officers in front of us got out of their vehicles and began pursuing the suspect as he ran east. I exited the patrol vehicle with my patrol rifle and began running east towards the suspect and pursuing officers. While doing so shots were fired ahead of me. Then I observed the suspect on the ground. I got online with the other officers and maintained coverage of the suspect as he was handcuffed. An officer requested gloves so that they could render medical aide. I then pulled out the trauma kit that I carry on my duty belt. I then ran back to the cruiser I came in and returned my patrol rifle to it. Then, as EMS approached, I assisted in guiding them to the lot where the suspect was. I then found my partner. My body camera was collected. We were instructed to hold and secure an intersection, Clairemont Ave and Palmetto Ave. I placed crime scene tape around the church parking lot. We then ensured no civilians entered the scene for several hours. I was then instructed by Lt. Marks to do a tow inventory of the suspect vehicle. I completed the tow report and gave it to the CSU detective following the vehicle from the scene. I then returned to the intersection to maintain security of the scene. Shortly after, we were relieved by a day shift officer. We cleared the scene.

As Officer Hall was reading his narrative, he advised there were two mistakes. The sentences, “Officer in front of us got out of their vehicles and began pursing the suspect as he ran east” and “I exited the patrol vehicle with my patrol rifle and began running east towards the suspect and pursuing officers.” Officer Hall advised that the correct direction is west.

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Based upon Officer Hall's body-worn camera footage, the above image is the approximate time when gunfire starts. It appears that Officer Hall is running and has not yet made it to the parking lot.



Based upon Officer Hall's body-worn camera footage, the above image is the approximate time when gunfire stops.

SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if he heard the other officers call out that they were attempting to pull over a vehicle and or that a pursuit had ensued. Officer Hall responded, “Yeah, so they called out a traffic stop and then they made it a pursuit and then during that pursuit they said shots were fired from the vehicle.” Officer Hall explained that at a certain time the officers also called out signal 21, which Officer Hall described as a very serious, all hands on deck emergency.

SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if all available units in the city are expected to respond. Officer Hall stated, “Yeah, if you're not on a call for service, it would be expected that you

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would respond." SA Momchilov then asked if officers would be allowed to "break away" or leave none priority calls to assist. Officer Hall responded, "Yes."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if he could tell who was firing shots when he was running towards the other officers. Officer Hall responded, "Absolutely not, it was just like a, like I could see there were people there but to say that I could identify who's who would be not true."

SA Momchilov then asked Officer Hall if he could tell that they were officers. Officer Hall stated, "No, I just heard gunshots."

SA Momchilov then stated that Officer Hall mentioned in his narrative, "I could see the suspect on the ground." SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if he observed shots being fired while the individual was on the ground. Officer Hall responded, "I don't recall." SA Momchilov then asked if he observed the individual making movements when he was on the ground. Officer Hall advised, "There were still some movement, not, not sure exactly what they were but he wasn't like totally still on the ground."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if he had conversation with any officer who fired their weapon. Officer Hall replied, "I did not."

Officer Hall also clarified his involvement with filling out the tow inventory report. Officer Hall explained that he only filled out the basic information on the form; such as vin number, license plate number, owner information and that he never entered the vehicle or performed an actual inventory. Officer Hall further explained that he obtained all the relevant information for the vehicle when he ran the license plate number on his MDT computer.

Officer Hall advised that he was in the Kenmore area, near Wilbeth Road and 4th Street, when the initial incident started.

Officer Hall advised that he had watched his body-worn camera footage once. Officer Hall also advised that he had watched other officers' body-worn camera footage that was released during the press conference. SA Momchilov asked Officer Hall if his statement was based off of what he observed on the body-worn camera or if it was off of his recollection. Officer Hall responded, "Based off my recollection."

After the interview, Officer Hall was afforded the opportunity to view his body-worn camera footage again. Afterward, the only information that Officer Hall wished to clarify is that he was wearing his corrective lenses.

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Reference Items:

The video recordings of the interview were placed onto a DVD and were labeled as Reference Item L.

Attachments:

The audio recording of the interview is attached to this report.

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