



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



2022-0310
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 913 Lebanon Street, Monroe,
Ohio (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Dustin Booth (S)
Date of Activity: 03/01/2022
Activity Location: Monroe Police Department – Business – 601 South Main Street,
Monroe, OH 45050, Butler County
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On March 1, 2022 at approximately 1051 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Rick Ward (SA Ward) and Steven Seitzman (SA Seitzman) conducted an interview with Monroe Police Department (Monroe PD) Officer Skylar James Halsey (Officer Halsey) at the Monroe Police Department. Officer Halsey's Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association Attorney, Joseph Hegedus, was also present. Officer Halsey was identified by Monroe PD Captain David Chasteen as one of the officers directly involved in the Officer-Involved Critical Incident on February 11, 2022. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device. The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account unless noted by quotations.

Officer Halsey provided agents with a written statement immediately preceding his interview. The written statement was signed by Officer Halsey. It was collected and attached to this report. SA Ward read the Notice of Criminal Investigation form to Officer Halsey. He advised he understood the content of the form and signed it. The signed form will be added to the physical case file.

Officer Halsey advised he has been employed by Monroe PD for approximately three and a half years. Prior to his employment with Monroe PD, he worked for the Butler County Sheriff's Office as a special deputy. He had brief prior S.W.A.T. experience with the Warren County regional team. His badge number and radio call sign are #863 and is assigned to evening shift road patrol, which runs from 1445 until 2315 hours. His off days rotate. He believed he was in the middle of his work week; however, he was not absolutely certain.

Officer Halsey advised he was involved in a prior Officer-Involved Critical Incident, which was investigated by BCI. He advised that incident involved him using a "karate control hold" on a drugged individual. He advised he was cleared of any wrongdoing related to that incident. He

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

stated he has no disciplinary record involving prior uses of force or dishonesty.

Regarding his shift on February 11, 2022, Officer Halsey advised he was well rested and did not work any overtime or off duty assignments prior to his shift. He advised he did not take any prescriptions or over the counter medications that would have impaired his duties. He advised he did not consume alcohol within twenty-four hours of his shift. He was in a marked patrol vehicle and was wearing a Monroe PD issued uniform, which includes an exterior ballistic vest with the word "Police" across the back and a Monroe PD badge on the front. He had a taser, OC spray, and an expandable ASP baton on him and was wearing a body-worn camera. He carried a Monroe PD issued 9 mm Glock 17 with a round in the chamber and a magazine filled to capacity. He also carried two additional magazines filled to capacity. He advised all ammunition was Monroe PD issued duty ammunition. He advised he was current on his firearms qualifications.

Regarding his involvement in the Officer-Involved Critical Incident on February 11, 2022, Officer Halsey advised agents of the following:

Officer Halsey started his shift at 1445 hours. He was told by Monroe PD Captain Curlis to stay away from the Bridle Creek neighborhood and to handle calls-for-service. He initially did not have much information regarding the situation. Officers eventually cleared the scene and conducted a debriefing at the police department. During the debriefing, he learned the involved party was Dustin Booth (Booth). He also learned Booth ran from another officer attempting to make a traffic stop on him and was advised Booth was experiencing a manic episode and had not slept in multiple days. He was also advised other officers observed Booth walking around the residence with a firearm.

Officer Halsey advised a plan was made to have detectives monitor the residence. The plan was to have officers conduct a traffic stop on Booth should he leave the residence. After the debriefing, he responded to the parking lot of the Bridle Creek neighborhood pool on Bridle Creek Drive near Gallaher Road. While there, Monroe PD Sgt. Chad Caudill (Sgt. Caudill) relayed through the police radio that Booth's friend (Justin Duh) went inside the residence. Sgt. Caudill further advised he was in communication with the friend. Officer Halsey was instructed by Monroe PD Sgt. Eddie Myers (Sgt. Myers) to move to another location in case Booth chose a different route.

Officer Halsey received further information over the police radio that Booth was preparing to leave with his friend. Booth got into his friend's vehicle, then exited and went back inside his residence. Sgt. Caudill advised officers Booth went back inside and was believed to have armed himself with a gun. Booth then got back into his friend's vehicle, and they left traveling northbound on Bridle Creek Drive. Officer Halsey got behind the vehicle and followed it. The vehicle turned right onto northbound Gallaher Road then left onto eastbound Lebanon Street. He activated his lights to stop the vehicle as it approached the Opportunities to Succeed ("OTS") building near New Garver Road. He recalled other police cruisers parking on both sides of his cruiser. He exited from his police cruiser and un-holstered his firearm. He observed the occupants inside the vehicle fighting.

Officer Halsey saw the driver exit the vehicle. He thought he heard the driver yell something to the effect of "I've been stabbed." Then, he clearly heard the driver say, "He has a gun." He

lost sight of Booth, so he moved up toward the involved vehicle with Sgt. Myers. Booth walked away from officers with his hands up. Officer Halsey advised officers gave verbal commands for Booth to stop and get on the ground. Monroe PD Canine Officer Fred Doughman (Officer Doughman) released his canine, which was unsuccessful. He observed Officer Doughman send the canine a second time, which he thought resulted in a bite to Booth. He then observed Officer Doughman and Booth engage in a physical altercation. He remembered Booth wearing a tan or green "satchel over his shoulder." He believed Officer Doughman put Booth on the ground. He also believed Officer Doughman went to the ground too, though he was not completely certain. His intent was to re-holster his firearm to go "hands on" with Booth; however, he did not actually re-holster it.

Officer Halsey remembered Booth getting up from the ground. Booth was facing his direction, but they were not entirely squared up. He was not sure if Booth was in the process of standing up or if he had already completely stood up. He advised Booth was near a concrete island on New Garver Road at this point. He recalled Booth was "kind of like curled up like either like in a ball, I don't want to say ball but he... from his waistband and pulled up and raised towards us." He clarified Booth reached across the front or left side of his body with his right hand and pulled out a gun. He said Booth "raised it [the gun] towards us." He described the gun as a large, silver pistol. He was in fear for his life and the lives of those around him, so he discharged his firearm. He was uncertain how many rounds he fired or where they impacted Booth. He advised Booth fell to the ground. He remembered seeing the gun by Booth's right side within Booth's reach.

Officer Halsey maintained "lethal cover" on Booth after the shooting. He yelled, "Do not touch that gun." He recalled Sgt. Myers standing to his right. He moved up with Sgt. Myers, at which point Sgt. Myers kicked Booth's gun away from him. Officer Halsey then applied a tourniquet to Booth's left leg and assisted another officer in applying one to Booth's left arm. It should be noted Officer Halsey wrote in his written statement that he assisted in applying a tourniquet to Booth's right leg; however, he clarified in his verbal statement that he actually assisted in applying one to Booth's left arm. He remembered Booth saying, "I love you guys." He advised Booth also asked for water. He remembered someone calling for medics to respond.

Officer Halsey returned to Monroe PD where he turned over his firearm "as is" to Monroe PD Lieutenant Rosenbalm. He was also photographed there by BCI agents.

Officer Halsey advised he was not injured in the Officer-Involved Critical Incident.

SA Ward presented Officer Halsey with an overhead view of the Lebanon Street/New Garver Road intersection. He drew his recollection of where certain parts of the incident occurred. The map will be added to the physical case file.

The interview was concluded at 1128 hours. See the attached audio recording of the interview for more information.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022-03-01 / Officer Skylar Halsey Interview

Attachment # 02: Ofc Halsey OICI Criminal Investigation Notification/Written Statement

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

References:

Original Diagrams (5)

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation



Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Styler J. Halsey
Printed Name of Interviewee

March 1st 2022 10:53 AM
Date / Time

[Signature]
Signature of Interviewee

Rock Ward
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)

Joe Hegedus

From: Skylar Halsey <halseys@monroeohio.org>
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 4:18 PM
To: Joe Hegedus
Subject: Re: Use Of Force Narrative

On 02/11/2022 I was stationed in the area of Sackett and Bridle Creek while plain clothes detectives watched for a Dustin Booth to leave his residence. Dayshift officers along with second shift officers had interaction with Booth earlier in the day after Booth had run from a traffic stop into his residence. Officers on scene at the time along with administrative staff tried speaking with Booth to exit his residence to which he did not. Officers were advised that Booth was in a manic episode and had not slept for multiple days. Booth was walking around the interior of his home carrying a firearm. Officers at this point per administrative staff were advised to clear from the residence while plain clothes detectives stood by to watch the residence to see if Booth would leave.

Officers responded to the PD for a debrief of the incident which is where I received all of my information due to me not being on scene at the residence, since I was advised per Captain Curlis to take calls for service during that time. Officers were advised by administrative staff that detectives would watch the residence and when Booth was to leave, officers would conduct a high-risk traffic stop on the vehicle. Due to Booth's prior interaction with officers earlier in the day, I was advised that Booth would have a warrant for his arrest. Due to Booth's mental state, officers were going to use the warrant as probable cause to stop the vehicle, but the officers' main goal was to get Booth to the hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

I was then advised to station my vehicle in the area of Sackett and Bridle Creek. Officers were getting play by play information from detectives on scene on what was happening on the exterior of the residence. Sgt. Caudill was interacting with Booth's friend via text message on what Booth was doing on the interior of the residence and that he was going to try to get Booth out of the residence and into his vehicle without any firearms on his person. Detectives on scene advised that Booth had entered his friend's vehicle and it appeared that they were beginning to leave the residence. Sgt. Caudill advised that his friend believed he did not have a firearm on him at this time. Prior to pulling out of the driveway, Booth got out of the vehicle and re-entered his residence. Booth came back outside and got back into the vehicle. At this point, Sgt. Caudill advised that his friend was now unsure if Booth had a firearm.

The vehicle then left the residence and turned NB on Bridle Creek. I began to follow the vehicle at a safe distance, allowing other officers to get in position to make a traffic stop. I then asked Sgt. Meyers where he wanted me to conduct my traffic stop to which he stated at the stop sign next to OTS near the intersection of New Garver and SR 63. Upon approaching OTS, I activated my overhead lights and conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. Upon stopping, I noticed through the rear-view window it appeared Booth and his friend were actively fighting inside the truck. I announced this over the radio. Booth's friend stepped out of the vehicle with his hands in the air stating that Booth had a gun. Booth also got out of the passenger side with his hands in the air walking away from officers. I was unable to see Booth due to the position of the truck. I then began to approach the truck to get a better visual of Booth. At this time, Booth was actively walking towards SR 63 and officers were giving commands to Booth to stop, to which he did not. Officer Doughman released his K-9 which was ineffective. Officer Doughman then got into a physical altercation with Booth, taking Booth to the ground. During this time, I continued to use lethal cover on Booth. Booth then began to stand, when he pulled from his waistband area what appeared to be a large silver pistol and raised it towards Officers. At this point, I was in fear for my life and the lives of the officers next to me. I then discharged my firearm at Booth along with other officers. Booth then fell to the ground with his firearm still within arms reach. I continued to provide lethal cover on Booth while Sgt. Meyers kicked the firearm away from Booth. Officers then called for EMS to respond and began to conduct life-saving measures for Booth. I personally placed a tourniquet on Booth's left leg and assisted with placing a tourniquet on his right leg. During this time, Booth kept stating that he loved us and that

he just wanted some water. At this point, EMS was on scene and transported Booth to the hospital. Nothing further to report.

Get Outlook for iOS

Skylar J. Hall
883

3/1/20