



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



2023-0556
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 23897 US Rt 23, Circleville
43113 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer, Interview with Witness
Involves: Joseph Hugus (W)
Date of Activity: 02/25/2023
Activity Location: Rodeway Inn – 23897 US Route 23, Circleville, OH 43113,
Pickaway County
Author: SA Andrew Russell

Narrative:

On Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 04:10 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Andrew Russell (SA Russell) interviewed Pickaway County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) Sergeant (Sgt.) Joseph Hugus (Hugus). The interview took place at 23897 US Route 23, Circleville, Ohio 43113 (Roadway Inn). The interview was audio recorded.

Hugus was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the February 25, 2023, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 23987 US Route 23, Circleville, Ohio. Reportedly, Hugus 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.

Hugus stated he was dispatched to the Roadway Inn on a call of a female with a firearm, threatening suicide. Hugus added that upon arriving he observed an unknown female, later identified as Pamela Croston (Croston), inside a hotel room, banging a firearm on the window. Hugus added at that point he took cover behind his marked patrol vehicle and made announcements for her to put the gun down and come out. Hugus stated at that time there were four Pickaway County deputies, two Circleville officers and two Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers on scene. Hugus advised eventually Croston exited the hotel room with a gun to her own head. Hugus stated commands were being issued and at some point Croston fumbled the gun and nearly dropped it, but recovered the firearm and placed it back to her head. Hugus added, a few minutes later, Croston stepped off the sidewalk onto the blacktop towards the officers and pointed the firearm at them. Hugus stated at that point, two officers discharged their firearms, striking Croston. Hugus added the officers were Deputy Alfredo Magana (Magana) and Corporal Jon Campbell (Campbell) both from Pickaway County Sheriff's

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Office. Hugus advised that Campbell was armed with a Glock 19 (9mm) and Magana was using his issued patrol rifle (.556). Hugus advised that he believes around ten rounds were discharged by officers and is unsure if Croston fired.

Hugus stated that after the shooting, officers all moved forward, somebody (unknown) secured Croston's firearm and others rendered aid, applied tourniquets, packing wounds and held pressure until Medics arrived on scene and took over.

The interview concluded at approximately 04:19 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-02-25 Sgt. Joseph Hugus Interview