



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



2023-0290
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1818 Jisco West Rd, Jackson,
OH 45640 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Dep. Nick Spangler (W)
Date of Activity: 02/08/2023
Activity Location: Jackson County Sheriff's Office – Business – 350 Portsmouth
Street, Suite102, Jackson, OH 45640, Jackson County
Author: SA Craig Call

Narrative:

On January 31, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations and Crime Scene Units were requested by Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) Sheriff Ted Frazier to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (shooting) between members of the JCSO and William Beach. BCI was informed the incident occurred at 1818 Jisco West Road in Jackson County, Ohio, and resulted in Beach being fatally shot by JCSO Lieutenant [REDACTED] (Lt. [REDACTED]).

BCI Special Agent Craig Call (SA Call), Special Agent Jim Mulford (SA Mulford), and Special Agent Jimmy Poole (SA Poole) responded to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) to make contact with JCSO deputies in reference to obtaining witness statements from the involved officers. Upon our arrival, we initially met with Sheriff Frazier and were informed the deputies involved did not wish to make a formal witness statement without speaking with legal counsel first.

Agents met with JCSO Lt. [REDACTED], Sgt. Jason Wilson, Deputy Nicholas Spangler, and Deputy Leif Smith in a conference room at JCSO in order to obtain their contact information and contact information for their attorneys. Lt. [REDACTED] was identified as the sole involved officer that fired his weapon and his Attorney Keith Washburn was present with him. Sgt. Wilson, Deputy Spangler, and Deputy Smith indicated they would all be represented by Attorney Michael Moore and provided me with his contact information.

On February 8, 2023, SA Call and SA Mulford met and spoke with JCSO Chief Deputy Scott Conley (Chief Conley) in reference to obtaining a witness statement from Deputy Nicholas Spangler (Deputy Spangler). Chief Conley indicated Deputy Spangler provided a signed written witness statement in reference to the incident and would call him to see if he wanted to provide an in-person interview. While on speaker phone, SA Call and SA Mulford asked Deputy Spangler if the signed written statement he provided was true and accurate and he acknowledged it was. SA Call and SA Mulford asked if Deputy Spangler wanted to provide an

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in-person interview along with his written statement and he said he would stand by his written statement and did not have anything to add to it.

Deputy Spangler's signed witness statement has been added to the case file.

In reference to the events just prior to the shooting and the shooting itself, Deputy Spangler wrote the following, "I was advised by Lt. [REDACTED] that the decision had been made to breach the door. Lt. [REDACTED] advised that I would be the third man in the stack, preceded by Deputy Leif Smith with the ram, and Lt. [REDACTED] with the shield. We approached the door and Deputy Smith rammed the door, which resulted in the door opening a few inches. Lt. [REDACTED] began looking through the door while giving commands and announcing, "Sheriff's Office." At this point, I heard a gunshot. Believing William had opened fire upon deputies, I took flanking steps and began heading toward cover or concealment. After a short period of time, I came to understand that Lt. [REDACTED] had fired the shot. I observed Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Smith attempt to open the door to make entry. At this point, I walked back up to the door. Due to the large portion of items, boxes, and clutter within the building, I took cover at the door frame. Lt. [REDACTED] began giving commands to William. I too gave commands for William to stop moving. William refused to obey commands. Sheriff Ted Frazier then approached the door and began pulling boxes from the building. I assisted with clearing a pathway in the building. I then entered the building. I asked Deputy Smith where the gun was. Deputy Smith motioned to an area in front of me. I began attempting to locate the firearm. After moving items around, I located the firearm on the floor. I secured the firearm and handed it to Sgt. Wilson and advised him it was a fake firearm. Sgt. Wilson confirmed the firearm to be fake. I then took the firearm from Sgt. Wilson and secured it in Sheriff Ted Frazier's Cruiser. With William lying on the floor of the building, Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Smith began rendering aid. While clearing a spot on the floor, I located an open pocketknife. Later, I located an axe on a box next to William and the Deputies. I collected and passed the axe to Sgt. Wilson to be secured."

See Deputy Spangler's written witness statement for additional details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Deputy Spangler Statement

On January 31, 2023, at approximately 13:08 hours, I, Deputy Spangler, while off duty, was contacted by Chief Deputy Conley by telephone. Chief Conley advised of a barricaded subject at 1818 Jisco West Road and was requesting assistance. I advised that I would be en route. I arrived on scene at 13:26. I exited my vehicle and after collecting some information from the units on scene, Chief Conley advised me to put my plate carry vest and helmet on. I then swapped my outer patrol vest for my plate carrier and helmet. My body camera was left on my outer patrol vest and left in my vehicle due to my plate carrier vest not having a body camera mount. Lt. ██████ took notice that my body camera was not on my plate carrier and advised that this was okay.

I was advised by the units on scene that William Beach was barricaded in a small wooden building and that he was armed with a knife, a hatchet, and a firearm.

I attempted to speak with William for approximately twenty minutes. I vaguely knew William from grade school and attempted to use that to build a rapport with him. Due to the construction of the building, it was difficult to properly hear William. On multiple occasions, I requested William use the phone that OSP provided, which had been thrown through an open window of the building. William refused to use the phone. On multiple occasions, William advised that he wanted units on scene to shoot him. I advised William that no one wanted to shoot him. I continued to speak with William to resolve the situation peacefully. During the conversation between units and William, William confirmed to units that he had a firearm. William was not receptive to any unit's questions or statements and, on multiple occasions, refused to exit the building unarmed.

At one point, William did advise that he wanted a cigarette, and, in exchange, he would pick up the phone. A cigarette was obtained. William was advised that deputies had a cigarette for him, but due to safety concerns, deputies would not be able to approach the building and give it to him. William was advised that we could hand him the cigarette if he would come out of the building unarmed with his hands up. William refused to exit the building.

I was advised by Lt. ██████ that the decision had been made to breach the door. Lt. ██████ advised that I would be the third man in the stack, preceded by Deputy Leif Smith with the ram, and Lt. ██████ with the shield. We approached the door and Deputy Smith rammed the door, which resulted in the door opening a few inches. Lt. ██████ began looking through the door while giving commands and announcing, "Sheriff's Office.". At this point, I heard a gunshot. Believing William had opened fire upon deputies, I took flanking steps and began heading toward cover or concealment. After a short period of time, I came to understand that Lt. ██████ had fired the shot. I observed Lt. ██████ and Deputy Smith attempt to open the door to make entry. At this point, I walked back up to the door. Due to the large portion of items, boxes, and clutter within the building, I took cover at the door frame. Lt. ██████ began giving commands to William. I too gave commands for William to stop moving. William refused to obey commands. Sheriff Ted Frazier then approached the door and began pulling boxes from the building. I assisted with clearing a pathway in the building. I then entered the building. I asked Deputy Smith where the gun was. Deputy Smith motioned to an area in front of me. I began attempting to locate the firearm. After moving items around, I located the firearm on the floor. I secured the firearm and handed it to Sgt. Wilson and advised him it was a fake firearm. Sgt. Wilson

confirmed the firearm to be fake. I then took the firearm from Sgt. Wilson and secured it in Sheriff Ted Frazier's Cruiser. With William lying on the floor of the building, Lt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Smith began rendering aid. While clearing a spot on the floor, I located an open pocketknife. Later, I located an axe on a box next to William and the Deputies. I collected and passed the axe to Sgt. Wilson to be secured.

Deputies assisted EMS in transporting William to the ambulance. I was advised by Chief Deputy Conley to place all items in a paper bag and take them to the office. The items were bagged but left at the scene for responding agents.

See all body camera footage for complete events.

Deputy Nicholas Spangler, 4008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dep Spangler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.