



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



2024-2371

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 197 West 8th Ave., Columbus,
Ohio 43201 (L)

Involves: Kayleigh Castro (W), Aubrey Hucke (W), Addison Miller (W), Xander Kraemer (W), Michael Church (O), Lawrence Barido (W), Robert Welch (W), Kiley Graska (W), Emma Maier (W), Bra'leena Pickens (W), Chiran T. Gunathilake (W), Debbie Fair Brennan (W), Robert Ralston (W), Todd Utterback (W)

Date of Activity: 08/11/2024

Author: SA Carrie Ryan, #58

Narrative:

On Sunday, August 11, 2024 at approximately 1455 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Matt Collins (SA Collins) and SA Carrie Ryan (SA Ryan) conducted a neighborhood canvass in the area of 197 West 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio. The purpose for the canvass was to identify and interview potential witnesses to the officer-involved shooting that occurred at 197 West 8th Ave, Columbus, Ohio on Sunday, August 11, 2024. During the neighborhood canvass, SA Collins and SA Ryan made or attempted contact with the residents at the following addresses:

193 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

Several residents were present at this location, with one in the process of moving in. Agents made contact with Gianna Capuano and her mother Sandra Capuano, who explained they had just arrived from Cleveland and were not present during the officer-involved shooting incident.

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed Kayleigh Castro (Castro) who was present, though sleeping during the incident. Castro noted her bedroom is on the third floor of the house, at the eastside of the residence. Castro explained she did not hear any gunfire. Her roommate, Aubrey Hucke, woke her up around 0820 hours when she noticed a lot of commotion due to police officers setting up a perimeter around the area of 197 W. 8th Ave. Castro indicated police eventually evacuated their unit. Castro noted she also learned via the "Citizen's App" that the suspect was male; however, noted she did not see him go into the house at 197 W. 8th Ave.

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed an Aubrey Hucke (Hucke), a resident at 193 W. 8th Ave., who explained she woke up this morning around 0800 hours to yelling outside her window. Hucke noted she resides on the 2nd floor of the residence, at the westside of the residence. Hucke explained she and her roommate, Addison Miller and her boyfriend Xander Kraemer,

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.

Approved By SAS James A. Mulford on
11/04/2024

watched police activity from the 2nd floor window, which looks directly into the door of 197 W. 8th Ave., where the police had entered. Huckle reported she heard seven to ten (7–10) rounds of gunfire. Huckle noted she then saw a male officer shield a female officer and they were checking to make sure she was not shot. Huckle further explained she later found out, via the “Citizen’s App,” there was a male suspect inside 197 W. 8th Ave., who she did not see prior to the gunfire. After the gunfire, Huckle noted the police saw them observing from the 3rd floor window and evacuated them from the residence.

Huckle explained the address she lives is at the back of the house structure (193 W. 8th Ave.) and the front part of the house is numbered 191 W. 8th Ave. Huckle noted there are seven females living in the front part of the house; however, they have not yet moved back in and were not present during the officer-involved shooting incident.

Huckle was unsure if anyone was preparing to live at 197 W. 8th Ave. Huckle noted seeing White males clearing out the residence approximately a week prior.

Huckle did not believe the Ring camera is operable for their residence at 193 W. 8th Ave., due to moving in. Huckle explained she thought the landlord would activate the camera again after all students were moved in. Huckle provided the landlord's, Mike Church, phone number for corroboration: [REDACTED]

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed Addison Miller (Miller), also a roommate at 193 W. 8th Ave. Miller explained she was in bed around 0830 hours, when Huckle knocked on her door and awoke her and her boyfriend, Xander Kraemer, due to police activity outside. Miller explained they all went to the second-floor window and observed the police outside surrounding 197 W. 8th Ave. After Miller observed the police going into 197 W. 8th Ave., she heard at least three (3) rounds of gunfire. Miller said she observed a female officer come out of the residence and was patting herself, as if she was making sure she did not get shot. Miller noted they moved up to the third-floor window to observe and police saw them, which spurred them to be evacuated. Miller reported she did not see anyone enter the home, prior to police making entry and was not aware of anyone living at 197 W. 8th, since Springtime.

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed Xander Kraemer (Kraemer), who also noted he was awoken by Huckle, explaining police were outside. Kraemer further explained they observed police with firearms entering 197 W. 8th Ave., and heard approximately five to ten (5–10) rounds of gunfire. Then they observed a female officer being pulled out of the house by other officers and it seemed as if she may have been shot. Kraemer reported he did not see anything prior to police making entry into 197 W. 8th Ave. Kraemer noted eventually police saw them observing from a window and evacuated them from the house.

1476 Worthington Ave., Columbus, Ohio.

Exterior cameras were visible at this location. A business card was left in the doorway and no contact was made.

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.

207 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

SA Collins and SA Ryan made contact with a resident, Lawrence Barido (Barido), who explained the residence is used as a sober living house. Barido reported he did not witness any events of the shooting incident, due to being asleep. Barido explained his housemates, David Lawrence (Lawrence) [REDACTED] and Troy Brown (Brown) [REDACTED] both left early this morning. Barido noted Brown would likely have information and he heard they may have seen the suspect in question running prior to the shooting at 197 W. 8th Ave. SA Collins left a voicemail message for Brown.

Barido notified agents that the house manager, Mathew Perry (Perry) [REDACTED], would possibly have information about the cameras at 1476 Worthington Ave. in Columbus, Ohio. Barido noted Perry has been staying at that location. SA Collins attempted a phone call to Perry; however, the phone was disconnected.

191 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

No contact was made.

187 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

There was no contact. However, SA Collins had phone contact with the landlord, Michael Church (Church), of both 187 W. 8th Ave., and 191/193 W. 8th Ave. Church explained the Ring cameras at 191/193 W. 8th Ave., had been disarmed while students were moving in; therefore, it was not operational during the shooting incident. Church noted there were three (3) security cameras at the property of 187 W. 8th Ave; however, the span of the cameras were only in the immediate area of the premise, which did not encompass surrounding areas.

190 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

Initially no contact was made at this residence. While continuing to canvass, a young female and her dad arrived moving items in the residence. They indicated they were not present this morning during the incident in question. The female did not think the house Ring camera was activated, due to students still moving in; however, said she would give SA Collins' business card to her landlord in case the cameras were active.

192 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio (multi-dwelling structure)

Agents made contact with Xavier Mason (Mason), located on the first floor of the structure. Mason explained he was renting the location as an Airbnb and did not witness the police involved incident earlier in the morning because he was asleep. The male woke up to knocking by police.

Agents had contact with Robert Welch, at this location, who explained he lives on the 3rd floor and did not witness anything this morning. However, awoke up hearing police commands on a megaphone saying, "put the gun down and come out with your hands over your head."

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.

Welch then explained police evacuated him from the residence. Welch indicated the rest of the property is currently vacant.

194 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

There was no answer at this address.

196 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

There was no answer at this address.

202 W. 8th Ave., 2nd Floor Columbus, Ohio

SA Collins and SA Ryan made contact with Kiley Graska (Graska), who explained she awoke at 0900 hours this morning. Graska noted she had received a text from her roommate, Bra'leena Pickens (Pickens) at 0820 hours. Pickens texted Graska she had heard gunfire. Graska noted Pickens had left, however, would be home shortly.

Pickens arrived back to the residence, while SA Ryan and SA Collins were still canvassing the neighborhood. Pickens explained this morning she heard gunfire around 0800 hours and saw police running around the area. Pickens reported she had not seen anyone recently coming and going from 197 W. 8th Ave.

206 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

SA Collins and SA Ryan made contact with resident Emma Maier (Maier). Maier explained she received a text from her friend Bailey Richards [REDACTED], who advised about an incident with gunfire in the area of 9th and Worthington (*this information was relayed to the investigators canvassing the area of the first shooting*). Shortly thereafter, Maier heard gunfire (approximately three rounds fired), possibly after the police had already entered the residence at 197 W. 8th Ave. Maier explained she did not see anything firsthand, just heard the gunfire. Maier noted she checked her Ring camera and did not have any footage of the incident. Her last recording was approximately two (2) hours prior. Maier noted the residents next door, at 208 W. 8th Street, were possibly familiar with the deceased (Asante Taaj Omar Miller).

208 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

No contact was made at this residence. SA Ryan left a business card.

242 W. 8th Ave., Apt. E Columbus, Ohio (Investigator Note: The resident approached agents, while in the 200 Block of W. 8th Ave.; the interview was not conducted at his residence).

Chiran Gunathilake (Gunathilake) approached agents and explained this morning he was sleeping in his apartment, when he heard gunfire. Gunathilake noted he did not see anything before or after hearing gunfire.

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.

201 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed Debbie Fair Brennan (Brennan). Brennan explained shortly before 0800 hours, she heard several “pops,” which sounded like firecrackers. Shortly after, Brennan said her housemate banged on her door, advising the police were evacuating the residence. Brennan noted she believed 197 W. 8th Ave., is currently vacant; however, heard the previous residents were members of a religious organization and moved to a larger house.

SA Collins and SA Ryan interviewed Robbie Ralston (Ralston), a housemate of Brennan. Ralston explained he was sleeping this morning and awoke to gunfire. Ralston estimated he heard between five (5) and fifteen (15) rounds fired. Ralston noted shortly thereafter, the police arrived to evacuate the residence.

219 W. 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio (Champs Market)

Agents spoke to the owner of Champs Market, who advised he was not open when the shooting incident occurred this morning, nor did he have outside operable cameras.

Agents ended canvass interviews at approximately 1734 hours.

Additional Information:

On August 12, 2024, SA Collins received a telephone call from Todd Utterback (Utterback), who resides at 201 W. 8th Ave. Utterback explained he heard gunfire twice, on the morning of August 11, 2024. At approximately 0730 hours, he heard loud noises; however, thought it might have been construction in the area. Then around 0800 hours, Utterback explained he went outside to smoke and shortly thereafter (approximately 10 minutes later), he heard another round of gunfire and police yelling for residents to get inside. Utterback noted he thought the residence at 197 W. 8th was vacant; however, had heard the suspect had lived there in the past. Utterback texted SA Collins three (3) photographs he took of police in the area after the incident.

The interviews conducted were recorded. A copy of the recordings are attached to this investigative report.

References:

No references.

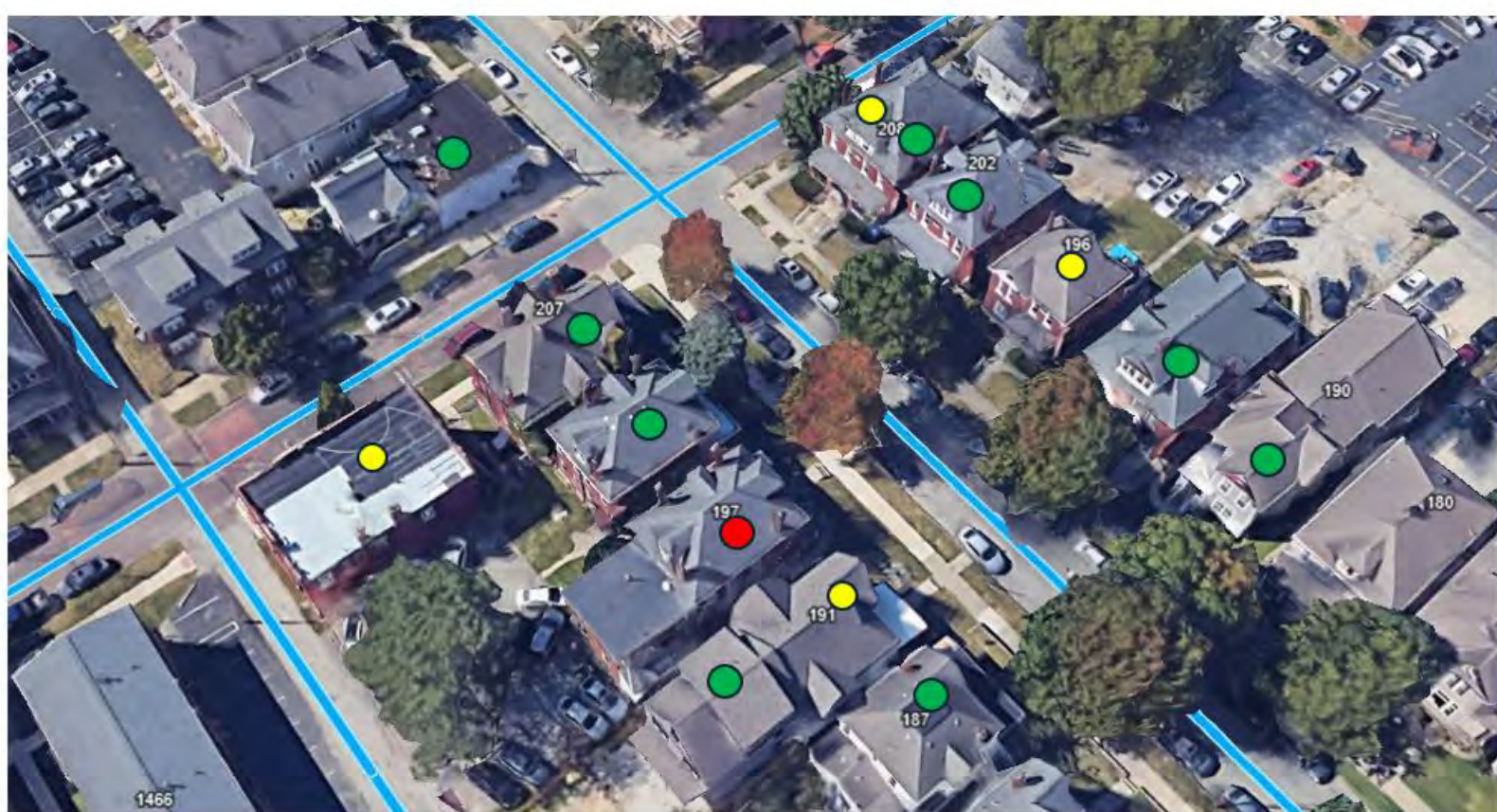
Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: Map of area of 197 W. 8th – Canvass
- Attachment # 02: photographs of exterior cameras at 1476 Worthington Street (2)
- Attachment # 03: photographs of exterior cameras at 1476 Worthington Street (1)
- Attachment # 04: photographs of exterior cameras at 1476 Worthington Street (3)
- Attachment # 05: IMG_1487 – Photograph taken by Todd Utterback

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.

Attachment # 06: IMG_1489 – Photograph taken by Todd Utterback
Attachment # 07: IMG_1488 – Photograph taken by Todd Utterback
Attachment # 08: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (1)
Attachment # 09: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (4)
Attachment # 10: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (3)
Attachment # 11: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (6)
Attachment # 12: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (5)
Attachment # 13: Neighborhood Canvass (Residential houses on W. 8th Ave Columbus)
8-11-2024 (2)
Attachment # 14: 08-12-2024 – phone interview with Todd Utterback – return call from
Neighborhood Canvass– W. 8th Ave Columbus

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.



Legend	
Target location	●
Contact Made	●
Contact Unsuccessful	●



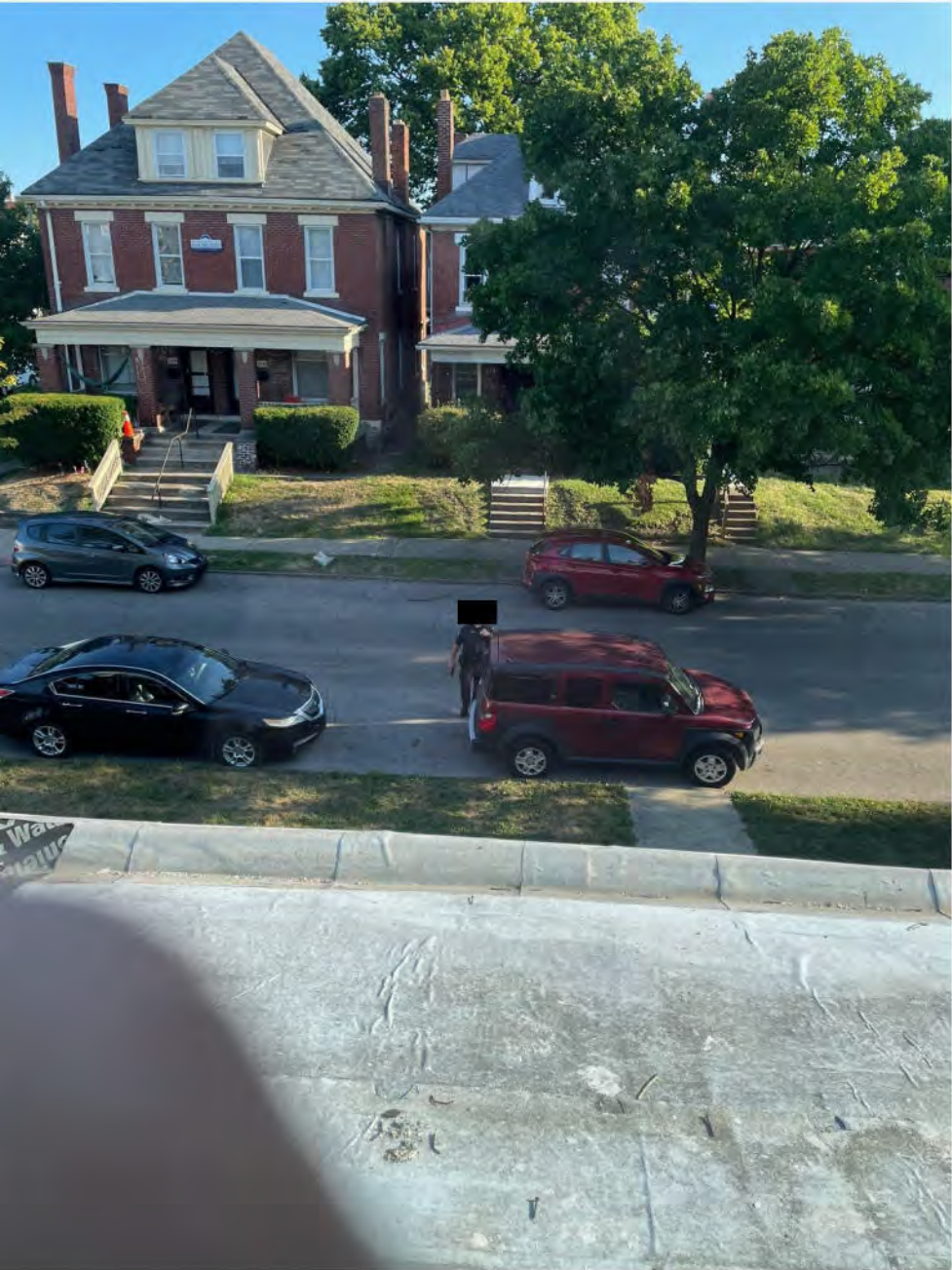






Yesterday
8:28 AM

Edit





Yesterday
8:43 AM

Edit





Yesterday
8:28 AM

Edit

