



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



2022-2085
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 2347 East Waterloo Road,
Akron, Ohio 44312, Summit County

Investigative Activity: Information Provided/Obtained, Neighborhood Canvass
Date of Activity: 10/05/2022
Activity Location: McCracken, Jeremy A – Home – 2347 East Waterloo Road, Akron,
OH 44312, Summit County
Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

On Wednesday, October 5, 2022, Ohio Attorney General's – Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) – Special Agents Charles Moran (Moran), Matthew Armstrong (Armstrong) and Charlie Snyder (Snyder) conducted neighborhood canvassing in effort to locate possible witnesses and collect additional information relative to the officer involved critical incident resulting in the death of Jeremy A. McCracken. During this canvassing effort, the following parties were contacted, identified, information gathered and other investigative efforts documented.

At approximately 1439 hours, Armstrong and Snyder made contact with three subjects at the yellow barricade tape location north of incident scene on Mohawk Trail. Those parties self-identified as Patricia and sister Erica Sommerfield and Courtney Conley. In magpie-like fashion, the trio acknowledged they had not witnessed anything relative to this incident, but pointed out two subjects nearby allegedly who had.

At approximately 1441 hours, Armstrong and Snyder made contact with Calvin W. Pierce, who was at this time with other persons near an old vehicle parked on the street near his residence. Pierce indicated the incident occurred while he was working on the vehicle and he did not see anything, but confirmed hearing two and then a third gunshot "...rounds..." followed shortly by numerous other gunshots. Pierce described the later shots as being a possibly of a higher caliber and louder and in quick succession. Pierce indicated a short time later approached by a neighbor who also advised hearing the gunshots and Pierce should get down. Pierce indicated he remained sitting at his location and working on the car. Pierce then advised seeing other persons filming on the street and running around. Pierce indicated being aware there were old cars on the McCracken property he (McCracken) had been instructed to remove due to zoning issues. Piece indicated being also aware that the subject (McCracken)

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had built a wooden and tarp enclosure around one vehicle and had been advised it was not good enough. Pierce continued also being aware the subject (McCracken) had informed the authorities not to come onto his property previously. Pierce then went on to complain about local zoning issues and procedures and land-bank concerns involving this neighborhood and the zoning department.

At approximately 1448 hours, Richard Nagle (Nagle) joined into the interview. Nagle, like Pierce, complained about zoning inspections being conducted by law enforcement in this township and their trespassing on his property for those purposes. Nagle advised he had been at his mother's residence at 977 Tritts, when he heard gunshots. A short time later, Nagle advised he saw police vehicles near the scene. Nagle did not see the actual incident occur.

At approximately 1450 hours, Evelyn Marie Stevens (Stevens) provided information that while she was inside her residence first floor kitchen area, she heard gunshots. Stevens advised she then went to the second story of the residence after hearing police sirens and looked out through the bedroom window, where she observed all of the commotion. Stevens indicated she also did not see the actual incident occur.

At approximately 1456 hours, Jeffrey Nelson Woods (Woods) II and Danielle Shackelford (Shackelford) were contacted and provided the following information. Woods confirmed being at home and lying in bed with Shackelford while watching television program when they heard shots that he perceived initially as fireworks, followed a short time later by what he then identified as gunshots. Woods indicated his four dogs began barking and wanting outside after hearing the gunshots, making it difficult to hear anything else from outside his residence. Woods got dressed and went outside his residence and observed the deceased body (Jeremy A. McCracken) lying on the ground. Woods indicated being aware McCracken was upset with Springfield Township due to the vehicles parked on his property. McCracken reportedly had previously told Woods he would not remove the cars as ordered. Woods confirmed McCracken built up a structure around the vehicle. Woods surmised McCracken shot at police, who then fired back at him and acknowledged this was only speculation. Woods indicated having a video camera system on the front/west of his residence, but did not believe it was able to record the incident due to the direction the camera is pointed at. Shackelford's information relative to this incident was consistent with Woods. Shackelford advised on occasions, observing McCracken walking to his residence at night from store, carrying bags. She also indicated McCracken was a recluse and they had no prior issues or problems with him. Woods and Shackelford indicate they had provided the Springfield Township Police Department with a written statement.

Due to the four dogs inside the Woods residence, Woods was asked and copied on his cellular telephone the video capture of his home surveillance system for review by Armstrong. After recording the capture, it was determined that the video was of no use in this matter. It is also noted the Woods security video system did not have audio recording functionality.

At approximately 1507 hours, Armstrong and Snyder made contact with Michael John Hudak

Jr. (Hudak). Hudak advised he got home at 0300 hours this morning and went to bed. Hudak advised he heard six or seven gunshots, first a couple that were followed a short time later by others. He then indicated going back to sleep. Hudak then indicated receiving a telephone call from his wife (Randi Hudak) who advised there had been a police shooting outside their residence and he should check his vehicle for possible damage. Hudak indicated he did not see any portion of the incident and confirmed that his residence does have an outside security video camera, but he does not know how to operate it and referred us to his wife, Randi Hudak. Hudak indicates believing Randi Hudak was at the residence when the incident occurred, but does not believe she observed any portion of the incident and may have been letting their dogs out of the residence. Hudak advised his wife at this time, was not home and would be returning later, possibly before 1600 hours. Hudak was provided business cards and asked to have Randi Hudak call investigators when she returns home. Hudak indicated he on occasion has seen McCracken walking on the street and he stays to himself and seems "... a little weird...". Hudak agreed to contact investigators when his wife returns home.

At approximately 1514 hours, Armstrong and Snyder contacted Jennifer K. Scull (Scull) at her residence. Scull indicated she is a live-in care provider for Davan Dawson, who is a stroke survivor and bound to a wheelchair. Scull advised while sitting on the couch inside the residence when she heard, "...pop, pop, pop...". Scull later indicated hearing only one gunshot. Scull indicated also hearing shouting, that caused her to get up and look out her window, where she then observed a police officer running with a weapon. She advised aiding her patient and they looked out of the residence window. A short time later, an ambulance pulled up and they observed a male subject being placed into the ambulance. Scull indicated being unaware if the outside video camera on the residence was functional and agreed to contact the prior resident to determine if there could be usable video on it. At approximately 1527 hours, Scull came back outside the residence and advised that Brandon Holmes had also been at the residence prior to the incident, arriving there before 1100 hours today and was outside the home when the incident occurred. Scull also advised seeing Brandon Holmes taking cellular videos of the scene at that time. Scull also was unable to provide any additional information relative to the video camera at this time.

At approximately 1600 hours, Snyder made contact with Justine Burns (Burns), who related the following information. Burns advised she and her five-month-old daughter Octavia were home. Burns advised while she was doing laundry and daughter was in bouncer in living room area, Burns heard gunshots. Burns indicated she picked her daughter up and then laid on the floor with her child. Burns indicated being aware there was a lot of shots and yelling, believing they may have originated very close and possible at the trailer park to the west of her address. Burns indicated after the gunshots, she heard sirens and when she looked outside observed police cars arriving. Burns advised she called her husband (Cameron Sean-Michael Holstein) who returned home. It was at this point that Burns learned the incident had occurred near her back yard. Burns advised not knowing her neighbor (McCracken) and the only time she had heard him was when he was taking out trash. She indicated being aware that McCracken had a brother who on occasion would bring groceries and possibly drives a truck. Burns indicated the video surveillance camera on her residence is not working and she has no other video surveillance devices.

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At approximately 1613 hours, Michael Lee Dolinar was contacted at his residence. Dolinar's residence is located to the immediate west of the incident location. A view from Dolinar's rear trailer window has a possible vantage point onto the immediate incident scene. Dolinar, a right leg amputee, advised he had left his residence at approximately 0900 hours and returned home at approximately 1300–1330 hours. Dolinar advised he did not witness anything that occurred reference this incident. Dolinar advised he resides at this location alone and does not normally speak to any of his neighbors.

NOTE: Alexander's Trailer Park, located at 2305 East Waterloo Road, Springfield Township, Summit Co., Ohio has several trailer lots. The majority of the trailer lots on the east side of the park, do not have a view of the scene, due to heavy vegetation and a six foot plus height solid stockade type fence. The only lots considered to have a potential view of the incident scene was lot #25 (Michael Lee Dolinar) and Lot #26, which was vacant.

At approximately 1642 Moran and Snyder, after receiving telephone contact that Randi Hudak (Randi) had returned home. Randi provided information indicating she had been home and was in the bathroom on the second floor of the residence when she heard gunfire. Randi initially thought it was caused by someone throwing wood into a pick-up truck and described the sequence as, "... a pop – a pause – another pop – another pause – and then a third one – and then there was a pause after that and I was waiting to see if there was anymore and then another one went off and then after that it was just consecutive rounds being shot – and that's when I realized it was gunfire – it was not someone throwing wood in the back of a truck...". Randi indicated going to second story window and looking outside, but she could not see anything other than a police car and tow truck at the incident scene; she could not see any people. A short time later, Randi indicated observing the tow truck driver moving away from his truck and then a police officer walking away from the area. Randi also indicated then hearing sirens arriving. Randi advised never having talked with McCracken but believes she may have seen him on a few occasions walking on the street. Randi advised the security camera on the house was not believed to have captured any relevant video documentation of the incident.

NOTE: The video content was reviewed and documented by Moran. A copy of some of the captured video was attempted to be captured for possible future review, analysis and use if successful.

NOTE: This report summarizes information deemed by author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. This report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas 221005_0135
- Attachment # 02: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview 221005_0136
- Attachment # 03: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0137
- Attachment # 04: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0138
- Attachment # 05: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0139
- Attachment # 06: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0140
- Attachment # 07: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0141
- Attachment # 08: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0142
- Attachment # 09: 2022-10-05: Neighborhood Canvas Interview - 221005_0143

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