

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



2023–2232 Officer Involved Critical Incident – 5991 S Sunbury Rd, Westerville OH 43081

Investigative Activity: Information Provided/Obtained

Involves: Mifflin Twp. Police Department (O)

Date of Activity: 09/18/2023

Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

Narrative:

On September 18, 2023, in regard to the Officer-Involved Critical Incident that occurred in Blendon Township on August 24, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agent Dave Hornyak obtained a copy of the BWC recording of Chief David Briggs of the Mifflin Twp. Police Department. Chief Briggs advised that this was the sole recording of the incident taken by Mifflin Twp. PD.

Supplemental written statements by the two responding officers were also provided. Copies of all have been added to the case file.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Mifflin Twp. PD Statements

References:

BWC and Cruiser Cam Recordings

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DIVISION OF POLICE

Office of David Briggs CHIEF OF POLICE

On August 24, 2023, Chief Briggs was on station at Mifflin Township, when he heard a tone drop for an officer in trouble at 5991 Sunbury Road / Blendon Township, Ohio, being the Kroger on Sunbury Road and Executive Parkway. Chief Briggs did not hear what the initial call was, or what lead to the officer in trouble tone, but responded to the scene emergency status to assist. While responding, Chief Briggs got behind Officer Howard / Mifflin Township Police Department, and both officers arrived on scene at the same time. Both officers parked at the Executive Parkway entrance into the shopping complex, where Chief Briggs instructed Officer Howard to start a crime scene log. Chief Briggs was met by Sgt. Reeves / Clinton Township Police Department, who advised a small crime scene had already been taped off around the incident, however he wanted the entire complex taped off. Chief Briggs assisted in placing crime scene tape around the parking lot.

While responding to and while on scene, Chief Briggs obtained more details of the incident, where it was learned there was an officer involved shooting, with one female being unresponsive and officers were providing first aide. After assisting with crime scene tape, Chief Briggs walked toward he incident scene, where he did see several officers that appeared to be rendering first aide and possibly CPR, Chief Briggs did not go to where aide was being rendered as there were numerous officers there. Chief Briggs attempted to find incident command to see what assistance was needed.

Chief Briggs did locate several people who were witnesses to the incident, where their names were passed onto Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputies who were on scene assisting, those deputies were assisting in identifying witnesses or involved parties, and collecting statements. Chief Briggs then assisted with scene security and cleared a short time later, when his assistance was no longer needed.

Due to not having any direct involvement or witnessing the incident, no incident reports were completed, a statement was requested from BCI&I investigators, who also requested body camera footage from Mifflin Township Officer's which will be provided through Axon links.

David Briggs Chief of Police, Mifflin Township 2455 Agler Road Columbus, Ohio 43224 614-713-9081



DIVISION OF POLICE

Office of David Briggs **CHIEF OF POLICE**

To whom it may concern,

On August 24, 2023, Ofc Howard responded to 5991 Sunbury Road in Blendon Township, Ohio for an "Officer in Trouble" incident. Once Ofc Howard arrived on scene at the Kroger shopping center, he was advised by Chief Briggs to start a crime scene log and secure the southernmost entrance to the parking lot. After Ofc Howard placed the crime scene tape on the south side of the lot he began to start the crime scene log. Ofc Howard was advised shortly after he started the log that another unit closer to the scene had already begun one that had everyone's name already on it. Ofc Howard stopped his crime scene log and stood by the south entrance to ensure that no other vehicles would attempt to enter the parking lot. Ofc Howard stayed on scene for approximately 20-30 minutes until he was advised by command staff on scene that Blendon Township Police, Franklin County Sheriff's Office, and Columbus City Police had enough units on scene to handle the incident. Ofc Howard cleared and went back to normal patrol in Mifflin Township.

Ofc S. Howard #208 Mifflin Township Police 2455 Agler Road Columbus, Oh 43224 Desk: 614-713-9084

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