



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



2024-3294

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Portage Hike and Bike
Trail near North Freedom Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266

Investigative Activity: Interview of Witness
Involves: Larry Burghy (W)
Activity Date: 10/22/2024
Activity Location: University Hospitals Portage Medical Center, 6847 N.
Chestnut Street, Ravenna, OH 44266
Authoring Agent: SA Jesse Bynum

Narrative:

On Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 1315 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum) and SA Allison Fletcher (SA Fletcher) interviewed Larry Burghy (Burghy), relative to the officer-involved critical incident which took place on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. The interview took place at University Hospitals Portage Medical Center located at 6847 N. Chestnut Street, Ravenna, OH 44266. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this individual.

Burghy stated that he had one boot on, and a guy (Matthew Fries) came into his tent and said, "Sorry to inform you" and then stabbed him. Burghy described his attacker as a bald male without a shirt and that he had a swastika on his chest. Burghy stated that his tent had a broken zipper and a tarp that was over it. Burghy stated that the knife that was used had a curved blade and that he was stabbed approximately six times. After the altercation, Burghy walked to the trail to get help. When asked about the shooting portion of the incident, Burghy stated that he observed the shooting. Burghy stated he told officers who stabbed him, and they told Fries "Drop the weapon", "Drop the axe", "We are informing you one last time", and then he heard two to five gunshots. Burghy described the axe as double edged and chrome.

During the interview photos were taken of the wounds on Burghy that were exposed. Others that were bandaged were not photographed for Burghy's safety as shown in Images 1- 3 below.



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(Image 1)



(Image 2)



(Image 3)

The interview concluded at approximately 1330 hours.

The interview was audio and video recorded. The audio recording is attached to this report. The video portion is stored in Reference Item C – Witness Interviews. Please see the attachment and reference item for further details.

References:

Reference Item C – Witness Interviews

Attachments:

1. 2024-10-22 Audio Interview - Victim - Larry Burghy
2. 2024-10-22 Larry Burghy Wound Photo 1
3. 2024-10-22 Larry Burghy Wound Photo 2
4. 2024-10-22 Larry Burghy Wound Photo 3

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