



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



2024-2738

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 345 Lincoln Ave.,
Lancaster, OH 43130 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with [REDACTED]

Involves: [REDACTED]

Activity Date: 01/07/2025

Activity Location: 345 Lincoln Ave., Lancaster, OH

Authoring Agent: SA Aja Chung, #86

Narrative:

On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, at 1522 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung (SA Chung) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Fairfield County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by her attorney, Joe Hegedus, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the activity location listed above. The interview was audio recorded, saved to the case file and is attached to this report.

During the course of the interview, agents utilized tactics designed to illicit truthful responses and to test the veracity of information provided. As many of the details of the investigation into the incident were publicly available, it was necessary to utilize alternative tactics (beyond the typical methodology of retaining confidential "holdout" information regarding the incident and then comparing/contrasting witness statements with information that could only be known by those with actual knowledge of the incident). These tactics include developing rapport and potentially providing information known to be erroneous. Therefore, misstatements of facts or evidence in the recorded interview by the interviewing agents are intentional and align with the strategy for the overall investigative plan.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

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Narrative:

████████ badge number █████ has worked for the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office for two (2) years, with a total of five (5) years in a law enforcement capacity. On September 7, 2024, she was mandated to work a twelve (12) hour shift, that started at 2000 hours. Her normal shift assignment was █████ hours. █████ was serving as a █████ on that shift. █████ stated her duties were to maintain operations within the jail and making sure assignments/duties were performed by corrections officers or herself. █████ told agents she had OC spray and two (2) pairs of handcuffs on her duty belt.

████████ stated when she came in for her shift at 2000 hours, she observed Evangelista to be in an agitated state, profusely sweating, and having a 1000-yard stare. █████ indicated Evangelista's behavior was indicative of someone under the influence of drugs. █████ went on saying, around 2200 hours she went to booking to briefly cover for corrections officer (CO) Robert Kunkler (CO Kunkler). █████ looked at the cell Evangelista was housed in and saw Evangelista standing on the half wall that blocked the toilet area. █████ explained she saw Evangelista hitting the camera with one of his shoes.

████████ advised she and CO Kunkler attempted to tell Evangelista to get down from the wall through the cell window, however Evangelista did not comply. According to █████, CO Kunkler went back to the central control area and opened the cell door. █████ said she had her OC spray in her hand when she opened the door and walked into the cell. Upon entering the cell, █████ said Evangelista looked at her, got down from the wall and charged at her. █████ confirmed she deployed her OC spray, but it had little to no effect on Evangelista. █████ said after she sprayed Evangelista, he continued out of the cell.

████████ explained as Evangelista exited the cell, CO Kunkler grabbed Evangelista and took him to the ground. CO Cody Factor (CO Factor) was now assisting with detaining Evangelista. █████ indicated Evangelista continued to fight with FCJ personnel as they attempted to apply handcuffs, however, Evangelista was strong and was over-powering them. █████ indicated that verbal commands were given but were not complied with. █████ explained she struck Evangelista with a closed fist on his bicep area so Evangelista would remove his hands from underneath his chest. Once she was able to secure one of Evangelista's arms behind his back, Evangelista grabbed on to a radio that had fallen to the ground in the struggle. █████ advised she struck Evangelista on his leg area in order for him to release the radio from his grasp.

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████████ stated they were able to handcuff Evangelista, and she told CO Factor to retrieve the restraint chair. ██████████ indicated that Evangelista continued to fight with COs Kunkler, Factor and herself when they tried to place Evangelista in the restraint chair. Once Evangelista was in the chair, ██████████ administered closed fist strikes to Evangelista's legs to get his legs properly secured.

████████ advised Evangelista was decontaminated with water and wash rags to wipe the remnants of the OC spray from his face. It was at that time she noticed a cut on Evangelista's face. A medic was requested, and the cut was deemed as a superficial cut. Medics were unable to check Evangelista's blood sugar levels due to his combative behavior.

████████ explained that handcuffs were removed from Evangelista and his arms were placed in the arm restraints. ██████████ told agents she knew the time limit Evangelista had been in the restraint chair was near. ██████████ indicated, per policy and procedure, Evangelista was removed from the restraint chair. ██████████ stated she told Evangelista that she was going to remove him from the chair and directed him to be calm. She further ordered Evangelista to stay at the back of the cell until all FCJ personnel was out of the cell. ██████████ said that Evangelista acknowledged what she said by shaking his head and said, "Ok." Once Evangelista was removed from the chair, he charged towards the door. Evangelista was able to squeeze part of his body through the door and it was at that point ██████████ administered her OC spray at Evangelista's face. The OC spray was effective enough for COs to remove his hands and leg from the doorway, push him into the cell and close the door.

████████ stated for the remainder of her shift, she completed her necessary checks and briefed the incoming shift of Evangelista's behavior. ██████████ confirmed that Evangelista still displayed behavior that of someone under the influence of drugs at the end of her shift.

The interview concluded at approximately 1545 hours.

References:

None

Attachments:

1. ██████████

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