

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



2024-2614

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Investigative Activity: Witness Officer Interview

Involves: Officer Michael Dugan (W)

**Activity Date:** 08/30/2024

Activity Location: 1300 block of Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, OH

44121

**Authoring Agent:** SA Nicholas Valente #139

#### Narrative:

On August 30, 2024, at approximately 0133 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente (Valente) conducted an interview with Cleveland Heights Police Department (CHPD) Officer Michael Dugan (Officer Dugan). The interview took place in the roadway of the 1300 block of Yellowstone Road in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The interview was recorded on SA Valente's body worn camera and was saved as Reference Item E.

Officer Dugan was identified as a CHPD officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the August 29, 2024, officer-involved shooting which occurred at or near 1309 Yellowstone Road in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Officer Dugan did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Officer Dugan.

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 of the questions and answers from the interview. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information obtained during the interview.

Throughout the interview, Officer Dugan provided the following information:

Officer Dugan was on duty and operating a marked CHPD patrol vehicle at the time of the incident. Officer Dugan wore a standard issue CHPD uniform at the time of the incident.

Officer Dugan reported while he was in a store purchasing a drink, he overheard a call dispatched to other officers that involved a father and son arguing while the son possessed a gun. Based on that radio transmission, Officer Dugan returned to his marked cruiser to respond to the subject residence to assist with the call. Once in his

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police vehicle, Officer Dugan read the call notes and noted the entry read that the subject had his finger on the trigger of the gun.

Officer Dugan parked two or three houses south of the subject's home when he arrived. As he walked toward the subject residence, he heard someone say they were going to set up a perimeter around the subject home due to the gun.

Officer Dugan recalled seeing already positioned on the front perimeter of the home as he approached the scene. Officer Dugan saw other officers already positioned around the front of the home but could not recall specifically whom. Officer Dugan was told that Officer Perez and Officer Franklin had taken up positions at the rear of the home. Officer Dugan, who had a rifle with him, observed that at least one of the officers stationed in front of the home also had a rifle, so he chose to take a position at the rear of the home, so there would be an officer at the rear with a rifle as well. More specifically, Officer Dugan positioned himself near the northwest corner of the property, which was near the back of the driveway at the rear of the subject's home.

Officer Dugan recalled that he heard shouting coming from inside the home including the subject's father yelling, (4:35) "don't go back down there," and (4:45) "put the gun down and take your finger off the trigger a couple times."

Officer Dugan knew someone opened the man door from inside the garage a couple of times. However, whoever opened the door quickly shut it and Officer Dugan was never able to see who was opening and shutting the door. Officers asked the subject to exit the home, stating, (5:18) "we attempted to ask them to come outside a couple times. They refused. More shouting, then they went upstairs."

Around this time, Officer Dugan believed the subject's father exited the home out the front door. Officer Dugan next heard an unknown officer give a command (5:58) "to show hands." Officer Dugan then heard loud slamming sounds followed by the sound of gunfire, stating (6:21) "Um, and then we heard a few shots, um, I wouldn't be able to say how many, it was a few shots though. Extremely close, like it was right by that porch." Officer Dugan was not able to see the subject or any of the involved officers at the time the shooting occurred.

After the sound of gunfire subsided, Officer Dugan sprinted up towards the corner of the porch, cleared the area next to the house, overheard officers reporting the subject was down and yelling at the subject to show them his hands. Officer Dugan then joined the group of officers in the neighboring front yard. Once in the neighboring front yard, Officer Dugan observed doing CPR on the subject. Officer Dugan put on gloves and took over doing CPR on the subject.

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When asked, Officer Dugan stated that he had responded to the subject's home on a previous occasion, but he could not recall the specific details of that incident. Officer Dugan believed the prior time he responded to the home was for a minor incident, and he believed he only spoke with the subject's father at that time.

When asked if he felt anything any of the officers did was inappropriate, questionable, or could have been a crime, Officer Dugan stated (10:45) "no."

#### References:

E -Video Recorded Interview of Officer Michael Dugan

#### **Attachments:**

None

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