



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



2024-1755

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4500 Block of Sullivant Ave,
Columbus, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Neighborhood Canvass
Date of Activity: 06/12/2024
Activity Location: – 4500 Block of Sullivant, Columbus, OH 43229
Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On June 11, 2024, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to respond to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) near 4500 Sullivant Avenue in Columbus, OH. It was initially reported shots were fired by multiple officers from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) during an encounter with an individual believed to be in possession of an edged weapon at this location. The involved individual, later identified as Noel Hernandez Cortaza (Cortaza), was transported to Doctors West Hospital with alleged multiple gunshot wounds, where he was pronounced deceased.

On June 12, 2024, BCI Special Agents Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) and Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) canvassed the area in the vicinity of the OICI to obtain information and statements from potential witnesses.

The following information was collected by SA Douglass and SA Holcomb during the canvass:

4501 Sullivant Avenue Suite E, Columbus OH – Hadhwanag Restaurant

SA Douglass and SA Holcomb made contact with Ali Dahir Hassan (Hassan), who identified himself as "Farham Kediye" and as the owner of Hadhwanag Restaurant. Hassan reported the security cameras outside of the restaurant are not working and did not record any video related to the OICI on June 10, 2024. Hassan confirmed he was present at the restaurant during the incident. Hassan recalled seeing an individual (Cortaza) exit a vehicle which was stopped in the middle of Sullivant Avenue. Hassan said Cortaza was too far away to observe whether or not Cortaza had a weapon in his hands. Hassan was standing near the northside windows of the restaurant when the OICI occurred. Hassan estimated hearing 15 to 20 gunshots, but said he was too far away to tell who was shooting. Hassan stated he saw "five police" (officers). Hassan reported there were numerous individuals present at the restaurant during the incident, and he believed several people may have video recorded portions of the OICI on their cell phones.

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4501 Sullivant Avenue, Columbus OH – Astra Groceries

SA Douglass and SA Holcomb made contact with Muhammad (LNU), who identified himself as the owner of Astra Groceries. Muhammad reported the security cameras outside the store only display live video and do not record. Muhammad explained he uses the cameras primarily as a theft deterrent. Muhammad stated the store was closed during the incident and he was not present at the time.

600 Industrial Mile Road, Columbus OH – Park West Court Apartments

SA Douglass and SA Holcomb made contact with Aaliyah Jones (Jones), who was on duty at the time of the OICI on the night of June 10, 2024. Jones reported she was sitting at the front desk when she heard ten or more gunshots outside. Jones denied witnessing any of the incident directly.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

No attachments.