



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



2021-0957
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus,
OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Tionna M. Bonner (W)
Date of Activity: 04/20/2021
Activity Location: Bonner, Tionna M. – Home – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus, OH
43232, Franklin County
Author: SA Jonathan W. Jenkins, #99

Narrative:

On April 20, 2021 at approximately 2045 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jonathan Jenkins met with Tionna Bonner. Jenkins spoke with Bonner in order to ask her questions related to the Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) involving Ma'khia Bryant and Columbus Police Department (CPD) Officer Nicholas Reardon. Earlier in the day Reardon was dispatched to a call for service at Bryant's residence located at 3171 Legion Lane, in Columbus, Ohio. Upon arriving at the scene Reardon and Bryant had a confrontation in which Reardon discharged his duty firearm towards Bryant. Bryant was struck multiple times and died as a result of her injuries. Bonner was a witness to the OICI and was asked by responding CPD Officers to wait at the scene until she spoke with a BCI SA.

Upon making contact with Bonner, Jenkins observed her sitting in the rear passenger seat of CPD patrol vehicle, number 9142. Jenkins then properly identified himself and asked for permission to speak with her. Bonner agreed and the conversation took place while Jenkins also sat inside of patrol vehicle number 9142.

Jenkins began the interview by asking Bonner to describe what all she observed. Bonner first provided Jenkins with a background relating to how the altercation started. Bonner stated when she was approximately 11 or 12 years old she was placed into foster care and her foster mother was Angela Moore. Bonner stated after being placed with Moore, she has grown to love and respect Moore to the point she considers Moore as her mother. Bonner stated she is now 22 years old and lives in Cleveland, Ohio, where she attends Cleveland State University.

Bonner said on Monday (April 19, 2021) was Moore's birthday, so she decided to come home for a visit and to give Moore a birthday present. Bonner states Moore still serves as a foster mother and now has three teenaged foster girls. Bonner stated the foster girls' names are Beautiful Strat'ann, Ja'niah Bryant, and Ma'khia Bryant (Ja'niah and Ma'khia are sisters). Bonner

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also stated while growing up, Moore taught her to have a good work ethic, by giving her chores such as keeping the house clean and mowing the lawn.

Bonner said yesterday when she arrived home she noticed the house was filthy and the lawn was not even mowed. Bonner advised Jenkins she believes the three foster girls were wearing her mother out by not listening and not doing anything to help with household chores. Bonner stated this morning (April 20, 2021) after Moore left for work and while Ja'niah and Ma'khia were at school, she had a conversation with Beautiful about helping with household chores. According to Bonner, Beautiful stated the house was already clean, she was not going to do any chores and then left to go to a counseling session.

Bonner stated she later found out Beautiful contacted Ja'niah and Ma'khia, at school to advise them Bonner was basically acting like a "bitch." Bonner further explained to Jenkins, she believes the three foster girls need to either follow the rules and respect Moore's home or go to another foster home. Bonner stated another problem she had with Ja'niah and Ma'khia was their grandmother and father would often times come to visit them. Therefore, Bonner felt as if Moore was more of a babysitter than a foster mother, especially since the two girls have blood relatives who come to visit them on a regular basis.

Then Bonner explained to Jenkins what happened later in the day, after Ja'niah and Ma'khia returned home from school. Bonner said she had already talked to Moore on the telephone, who asked Bonner to have Ja'niah and Ma'Khia help clean up the house. Bonner said she advised the girls they needed to help clean before Moore arrived home for work. Bonner stated at this point in time she and the two girls started arguing and they accused Bonner of calling them "bitches."

Jenkins and Bonner talked about where Beautiful was during the confrontation. Bonner stated Beautiful had not returned to the house. As the verbal arguing continued, Bonner said the two girls threatened to beat her up. After hearing the threat, Bonner said she called Shai-onta Craig to come over to help. Bonner said she and Craig were foster sisters and were raised by Moore in the same house Moore currently lives in. Bonner stated Craig is approximately 20 years old and only lives a short distance (few blocks) away from Moore.

Bonner said within a couple of minutes Craig arrived and noticed Ma'khia had a knife in her back pocket. Bonner stated after Craig arrived, Ja'niah and Ma'khia's grandmother arrived to pick the girls up and get them out of the house. Bonner said she does not know the grandmother's name, but the grandmother was also trying to get Ma'khia to put the knife down, however she was unsuccessful. Jenkins asked Bonner where all the involved individuals were located when the grandmother is trying to get Ma'khia to put down the knife. Bonner said at this point in time, everyone was in the house. According to Bonner, as the argument continued, she told Craig to go outside because Craig was becoming upset and confrontational.

Bonner stated the verbal arguing lasted for approximately 35 minutes before everyone started to exit the home. Bonner stated after Craig went outside, she actually went home. Bonner soon realized she was by herself again and called Craig a second time to come up to Moore's home. Bonner stated after everyone exited Moore's home, she looked up the street and saw

a CPD patrol vehicle parked. Jenkins asked Bonner who called the police. Bonner said she believes Ja'niah called the police before everyone started going outside of the home. Bonner stated as Ja'niah and Ma'khia were exiting the home, she observed the girls' father arrive. Right after the father arrived, Bonner saw the CPD police vehicles pulling up to the house.

Bonner said after the police arrived she observed Ma'khia walk towards Craig, Ma'khia was holding a knife, and then she started stabbing Craig. Bonner said Craig ends up falling down and while Craig is on the ground she could hear Ma'khia's father yelling repeatedly, "get her!" Bonner explained she was surprised to hear the father telling Ma'khia to "get" Craig. Bonner said right afterwards, she sees Ma'khia turn and come after her. Bonner stated Ma'khia was still holding the knife and started to stab her. At this point in time, Bonner said she heard the CPD Officer shoot his gun. After Bonner heard the shots being fired she immediately dropped to the ground, rolled, and took off running. Looking back, Bonner said the officer saved a life, she was not sure who's life, whether it was her life or Craig's, but he saved a life. Bonner went on to say if the officer was not there somebody would have been hurt severely. Bonner also stated she did not care how big the knife was, Ma'khia should not have had it and her grandmother repeatedly told Ma'khia to drop it. Bonner said she also remembered Ma'khia saying prior to the stabbing, that she was "on one today." At one point during the interview, Bonner stated after seeing Ma'khia's state of mind, she actually retrieved a pink in color knife from her car for her own protection. However, Bonner said she put the knife back inside her car before the police even arrived.

Jenkins and Bonner then talked more specifically about the shooting incident itself. Bonner mentioned to Jenkins she believed the officer was too far away from Ma'khia to utilize his taser. Not only was he too far away, but it was something the officer had to think about really fast. Jenkins asked Bonner if she received any injury or cut to her skin. Bonner stated her skin was not broken, but she did feel the knife edge two times. Jenkins asked Bonner if she was ever in fear for her safety. Bonner said she was more shocked of the fact Ma'khia had a knife, because they know each other personally. Bonner also advised Jenkins she is very thankful for not being hurt or killed. Bonner considered herself as an innocent bystander and said the officer saved her life or kept her from being injured.

Jenkins asked Bonner if her mother has any video surveillance camera's at her residence. Bonner stated there is one camera, but it does not show the side of the home where the shooting occurred. Jenkins asked Bonner if there are any neighbors she knew of who have video surveillance cameras. Bonner described the neighborhood as being very secure and figures all the neighbors have some type of camera.

Jenkins asked Bonner if Craig or anyone said anything to Ma'khia's father when he arrived. Bonner stated Craig probably did, because when he arrived he started to get everyone fired up. Jenkins asked Bonner if the father was spit on. Bonner stated he was not spit on. Bonner also stated she did not lay a hand on anyone and would not do so, because she would not want her nails to break.

Jenkins asked Bonner if she thought the officer used excessive force. Bonner replied by saying, when the officer arrived at the scene, it had already escalated to the max and a person was on the ground being stabbed. Additionally, Bonner said Ma'khia looks older than her age (15

years old) and the officer saved someone's life. Bonner said the officer had perfect aim, was not shooting in a reckless manner and it was an immediate reaction.

Jenkins asked Bonner if she would be willing to allow investigators to look at her cellphone for recent calls and text messages. Bonner stated she would give permission to Jenkins. Jenkins then asked Bonner if she would sign a consent to allow investigators to look at her cellphone. Again Bonner agreed and signed the form. *See attachment 1 for a copy of the consent form.*

The interview between Jenkins and Bonner was audio recorded and can be reviewed for additional details. *See attachment 2 for a copy of the audio recorded interview.*

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Tionna Bonner, consent to search cellphone, 4-20-21

Attachment # 02: Tionna Bonner, audio recorded interview, 4-20-21



CONSENT TO SEARCH



Date & Time 4/20/21 941pm
Location 3171 LEGGON LANE, COLUMBUS

I, TIONNIA BONNER, having been informed of the constitutional right not to have a search made of the premises, property, or items hereinafter mentioned without a search warrant (and of my right to refuse to consent to such a search), hereby authorize

OHIO BCI

to conduct a complete search of my
___ premises, and all curtilage
___ any vehicles
___ personal property, to wit: _____
 computer, cellular telephone, or electronic device, (including data acquisition, copying, and analysis), to wit: IPHONE 12 PRO MAX WHITE

located at
3171 LEGGON LANE, COLUMBUS, OH

These above-named officers/agents are authorized by me to take from my premises, curtilage, vehicles, property, computer, cellular telephone, or electronic device (as specified above) any letters, papers, materials, data, or other property which they desire. I state that I am a person who is authorized to give consent for the search of the above mentioned property.

This written permission is being given by me to the above-named officers/agents voluntarily, of my own free will, without threats or promises of any kind, I am not under the influence of drugs or alcohol that prevent me from understand this document, and I understand this document and the English language.

Tionni Bonner 04/20/21
Signature Date/Time

Tionni Bonner
Printed Name

CSU #7

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