



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



2023-2232

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 5991 S Sunbury Rd, Westerville
OH 43081

Investigative Activity: Telephone Interview
Involves: Robert James Arnold (W)
Date of Activity: 10/18/2023
Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On October 18, 2023 at approximately 1307 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) conducted a voluntary telephone interview of Robert Arnold (Arnold). The purpose of the interview was to obtain additional information regarding an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which occurred on August 24, 2023, at 5991 South Sunbury Road, Westerville, OH (Kroger). The incident involved officers from the Blendon Township Police Department (BTPD) and a female later identified as Ta'kiya Young (Young). Arnold was identified as a potential witness of the incident.

The conversation was audio recorded and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the attached audio for complete details. The following is a summation of Arnold's interview.

Arnold reported he was inside the Kroger store with his 5-year-old daughter when the incident occurred. Arnold was near one of the middle checkout lanes. Arnold saw a female Kroger employee, who he described as a "late teenager", run into the store followed by another teenager. Arnold stated the Kroger employee was "crying hysterically" and the other female was attempting to calm her down. Arnold observed other people inside the store looking towards the exit. Arnold looked outside and could see a police officer providing CPR first aid to an individual on the ground. Arnold heard other people inside the store saying someone had been shot. Arnold did not hear any gunshots.

Arnold explained he exited the store with his daughter through the entrance, away from where the incident had occurred. Arnold observed numerous emergency vehicles in the Kroger parking lot. Arnold noticed his vehicle was inside the crime scene tape and waited there until law enforcement permitted them to leave.

Arnold recalled giving his name and contact information as well as a brief statement to a law enforcement officer on scene before he departed.

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Interview concluded at approximately 1317 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Robert Arnold Interview 10.18.23

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