



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



2023-2008
Officer Involved Critical Incident – Terminal Road By Dayton
Airport, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Autopsy Review
Involves: Rodney D. Helman (S), Elaine M. Helman (S)
Date of Activity: 08/03/2023
Author: SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

Narrative:

On August 2, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI), which occurred on the morning of August 2, 2023. The incident between law enforcement and the involved subjects, Rodney and Elaine Helman, started in Madison County, Ohio. It ended on Airport Access Road in Montgomery County, Ohio.

The Helmans kidnapped a semi-truck driver named [REDACTED] at a truck stop in London, Ohio. After the Helmans entered the semi-cab, [REDACTED] was shot in the hand by the Helmans. A chase ensued through several counties west of London, Ohio, when the truck became disabled near the Dayton Airport. After hours of negotiations, OSP's Special Response Team (SRT) breached the semi's cab when Rodney Helman brandished and discharged a firearm at the SRT team. The SRT team returned gunfire, striking both Helmans. The Helmans were transported to Miami Valley Hospital but succumbed to their injuries.

On August 3, 2023, Special Agents Perry Roeser and Richard Ward attended the autopsies of the Helmans at the Montgomery County Coroner's Office in Dayton, Ohio. OSP Trooper Michael Shuler was also in attendance for the scheduled procedure.

Dr. Lee Lehman, M.D., Chief Deputy Coroner, started the autopsy on Rodney Helman at approximately 0730 hours. [REDACTED]

Dr. Lehman began Elaine Helman's autopsy immediately after Rodney's examination. [REDACTED]

All of the evidence from both autopsies was released to SA Roeser. SA Roeser traveled to London Police Department, London, Ohio, and met with BCI Special Agent Kevin Wagner. SA

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Roeser released all property to SA Wagner at 1120 hours. The chain of custody and items of evidence were uploaded into the case file. See attachment #1 for details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Evidence-Chain of custody

Exhibit 1

Kent E. Harshbarger, M.D.

Office of the Coroner

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

EVIDENCE SHEET

CASE NUMBER EX23-3843 NAME RODNEY HELMAN

DESCRIPTION OF EVIDENCE ^① 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING HEAD HAIR, PUBIC HAIR

^② FINGERMAIL SCRAPINGS. ^③ 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING ORAL & RECTAL SWABS.

^④ 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING DNA BLOOD CARD. ^⑤ 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING A

FULL SET OF FINGERPRINTS TO INCLUDE PALM PRINTS. ^⑥ 1-SEALED BAG CONTAINING PROPERTY

(1 BLACK METAL EARRING w/ CLEAR GEMS).

RECOVERED BY MICHELLE WELLM AGENCY MCCO

RECOVERED AT SCENE MORGUE OTHER _____

SEALED YES NO

MARKED YES NO

RECEIVED FROM MICHELLE WELLM AGENCY MCCO

RECEIVED BY SA Perry Roeser Perry Roeser AGENCY BCI

DATE RECEIVED 08.07.2023 TIME RECEIVED 1947

RECEIVED FROM Perry Roeser Perry Roeser AGENCY BCI

RECEIVED BY K. Wagner Kevin Wagner AGENCY BCI

DATE RECEIVED 8.3.23 TIME RECEIVED 1120

Kent E. Harshbarger, M.D.

Office of the Coroner

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

EVIDENCE SHEET

CASE NUMBER EX23-3840 NAME ELAINE HELMAN
DESCRIPTION OF EVIDENCE ^① 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING HEAD HAIR, PUBIC HAIR &
FINGERPAIR SCRAPINGS. ^② 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING ORAL, RECTAL & VAGINAL
SMears. ^③ 1-SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING DNA BLOOD CARD. ^④ 1-SEALED
ENVELOPE CONTAINING A FULL SET OF FINGERPRINTS AND PALM PRINTS. ^⑤ 1-SEALED
BAG CONTAINING CLOTHING (UNDERWEAR).

RECOVERED BY MICHELLE WELCH AGENCY MCCO

RECOVERED AT SCENE MORGUE OTHER _____

SEALED YES NO

MARKED YES NO

RECEIVED FROM Michelle Welch MICHELLE WELCH AGENCY MCCO

RECEIVED BY OSA Perry Roeser Perry Roeser AGENCY BCI

DATE RECEIVED 8-3-2023 TIME RECEIVED 0942

RECEIVED FROM Perry Roeser Perry Roeser AGENCY BCI

RECEIVED BY Resin Wagner Resin Wagner AGENCY BCI

DATE RECEIVED 8.3.23 TIME RECEIVED 1120