

Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Investigative Report

2022-2918

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 500 West Hopocan, Barberton, OH 44203



Investigative Activity: Initial Scene Response and Activity

Involves: Barberton Police Department (O), BCI (O)

Activity Date: 12/26/2022 Activity Location: Incident Scene –

500 West Hopocan Avenue, Barberton, Ohio 44203

Authoring Agent: SA Charles Moran #67

Narrative:

On Monday, December 26, 2022, at 0949 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Special Agent (SA) Chuck Moran (Moran) received a phone call from Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Jon Lieber (Lieber) requesting SA Moran to respond to the scene of an officer-involved shooting in Barberton, Ohio. A few minutes later, SA Moran received a notification, via a cell phone paging application, to respond to 500 West Hopocan Avenue, Barberton, Ohio 44203.

At 1035 hours, SA Moran arrived at the scene. SA Moran met with Barberton Police Department (BPD) Detective (Det.) Sergeant (Sgt.) Ben Knorr (Knorr). Det. Sgt. Knorr said the scene in a vacant lot on the south side of the YMCA building was secured with crime scene tape and no one had entered the scene once it was secured.

Det. Sgt. Knorr told SA Moran the incident began around 0900 hours, when a female contacted the BPD by phone and reported an incident, possibly an attempted robbery by a male subject, as she was walking to the YMCA. A BPD officer arrived at the scene and located a male subject matching the subject's description in the vacant lot on the south side of the YMCA. The BPD officer radioed for backup and a second BPD officer arrived at the scene. Det. Sgt. Knorr said the subject was armed with a knife and charged at one of the officers. Det. Sgt. Knorr said one of the officers fired his pistol at the subject, and it was unclear if the other officer fired during the incident. Det. Sgt. Knorr said the male subject was transported to Akron City Hospital for treatment. Det. Sgt. Knorr said the male subject was deceased.

Det. Sgt. Knorr identified the male subject as Zachary Zoran (Zoran). Law enforcement records showed that Zoran had an active warrant for menacing/telecommunications harassment from the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department (CFPD). The CFPD report showed Zoran's phone number as 330-880-8234. The CFPD report also showed that Zoran's mother, Pamela Stratford, was the complainant and her phone number was Det. Sgt. Knorr said the BPD had no history of contact with Zoran.

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Det. Sgt. Knorr identified the involved officers as Officer (Ofc.)

Det. Sgt. Knorr said there were multiple witnesses and BPD officers collected their names and phone numbers.

SA Moran provided details of the incident to BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) SA Larry Hootman and BCI CSU SA Dan Boerner (Boerner) when they arrived.

SA Moran requested BCI SIU SA Nick Valente (Valente) and BCI SIU SA Todd Clark (Clark) to contact the witnesses and conduct interviews. SA Moran requested SAS Lieber to respond to the BPD to make contact with the involved officers. SA Moran requested BCI SA Charlie Snyder (Snyder) to respond to Akron City Hospital.

At 1111 hours, Det. Sgt. Knorr informed SA Moran that BPD officers at Akron City Hospital informed him that Zoran was still alive after medical staff performed medical treatment.

At 1146 hours, Det. Sgt. Zoran provided a bag to SA Boerner containing Zoran's wallet and identification (ID) cards that were obtained from his pockets when he was handcuffed and searched before being transported to the hospital. SA Moran took photographs of the ID cards. The address on Zoran's Ohio ID card was 1846 4th Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221. The address on Zoran's Ohio Temporary Permit was 821 Nathan Street, Akron, Ohio 44307.

At 1153 hours, SA Moran received a phone call from SA Snyder. SA Snyder told SA Moran that Zoran was pronounced deceased at 1148 hours.

At 1202 hours, BPD Det. Tony Memmer (Memmer) showed SA Moran a possible Facebook account for Zoran. SA Moran took a photo of the Facebook account. Det. Memmer also provided SA Moran with a USB thumb drive containing copies of surveillance video from the YMCA.

After viewing the YMCA surveillance video, SA Moran, SA Clark and SA Valente noted that Zoran walked to the YMCA. Zoran walked through a parking lot on the northeast side of the YMCA. SA Clark and SA Boerner checked one of the bags that Zoran was carrying and located mail from 294 Wooster Road North, Barberton, Ohio 44203.

At 1238 hours, SA Moran, SA Clark, Det. Sgt. Knorr and Det. Memmer went to 294 Wooster Road North, Barberton, Ohio 44203. The location was an abandoned or condemned building.

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There were no entry points that were open. Footprints were discovered on the north side of the building, near a mailbox and door. SA Moran took photographs of the area. It was noted that this building was in the direction where Zoran walked to the YMCA from.

The 11 photographs that SA Moran took were attached to this report.

Attachments:

- 1. Photo Ohio ID Card Zachary Zoran IMG 3234
- 2. Photo Ohio ID Card and Temp Permit Card Zachary Zoran IMG 3235
- 3. Photo Facebook Account Zachary Zoran IMG 3236
- 4. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3237
- 5. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3238
- 6. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3239
- 7. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3240
- 8. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3241
- 9. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3242
- 10. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3243
- 11. Photo 294 Wooster Road N IMG 3244





















