

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



2024-1015

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 100 Block 8th Street, N.E. New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663 Tuscarawas, County

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Lisa Ray Huff (W)

Date of Activity: 03/31/2024

Author: SA Charles H. Snyder, #90

Narrative:

Background:

On Sunday March 31, 2024, at 2221 hours, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was dispatched through Who's Responding notification system to an officer-involved shooting at 834 East High Street and Tell Avenue SE, in New Philadelphia (Tuscarawas County) Ohio. Personnel from the Tuscarawas County Sheriff Office (TCSO) were indicated as involved. Initial reporting indicated at least one citizen and one law enforcement officer were injured and enroute to hospital(s) for treatment. BCI Special Agent Charlie Snyder was dispatched to assist the on-call team at 2224 hours.

Action Taken:

On Sunday, March 31, 2024, at 2329 hours, Snyder contacted Lisa Ray Hupp (Hupp), who was on-foot near the incident scene at Fair Avenue and 8th Street NE, New Philadelphia, Ohio. Snyder identified himself to Hupp and asked if she had witnessed any portion of this incident. Hupp confirmed that she had been a witness and agreed to a voluntary audio-recorded interview. The interview was conducted on Fair Avenue, just west of 8th Street, NE.

Snyder presented his credentials, business card and announced the purpose of this interview. Hupp was asked and provided her contact and identification information.

Hupp advised she had been at home, reading, when a vehicle went by her residence at a high rate of speed. She then heard brakes squealing and then a large "ka-boom". Hupp was aware the vehicle struck a house at that time.

Hupp indicated she put her book down, went outside and looked down at 8th street, where she observed a truck, inside a house. Hupp did not see anyone inside the vehicle at that time. Hupp then returned to her residence, contacted, and notified the New Philadelphia Police

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Department of the incident. Hupp then went back outside and walked towards the truck that was in the house. Hupp advised she could then hear the vehicle's engine revving loudly and not moving. Hupp advised she could smell the strong and potent odor of rubber.

Hupp advised as she approximately half-way to 8th street a police officer was coming from 7th street with his lights on, stopped and talked to neighbors, who directed him to the residence.

As Hupp got to the stop sign at 8th street, she heard people on the street directing the police officer to where the subject from the truck was. Hupp could hear those people, telling the officer, "...he's right there – he's right there..."

Hupp then heard someone say, "...get down on the ground – get down on the ground..." followed shortly by, "pop – pop – pop – pop". Hupp indicated she initially ducked down, then got back up and then heard a vehicle tires "...squealing..." and it left the area. Hupp indicated hearing at least three gunshots.

Hupp continued to walk towards where the vehicle had originally been, when she heard neighbors saying that the police officer was on the ground. Shortly, other police officers arrived on scene and began providing medical assistance to the officer.

Hupp indicated not seeing the subject or who the involved police officer was, except when he was laying on the ground. Hupp reportedly did not see the police officer exit his vehicle.

At approximately 2329 hours, the initial Hupp interview concluded. Hupp then recalled an additional point and a second audio-recording was made with Hupp.

Hupp recalled that when the officer was on the ground was being afforded medical attention, she could hear him telling others that the subject had subject had gotten into his police vehicle, the officer ran around and got into the passenger side of the vehicle with his weapon in his hand and tried to grab the subject, the officer may have accidentally shot his own fingers. The officer was also believed to have said he may have shot the subject in his shoulder or neck area as well.

At approximately 2330 hours, the additional interview of Hupp was concluded.

Note: This report summarizes information deemed by the author of the most relevance to the investigation and does not contain all questions and answers from the interview. This report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-03-31 Lisa R Huff Interview - part 001 240331_0318

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