



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



2021-0584

Officer Involved Critical Incident – Interstate 270 Northbound on  
Big Walnut Creek Bridge, Columbus (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Sgt. Steven R. Redding (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 03/05/2021  
**Activity Location:** – I270 and Noe–Bixby Rd, Columbus, OH 43232, Franklin County  
**Author:** SA Jonathan W. Jenkins, #99

**Narrative:**

On March 5, 2021, at approximately 2124 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Jonathan Jenkins met with Columbus Police Sergeant Steven Redding. Jenkins spoke with Redding in reference to an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI), between Franklin County Sheriff's Deputies, Columbus Police Department Officers, and Andrew Teague. The incident occurred in the northbound lanes of travel on Interstate 270, near Noe Bixby Road, in Columbus, Ohio. During the OICI Teague received a fatal gunshot wound.

Prior to speaking with Redding, Jenkins met with BCI Special Agents Rick Ward and Jim Mulford and received a short briefing on the events which had taken place. Jenkins was advised that Andrew Teague had been involved in a vehicle pursuit with law enforcement officers and refused to stop. Ultimately Teague decided to travel southbound, in the northbound lanes of travel, on Interstate 270 where he caused a head-on collision. After the crash, Teague exited his vehicle and attempted to continue to evade capture. At some point in time a shooting occurred, which resulted in Teague's death.

Upon making contact with Redding, Jenkins properly identified himself and requested permission to speak with him about the OICI. Redding agreed and the conversation took place while sitting in Jenkins' assigned vehicle, which was parked near the scene along Interstate 270. Prior to any questioning, Jenkins advised Redding he did not have to speak with Jenkins and if he wanted to stop the interview at any time to talk with an attorney or union representative he could. Redding stated he understood and the interview continued.

Jenkins first asked Redding questions related to his background training and experience. Redding stated he has been employed as a police officer with Columbus Police for approximately 26 years and is currently assigned as a K9 officer. During the incident, Redding was working his normal shift (1000–1800 hours) and was on patrol with his K9 partner Rocco. Redding stated he was operating a marked Columbus Police Patrol vehicle which is

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a Ford Explorer. Redding was dressed in his normal police uniform which clearly identifies him as police K9 officer. Redding was also wearing his normal duty belt which includes his department issued duty firearm, a Smith and Wesson M&P 9mm semi automatic. Redding stated he typically carries his duty firearm completely loaded which includes 15 rounds in each magazine and 1 additional round loaded in the chamber. Redding does not carry any back up duty firearm, but does carry the typical intermediate type weapons including a Taser and OC spray. Redding did not fire any rounds after he arrived on scene, but did draw his firearm from the holster. Redding has also passed his weapons requalification which occurred towards the end of 2020. Redding does have a body camera recording system and the device was activated.

Jenkins asked Redding how he became involved in the pursuit involving Teague. Redding stated while on patrol he learned Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputies were in a pursuit with Teague on the east side of Columbus on Interstate 70. Redding stated he was in the area, traveling eastbound on Interstate 70 and heard the pursuit was coming towards him, westbound on Interstate 70. Redding stated he stopped at a crossover and waited until he saw the deputies and Teague drive past him. Redding said at that point he began to follow the pursuit which soon after turned onto Interstate 270 northbound (north of Interstate 70). Redding could not remember the exact route he traveled, but knew the pursuit changed direction again and Teague started traveling southbound in the northbound lanes of Interstate 270. Redding stated at one point in time, he also started traveling southbound on Interstate 270, but was traveling in the southbound lanes paralleling Teague. Redding stated he was directly behind Columbus Police Officer Kifer as they continued the pursuit. Redding stated during the pursuit, the Columbus Police Helicopter Unit was following Teague and calling out the direction of travel over a police radio. Redding stated after the pursuit reached a location south of Interstate 70, he heard the helicopter unit say Teague's vehicle crashed and he was attempted to run off on foot.

Redding stated as he stopped his patrol vehicle in the median near the site of the crash, Kifer had already stopped and was exiting his patrol vehicle. Redding stated he then got Rocco out and started towards the area where Teague was located. Redding stated at that time he observed Teague had a gun in his hand and fired at least one round towards Kifer. Redding stated as a result, Kifer returned fire and fired multiple (3-5) rounds towards Teague. Redding stated he saw Teague turn around and fall down. Redding said he did not fire any rounds because he had Rocco, but they did approach Teague. Redding stated after he approached Teague, who was laying on the roadway, other officers on scene attempted life saving measures.

Jenkins asked Redding if he witnessed any of the Franklin County Deputies or other law enforcement officers fire their duty firearms towards Teague. Redding stated he did not observe the actions of any other officers at the scene, except for the life saving measures being performed. Jenkins asked Redding if he witnessed any inappropriate actions on the part of Kifer. Redding stated he did not. Jenkins asked Redding if he heard Kifer providing Teague with any verbal commands. Redding stated he heard Kifer yelling, but could not make out what he was saying. Jenkins asked Redding if at any time, did he fear for his safety. Redding stated he did and he also felt fear for the safety of all the people in their vehicles.

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The interview between Jenkins and Redding was audio recorded and can be reviewed for additional details. *See attachment 1 for a copy of the audio recorded interview.*

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: Steven Redding, audio recorded interview, 3-5-21