



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



2024-2738

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 345 Lincoln Ave.,
Lancaster, OH 43130 (L)

Investigative Activity: Witness Interview
Involves: Deputy Luca Renner (W)
Activity Date: 01/07/2025
Activity Location: 345 Lincoln Ave., Lancaster, OH 43140
Authoring Agent: SA James H Gore

Narrative:

On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, at approximately 1346 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung (SA Chung) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Deputy Luca Renner (Dep. Renner) at the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) in Lancaster. Dep. Renner was accompanied by attorney Joe Hegedus, of the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). Dep. Renner was identified as an officer who witnessed or had some level of interaction with Chad Evangelista (Evangelista) during a law enforcement encounter in the vicinity of 720 W. Waterloo Street in Canal Winchester on September 7, 2024. Evangelista was later transported to Fairfield Medical Center, and eventually to Riverside Hospital where he died on September 9, 2024. The purpose of the interview was to obtain any relevant information that Dep. Renner had regarding the encounter with Evangelista.

Dep. Renner stated that he has been employed with the FCSO since April 2022. He said he started at the jail as a correctional officer (CO) but was promoted to a deputy sheriff's position in December 2023. Dep. Renner works in the Patrol Division, and his badge number is 529. Dep. Renner said prior to working at FCSO, he was employed as a CO at the Zanesville Police Department for approximately 6-7 months.

Dep. Renner recalled that on September 7, 2024, he was working his normal day-shift hours (0600 – 1800 hours). He said he was out in Millersport assisting Dep. Ben Roderick on a call. After the call, he said he heard over the radio that [REDACTED] was getting dispatched to a suspicious person incident in Canal Winchester. Dep. Renner stated that he later heard over the radio that [REDACTED] needed assistance in dealing with the male subject. Dep. Renner said because of the distance between Millersport and Canal Winchester, he and Dep. Roderick responded with their vehicles' emergency lights and sirens activated. Dep. Renner estimated that it took around 15 minutes to get to Canal Winchester.

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Dep. Renner said as they arrived on scene to assist [REDACTED] the subject was already being placed into the back of a patrol vehicle. Dep. Renner mentioned that there were officers from other agencies present, including Madison Township, Lithopolis Police, and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

Dep. Renner described Evangelista as being excited, as if his 'adrenaline was pumping.' Dep. Renner said he did not communicate or interact with Evangelista, and to the best of his knowledge, he has never had any prior contact with him.

The interview concluded at approximately 1354 hours.

An audio copy of Dep. Renner's interview is available for further review as an attachment to this report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

1. Deputy Luca Renner interview