



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



2025-1603
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4482 Hampton Woods
Ct., Columbus, Ohio 43230 (L)

Investigative Activity: Uninvolved Officer Interview
Involves: SWAT Officer Brian Keefe
Activity Date: 05/20/2025
Activity Location: CPD SWAT Headquarters
Authoring Agent: SA Eric Runyan

Narrative:

On May 20, 2025 at approximately 0441 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) and Eric Runyan (SA Runyan) obtained a recorded statement from Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Officer Brian Keefe (Officer Keefe) regarding the May 19, 2025 fatal shooting incident between CPD officers and Jerry Smith (Smith) that occurred at 4482 Hampton Woods Court in Columbus, Ohio. The contact with Officer Keefe took place at the CPD Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) building. Prior to providing a statement, Officer Keefe was notified that BCI was conducting a criminal investigation into the shooting incident, and he confirmed he would provide a voluntary statement. The following is a summation of the statement of Officer Keefe and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording.

On May 19, 2025, Officer Keefe (Badge #1897 and radio call sign 515) was assigned to CPD SWAT Green Team. Officer Keefe was off duty at the time of the incident and was notified to respond directly to the command post. Once on scene, Officer Keefe took up a position of cover behind Armored Rescue Vehicle One (ARV-1) near the southwest corner of the residence. Officer Keefe was assigned with a less-lethal launcher loaded with "knee-knocker" ammunition. Officer Keefe observed the subject, later identified as Smtih, open and close the door several times. Officer Keefe said he could only see Smith's hand holding a handgun. Officer Keefe described Smith as, "light skinned."

Officer Keefe heard two (2) gunshots from inside the residence and believed the fired bullets passed between the two ARV's and towards one of the sniper positions. Officer Keefe took a bunker to where that sniper was positioned and observed Smith positioned inside the doorway to the residence with a handgun. After observing Smith at the doorway, Officer Keefe heard gunshots he believed were fired by police, and then observed Smith fall back into the residence. A female then exited the residence and was escorted to awaiting officers. Officer Keefe heard loud verbal commands

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coming from the loudspeaker of an ARV, but no response from the residence. A drone from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office was deployed inside the residence and then SWAT officers entered the residence. Officer Keefe utilized a shield to escort Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) medics to Smith's location so they could provide first aid. Officer Keefe returned to his original position and learned via radio traffic that Smith was pronounced deceased.

Officer Keefe confirmed he did not discharge his firearm or Taser during the incident. Officer Keefe didn't have any additional information and contact was ended at approximately 0450 hours.

References:

None

Attachments:

CPD Officer Brian Keefe Audio 5.20.2025

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