



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



2023-0556

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 23897 US Rt 23, Circleville 43113

Investigative Activity: Crime Scene Processing
Activity Date: February 25, 2023
Activity Location: Rodeway Inn, 23897 US Rt 23, Circleville, Ohio 43113 (*Scene #1*)
Authoring Agent: Crime Scene Technician Amy Gill, #203

On February 25, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Crime Scene Technician (CST) Amy Gill, Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung, and SA Cassandra Tackett were assigned to assist the Circleville Police Department (CPD) and Pickaway County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) with an officer involved critical incident. It was reported that Circleville officers responded to the Rodeway Inn in reference to a suicidal female. They were later joined by deputies from the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP). While on scene, Pamela Croston (Croston) pointed a firearm at officers. PCSO Corporal Jon Campbell (Cpl. Campbell) and Deputy Alfredo Magana (Dep. Magana) fired their agency issued firearms, striking Croston. Croston was transported to Grant Medical Center where she would later die from her injuries. BCI Crime Scene Unit was asked to process the scene for evidence and the BCI Special Investigations Unit would handle the investigation.

Investigators arrived at approximately 0400 hours. A search warrant was obtained and CST Gill photographed the scene as it was upon arrival. The scene was primarily located in the parking lot and room #104 of the Rodeway Inn, 23897 US Rt 23, Circleville, Ohio. The door to room 104 was located on the south side of the building. Three PCSO cruisers, one CPD cruiser, and two OSHP cruisers were located in the parking lot outside room 104.



(Photo of entrance to room #104 looking north)

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CST Gill was informed that PCSO deputies had placed evidence placards at the location of casings in the parking lot. These were later replaced by BCI evidence placards. Five cartridge casings with headstamp WIN 9mm Luger were located on the ground to the south of OSPH cruiser #1773 and collected as items #1-4. Five rifle cartridge casings with headstamp Hornady .223 REM were located on the ground to the south of PCSO cruiser #17 and collected as items #5-8. On the sidewalk in front of room #104, a bra and a black and pink shirt were located. Both items were cut in a manner consistent with medical intervention. The bra and shirt were collected as item #9.

Inside room #104, multiple additional items of evidence were located. Those evidentiary items included:

Item #	Description	Location
10	Purse and wallet containing miscellaneous personal items, ID belonging to Pamela Croston, \$2.92 cash	On desk
11	Red holster	On desk
12	.380 cartridge with AMMO INC 380 Auto headstamp	On couch
13	Fragment	Floor near foot of bed
14	Cartridge casing with AMMO INC 380 Auto headstamp	Floor near foot of bed
15	Gold iPhone in black case	In bathroom sink
16	.380 cartridge with AMMO INC 380 Auto headstamp	On bathroom countertop
17	Fragment	On Bed
21	Projectile	On floor behind couch

Prior to clearing the scene, Croston's husband, Jerry Croston, arrived on scene. A set of car keys located inside Croston's purse (item #10) were released to her husband.

CST Gill was advised that following the incident the firearms that belonged to Cpl. Campbell and Dep. Magana, along with Croston's firearm had been placed inside several of the patrol cruisers that remained on scene. Inside the K-9 compartment of PCSO cruiser #38, Cpl. Campbell's firearm, a Glock 19 9mm semi-automatic pistol with serial number [REDACTED] one loose cartridge, and magazine which contained 11 cartridges were located. All cartridges had a headstamp WIN 9mm Luger. The firearm, magazine, and cartridges were collected as item #18. On the front driver seat of PCSO cruiser #17, Dep. Magana's patrol rifle, a Ruger AR-556 rifle with serial number [REDACTED] with one cartridge that was removed from the chamber, and a magazine which contained 14 additional cartridges, was located. All cartridges had a headstamp of Hornady 223 REM. The firearm, magazine, and cartridges were collected as item #19. CST Gill was informed that following the incident, CPD Ofc. Tyler Hopkins removed a firearm from Croston and secured it in the trunk of his CPD cruiser #6189. The firearm, a Ruger LCP II .380 semiautomatic pistol with serial number [REDACTED] with one cartridge that was removed from the chamber, and a magazine which contained one additional cartridge were located in the trunk.

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Both cartridges had a headstamp of AMMO INC 380 Auto. The firearm, magazine, and cartridges were collected as item #20.



(Photo of firearm removed from Croston)

At 0700 hours, CST Gill received a paper bag containing a pair of shoes and one sock retrieved by SA Chung at Grant Medical Center. These items were photographed and collected as scene 2, item #1.

CST Gill observed multiple suspected ballistic events (BE's) on the exterior side of the building and inside room #104. For documentation purposes, the ballistic events were labeled BE 1.0 through BE 12.0. All ballistic events observed indicated a shot direction from the exterior to the interior of the building. The door and window were located on the south side of the room. The bathroom and mirror were located on the north side of the room. Written consent was obtained from David Renick, the occupant of room #105, to search for additional BE's inside the room. No BE's or additional damage was located inside the room. Access was gained into the west wall of room #104. It was observed that an additional piece of drywall was in place inside the wall between rooms #104 and #105.

BE#	BE Location	BE Description	Additional Information
1.0	South exterior side of window of room 104	Perforating	N/A
1.1	South interior side window of room 104	Perforating	N/A

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2.0	South exterior side window of room 104	Perforating	N/A
2.1	South interior side window of room 104	Perforating	N/A
2.2	Exterior facing side of window covering	Perforating- Multiple misshaped holes; fabric pushed inward	N/A
2.3	Interior facing side of window covering	Perforating- misshaped hole; fabric pushed outward	N/A
3.0	South exterior wall of room 104- west of doorway	Perforating- elongated hole	N/A
3.1	South interior wall- west of doorway	Perforating- misshaped hole- drywall pushed outward	N/A
4.0	West wall above couch	Perforating- misshaped hole- drywall pushed inward	A projectile was located in BE 4.2 and collected as item 22
4.1		Perforating- misshaped hole	
4.2		Penetrating- misshaped hole	
5.0	Red couch located on west wall	Perforating- misshaped hole- fabric pushed inward- downward and south to north angle	Projectile not recovered, however previously mentioned item 21 was located in the vicinity
5.1		Perforating- misshaped hole- fabric pushed outward	
5.2	Outlet cover on west wall behind couch	Bullet strike- misshaped hole	
6.0	Interior side of nightstand underneath drawer on south side of bed	Perforating- misshaped hole- wood pushed inward	N/A
6.1	Exterior side of nightstand	Perforating- misshaped hole- wood pushed outward	N/A
6.2	West wall behind bed	Perforating- misshaped hole- drywall pushed inward	N/A
6.3		Perforating- misshaped hole- wood splintered outward	N/A
6.4		Bullet strike- shallow hole or divot	N/A
7.0	Red couch located on west wall	Bullet graze- fabric torn with shallow damage in cushioning	A projectile was located in BE 7.3 and collected as item 23
7.1	West wall above couch	Perforating- misshaped hole with drywall pushed inward	
7.2		Perforating- misshaped hole	
7.3		Penetrating- misshaped hole	

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8.0	Headboard on west wall	Bullet graze- elongated horizontal graze	N/A
9.0	Exterior door frame of room 104	Perforating- circular hole	N/A
10	South exterior window of room 103	Bullet strike	N/A
11	South exterior wall east of room 104 door	Perforating- misshaped hole	N/A
12	South exterior wall east of room 104 door	Perforating- misshaped hole- strands of hair located in hole	N/A

SA Tackett documented the witnessing deputies, officers, and troopers and their agency issued firearms through photography at the direction of CST Gill. Weapon models and serial numbers were documented through photography.

Department	Officer	Badge #
PCSO	Campbell	N/A
PCSO	Magana	N/A
PCSO	Thomas	N/A
PCSO	Sgt. Hugus	N/A
CPD	Van Fossen	6120
CPD	Hopkins	6121
OSHP	Moore	1142
OSHP	Jenkins	699

No additional items of evidentiary value were located. Examination of the scene was completed at approximately 0950 hours.

At 1143 hours, CST Gill placed all items from scenes 1 and 2 in the BCI crime scene room temporary evidence locker #1 in London, Ohio.

On March 1, 2023, CST Gill removed all items from scenes 1-3 from the BCI temporary evidence locker #1. Items #1-8, 13-14, 17-23 from scene 1 were submitted to the BCI laboratory at 0959 hours. Items #9-12, 15-16 from scene 1, item #1 from scene 2, and items #1-3 from scene 3 were placed in the BCI temporary evidence locker #3 at 1005 hours to be submitted to the BCI major crimes evidence vault.

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