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

2022-1782
Officer Involved Critical Incident -3295 Sullivant Avenue, Apt. H, Columbus OH 43204 (L)

Investigative Activity:	Interview with Officer
Involves:	Ofc. Justin Dodrill (W)
Date of Activity:	10/19/2022
Activity Location:	- 4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, Franklin County
Author:	SA Todd Fortner, #93

Narrative:

On August 30, 2022, BCI was requested by the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident at 3295 Sullivant Avenue, Apartment H, in Columbus. CPD officers were at the apartment attempting to serve an arrest warrant on the resident of apartment H, Donovan Lewis (Lewis). During the incident, an officer fired a single shot, striking Lewis. Lewis was transported to the hospital where he died.

On October 19, 2022, at 1829 hours, Special Agent Todd Fortner (SA Fortner), interviewed CPD Officer Justin Dodrill (Ofc. Dodrill) at his attorney's office at 4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus. Also present for the interview was Fraternal Order of Police attorney, Nicole Wannemacher. Following is a summary of the interview. The interview was audio recorded and the recording is attached to this report. The audio should be referred to for further details.

Ofc. Dodrill stated he and his partner, Officer Jack Randall (Ofc. Randall), met with Sergeant Chance Knox (Sgt. Knox) and Officer Dorsey (Ofc. Dorsey). at 3295 Sullivant Ave., to attempt to serve arrest warrants on Lewis. Ofc. Dodrill said they knew the warrants were for domestic violence and a felony, improper handling of a firearm. They believed Lewis was staying at apartment H at that address.

Ofc. Dodrill said he went to the back of the building to make sure Lewis did not escape. He could see lights on in apartment H, which is on the second floor, but he could not see anything through the windows. Ofc. Dodrill could not see the other officers but could hear the giving commands to come to the door and announcing that they were the police. He could hear on the radio that they had taken two into custody and called for a K-9 officer to respond.

Ofc. Dodrill said he was called to come up to the apartment. He said he went up the stairs and saw Ofc. Dorsey at the doorway with the two detained individuals on the balcony. Ofc. Dodrill entered the apartment and saw Ofc. Randall in the room checking the living room. He stated

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he saw Sgt. Knox and K-9 Officer Ricky Anderson (Ofc. Anderson) at the bedroom door. He took a position behind them and they gave commands to come out of the bedroom or they would send in the dog. He said Ofc. Anderson put the dog back on the leash and opened the bedroom door. Ofc. Dodrill stated he saw Ofc. Anderson draw his gun and he heard the shot. He stated he could not see in the bedroom from where he was. When asked how long after the door opened did he heard the shot, Ofc. Dodrill said it was, "Pretty quick."

Ofc. Dodrill said he and Sgt. Knox entered the room to make sure the room was clear and handcuff Lewis. When they realized Lewis had been wounded, he told officers that he had a medical kit and he ran to his cruiser to retrieve it. When he returned, they were carrying Lewis down the stairs. Other officers were arriving and multiple officers were providing medical aid to Lewis. Ofc. Dodrill said he noticed Lewis had stopped breathing and he began chest compressions. Ofc. Dodrill said he heard Lewis take a breath so he stopped doing CPR. The medics then arrived and took over medical care.

SA Fortner asked a few follow up question and Ofc. Dodrill stated that he did not hear Lewis say anything during the time he was in the apartment. He said he did not see anything in Lewis' hands but he did see the vape pen on the bed underneath him. He said when he went to get his first aid kit, Ofc. Anderson was trying to relay what he had seen when he fired and raised his hand but Ofc. Dodrill did not hear what he said because he was focused on what he was doing. The interview was concluded at 1846 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Ofc Justin Dodrill Interview

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