

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



2022-1726 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 15266 Gilchrist Rd., Mt. Vernon (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: Sergeant Michael Haines (W)

Date of Activity: 08/20/2022

Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On August 20, 2022, at approximately 1328 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) and Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) interviewed Mansfield Police Department (MPD) Sergeant Michael Haines (Sergeant Haines) in reference to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred August 20, 2022, between the MPD/Richland County Allied Special Operation Response Team (ASORT), Delaware Tactical Unit (DTU), Knox County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), and Randy Wilhelm and Brad Wilhelm. Sergeant Haines's interview was conducted in a meeting room at the KCSO office in Mount Vernon, OH.

This interview was audio recorded, and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the recording for specific quotes. The following is a summation of the interview.

On August 20, 2022, Sergeant Haines and ASORT members were dispatched to the area near 15266 Gilchrist Road in Mount Vernon, OH. It was reported that Randy Wilhelm (Randy) had a warrant for his arrest after failing to comply with the terms of his bail. A bail bondsman located Randy and was reportedly shot at by Randy. Multiple SWAT teams responded to the Wilhelm property where it was reported that Randy and his brother Brad were firing weapons at law enforcement. SWAT operators from DTU discharged their firearms during an interaction with both Brad and Randy. Brad and Randy were shot and pronounced deceased at the scene.

Prior to beginning the interview, Sergeant Haines was advised BCI was conducting a criminal investigation separate from any internal investigation that MPD may be conducting. Sergeant Haines was informed his statement was voluntary and that he could stop answering questions at any time, which Sergeant Haines verbally confirmed he understood.

Sergeant Haines reported MPD/ASORT receiving an "all-call" automated message at about 0120 hours requesting SWAT response to a barricaded gunman situation in Knox County. Sergeant Haines responded to the MPD station to prepare, then to the KCSO office for briefing. Following the briefing, Sergeant Haines and the ASORT team reported to the incident location

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

on Gilchrist Road.

Sergeant Haines did not receive a specific assignment outside of extra security to support KCSO and DTU. Sergeant Haines and the ASORT operators responded to the incident in the MPD armored vehicle (BearCat).

While located behind Randy's residence in the BearCat, ASORT received orders to block in a Chevrolet Trailblazer on the property to prevent the involved individuals from using it to flee the scene. One of the involved individuals attempted to enter the Trailblazer. Sergeant Haines reported shots being fired at the BearCat by the involved individuals, which Sergeant Haines believed to be rifle shots which came from inside the house, possibly from a sliding glass door on the back side of the house. The BearCat took hits on the tires and on the turret, and possibly the engine. Sergeant Haines felt shrapnel near his eye from the shots hitting the turret. MPD Lieutenant (Lt. who was driving the BearCat, shot the tires of the Trailblazer to disable it. The Trailblazer was unoccupied when Lt. shot the tires.

Sergeant Haines observed the Marysville Police Department's armored vehicle also on the scene on the front side of the house. Sergeant Haines did not know when DTU arrived or where they were located during the incident, as he did not directly observe the DTU vehicle. While ASORT was blocking/disabling the Trailblazer, the two involved individuals fled the area on a side-by-side ATV, and Sergeant Haines did not see them again until the incident was over.

Sergeant Haines received radio reports that the incident was over and two individuals were down. Sergeant Haines was armed with a Sig Sauer rifle and a Sig Sauer pistol during the incident. Sergeant Haines did not discharge either of his weapons during the incident.

Interview concluded at approximately 1342 hours.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.