



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



2022-1356

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1659 S. Main Street, Akron, Ohio
44301

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Gary White
Activity Date: September 28, 2022
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Cory Momchilov #64

Narrative:

On Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 1326 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) and SA Chuck Moran interviewed Akron Police Department (APD) Officer Gary White (White), who was accompanied by his attorney, Jason Wells, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at the law offices of Malarcik, Pierce, Munyer, & Will. Fraternal Order of Police Akron Lodge #7 President Clay Cozart was also present during the interview.

The interview was audio recorded.

Officer White was identified as being a police officer who had some level of involvement in the June 27, 2022, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1659 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio. Reportedly, Officer White did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident and arrived on scene after the shooting. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

On June 27, 2022, Officer White was the driver of marked APD cruiser, Car 07. Officer White was not working with a partner. Officer White was wearing his standard APD uniform.

SA Momchilov was advised that Officer White had typed a supplemental report that documented his involvement in the June 27, 2022, officer-involved shooting. Officer White wished to read the narrative out loud and then he would answer any follow-up questions if needed.

Officer White's typed narrative reads:

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NARRATIVE

I, Ofc G. White #1426, was working Uniformed Patrol Car #7. I originally was at a call for service when the chase began. I overheard Car [REDACTED] call shots fired from the suspect vehicle over the radio. After clearing the call for service, I began in the direction of the pursuit. As the chase was going westbound on E Wilbeth Rd, I blocked the intersection of S Main St/E Wilebth Rd.

I heard over the radio that the suspect bailed from the vehicle. I heard the shots being fired as I drove down to the location the suspect bailed from. As I exited my cruiser, I grabbed my medical bag and ran over to where the suspect was. I rushed to the suspect and began attempting to provide medical aid to the suspect. I continued until EMS arrived on scene and took over providing medical aid.

I helped assist seperating the officers involved. Shortly after, I returned to service.

SA Momchilov asked Officer White if he heard any signals being “called out” during the pursuit. Officer White advised that a Signal 21 was called out over the radio. SA Momchilov then asked Officer White what is a Signal 21. Officer White replied, “Signal 21 is officer needs help.” SA Momchilov then asked Officer White if Signal 21 is common. Officer White replied, “It is not common, no.”

SA Momchilov advised that Officer White had previously stated that he heard shots being fired as he drove down to the location. Officer White stated, “Correct.” SA Momchilov then asked Officer White if he actually heard the shots or heard shots fired over the radio. Officer White advised that he actually heard the shots being fired. SA Momchilov asked Officer White where he was when he heard the shots being fired. Officer White advised, “I was just east of South Main Street on East Wilbeth Road, I was probably, maybe 100 yards, 150 yards, maybe even a little bit further then that from where the suspect vehicle was at, when I heard the shots.”

SA Momchilov asked Officer White if he could see the shooting. Officer White replied, “No.”

SA Momchilov asked Officer White if he had any conversation with any of the involved officers. Officer White stated, “No.”

SA Momchilov advised that Officer White previously stated that he assisted with separating the involved officers. SA Momchilov then asked Officer White what that consisted of. Officer White stated, “Just ah, so, I’m a shift rep, so, I helped sequester the officers involved, that’s what we do. Helping get those officers away from the scene and separating each other.” SA Momchilov asked what is the purpose of separating the officers. Officer White advised the officers are separated so they don’t converse with each other.

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Officer White advised that he did not search or go near the vehicle the individual was driving.

Officer White advised that when he was rendering medical aid, he observed that the individual was wearing a t-shirt, a jacket and a ski-mask.

Officer White advised that he was wearing a body-worn camera and that he has not viewed his body-worn camera footage.

At the end of the interview, Officer White was afforded the opportunity to view his body-worn camera footage. Officer White declined.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

The above images are from Officer White's body-worn camera footage. Based upon Officer White's body-worn camera footage, Officer White is observed arriving on scene and retrieving a medical bag from the rear of his cruiser (Figure 1). Officer White is then observed running toward the scene (Figure 2). Officer White then assists with providing medical aid (Figure 3).

Attachments:

The audio recording of the interview is attached to this Investigative Report.

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