

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



2024-2614

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Investigative Activity: Request to Interview Letters Sent to Witnesses

Involves: Ferrel Thomas (W), Jacqueln Fortson (W)

Activity Date: 11/18/2024

Activity Location: 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, OH 44286

Authoring Agent: Special Agent Nicholas Valente #139

Narrative:

On November 18, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente drafted letters to be sent to Ferrel Thomas (Thomas) and Jacquelyn Fortson (Fortson). The letters, which were attached below, were sent via certified mail on this same date to Fortson and Thomas. A copy of both letters was also sent to their attorney, Stan Jackson. The letters outline previous attempts to interview both parties. The letters also again request to interview both parties regarding the officer-involved shooting of Christian Tyson Thomas. Receipts noting the delivery confirmation numbers for the letters sent to Thomas and Fortson were also attached to this report.

References:

None

Attachments:

- 1. Ferrel Thomas Request to Interview Letter
- 2. Jacquelyn Fortson Request to Interview Letter
- 3. Receipts For Letters mailed to Fortson and Thomas

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.





November 18, 2024

Via Certified Mail

Ferrel Thomas 1309 Yellowstone Road Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Mr. Thomas,

My condolences on the loss of your son.

On August 30, 2024, I briefly spoke with you via telephone. During that conversation we arranged to return your phone and conduct interviews with you, Genisis Thomas, and Jacquelyn Fortson at your home the following day, August 31, 2024, regarding the death of your son, Christian Tyson Thomas.

While traveling to your home for that purpose on the morning of August 31, 2024, I received a phone call from Marcus Sidoti. Mr. Sidoti stated he was representing you and your family. Mr. Sidoti further advised me not to interview you until he had an opportunity to speak with your family first. Mr. Sidoti was asked, and stated he would notify me when you and your family would be available to participate in interviews.

On September 6, 2024, I received a phone call from Stanley Jackson. Mr. Jackson stated he was now representing you and your family. I confirmed this was accurate with Mr. Sidoti later that day.

On September 9, 2024, I spoke with Mr. Jackson and told him I would like to interview you and your family who were present during the incident in question. Mr. Jackson stated he would let me know when you and your family may be available for this purpose.

On October 25, 2024, I again called Mr. Jackson and requested an update on the status of my request to speak with you and your family regarding this incident.

Mr. Jackson stated he would speak with your family and reach out to me regarding the request after having done so.

On November 12, 2024, I again called Mr. Jackson and left a voicemail requesting an update to my outstanding request to speak with you and your family.

I am writing this letter to inform you of the above and again request to speak with you and Genisis Thomas. Please respond by Monday November 25, 2024, after which time I will assume you are not interested in participating in an interview and cease reaching out further. I can be contacted via telephone or email as noted below.

Respectfully,

S/A Nick Valente

VALSIME 11/18/24

Ph: 614-208-8405

11/18/2024

CC: Stanley Jackson





November 18, 2024

Via Certified Mail

Jacquelyn Fortson 1309 Yellowstone Road Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Ms. Fortson,

My condolences on the loss of your brother.

On August 30, 2024, I briefly spoke with Ferrel Thomas via telephone. During that conversation we arranged to conduct interviews with Ferrel Thomas, Genisis Thomas, and yourself at 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, the following day, August 31, 2024, regarding the death of Christian Tyson Thomas.

While traveling to 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio for that purpose on the morning of August 31, 2024, I received a phone call from Marcus Sidoti. Mr. Sidoti stated he was representing your family. Mr. Sidoti further advised me not to interview you or your family until he had an opportunity to speak with your family first. Mr. Sidoti was asked, and stated he would notify me when your family would be available to participate in interviews.

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MN VOCATE 11/18/24 Respectfully,

S/A Nick Valente Ph: 614-208-8405

11/18/2024

CC: Stanley Jackson

Shipping Label Receipt # Stamps

Delivery Confirmation™ Service Number:

First-Class Mail with USPS CERTIFIED MAIL* Electronic Service Fee: \$0.00 Additional Services: Certified, Return Receipt Total Postage and Fees: \$10.45

Weight: 1 oz

Print Date: 11/18/2024

Mailing Date: 11/18/2024

Bureau of Criminal Investigation 4055 Highlander Pkwy From:

Richfield OH 44286-9081

Ferrel Thomas <u>ت</u>

Cleveland Hts OH 44121-1510 1309 Yellowstone Rd

USPS Postmark Here

*Regular First-Class Mail Service postage rates apply 1JSPS LERTIFIED MAIL service electronic terus required Postmark required it tee returnd requested. Delivery information is not available by phone for the electronic option.

Instructions:

- Adhere shipping label to package with tape or glue DO NOT TAPE OVER BARCODE, Be sure all edges are secured. Self-adhesive label is recommended.
- Place the label so it does not wrap around the edge of the package. 2.
- This package may be deposited in any collection box, handed to your mail carrier, or presented to a clerk at your local Post Office. 9
- Each confirmation number is unique and can be used only once DO NOT PHOTOCOPY. 4.
- You must mail this package on the "mail date" that is specified on this label. ç

Shipping Label Receipt # Stamps

Delivery Confirmation TM Service Number:

First-Class Mail with USPS CERTIFIED MAIL* Electronic Service Fee: \$0.00 Additional Services; Certified, Return Receipt Total Postage and Fees: \$10.45

Weight: 1 oz Print Date: 11/18/2024

Mailing Date: 11/18/2024

Bureau of Criminal Investigation From:

Richfield OH 44286-9081 4055 Highlander Pkwy

Cleveland Hts OH 44121-1510 1309 Yellowstone Rd Jacquelyn Fortson

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