

Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Investigative Report

2021-1431

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134



Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Patrick Cullivan

Activity Date: August 18, 2021

Activity Location: Parma Police Department

Authoring Agent: SA Jared Prill #137

On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at approximately 0917 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jared Prill (Prill) and SA Jonathan Lieber interviewed Parma Police Department Officer (Ofc.) Patrick Cullivan (Cullivan), who was accompanied by his attorneys, Adam Chaloupka and Danielle Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Parma Police Department and was audio recorded. Ofc. Cullivan read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. Ofc. Cullivan was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 13-14, 2021, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134. Reportedly, Ofc. Cullivan did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Ofc. Cullivan stated that on June 13-14, 2021, his radio call sign was his badge number "561" or his last name. He has been employed by the Parma Police Department for approximately 11 years and has served as a member of the SWAT team for approximately six years. Ofc. Cullivan stated he had no previous law enforcement experience before being hired by the Parma Police Department but has and currently serves as a member of the Army National Guard.

During the incident, Ofc. Cullivan wore his standard navy-blue color police SWAT uniform, which included "Police" on the front and back and a Southeast Enforcement Bureau (SEB) patch on one shoulder. He also wore an external ballistic vest. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Ofc. Cullivan advised that he was notified of the incident via a group message placing the SWAT team on stand-by for a possible call. Due to his distance from the call, Ofc. Cullivan responded to the Parma Police Department at approximately 1700 to 1730 hours, where he staged until he was requested to respond to the scene on South Park Boulevard. Ofc. Cullivan stated that prior to responding to the scene, he was provided an overview of the call that led to the SWAT call; which informed him it started earlier that day when a male got into an altercation with a female at the BP gas station at the intersection of State Road and Brookpark Road. The

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male was known to have discharged a firearm at an off-duty officer during this altercation before fleeing from officers and barricading himself inside his home. This male is known from the investigation to be Kevin Giesel (Giesel).

Ofc. Cullivan stated that he drove the SWAT team's equipment truck to the incident, which he parked near the intersection of Liggett Drive and South Park Boulevard. Once on scene, Ofc. Cullivan took up a position in the turret of the armored personnel carrier, watching the front door of 5714 South Park Boulevard, Giesel's residence. Ofc. Cullivan remained in this position until after midnight on June 14, 2021.

Ofc. Cullivan advised that upon his arrival to the scene, communications had already been established with Giesel through an on-scene detective. Ofc. Cullivan stated that commands were also being issued, via a loud speaker, and were clearly requesting that Giesel surrender to law enforcement. It was also known to Ofc. Cullivan that telephone communications were being had between Giesel and law enforcement, in an effort to get him to surrender.

Ofc. Cullivan stated that while he was on scene in the armored personnel carrier, that vehicle was used to deploy three or four OC/CS gas rounds inside the front bay window of the house. Ofc. Cullivan believed it was approximately 2100 to 2200 hours when this non-lethal munition was deployed. Ofc. Cullivan stated that additional OC/CS gas was deployed into the rear of the house, after the munitions from the armored personnel carrier failed to drive Giesel out of the residence.

Ofc. Cullivan stated that after the OC/CS munitions were deployed, the armored personnel carrier was used to port the bay window and the front door of the home. These openings allowed Ofc. Cullivan and other SEB SWAT members to observe Giesel inside the home and ultimately deploy the bomb squad robot into the house. Ofc. Cullivan stated that he was on scene at the residence when the bomb squad robot was deployed inside the home, which occurred after the armored personnel carrier deployed less lethal munitions. Ofc. Cullivan stated that he could hear Giesel shoot the robot but was not able to view it from his position.

Ofc. Cullivan advised that after he was relieved from the front of the house and was moved to a secondary location, he could hear gunfire from inside Giesel's residence; sounded like a shotgun and pistol being discharged and then heard radio traffic advising that Giesel had shot at officers and heard that officers had returned fire. However, due to Ofc. Cullivan's position at this time, he did not personally witness these events.

The interview concluded at approximately 0930.

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Criminal Investigation Notification

- 1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- 3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Printed Name of Interviewee

Date / Time

Signature of Interviewee

BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)