



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



2024-1219  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4632 East Main Street,  
Whitehall

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Giovanni J Escobar (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 04/19/2024  
**Activity Location:** McDonald's – Business – 4640 E Main St, Whitehall, OH 43236  
**Author:** SA Kyle Douglass, #126

**Narrative:**

On April 19, 2024 at approximately 0653 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) conducted an interview with McDonald's employee Giovanni Escobar (Escobar) as a potential witness to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which occurred earlier that morning involving Whitehall Police Department (WPD) in the parking lot of 4632 East Main Street in Whitehall, OH.

Escobar agreed to provide a voluntary statement to BCI and answer questions regarding the incident. The following is a summation of the interview, specific details can be found in the attached audio recording.

Escobar confirmed he was working at the McDonald's restaurant located at 4640 East Main Street. Escobar reported he had been working since about 2220 hours the previous day (April 18, 2024). Escobar was scheduled to end his shift at 0600 hours.

Escobar explained he was in the kitchen preparing food when he was informed by McDonald's employees Travon Black (Black), who said he heard gunshots, and David (LNU), who stated, "Somebody's getting shot out here." Escobar said a drive-thru customer had also reported someone being shot in the parking lot nearby. Escobar mentioned he thought the customer also said someone had been shot in the head, but he was unsure how the customer would know that. Escobar observed multiple police vehicle arriving on scene after the shooting had occurred. Escobar recalled David left the restaurant shortly after the incident.

Escobar did not recall hearing any gunshots earlier in the night, and denied having any problems or disturbances with drive-thru customers overnight in the hours leading up to the OICI. Escobar said he did not get a good look at the civilian vehicle that was involved in the incident. Escobar was unsure if the individuals in the involved vehicle had been in the drive-thru prior to the shooting incident. Escobar explained he only prepares food, and does not

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normally take orders or speak to customers. Escobar explained he occasionally takes orders for Spanish speaking customers, but he did not recall taking any orders in Spanish that night.

Interview concluded at 0659 hours.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2024-04-19 – Giovanni Escobar Interview Audio