Narrative:

On April 20, 2021, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Perry Roeser was contacted at approximately 1730 hours and asked to assist with the Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) at 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus, Ohio. SA Roeser was told the Columbus Police Department discharged a firearm at the location. SA Roeser advised he would assist and respond to the scene.

SA Roeser arrived on the scene at approximately 1830 hours and met with members of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) from BCI in the Columbus Police Command bus parked on the roadway just north of the crime scene on Legion Lane.

SA Roeser was asked to assist Columbus Police Department Detective (Det.) Jim Marable with the official death notification of Ma’Khia Bryant to family members at Franklin County Children Services at 4071 E Main St., Columbus, Ohio. SA Roeser and Det. Marable were escorted to a room within the office building where a couple of social workers stood, including Associate Director Tamella Fair. Also present was BCI Special Agent Supervisor Mick Gyurko.

After Det. Marable explained to the family, despite all efforts to save Ma’Khia life, she did not survive the contact with law enforcement; SA Roeser explained BCI’s role as the lead authority in the OICI. Paula Bryant, mother to Ma’Khia, as well as her aunt were distraught and demanded to see the child. SA Roeser explained he could not grant the request. After Ms. Bryant shouted demands and spoke about her daughter, a pause occurred, at which time SA Roeser and Det. Marable exited the room and building.

SA Roeser audio recorded the interaction between the family and himself. For further details of the notification, see the copy of the audio recording, attachment #1.

Attachments: