



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



2023-2232

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 5991 S Sunbury Rd, Westerville
OH 43081

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Deputy Kent Romine (W)
Date of Activity: 09/20/2023
Activity Location: Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman Law Office – 4683
Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, Franklin County
Author: SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

Narrative:

On September 20, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Perry Roeser and Steve Seitzman interviewed several Franklin County deputy sheriff's as to what their involvement was from the Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) from the Blendon Township Police Department (BTPD) on August 24, 2023, that was under BCI investigation. The interviews took place at 4683 Winterset Dr., Columbus, Ohio, the law office of Catherine Harshman (Harshman). Harshman was in attendance for all the interviews.

The interview of Deputy Kent Romine (Romine) started at 1425 hours, and was audio recorded. Romine stated he had been a Franklin County Deputy Sheriff for 11 years and was assigned to uniform patrol on the [REDACTED]. Romine said before his current assignment, he worked in the jail division for four years. On the night of the OICI, Romine indicated he was a Field Training Officer and had a new deputy in training beside him named Erin Clausing.

Romine was asked how he became involved in the call for service at the Kroger store with BTPD. Romine said he was first alerted to his in-car radio/computer of a lot of radio traffic. Romine stated that when he pulled up the call on the computer, he saw a signal 9 for a "lock-out." Romine then said he changed his in-car radio to the east sector and heard and learned of a "shots fired" call. Romine said he self-dispatched himself to the call from 3357 Central Ave., about 15-20 miles from the scene.

Romine stated when they arrived on the scene, crime scene tape was already up around some of the scene. Romine said an ambulance was at the location, and he believed the female was in the squad with the medics. Romine said he never physically saw the involved subject. Romine said he was then given directions to assist with handing out witness statements, and for those who did not want to get involved, he gathered names for investigators. Romine said he gained around 20 written statements and turned them over to BCI personnel at night's end. Romine

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Approved By SA James A. Mulford on
10/02/2023

indicated that after he completed and gathered all written statements, he helped with scene security. Romine said he and his trainee cleared the scene around 2230 hours.

The interview between BCI agents and Romine concluded at 1445 hours, and was audio recorded. See attachment #1 for a copy of the audio recording.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Kent Romine