

Witness Statement Form

Incident Date: 1/18/24 Time: 0214 Incident # 24-015839
 Address of Occurrence: 7702 Spafford District: 4th Zone: 1
 Officer Name: Ray Kaloczi, Lieutenant Badge# 8493 Bureau/District BSS Platoon A
 Citizen Name: Robert Perkins

Witness Statement

Sir,

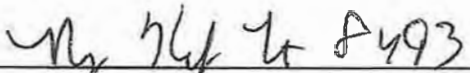
While assigned to the SWAT Unit as the OIC, I received an emergency text CALL UP @1944 hrs. to respond to 7702 Spafford to assist the 4th Distirct c/w a male armed with an AR-15 rifle and barricaded.

Upon my arrival, I received info from Sgt. Wils et al of the following. Suspect male(Robert Perkins, W/M; 36 yoa; of 7702 Spafford) on January 5, 2024 was walking down the street with a shotgun and shot into parked cars and abandoned houses. The police responded and without incident had taken him into custody. Police made a Crisis Intervention and conveyed him to the hospital.

On Wednesday, 1/17/24, suspect shot into a moving vehicle multiple times from his home. Victim vehicle was able to proceed to the 4th District for a report, no known injuries. Suspect also shot at his neighbor standing outside and his neighbor's house. 4th District received multiple calls of shots fired in the area. Shot Spotter logged 32 shots fired coming from suspect's address in the short time span. When 4th District Officers arrived on scene, they observed the suspect on the first floor of 7702 Spafford. Suspect was talking incoherently. Officers observed an AR-15 laying on a table next to suspect. Suspect then picked up the rifle and went upstairs out of sight of Officers. Officers then heard 2-3 shots fired from the upstairs, unknown if they were the targets or not.

After receiving this info SWAT Officers deployed to contact/cover positions at 7702 Spafford. I remained at the Command Post around the corner(E. 77/Spafford alley) SWAT Officers observed suspect on the first floor carrying an AR-15 rifle, dancing with loud music and dispalying pyrotechnic fires. Announcements were made multiple times for the suspect to come out to Officers to talk to detectives. Suspect ignored Police orders, at 1 point he stripped down near naked. Suspect at times would walk around his residence with the rifle, going upstairs then back down, repeatedly. This lasted approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours. At approx. 2215 hrs. the suspect went upstairs out of sight. He was not seen again for a couple hours. At no time were we able to gain contact nor establish communications with the suspect either through our PA system or through phone calls by our Crisis Negotiation Team(CNT) detectives.

4th District obtained a search warrant in the meantime. Shortly after 0130 hrs. the search warrant was signed. Sgt. Blaine made mulptie announcements over the PA that we were executing a search warrant. Suspect did not comply to come out. After a reasonable amount of time the front door was then breached with our ram attached to the SWAT Armored Rescue Vehicle (ARV). More announcements were made. After approximately another half hour without response from the suspect and no further movement or proactive action from SWAT, unprovoked the suspect shot multiple rounds off the 4 side of the house, directed to Patrol Officers on Canton. Suspect then came to the front of the house, second floor with high ground on Officers, and shot multiple times at the ARV(approx. 4-6 rounds into the windshield, tight grouping, and another 8-10 rounds spraying the hood and windshield cross beam). He further shot 1 round into the CCSO ARV passenger side window. CDP ARV repositioned further away from the residence. More shots were fired toward Officers. Officers returned fire, striking the suspect. As I was at the CP and blind to the scene, I did not visually observe these actions only heard the shooting from my position and the radio transmissions.

Signature:  Badge# (if applicable) 8493

Address/Agency Name: 2001 Payne, CDP/SWAT Unit Date: 1/19/24

Phone Number: 216-623-5545 Email address rkaloczi@clevelandohio.gov