



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



2020-3388

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1062 Oberlin Drive, Columbus,
Ohio

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Officer Edward Prime (W)
Date of Activity: 01/12/2021
Activity Location: 5th Precinct Sub-Station – 1371 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, Ohio,
OH, Franklin County
Author: SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

Narrative:

On December 22, 2020, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was asked to investigate an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI), which involved the Columbus Police Division (CPD). BCI was notified CPD responded to a suspicious person/vehicle complaint around 1062 Oberlin Dr., Columbus, Ohio. When officer(s) arrived on the scene, they encountered Andre Hill, who at the time was walking out of the garage of the listed address. During the encounter, CPD Officer Adam Coy discharged his firearm at Mr. Hill, who later died from the gunshot injuries.

On January 12, 2021, and as part of an on-going investigation into the OICI, Special Agent (SA) Perry Roeser and Special Agent (SA) Richard Ward arranged for a witness interview with Columbus Police Officer Edward Prime at 1371 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, Ohio CPD substation). The interview started at approximately 1930 hours and was conducted in the conference room within the 5th Precinct substation. Also at the scheduled interview was the Fraternal Order of Police Attorney Jackie Tipton. Before the interview began, Officer Prime was offered to review his body camera video on the agent's laptop, which he did.

Agents learned Officer Prime was one of many officers that responded to Oberlin Drive the night of the OICI. Officer Prime said he has been a Columbus Police Officer for ten years, his badge number was 2618, and he was assigned to zone 4, [REDACTED], and his days off were [REDACTED].

Officer Prime was asked how he became involved with the OICI on Oberlin Dr. He explained the night of the incident, he was assigned to a two-person patrol car with Officer Martin Holley, badge number 2656. Officer Prime said he was in car 9022, was signed into that car as 9022, and acted as the driver. Officer Prime stated he heard over the police radio a "shots fired call." Officer Prime said he and his partner responded from police substation number 27 and the

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call's location was about four minutes away. Officer Prime stated he has never responded to a call for service on Oberlin Dr.

Once on the scene, Officer Prime said he exited his vehicle, walked up the driveway of 1062 Oberlin Dr., and saw three officers securing/handcuffing a person on the ground near the garage's threshold and the driveway.

Officer Prime was asked if he saw anything on the ground near where Mr. Hill was lying. He said no. Officer Prime stated that when Mr. Hill was rolled over, he patted down his pockets and noticed nothing suspicious. Officer Prime was asked if he observed anything on the belt of Mr. Hill. He replied with a cell phone case. For clarification, the body cam-video was reviewed for a second time.

Officer Prime then explained he and other officers realized the scene wasn't secure and the house needed to be cleared. Officer Prime stated he knocked on the front door and encountered a male and female inside the residence. Once in the home, Officer Prime said he and other officers secured the two individuals and cleared the house. Officer Prime stated the two individuals were then escorted to police cruisers east of the residence. Officer Prime was asked if he heard the female say anything while being escorted from the home to the cruiser. Officer Prime said he needed to review his body-cam video for clarification, which he did. After Officer Prime reviewed the video, he was asked what the female said. He stated that she said, "I didn't see what happened." Officer Prime explained he was unsure if a question was asked of her or if she just made the statement.

Officer Prime then stated he observed the scene to see if anything else needed done and then walked back to his police cruiser. Officer Prime then explained he walked back toward the primary scene and watched the medics arrive and walk up the driveway. He asked them if they needed anything, which they didn't. Officer Prime stated he was then stopped by Sergeant Albers and instructed to move the cruisers out of the intersection of Kenny Rd. and Oberlin Dr. for the police command bus.

Officer Prime was asked if he encountered Officer Detweiler. He mentioned that he might have said something to her but cannot recall exactly what was said. Officer Prime was asked if he had any contact with Officer Coy. He said they walked past each other when he arrived on the scene, but no words were exchanged.

Officer Prime stated he learned of the OICI only when he saw Officer Support personnel remove Officers Coy and Detweiler from the area. Officer Prime said he learned further details of the incident the following day. Officer Prime was asked if he had any contact with non-law enforcement personnel at the scene; he answered no. Officer Prime was asked if he picked up any evidence or had taken any photographs; he answered no.

Officer Prime stated that shortly after moving the police cruisers around, he exited the scene and went off duty around [REDACTED]. Officer Prime was asked if he had any information he could provide investigators related to the OICI; he said no. The interview concluded at approximately 1955 hours.

The interview between SA Ward, SA Roeser, and Officer Prime was audio-recorded and can be reviewed for additional details. See attachment one for a copy of the audio recording.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01:2021-01-12-15-20-03-Officer Edward Prime