

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



2024-2614

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Investigative Activity: Witness Officer Interview - Abrianna Franklin

Involves: Officer Abrianna Franklin

**Activity Date:** 08/30/2024

Activity Location: 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

**Authoring Agent:** SA Matthew Armstrong #146

#### Narrative:

On August 30, 2024, at approximately 0110 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Armstrong (Armstrong) conducted an interview with Cleveland Heights Police Department (CHPD) Officer Abrianna Franklin (Franklin). The interview took place in the driveway behind 1309 Yellowstone Road in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The interview was recorded on SA Armstrong's body worn camera and has been stored in the BCI SIU Case file as Reference Item H.

Officer Franklin was identified as a CHPD officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the August 29, 2024, officer-involved shooting which occurred near 1309 Yellowstone Road in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Officer Franklin did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Officer Franklin.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all of the questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview. It may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information obtained during the interview.

Throughout the interview, Officer Franklin provided the following information:

Officer Franklin has worked for the Cleveland Heights Police Department for approximately 3 months. Her radio call sign was 74. During the interview, Officer Franklin was wearing the same standard police uniform she wore during the incident. Her uniform consisted of a navy-blue shirt with police patches on each shoulder and navy-blue pants. She wore an exterior vest carrier with her badge and name plate affixed to the front and "POLICE" on the back. She also had a duty belt that contained her duty equipment, and a body-worn camera mounted on her vest.

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On August 29, 2024, she was working the night shift. Her shift began at 1700 hours and she was scheduled to work until 0500 hours on August 30, 2024. She was in field training and operated the cruiser during that shift. Her field training officer that day was Elizabeth Perez (Officer Perez) who was the passenger in the cruiser.

She and Officer Perez were at the police department when they were dispatched to a male who was holding a gun with his dad chasing him throughout the house. The dispatcher indicated the subject had his finger on the trigger. When she and Officer Perez arrived at 1309 Yellowstone, they made their way to the back of the residence where they took a position on the north side of the garage. Officer Michael Dugan also went to the back of the residence and positioned himself at the south corner of the garage.

While there, the subject repeatedly opened the main door leading from the house into the garage. She could hear the subject arguing with the dad as they made their way up to the third floor and then returned to the first floor. She then heard other officers say the father was out of the residence, but the son was still inside. The subject then opened the main door again, looked at them and said "I'm not doing this I'm not coming outside. I'm not doing this" (04:38). He then shut the door and ran back inside. She heard him open the side door of the residence and run out. She believed Perez saw him jump out the side "door". Officer Perez yelled "Show me your hands! Show me your hands!" (04:55) and then she heard gunshots being fired. Neither she, Officer Perez, nor Officer Dugan fired their weapons.

She did not know who fired the gunshots but believed the following officers were present in front of the residence:

- •
- Joseph El Biri
- Brvan Ondercin

Officer Franklin estimated she heard nine gunshots. She described the cadence of the gunfire as "not being fast". She said there was space between the gunshots.

When asked specifics about the gunfire, Officer Franklin said "Yes there was one when Perez um said 'hey show me your hands' and that's when I heard the gun go off. So, I'm not sure if he had pointed it at us or what it was, but we had backed up to take cover, and then we hear the shots go off after we hear over the radio shots fired then I hear the shots go off" (15:55). Officer Franklin then clarified there was a gunshot followed by the statement "shots fired" over the radio and then more gunshots.

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After the gunfire, she heard it was clear to move. They then made their way to the front of the residence where she saw other officers with the subject rendering aid.

Officer Franklin did not see the subject with a gun. She explained she could see the subject was holding something black in his hand when he initially opened the man door into the garage. However, she was unable to see what the object was.

She did not recall hearing any other officers giving commands. She did not remember the subject saying anything other than the statement "I just can't do this." I can't do this". That was when he was at the main door to the garage prior to the shots being fired. After making those statements he shut the door and she heard it lock.

She estimated five to seven minutes elapsed between the time she arrived and the time the shots were fired. Officer Franklin did not recall previous encounters with the subject or the residence.

#### References:

Item H -video recorded interview - Officer Abrianna Franklin

#### **Attachments:**

None

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