



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



2022-0407
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1783 Penfield Rd, Columbus
(L)

Investigative Activity: Neighborhood Canvass
Date of Activity: 02/24/2022
Activity Location: Neighborhood Canvass – Neighborhood Canvass
Author: SA Jonathan Scale, #169

Narrative:

On February 24, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Jon Scale (SA Scale) conducted a neighborhood canvass in the surrounding areas near Penfield Road, Columbus, OH. The purpose for the canvass was to identify and interview potential witnesses to the Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred at 1783 Penfield Road earlier that morning. SA Scale audio recorded the interviews and has attached the recordings to this report and also uploaded the recordings to BCI's case management system. (See attached audio recordings).

1798 Penfield Road

SA Scale spoke with Shameka Amison (Amison) and Dominique Rash (Rash). Amison and Rash said they were sleeping and did not hear or see anything during or prior to the incident. They said they woke up afterwards to the noise of sirens and flashing lights. They looked out of their front window and saw a lot of police and fire personnel and vehicles parked in front of their house.

Amison and Rash said they do not have a doorbell camera or any other security cameras on the exterior of their house.

Amison provided her phone # [REDACTED]

1795 Penfield Road

No answer at the residence.

1803 Penfield Road

No answer at the residence.

1790 Penfield Road

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SA Scale spoke with Dashawn Sly (Dashawn) and Bianca Matlock Sly (Bianca). The Sly residence is almost directly across the street from the incident address of 1783 Penfield Road. Bianca and Dashawn said they did not hear the accident. By the time they looked outside it had already happened and police and firefighters were all over the place.

Dashawn said he woke up a little after 2:00 a.m. to use the restroom and noticed he had a recent notification on his phone from his Google Nest doorbell camera. He said the notification came from a police cruiser pulling into his driveway. Bianca and Dashawn said they did not have any video of the incident and they do not pay for any subscriptions for their doorbell camera so they can only view activity that happened less than three hours prior.

Dashawn and Bianca said that this is now the second time in a few months that 1783 Penfield was struck by a vehicle. They believed the first accident was caused by a drunk driver.

Bianca provided her phone # [REDACTED]

1780 Niagara Road

SA Scale spoke with Thomas Craighead (Craighead). Craighead said he did not hear or witness the incident. He said he only saw the commotion afterwards of police lights and firetrucks filling up Penfield Road.

Craighead said he did not have a doorbell camera or any other security cameras.

1771 Penfield Road

SA Scale spoke with Lynna Qualls (Qualls) and Mark Pegram (Pegram). Qualls and Pegram said they were awakened by a loud "boom". They said they looked out of their window and saw some police cars turning onto Niagara Road from Penfield Road. Pegram said that about five minutes after they saw those cruisers a lot more police cruisers and fire trucks started coming down Penfield Road. Pegram said he then went outside and saw there had been an incident at 1783 Penfield Road. He said it looked like a silver Ford sedan was involved and had caught fire. Pegram said he did not recognize the car and did not see anyone near the vehicle except firefighters.

Pegram stated that the house (1783 Penfield Road) must be bad luck because it was struck by another vehicle a few months ago.

Pegram said they did not have any security cameras.

Qualls provided her phone # [REDACTED]

1756 Penfield Road

No answer at the residence.

1765 Penfield Road

SA Scale spoke with Tony Roberts (Roberts). Roberts said he did not hear or see anything when

the incident happened only the aftermath. He said that he heard emergency vehicles and saw flashing lights and stepped outside to see what was happening. Roberts said he saw a lot of police officers and a fire truck and what looked like a car emitting a lot of smoke near 1783 Penfield Road. Robert said he has a Vivint doorbell camera and he tried to find any video footage of the accident. He said he had no video of the incident and the fact that his house was a few houses down from the incident the camera most likely would not have captured anything.

Roberts provided his phone # [REDACTED]

1767 Niagara Road

SA Scale spoke with Carla Hopkins (Hopkins). Hopkins said she was awake watching tv in her living room when she heard a loud "bang". The loud bang happened right before 2:00 a.m. Hopkins said right after the bang she looked out her front door and saw three police cruisers turning from Penfield Road onto Niagara Road. She said the loud bang also woke up her husband who was in the bedroom because he then came into the living room to see what had happened.

Hopkins said her husband then walked out of their front door and said there was a car on fire across the street and told her to call 911. Hopkins said shortly after she had called 911, multiple police cars and a fire truck arrived to 1783 Penfield Road.

Hopkins said that it was a silver Ford sedan that was on fire. She did not see anyone get out of that vehicle, but she heard police officers yelling for the driver to get out of the car as they approached it. She said that no one must have been in the vehicle.

Hopkins said that she took a few pictures and videos of the scene after the incident, and said they have a Ring doorbell camera that may have caught some of the activity during the incident. She pulled her phone out and opened the Ring app to show SA Scale the videos that it recorded.

Hopkins showed SA Scale a Ring video clip from 1:59 a.m. that showed three police cruisers running lights and sirens past 1783 Penfield and turn onto Niagara Road, however, you cannot see the wrecked vehicle at 1783 Penfield Road in this clip. Hopkins said the vehicle must have already crashed because they heard the loud boom before they saw the police cruisers turn onto Niagara Road.

Hopkins then showed SA Scale the next Ring video clip which was recorded at 2:01 a.m. that showed the vehicle that crashed at 1783 Penfield Road catch fire, and this is when Hopkins called 911.

Hopkins provided (via text messages) SA Scale with two (2) pictures taken with her cell phone, two (2) videos taken with her cell phone, and two (2) videos captured by her Ring doorbell camera. (See attached pictures and videos).

Hopkins provided her phone # [REDACTED]

1789 Penfield Road

SA Scale and SA Mulford spoke with Monica Taylor (Taylor). Taylor said was awakened by a

loud noise. She went and looked outside and it looked like her garage door was "up" so she initially thought that maybe her garage door spring had snapped. Monica then said a police officer knocked on her door and told her there was a car outside that was on fire. She then looked outside and realized when she saw the car on fire, that was the reason her garage was all messed up. Taylor said she did not witness the incident of the silver car hitting her garage and catching fire.

Taylor said she does have a Ring doorbell camera, but the incident did not show up on video. The only video she said it captured was after the fact when the officer walked up to her door to talk to her.

Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: Neighborhood canvass audio 1
- Attachment # 02: Neighborhood canvass audio 2
- Attachment # 03: Neighborhood canvass audio 3
- Attachment # 04: Neighborhood canvass audio 4
- Attachment # 05: cell phone pic 1 carla hopkins
- Attachment # 06: cell phone pic 2 carla hopkins
- Attachment # 07: cell phone video 1 carla hopkins
- Attachment # 08: cell phone video 2 carla hopkins
- Attachment # 09: RingVideo 1.59 a.m. carla hopkins
- Attachment # 10: RingVideo 2.01 a.m. carla hopkins



