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Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Investigative Report

2022-0826

Officer Involved Critical Incident - W. 46th Street, between Collins Blvd. and Valley View Blvd.



Investigative Activity: Search Warrant Obtained, Executed, Medical Records

Received/Reviewed

Activity Date: April 21, 2022

Activity Location: Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court / Ashtabula County Medical

Center

Authoring Agent: Stacey A. Fifer #116

On April 21, 2022, BCI Special Agent Stacey Fifer (SA Fifer) obtained a search warrant for medical records following an officer-involving shooting on April 13, 2022, which involved the Ashtabula Police Department and David Ward, Jr (Ward). Ward sustained a gunshot wound the chest and died as a result of his injuries.

The search warrant, as well as affidavit, was reviewed and signed by Judge Thomas Harris of the Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas. On April 21, 2022, at approximately 1330 hours, SA Fifer executed the aforementioned search warrant at the Ashtabula County Medical Center (ACMC) Health Information Management Office.

On April 22, 2022, SA Fifer received a complete copy of Ward's medical records including emergency department reports/notes. A BCI evidence receipt was provided to the ACMC Health Information Management Office (receipt attached). The medical records were sent electronically to SA Fifer, via fax, and included a total of 14 pages (medical records attached).

Ward's medical records documented the extent, nature and limited history of his injuries. The records obtained further provided details regarding Ward's evaluation and treatment provided.

On May 3, 2022, SA Fifer completed a review of Ward's medical records. The following documentation was noted as relevant to the criminal investigation, however, it is recommended to review the entire medical record for complete details.

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The following excerpts were taken from the medical record:

Page 8 of Attachment



Page 10 of Attachment

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Page 11 of Attachment



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According to the medical record from ACMC, Ward was declared deceased at approximately 0159 hours on April 13, 2022 (documented on page 11 of attachment). No toxicology reports were included in the medical record of Ward.

On April 25, 2022, SA Fifer filed the search warrant, affidavit, search warrant return, inventory, application for motion to seal, and order for motion to seal with the Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas. The paperwork was signed by Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas Judge Thomas Harris and filed with the Clerk of Court (copy of court paperwork attached).



CASE#_2022-0826

Inventory/Receipt Attachment

I received the below listed property from (person/location): ASitTABULA COUNTY MEDICAL COURT, MEDICAL RECORDS DEPT.

Item	Description	Location Found	Found by Whom
1	ASHTABULA MEDICAL CONTER	MEDICAL CONTER, MEDICAL	SA FIFE
	MEDICAL RECORDS FOR	LEGROS DEPT VIA FAX	
	DAVID WARD, TR. FOR		
V	PATE OF SELVICE 4/13/2022	V	

Signed_	5	Sh.A.	14	#114
		Inventory	Agent	

Date 4/21/2022

Items	Released By	Received By	Date/Time
	A SHTABULA COUNTY MEDICAL CONTER	SA of Afer HILL	4/21/22 1428
		7	,