

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 Witness

Involves: Robert Roenker (W)

Date of Activity: 12/22/2020

Activity Location: Roenker, Robert - Home - 1054 Oberlin Drive, Columbus, OH

43221, 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 Division of Police (CPD). BCI was notified CPD responded to a suspicious person/vehicle complaint in the area of 1062 Oberlin Dr., Columbus, Ohio. When officer(s) arrived on the scene, they encountered Andre Hill in the garage of the above residence. During the contact, a CPD officer discharged his firearm at Mr. Hill, who later died from the gunshot injuries. Special Agent (SA) Perry Roeser was contacted and asked to assist with the OICI. Special Agent (SA) Richard Ward was assigned as the lead investigator from BCI.

SA Ward asked SA Roeser to interview the 911 caller to the incident, Mr. Robert Roenker, who lives at 1054 Oberlin Dr., Columbus, Ohio. At approximately 0854 hours, SA Roeser approached the house and met Robert at the front door. After SA Roeser correctly identified himself, he was invited into the home for the interview. Robert advised he called 911 because an SUV-style vehicle was parked on the east side of his driveway, positioned to the west for most of the night, starting and stopping the engine. Robert said the vehicle was loud. Robert said the neighborhood is quiet, and he first noticed the vehicle around 2200 hours. After he went to bed, Robert said the vehicle continued to start and stop the engine, so he called the police at about 0100 hours for assistance.

Robert explained as he waited for the police to arrive, the vehicle moved up the block and parked. Robert said when the police arrived, they were looking at the wrong car on the street. Robert said he pointed out the car's new position to the police. Robert said when the police moved up to the SUV's new position, the second police cruiser arrived.

Robert said as he was walking back to his house, and maybe standing on his front porch, his neighbor's niece, later identified as Dystanie Lydelle, was on her front porch yelling at the

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police something about "that car is family or friends." Robert said he yelled at the girl, "if that's your family or friend, they should park in the driveway." Robert said that the girl mumbled something back at him, but he couldn't remember what she said. Robert said he tried to approach the police and tell them they are friends or family to his neighbor. Robert said the male officer told him to go back into his house. Robert said he was just about to Bill's driveway when he was advised to turn around. SA Roeser asked if the girl stayed on the front porch, but Robert was unsure where she went.

Robert then said as he was headed to his front porch, he heard the gunfire, turned, and saw the officer shooting. Robert said he couldn't make out any conversation between the parties in the driveway. After the shooting, Robert went into his home and awaited contact from law enforcement. Robert explained he didn't see who the police were shooting.

Robert stated he lived with his wife Gloria and his daughter Katlyn. Robert explained neither of them witnessed anything.

SA Roeser asked Robert for clarification on what time the vehicle arrived in the neighborhood. Robert thought it was around dusk. SA Roeser then mentioned darkness was about 1730 hours. Robert then realized his times were off and said he thought the vehicle arrived between 1830 and 1900 hours.

The interview concluded at approximately 0911 hours. For additional details of the conversation, the interview was audio-recorded; see attachment.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01:2020-12-22-04-41-35-Robert Roenker

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