



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus 43215

To: Gary Tyack, Franklin County Prosecutor
From: John Butterworth, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: July 7, 2022
Involves: Rayshawn Meeks
BCI Case Numbers: 2022-0498
BCI Laboratory: 22-14721

Investigative Request

On Monday, March 07, 2022, Chief Deputy Rick MinerD of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved shooting incident. The incident reportedly occurred on March 7, 2022 in the area of 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, OH, 43215 and resulted in the death of Rayshawn Meeks.

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the March 7, 2022 officer-involved shooting in Franklin County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.



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Investigative Team

Lead BCI Special Agent:

- SA John Butterworth

Assisting Investigative BCI Special Agents:

- SA Matt Collins
- SA Todd Fortner
- SA Shane Hanshaw
- SA James Gore
- SA James Poole

BCI Crime Scene Special Agents:

- SA Mathew Austin
- SAS Josh Durst

BCI Cyber Crime Personnel:

- Jarrod Scott

BCI Investigative Supervisor:

- Special Agent Supervisor Kevin Barbeau

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interviews of 4 officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Recorded interview(s) of the involved subject and others subjects directly involved in the incident
- Interviews of civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Obtained and reviewed post mortem examination (autopsy) report
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject



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- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available surveillance video which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
 3. Chemistry (drug identification)
 4. DNA
- Obtained consent to analyze electronic evidence, to include:
 1. Electronic Control Device (e.g. Taser)
- Reviewed data obtained from aforementioned items of electronic evidence
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission



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- Reviewed medical records of those injured, obtained through subpoena
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered

Incident Summary/Overview

The following information is based on the review/s of radio traffic, 911 calls, witness statements and officer's statements.

On March 7, 2022, Detective [REDACTED] Sgt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Declan Feery from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), were within or near the Franklin County Commissioner's Parking Garage located at 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, OH, 43215. Also in the parking garage was Clinton Township Police Officer [REDACTED] who was working in conjunction with and under the direction of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit/Franklin County Drug Task Force. Deputy Feery is assigned to the Facility Security Division with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and was reporting for duty at the time of the incident.

Detective [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] spoke with each other and were to meet in the parking garage for a break as Deputy Feery and Sgt. [REDACTED] had met in the garage near their vehicles and were talking amongst themselves when a small silver vehicle pulled onto level 7 of the parking garage, which is where they parked their vehicles, and pulled quickly into a parking spot. The vehicle caught the attention of Officer [REDACTED] but he did not approach or speak to the vehicle's occupant(s). Detective [REDACTED] arrived on the parking garage level and began walking toward Officer [REDACTED] location to join him for the break.

Officer [REDACTED] stated during his interview, and the parking garage video surveillance confirms the vehicle park in the parking spot on level 7. The parking garage surveillance video shows the vehicle begin to move, as if the occupant(s) were moving around inside it. Officer [REDACTED] also stated he could hear yelling coming from the vehicle, however, he could not hear what was being said. Officer [REDACTED] states and the video shows, a male occupant of the vehicle get out of the passenger side, quickly walks around the rear of the vehicle and then to the driver's side of the vehicle where he attempted to gain access to the driver's side rear seat, but the vehicle was parked too close to the one next to it, and he walked back around to the passenger side rear door where he opened it. A second male is observed getting out of the rear passenger side door and the two males begin to fight. Moments later, a female exits the vehicle and according to Officer [REDACTED] begins asking for help and ran toward him yelling "look what he did to me." There is no audio on the parking garage surveillance video.



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Due to the males fighting, Officer [REDACTED] places his FCSO lanyard around his neck and moved toward the males fighting. Officer [REDACTED] stated he yelled “police, stop, break it up” as he neared the men involved in the altercation. The female followed Officer [REDACTED] who said he realized the female followed him and feared the group could attack him as he was trying to break up the fight. Officer [REDACTED] during the interview, said he was concerned for his safety as he was alone, outnumbered and within a few feet of each person. Officer [REDACTED] unholstered his firearm and kept it at a low-ready position and pointed at the ground. Officer [REDACTED] ordered everyone to get on the ground.

According to surveillance video and witness information, the male wearing the green jacket who was in the front passenger seat of the vehicle, complied along with the female and backed away. Officer [REDACTED] stated when the male and female complied by backing away, he did not observe the second male possessing a weapon so he holstered his firearm. Detective [REDACTED] joins Officer [REDACTED] as the second male moves toward Officer [REDACTED] and an altercation begins between Officer [REDACTED] the second male and Detective [REDACTED]. Sgt. [REDACTED] and Deputy Feery then join them to secure the male. The second male, now fighting with officers, was later identified as Rayshawn Meeks.

During the altercation with officers, Meeks and officers end up falling to the floor of the parking garage. Meeks lands on the floor while Sgt. [REDACTED] was to his back, Officer [REDACTED] was at Meeks' upper half of his body and Detective [REDACTED] was at the feet of Meeks. Deputy Feery was near them but was not on the ground with them. Officers were fighting with Meeks as he was trying to strike them while resisting their efforts to secure him. Sgt. [REDACTED] requested Deputy Feery to utilize his taser in an attempt to assist in securing Meeks in custody. Deputy Feery stated he did not feel as if he was in a good position at that point to have good contact while utilizing the taser and provided it to Sgt. [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] heard Sgt. [REDACTED] yelling “tase him” but he did not know who he was talking to.

Officer [REDACTED] realized that Meeks had a handgun in his possession. Officer [REDACTED] said he instantly realized that the weapon was his and it was pointed toward Sgt. [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] said he thought Meeks was intending to shoot him (Sgt. [REDACTED]). Officer [REDACTED] recalled that he reached for the weapon and as he did so, he heard the sound of the taser deploying which was immediately followed by a loud bang. Officer [REDACTED] realized the suspect had fired the weapon and he yelled “I did not shoot him.” Sgt. [REDACTED] replied “I know, he had your gun” as stated by Officer [REDACTED]. Sgt. [REDACTED] said during his interview that he recalled stating “he’s got [REDACTED] gun” and could not recall if it was before or after the gunshot. Sgt. [REDACTED] also recalled hearing Officer [REDACTED] say “I didn’t shoot him.” Meeks received a gunshot wound to the head and



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became “lifeless” according to statements. Officer ██████ grabbed the weapon from Meeks’ hand, engaged the safety and holstered it.

Initially officers did not think Meeks survived the gunshot and was dead. Sgt. ██████ called dispatch to report the incident, Deputy Feery radioed the incident into dispatch as well. An ambulance was requested for medical attention for Meeks. Sgt. ██████ checked on Meeks and found him to have a pulse and was breathing. Officers rendered first aid via the medical equipment they had available to them until Columbus Fire and EMS arrived on scene and took over care for Meeks. Meeks was attended to by EMS personnel and transported to Grant Medical Center. Officers then left the scene and went to the FCSO SIU office to wait on the investigation to begin.

Meeks was transported to Grant Medical Center and was cared for until his death several days later. Meeks was transported to the Franklin County Coroner’s Office where an autopsy was performed. The cause of death was reported by the coroner’s office as a gunshot wound to the head. The manner of death was reported by the coroner’s office as a suicide.

Subsequent Investigation

Post-Mortem Examination / Autopsy Report

The autopsy report for the decedent (Rayshawn Meeks) was obtained from the Franklin County Coroner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

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Physical Evidence and Laboratory Reports



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BCI CSU Photo JCD_6106; Overall scene

BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) agents processed the scene and noted the following:

“SAS Durst photographed the involved area of the garage as it was upon arrival. The garage area was secured with police tape and monitored by multiple uniformed FCSO Deputies.

Multiple drip stains of suspected blood were found on the pavement around a silver Mazda 3 (VIN: JM1BK12FX71706892) bearing Ohio Temporary Tag N794269. A sample of the suspected blood was collected with sterile swabs as Item 1. A later search of the vehicle, after a search warrant was issued, yielded nothing of evidentiary value. SAS Durst was advised all three involved individuals were believed to have been in the Mazda when the original altercation started.

The primary scene was approximately 75' to the north of the Mazda 3. SAS Durst collected a fired Taser cartridge, wiring, cartridge doors, and multiple Taser RFID tags from the pavement as Item 2. The cartridge and RFID tag numbers both matched [REDACTED]. There were no barbs located at the end of the Taser wiring.

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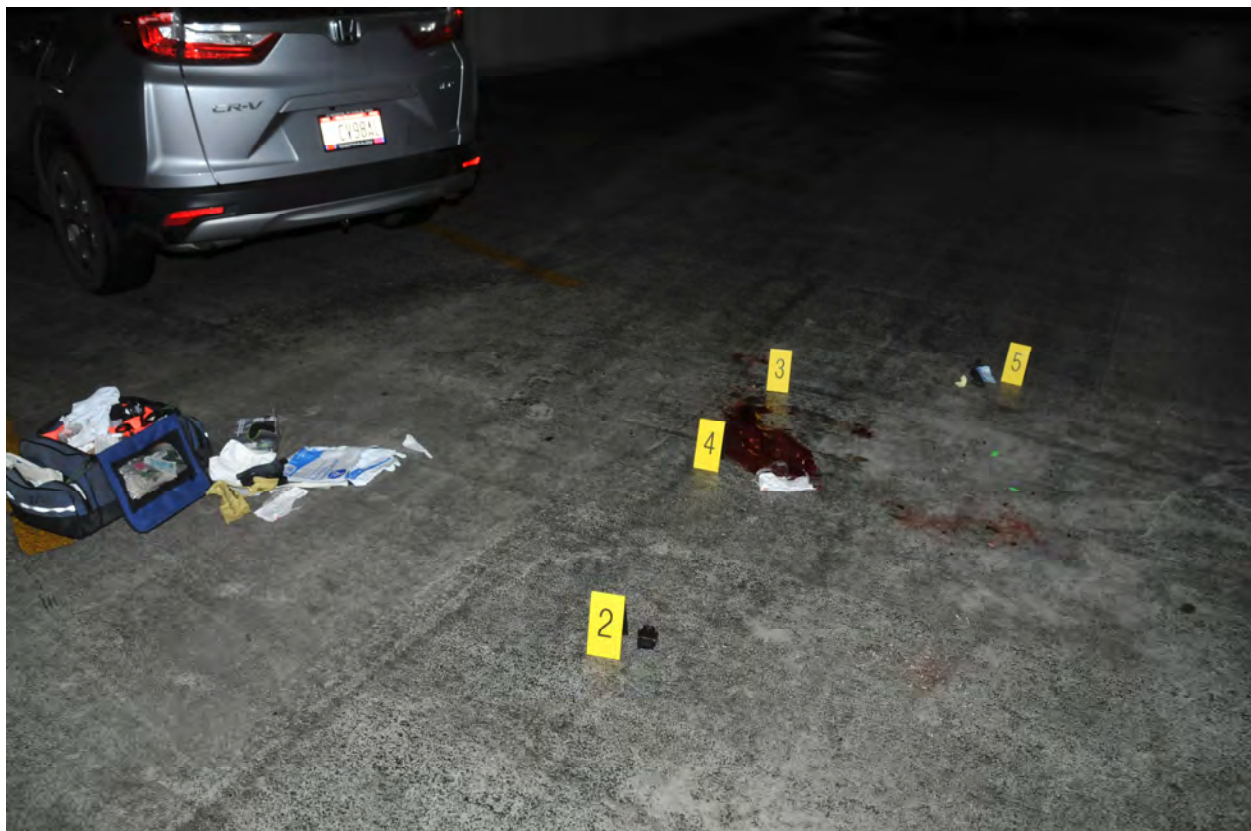
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A loaded 9mm hollow-point cartridge with WIN headstamp was collected from the pavement as Item 3. A pool of blood was found on the pavement and a sample was collected with sterile swabs as Item 4. A cloth face covering, a small piece of paper with writing, and a Social Security Card for Rayshawn Meeks was collected from the pavement as Item 5.

An opened medical trauma bag, various wrappers from used medical intervention supplies and a variety of used nitrile gloves were found near Items 2-5. All medical equipment belonged to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and was returned upon the completion of scene processing."



Primary Scene on 7th Floor of Parking Garage

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon,

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identifications were able to be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

Firearms lab item number 6 and item number 8 were compared and the conclusion was found to be "Source Identification." Item 8 is evidence item number 1, scene 4 and described as one (1) fired bullet jacket fragment and one (1) fired bullet lead core fragment. This item was collected from the body of Rayshawn Meeks. Lab item 6 is evidence number 3, scene 2 and described as one (1) Staccato model P, 9mm Luger semi-automatic pistol, serial number [REDACTED]. The Staccato pistol is owned and utilized by Officer [REDACTED].

"Source Identification" is described as the analysis identified the items as having extremely strong support for the proposition that the evidence originated from the same source and the likelihood for the proposition that the evidence arose from a different source is so remote as to be considered a practical impossibility.



BCI CSU Photo MLA_5879; Item 3, Scene 2 Staccato Pistol



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Investigative Interviews

The following information comprises extremely abbreviated versions of the statements made by the witness and/or participants of this incident deemed by the author to be of most relevance to the overall understanding of the incident. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview, including those not synopsised below.

DETECTIVE [REDACTED]

Detective [REDACTED] was involved during the altercation between the officers and Meeks on the parking garage floor. [REDACTED] stated she had been asked by Officer [REDACTED] to join him in the parking garage for a break from work. [REDACTED] said she was in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit office when she received a text message from Officer [REDACTED] to join him. She left the SIU office and walked to the parking garage to meet Officer [REDACTED]. When [REDACTED] reached the parking garage she observed Sgt. [REDACTED] talking with other deputies along the far east wall of the garage.

[REDACTED] stated she heard yelling as she approached the 7th floor of the parking garage but could not make out what was being said. She then observed Officer [REDACTED] walking north down the 7th floor garage ramp and saw a Black female yelling "I was just robbed" repeatedly. The woman was bleeding from her head/face. The woman ran toward [REDACTED] as she got to the 7th floor where she also observed two Black males preparing to fight. [REDACTED] recalled hearing Officer [REDACTED] yelling "law enforcement." As [REDACTED] tried to guide the woman away from the scene, she heard a scuffle and observed Officer [REDACTED] head recoil backwards from what she believed was a strike from one of the males wearing a gray jacket. The man then postured aggressively and appeared he was going to continue to attack Officer [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated she went to assist Officer [REDACTED] along with Deputy Feery and Sgt. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said she was near the feet of the subject, later identified as Meeks, while on the floor of the garage. Meeks was "thrashing about, actively resisting" according to [REDACTED]. Sgt. [REDACTED] yelled "tase him" several times and [REDACTED] reported hearing a taser deployment followed instantly by the sound of a loud pop. [REDACTED] said she heard Officer [REDACTED] yell "he shot himself in the head" and she smelled gun powder. [REDACTED] stated Meeks went limp after the gunshot and she believed he had died. [REDACTED] recalled seeing blood pooling near Meeks' head. Once the realization was made that Meeks was still alive, [REDACTED] assisted in providing aid to Meeks until other officers arrived and relieved her.



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█████ could not provide any information as to how Meeks obtained or had control over Officer █████ weapon. █████ said she was near the feet of Meeks during the incident and her view was blocked by Sgt. █████ and Officer █████ or she was concentrating on gaining control over Meeks to get him into custody.

SGT. █████

Sgt. █████ had been in the parking garage speaking with Deputy Feery after parking his vehicle when he heard a female screaming and running toward Officer █████ Sgt. █████ looked down the parking garage and saw two Black males “squaring off,” facing each other with their fists raised as if they were going to fight. Sgt. █████ observed Officer █████ move toward the men and also observed Detective █████ quickly approaching them. Sgt. █████ observed the actions of everyone and believed the men would stop once Officer █████ and Detective █████ were present.

According to Sgt. █████ one of the males backed away from Officer █████ and Detective █████ however, the other male hit Officer █████ and at that moment, Sgt. █████ ran to help. Upon arrival at the incident scene, Sgt. █████ believes he yelled “get on the ground” or something similar to the male. The male (later identified as Meeks) did not comply with the order and lunged at Officer █████ Sgt. █████ said he grabbed Meeks and helped Officer █████ take him to the ground. Meeks ended up on his back and was still trying to fight, and rolled over on his side with his back toward Sgt. █████

Sgt. █████ requested Deputy Feery to utilize his taser and tase Meeks as he continued to fight and not comply. Sgt. █████ then asked Deputy Feery to hand him the taser, which he did, and Sgt. █████ then utilized the taser and tased Meeks. There was no effect and a second firing of the taser was completed by Sgt. █████ At that moment, Sgt. █████ observed Meeks have possession of Officer █████ firearm and saw it pointed toward him. Sgt. █████ reported hearing a gunshot and observing muzzle flash. Sgt. █████ recalled yelling “he’s got █████ gun” but wasn’t sure if it was before or after the gunshot. Sgt. █████ also said he heard Officer █████ say “I didn’t shoot him.” Sgt. █████ observed blood coming from Meeks’ head and called dispatch for a medic. Himself, Officer █████ and Detective █████ then provided aid to Meeks until they were relieved.

Sgt. █████ could not provide any further information regarding how or when Meeks obtained Officer █████ weapon. Upon utilizing the taser, Sgt. █████ stated he was trying to gain compliance from Meeks in order to secure him in custody. Sgt. █████ also said in his statement that he believed Meeks was trying to shoot and kill him.



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OFFICER [REDACTED]

Officer [REDACTED] was in the parking garage awaiting the arrival of Detective [REDACTED] to meet for a work break. Officer [REDACTED] said he was outside his vehicle that was parked along the 7th floor of the parking garage where he and other employees park along the east wall. As Officer [REDACTED] arrived at his vehicle for the break, he stood outside of it and began smoking a cigarette. As he was communicating with Detective [REDACTED] he observed a small silver car quickly pull onto the 7th floor and park on the other side of the garage, opposite his vehicle and to the north by several parking spots. Officer [REDACTED] reported that he could hear yelling coming from inside the car, but could not hear what was being said.

Moments later, Officer [REDACTED] observed a Black male exit the front passenger seat and quickly circle the vehicle (small silver vehicle). Officer [REDACTED] described the man wearing dark color pants and a dark green jacket. As this man approached the passenger side rear door another Black male exited the vehicle wearing a gray hoodie and dark pants. The two men squared up to fight while moving to the north down the garage ramp. A Black female got out of the car and ran toward Officer [REDACTED] yelling “help, help” and “look what he did to me.”

Officer [REDACTED] placed his FCSO lanyard and moved toward the two men fighting. While moving toward the men Officer [REDACTED] stated he was yelling “police, stop, break it up.” Officer [REDACTED] realized the female had followed him down and he was now surrounded by the three of them. Officer [REDACTED] feared the group was going to attack him and was concerned for his safety since he was alone, outnumbered and within a few feet of each person whom he did not know if they were armed or not. Officer [REDACTED] retrieved his weapon and unholstered it, keeping it at a low ready or “sul” position and pointed at the ground.

Officer [REDACTED] said the man in the green jacket began backing away in compliance, but the other male looked at him and said “you don’t understand” and/or “no” and aggressively postured as if preparing to fight Officer [REDACTED]. Since the female and the male in the green jacket backed away compliantly, and the non-compliant male did not appear to have a weapon, Officer [REDACTED] placed his weapon back in the holster and noticed at that point Detective [REDACTED] had joined him. A second later, the man quickly advanced and punched Officer [REDACTED] in the right side of his face. A moment later, Officer [REDACTED] reported that he heard Sgt. [REDACTED] yell “tase him” several times. Officer [REDACTED] tried to leg sweep the man but he quickly ducked away. A second later according to Officer [REDACTED] he grabbed the man and took him to the ground with Sgt. [REDACTED] help. The man, later identified as Meeks, landed in a supine position and was on his left side. Officer [REDACTED]



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placed himself near the upper half of Meeks' body as Sgt. [REDACTED] knelt behind Meeks near his upper back and he could not place Detective [REDACTED] as he lost track of her.

Officer [REDACTED] said as Meeks was thrashing about, he was trying to strike him. While blocking the attempts with his left arm, Officer [REDACTED] struck the suspect with a closed right fist on his upper torso and shoulder in attempts to stop and secure him. Sgt. [REDACTED] repeated his requests to tase him. Officer [REDACTED] recalled at that moment is when he observed Meeks have a handgun in what he believed was his right hand. Officer [REDACTED] also recalled that he instantly recognized the weapon as his own and it was pointed toward Sgt. [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] believed Meeks was going to shoot Sgt. [REDACTED] and he reached for the weapon. At the same time, he reached for the weapon, he heard a taser deployment followed immediately by a loud bang. Officer [REDACTED] realized Meeks had fired the weapon and he yelled "I did not shoot him." Upon observing Sgt. [REDACTED] and seeing that he did not appear to have been shot, Officer [REDACTED] heard Sgt. [REDACTED] say "I know, he had your gun." Officer [REDACTED] then grabbed the gun from Meeks' hand, engaged the safety and holstered the weapon. Officer [REDACTED] observed a gunshot wound to Meeks' head and he appeared lifeless as he was not moving or saying anything and did not appear to be breathing. Sgt. [REDACTED] called dispatch to report the incident and according to Officer [REDACTED] he attempted to call for assistance as well. As Sgt. [REDACTED] was able to speak with dispatch, Officer [REDACTED] called his chief to report the incident.

Sgt. [REDACTED] checked on Meeks and found him to be breathing. Officer [REDACTED] immediately hung up his phone call and retrieved his medical kit to render aid to Meeks. After rendering aid to Meeks along with Sgt. [REDACTED] and Detective [REDACTED] other officers arrived on scene and assisted. Officer [REDACTED] was taken to the FCSO detective offices to await further instructions.

Officer [REDACTED] said he is at a loss as to how Meeks gained access to his weapon. At no time does Officer [REDACTED] recall that he could feel Meeks grab his weapon, pull the weapon from the holster, or if the weapon fell from the holster during the altercation. Officer [REDACTED] said the holster he was utilizing was a level 1 holster, that did not have any retention like a holster with a thumb break, or internal mechanism would have to hold the weapon in the holster.

DEPUTY DECLAN FEERY

Deputy Feery stated he was in the parking garage where he parked his car between the 7th and 8th floor like he normally does. Deputy Feery was gathering his gear out of his vehicle while talking to Sgt. [REDACTED]. Deputy Feery said he heard a commotion and looked down the parking garage where he observed two Black males swinging/throwing punches at each other as well as a Black female running toward Officer [REDACTED]. Deputy Feery observed the female talk to Officer [REDACTED].



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for a moment and then saw Officer [REDACTED] move quickly down the ramp toward the two men fighting. Deputy Feery observed one man walk away toward the female. The other male, later identified as Meeks, started throwing punches at Officer [REDACTED]. Deputy Feery saw Detective [REDACTED] run towards them and he began quickly walking toward them with Sgt. [REDACTED] following with him. Deputy Feery watched the altercation between Meeks, Sgt. [REDACTED], Officer [REDACTED] and Detective [REDACTED] as they tried to gain control and secure Meeks. Deputy Feery said he believed that Sgt. [REDACTED] was on Meeks' left side, Officer [REDACTED] was on the right side and he was near Meeks' head. Deputy Feery was asked by Sgt. [REDACTED] to tase Meeks, but said he couldn't and told Sgt. [REDACTED] that he didn't think the spread of the probes would be good enough. Sgt. [REDACTED] requested the taser from Deputy Feery and he provided it to him. Deputy Feery recalled Sgt. [REDACTED] tasing Meeks in the upper part of his back and within a second or two of the deployment, he heard a gunshot. Deputy Feery observed blood coming from Meeks' head and said that Officer [REDACTED] secured the gun from the suspect's hand. Deputy Feery in his statement said he believed he heard Officer [REDACTED] say "oh shit, he shot himself" or something to that effect. Deputy Feery did not recall seeing Meeks with a weapon prior to hearing the gunshot.

Deputy Feery did not recall seeing Meeks with a firearm until the shot was fired, nor did he recall hearing Meeks say anything during the incident. Deputy Feery did recall hearing officers giving verbal commands, but not exactly what was said. According to Deputy Feery, Meeks never complied and continued to struggle and fight until the gunshot. From his point of view, Deputy Feery could not see exactly what was occurring.

SHEENA DOUMBOUYA

Doumbouya spoke with SA Matt Collins while at the Grant Medical Center after being taken there by ambulance following her involvement in the incident. Doumbouya said she was with her boyfriend, Ives Goa Toure and Rayshawn Meeks. The three of them had met the night before and had consumed alcohol together at Podocks. Afterward, they went to her residence and continued to consume alcohol. According to Doumbouya, they all stayed the night at her residence until they left the morning of March 7th, to take Ives to a court hearing scheduled for 0930 hours.

All three left Doumbouya's residence in her silver Mazda and travelled to the area of the parking garage for the court hearing. Doumbouya said she missed a turn for the parking garage and ended up back on the interstate. Meeks was insisting Doumbouya take him to Livingston Avenue but Ives was concerned about missing his court hearing. According to Doumbouya, they arrived at the parking garage around 0915 hours and were having trouble finding a parking spot and she



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drove to the 7th floor. Doumbouya stated that Meeks mentioned something about Doumbouya and Ives making a comment about his mother. Doumbouya said she and Ives looked at each other trying to figure out what Meeks was talking about when she said Meeks started “acting crazy.” Doumbouya described Meeks as choking her from the back seat and as she turned around to face him, Meeks punched her in the head and attacked her. Ives was out of the car, according to Doumbouya, and Meeks exited the car as well. At that point, Doumbouya tried to help Ives but fell down and hurt her hand. Doumbouya described seeing a deputy or police officer and she ran up to them asking for help. Doumbouya also said that while the whole incident was going on, Meeks tried to take her purse as well. Doumbouya said Meeks was going through some family issues between he and his mom, as well as with his daughter.

While describing the altercation between Meeks and the officers, Doumbouya said that Meeks was trying to hit the female officer when “they tased him and he went down.” Doumbouya was asked by a cop to “go over there,” and as she sat down she heard something “go off.” Doumbouya did not see what or how it happened, and stated she only “heard something go off.”

Doumbouya has known Meeks for 20 years and had never seen him act the way he did. She was in shock and always considered him to be like a brother to her. Doumbouya said Meeks had always treated her very kind, referring her as “queen” and other fond terms. Doumbouya claimed to have assisted Meeks in obtaining a job at Turkey Hill, which he had been working for three or four days prior to the incident. Meeks had told her he had been fired however for what she was told was harassing female employees at work. After being asked about Meeks using drugs, Doumbouya said Meeks and his mother smoke dope (crack) and use cocaine. When asked about their relationship, Doumbouya said they hung out some but not all the time. She was comfortable with having him stay with her and her boyfriend at her residence.

Doumbouya commented to SA Collins that she and Ives had a conversation and Ives told her he saw Meeks grab the gun and that Rayshawn shot himself. SA Collins clarified with Doumbouya that she had not witnessed that, but that is what Ives told her and she confirmed it was in fact that way. SA Collins asked Doumbouya if Meeks had any weapons, including a gun and she stated she did not know.

IVES GOA TOURE

Toure provided a statement about the incident to BCI SA James Poole with SA Todd Fortner present at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Toure explained to agents that he and Doumbouya help people out by giving them a place to stay for a couple nights, which is Doumbouya's apartment. The night prior to the incident (March 6th) Toure said he saw Meeks and he was



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homeless, standing outside the Eight-Ball bar. Toure referred to Meeks as “smooth” during the interview as that is what he knew him by. Toure recalled drinking and hanging out with Meeks and Doumbouya at the bar and ask they were leaving, Toure asked Doumbouya if Meeks could stay with them since he didn’t have a bed for the night. Doumbouya did not want to leave Meeks at the apartment the next morning (March 7th) and Toure explained to Meeks why they wanted him to travel to the courthouse with them.

Toure recalled that Doumbouya drove while he sat in the front passenger seat and Meeks sat in the back seat behind Doumbouya. As they arrived at the parking garage they finally found a parking spot on the 7th floor. As he exited the car, Toure said Meeks grabbed Doumbouya’s purse and without hesitation he recalled Meeks punching Doumbouya in the face as she wouldn’t let go of the purse. Toure said he ran around the car to Meeks’ door but he couldn’t get to it because the car next to them was too close. Toure said he went to the passenger side, swung the door open, and told Meeks to come out.

Toure said Meeks came out of the back seat and started to “square up” with him. There were punches exchanged between himself and Meeks and Toure said he recalled hitting Meeks “good.” Toure observed detectives walking down toward them and he immediately dropped his fighting posture and pointed to Meeks, letting the detectives know he was the aggressor. Toure explained that the detectives approached Meeks and he (Meeks) started swinging and fighting them. Toure said he observed Meeks punch one of the detectives several times making him hunch over. Toure walked to Doumbouya to comfort her and make sure she was okay. Toure observed several more deputies come out and saw a uniformed deputy use a “stun gun” (taser) but it was not effective. Toure stated detectives were able to get Meeks on the ground, but he continued to fight and remembered seeing a look in Meeks’ eyes like he wasn’t going to stop.

Toure turned his back towards the encounter and was consoling Doumbouya when he heard one single gunshot. Toure said he looked back and saw Meeks on the ground and not moving while the detectives got off him. Toure remembered medics taking Meeks and Doumbouya to the hospital while deputies escorted him into the sheriff’s office for interviews.

When asked how long Toure had known Meeks, he said about a month. Toure said Meeks has stayed at Doumbouya’s a couple of times due to being homeless. Toure was also asked if he knew if Doumbouya knew Meeks and he said yes, longer than him but unsure how long as they are friends. Toure explained that while out drinking the night prior, Meeks seemed more depressed than normal and told him about the job loss at Turkey Hill. When asked about calling Meeks “smooth” and not knowing his real name, Toure said that is what everyone calls him and thought



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his first name was Dayshawn or something like that. When asked about if Meeks was using drugs, Toure didn't believe he was and did not see him take any. SA Poole asked why Meeks would try to take Doumbouya's purse if they didn't have anything worth taking and Toure said he was very confused as to why he would try to steal it. Toure made several comments about just wanting to help Meeks and how much potential he had and was a great person. SA Poole asked if Toure heard Meeks say anything about the incident, which Toure said he thought Meeks was saying "give me the purse" and while fighting with Toure, Meeks kept saying "come on bitch, let's go."

Toure said he never saw the deputies or Meeks brandish a firearm during the encounter. Toure explained officers kept yelling at Meeks to "stop and get down," but Meeks did not listen. Toure did not believe that Meeks had a gun on him as well.

Summary

All persons known to have relevant information regarding this investigation have been interviewed (or attempted), and all known pertinent records and evidence have been obtained and reviewed (or attempted). BCI will continue to offer investigative assistance into any newly identified witnesses or information relative to this criminal investigation. BCI's investigation into this Officer-Involved Critical Incident is concluded unless such new information/witnesses is/are identified through grand jury or other means.

Agents remain available for consultation and/or to perform any additional investigation, analysis, processing and/or other assistance/involvement you might deem to be necessary.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved shooting incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent John Butterworth. SA Butterworth can be reached via email at john.butterworth@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at 419.764.5764.