



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



2023-1835
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 114 North Ninth St, Byesville,
OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Jeremiah Wise (S)
Date of Activity: 07/20/2023
Activity Location: Guernsey County Sheriff's Office – Business – 601 Southgate
Parkway, Cambridge, OH 43725, Guernsey County
Author: SA Craig Call

Narrative:

On July 11, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations and Crime Scene Units were requested by the Guernsey County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (shooting) involving members of the Byesville Police Department (BPD), GCSO, and Jeremiah Wise (Wise). It was reported to BCI the incident occurred at Wise's residence, 114 North 9th Street, Byesville, Ohio, and resulted in Wise being shot by officers and transported to a nearby hospital where he ultimately succumbed to his injuries. BCI Special Agent Craig Call (SA Call) was designated as the lead investigator.

BCI was informed BPD Chief of Police [REDACTED], BPD Auxiliary Officer [REDACTED] (Officer [REDACTED], and GCSO Deputy [REDACTED] Deputy [REDACTED] were the officers that fired weapons during the incident. SA Call was informed Attorney Bob Sauter (Attorney Sauter) would be counsel for the above officers. SA Call and Attorney Sauter spoke on the phone and were able to schedule interviews for the above officers for July 20, 2023. Attorney Sauter also indicated he would sit in and provide counsel if needed or requested by any non-shooting witness officers.

After an initial review of the body worn camera footage available and briefly speaking with officers on scene during the incident, it was determined the following officers would be interviewed due to their involvement in the incident:

- Sgt. Bill Patterson (Hostage Negotiations)
- Detective Brian Carpenter (Lead Hostage Negotiator during the event)
- GCSO Special Deputy Courtney Ryan (Tactical Emergency Medical Services/TEMS)
- GCSO Deputy Jeff Barton (GCSO SWAT)
- GCSO Deputy Jon Simmerman (Perimeter during the incident)

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On July 20, 2023, SA Call met with GCSO Sgt. Bill Patterson (Sgt. Patterson) and Attorney Sauter at the Guernsey County Sheriff's Office in reference to obtaining a witness statement from Sgt. Patterson. Prior to beginning the interview SA Call explained to Sgt. Patterson the investigation was not an internal investigation by the GCSO and BPD, but an independent third-party investigation. SA Call further explained the interview was voluntary and could be stopped by Sgt. Patterson at any time. Sgt. Patterson indicated he understood and agreed to be interviewed by SA Call. SA Call provided Sgt. Patterson with BCI's Criminal Investigation Notification Form which Sgt. Patterson reviewed and signed. Attorney Sauter did remain present for the interview.

The audio recording began at approximately 1100 hours.

Sgt. Patterson is a 13-year veteran of the GCSO and is currently assigned as the Sergeant of the GCSO Investigations division. In addition to the above role, Sgt. Patterson is a task force officer with the Department of Homeland Security, an elected representative of the GCSO Supervisors Fraternal Order of Police, and a member of the GCSO Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT).

As a member of the HNT Sgt. Patterson is certified through the Public Agency Training Council (PATC). Sgt. Patterson described the training as three separate phases that he began in March of 2023, and received his certification in May of 2023. Sgt. Patterson indicated the HNT operates independent of the GCSO SWAT team, however it is typical for an HNT member to respond to a SWAT callout in the event the situation warrants their services.

On the date of the incident, Sgt. Patterson indicated he was working on an unrelated search warrant with the GCSO SWAT team when he overheard BPD being dispatched to a suicidal male call on the radio. Upon hearing the call, Sgt. Patterson described responding to an area nearby the 114 North 9th Street residence he described as the LDM factory parking lot. Sgt. Patterson indicated he and Detective Carpenter were designated as the potential hostage negotiators if needed. Sgt. Patterson further explained Sheriff Paden, Major Wilkinson, Detective Carpenter, and he decided to proceed to the residence and meet with BPD [REDACTED] to offer any assistance necessary. Sgt. Patterson indicated [REDACTED] informed them BPD was dispatched to the residence for a welfare check on a potentially suicidal male identified as Wise. Sgt. Patterson said [REDACTED] informed them he briefly made contact with Wise and Wise screamed at him leave the property. Sgt. Patterson said [REDACTED] informed him he and other BPD officers set up a perimeter and awaited assistance from GCSO.

Sgt. Patterson indicated he and the other GCSO officers returned to the LDM lot at this time while BPD continued to hold a perimeter on the residence. Sgt. Patterson said during this time some of Wise's family members arrived in the area and were directed to his location by officers holding the perimeter of the residence. Sgt. Patterson identified one of these family members as Michael Wiley (Wiley) and was under the impression Wiley was Wise's sister's boyfriend. Sgt. Patterson described he and Detective Carpenter listened to a phone conversation between Wiley and Wise and observed Wise to be in a highly agitated state along with making suicidal comments. Sgt. Patterson indicated they asked Wiley to discontinue contact with Wise and allow the HNT to attempt to establish communication with Wise.

Sgt. Patterson said there were several attempts made to contact Wise by a GCSO phone before

asking Wiley to use his phone to establish phone contact with Wise. Sgt. Patterson said they made contact with Wise on the first phone call from Wiley's phone. Sgt. Patterson said Wise continued to appear highly agitated and made continual suicidal and homicidal comments. Sgt. Patterson said Detective Carpenter was the lead negotiator and Sgt. Patterson took notes. Sgt. Patterson said Detective Carpenter was able to establish rapport with Wise throughout several phone calls and believed the negotiations were going well, however Wise never totally de-escalated. Sgt. Patterson said Wise actually requested Detective Carpenter come inside and have a beer with him at one point during the negotiations. Sgt. Patterson indicated he believed Wise to be intoxicated during the phone calls as his speech was slurred and Wise made continual references towards drinking alcohol. Sgt. Patterson estimated this cycle of several phone calls took place over a period of approximately two hours.

Sgt. Patterson said they were informed by family members that Wise disliked BPD due to a recent arrest and it may help to remove them from the area. Sgt. Patterson indicated this was in the process during a phone call with Wise when he heard Wise yelling at perimeter officers over the phone. Sgt. Patterson said Detective Carpenter was attempting to de-escalate Wise by instructing him to return inside the house and not be in possession of any firearms. Sgt. Patterson said Wise indicated he was currently in the possession of a firearm. Sgt. Patterson said Wise remained non-compliant, made continual commentary about shooting law enforcement, and actually quoted Wise as saying he would put "six rounds in their head" of any law enforcement trying to enter his home. Sgt. Patterson said he was in the process of briefing the SWAT team when he clearly heard gunshots come from the area of Wise's residence.

Sgt. Patterson said the SWAT team responded immediately to the residence and made entry into the residence. After the entry was completed, Sgt. Patterson said he moved to the front of the residence and observed GCSO TEMS Ryan rendering aid to Wise. Sgt. Patterson said a crime scene was established with crime scene tape and a crime scene log was established.

Sgt. Patterson said Deputy [REDACTED] BPD [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] were identified as firing their weapons during the incident and their weapons were ultimately secured by Sgt. Rogers. Sgt. Patterson said the above officers were then transported to the local hospital for drug and alcohol testing.

Sgt. Patterson said he instructed GCSO dispatch to contact the BCI radio room to request their response to the scene and tasked Detective Carpenter with securing a search warrant for the residence.

Sgt. Patterson indicated he responded to Southeastern Medical Center emergency room where he learned Wise was deceased. Sgt. Patterson said he took photographs of Wise's body in the presence of the Guernsey County Coroner, which have since been provided to BCI. Sgt. Patterson said Wise was ultimately transported from the hospital to Dr. Lee's office in Licking County in order for an autopsy to be performed.

Sgt. Patterson described returning to the crime scene and met with BCI SAS Kevin Barbeau and provided him a list with of names of the officers present during the incident. Sgt. Patterson indicated BCI was in control of the crime scene at this time and this concluded his involvement in the incident.

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Sgt. Patterson indicated he has no previous personal or professional contact with Wise he is aware of.

SA Call provided Sgt. Patterson with an overhead Google maps view of the area and asked Sgt. Patterson to show where he and the SWAT were staged throughout the incident. Sgt. Patterson noted the staging area as a large parking lot near the intersection of Glass Avenue and North 8th Street. Sgt. Patterson indicated Wise's family members were near this area as well. This area is near the residence, but not within the line of sight. This map has been added to the case file.

Prior to concluding the interview, Sgt. Patterson confirmed the statement he made was free and voluntary and not given under any form a duress.

The interview concluded at approximately 1138 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Patterson CIN

Attachment # 02: Patterson Overhead View

Attachment # 03: GCSO Sgt Patterson Interview



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Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Sgt. Bill Peterson

Printed Name of Interviewee

7/20/23 10:57am

Date / Time

Sgt. Bill Peterson

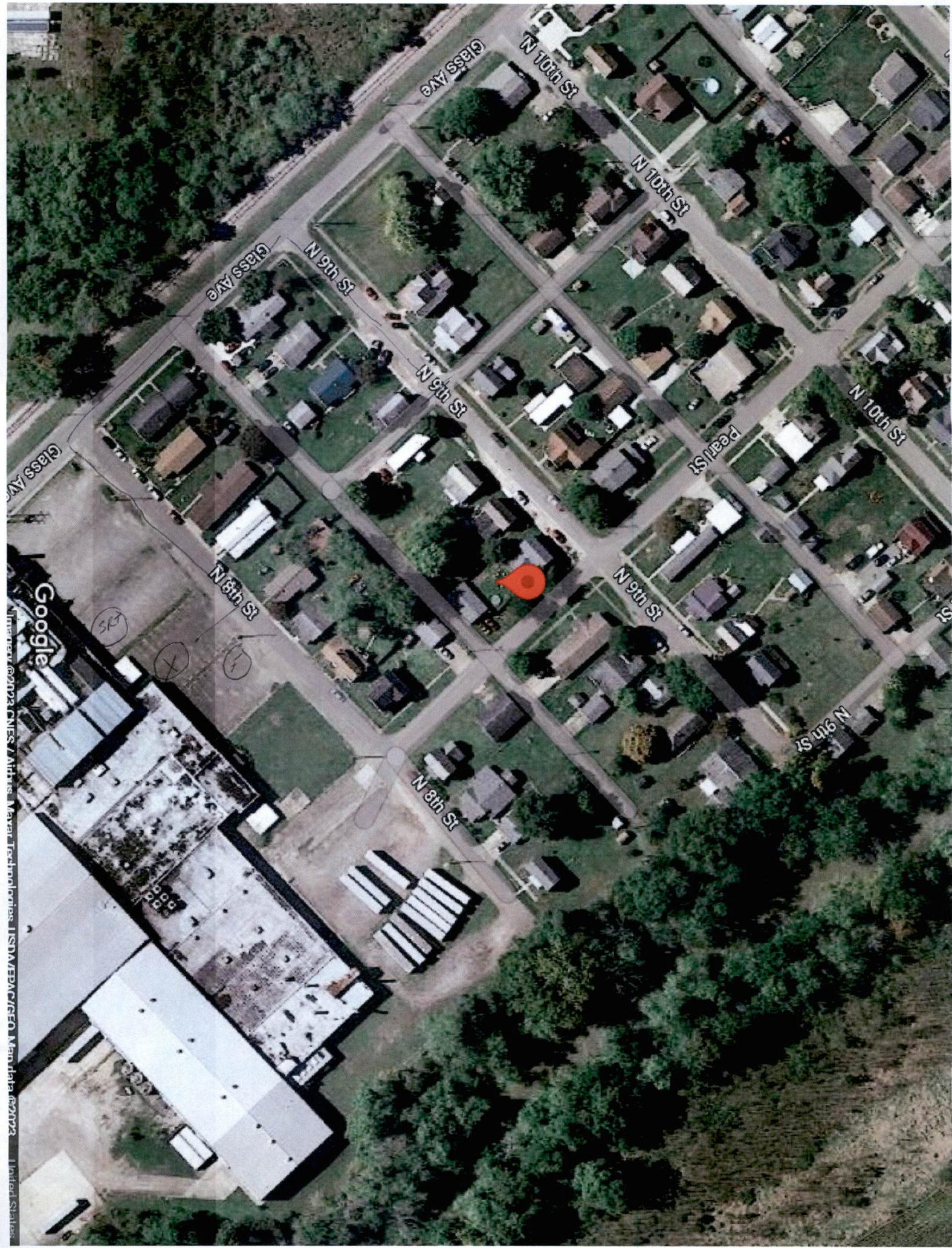
Signature of Interviewee

S.A.T. Craig Call

BCI Agent (Printed)

S.A.T. Craig Call

BCI Agent (Signature)



Bill Patterson