



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



2024-2620

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4206 Northridge Rd.,
Alexandria, OH 43001 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Diane Bell (W)
Date of Activity: 08/30/2024
Activity Location: Riverside Hospital – 3535 Olentangy River Rd, Columbus, OH
43214
Author: SA James Poole

Narrative:

On Friday, August 30, 2024 at 1328 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent James Poole (SA Poole) interviewed Diane Bell (Bell), at Riverside Hospital in Columbus Ohio. Bell was identified as a witness to an Officer-involved critical incident (OICI) that occurred on Friday, August 30, 2024. The OICI situation stemmed from a domestic dispute involving Doug Plott (Plott), who died from his injuries. Also present during the interview was a Licking County Sheriff's Detective. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Bell.

This interview was audio recorded, and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the recording for specific quotes. The following is a summation of the interview.

Bell stated in 2022 her husband had passed away resulting in her brother, Plott, moving into her home to keep her company. Bell stated they had an agreement that Bell would smoke in one room of the house and that Plott had to pay rent when he could.

Bell stated sometime in December of last year she went to the Licking County Sheriff's Office due to Plott threatening her. Bell stated she wanted him to leave her residence which resulted in Plott shoving her against her door while Plott threatened to put her "6 feet under." Bell stated she should have filed charges at the time, but she didn't.

Bell explained, Plott was diagnosed with [REDACTED] but would not take his medicine for years. Bell also stated Plott always seemed depressed in the past year or so. Bell stated she has heard him in his bedroom and bathroom talking to himself, saying irrational things about her and himself.

Bell explained, this past spring, she had a tree trimming company come to clean up the downed

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Approved By SAS James A. Mulford on
10/11/2024

trees from her property. Bell stated Plott got into an altercation with the tree trimming worker, cussing and screaming at him, so the worker left.

Bell detailed, starting last July, Plott stopped doing chores around the house which included taking the trash out, cleaning after himself, etc.. Plott also started spitting on the floor in his bedroom.

On August 30, 2024, Bell explained she was leaving her office room when she bumped into Plott leaving his bedroom. A conversation started where Bell said Plott stated, "I hate my fucking life, I just want to fucking die." Bell told him to leave and get out of her house. Bell stated Plott responded, stating he had no money and no where to go. During the conversation Bell stated Plott lunged at her and said, "you better kill me before I kill you. That's all I got to say." Bell said she immediately walked away and went into her office to let Plott "chill out."

After some time had passed Bell explained she left her office room and noticed Plott's bedroom door was open which was unusual. Bell peeked in his room and found Plott sitting with a huge butcher knife in his hand. Plott then lunged and grabbed Bell by the throat against her office door. As Bell was fighting to get Plott off of her, she stated Plott told her, "now today you die." Bell was able to get her office door open and pushed Plott off of her, shutting the door, locking Plott out in the hallway. Bell immediately messaged her mom and brother explaining how Plott tried to kill her. They eventually called 9-1-1 during the conversation. Later when asked why she didn't immediately call 9-1-1, Bell responded stating she didn't want Plott to hear her because she was scared of what he would do.

9-1-1 dispatcher called Bell's cell phone. Bell answered and asked if the cops where there yet. While on the phone Bell saw someone in black walk by her window with a gun and was scared it was Plott. Bell later explained the fire alarms to her house were going off and she could start to see smoke coming from the hallway. Bell then hid in the corner of her office room. Dispatcher asked if Bell could open a window and escape. Bell stated the air conditioner unit was in the window causing it to be blocked.

Bell stated she was trying to unhook the Air conditioner unit when she heard screaming coming from the hallway. Bell stated Plott then kicked in her door yelling, "you called the cops. Now you're going to die." Plott lunged towards Bell. Bell stated she used her office chair to block Plott but it was thrown to the ground and Plott grabbed her by the neck, causing them both to fall to ground in between the wall and her desk. Bell stated he had two butcher knives in his hands with one to her throat. Bell used her hand to grab the butcher knife to prevent it from cutting her throat which caused her thumb to be sliced open. While falling down Bell later explained her leg was caught in the office chair causing some minor injuries to her leg.

Bell stated that the police then immediately came in and fired at Plott. Bell explained the only shot they had was in the head because he had her around the neck and was behind her. Bell said, "I don't blame them. If they didn't do that...they basically saved me."

Bell detailed that once Plott was shot, the officers retrieved Bell off the ground and escorted her out to safety. While being escorted Bell explained she saw a small fire in her livingroom and back bedroom. While she was waiting for the ambulance, she saw the officers transport Plott from the house to outside where they conducted chest compressions. Bell was then transported

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to Riverside Hospital for her injuries.

The interview concluded at 1406 Hours.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Diane Bell interview

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