

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



2024-1513 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 6382 Georges Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43110 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Officer Ryan Cale (W)

Date of Activity: 05/30/2024

Activity Location: Law Offices of Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman -

4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220

Author: SA Chad Holcomb, #61

Narrative:

On Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 1439 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) and SA Matt Collins (SA Collins) interviewed Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Officer (Ofc.) Ryan Cale (Cale), who was accompanied by his attorney, Nicole Wannemaker, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at the attorney's office in Columbus, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

Ofc. Cale was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the May 16, 2024 officer-involved shooting which occurred around 6382 Georges Creek Drive, Columbus, Ohio. Reportedly, Ofc. Cale did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Ofc. Cale stated his radio call sign on May 16, 2024, was 208. He has been employed by the Columbus Division of Police for about two (2) years. He has been a police officer for a total of two (2) years. During the incident, Ofc. Cale wore his standard police uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove CPD unit #208, a wagon/van, marked with CPD emblems and emergency lights. His partner, Officer Brady Thomas was driving as Ofc. Cale was in the front passenger seat. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident.

Ofc. Cale stated that he and other officers were completing a previous run and he was looking at the computer when a 10-33 [person with a gun], populated. He looked at Ofc. Thomas and the other officers, then said that they needed to head to that scene approximately two minutes down the road.

Once he got to the entrance of the complex, all the officers responding parked their vehicles

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away from the dispatched address. They approached the scene on foot. Ofc. Cale didn't see anyone at the front of the apartment. and two other officers made their way to the back of the building. Yelling was then heard from the backyard. Then took position behind a car and Ofc. Thomas was at the corner of the building. Ofc. Cale took position to the left of Ofc. Thomas. Ofc. Thomas then began to shout commands to the male, Rafael Warfield (Warfield). Commands were announced multiple times.

Ofc. Thomas made another announcement and then "Rafael shoots one to two times to my best recollection and responds with rifle fire." After the gunshots, Ofc. Cale stayed behind Ofc. Thomas for cover. He then went to the front of the building to ensure no one was exiting the front door. Once additional officers arrived on scene, he went around back and found Warfield laying on the ground near the back door.

Officers then cleared the apartment. Ofc. Cale went back around the front of the building to gather two civilian females that were inside the apartment. He then placed the two females in police cruisers.

SA Holcomb asked Ofc. Cale if he ever saw a firearm in Warfield's hand. He replied with, "I couldn't see anything. There was a wooden fence between us and uh where Warfield was."

SA Holcomb asked Ofc. Cale why he didn't discharge his firearm. He replied with, "I just wasn't in it. With the wooden fence there, you couldn't see what was behind it. We didn't know if there was anyone beyond the fence. At the same time, I would've been behind Thomas and we kinda practice the... before meat, like I would've been shooting from the back of the bus."

SA Holcomb asked if Ofc. Cale followed all CPD's policies and procedures that day; he replied with yes.

The interview concluded at approximately 1427 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording is attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-05-30 - Officer Ryan Cale Interview (2024-1513) (2)

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