



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



2021-0584

Officer Involved Critical Incident – Interstate 270 Northbound on  
Big Walnut Creek Bridge, Columbus (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** John N. Fazakas (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 03/05/2021  
**Activity Location:** – I270 and Noe–Bixby Rd, Columbus, OH 43232, Franklin County  
**Author:** SA Jonathan W. Jenkins, #99

**Narrative:**

On March 5, 2021, at approximately 1729 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Jonathan Jenkins was contacted by BCI Special Agent Supervisor Kevin Barbeau. Barbeau assigned Jenkins to assist in a Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI), which occurred in the northbound lanes of travel on Interstate 270, near Noe Bixby Road, in Columbus, Ohio. Barbeau advised Jenkins that one individual was deceased and officers from the Columbus Police Department and deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office were involved in the OICI.

At approximately 1855 hours, Jenkins arrived at the scene of the incident where law enforcement officers had all northbound lanes of travel closed. Jenkins then observed several vehicles parked in the roadway, which were still occupied by drivers and passengers. In addition, there was also what appeared to be a very serious vehicle crash scene where multiple vehicles had received severe damage.

Jenkins then met with BCI Special Agents Rick Ward and Jim Mulford and received a short briefing of the events which had recently taken place. Jenkins was advised that Andrew Teague had been involved in a vehicle pursuit with law enforcement officers and refused to stop. Ultimately Teague decided to travel southbound in the northbound lanes of travel on Interstate 270 where he caused a head-on collision. After the crash, Teague exited his vehicle and attempted to continue to evade capture. At some point in time, a shooting occurred between Teague and law enforcement officers where Teague received a fatal gunshot wound. Ward and Mulford stated all the occupants of the vehicles, which were still parked in the roadway, needed to be interviewed. Jenkins then started to assist with interviewing the potential eye witnesses who were still seated inside their vehicles.

At approximately 1928 hours, Jenkins made contact with John Fazakas, who was driving a silver in color, 2006 Pontiac G6, bearing Ohio registration EAR9738. Jenkins properly

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identified himself and requested permission to speak with Fazakas. Fazakas agreed and the conversation took place on the roadway. During the interview, Fazakas stated he was driving home from work, traveling northbound on Interstate 270, when he saw the traffic ahead of him slow down and come to a stop. Fazakas said as he stopped his vehicle, he observed law enforcement officers crossing the median, between the northbound and southbound lanes. At the same time, he witnessed a black male holding a gun as the officers approached. Fazakas stated he heard the man's gun being fired and saw the recoil. Fazakas said as soon as he saw the unknown man fire his gun, he (Fazakas) immediately ducked down inside his vehicle. Fazakas stated while he was taking cover inside his vehicle he heard multiple more shots being fired. After the shooting stopped, Fazakas said he looked back up and saw the man laying on the ground.

Jenkins asked Fazakas to describe the gun he saw the unknown black male carrying. Fazakas stated the gun was silver in color and semi-automatic. Jenkins asked Fazakas if the officers who approached from the median were Columbus Police Officers or Franklin County Sheriff's Deputies. Fazakas stated the officers were from the Columbus Police Department. Jenkins asked Fazakas if he used any type of recording equipment to take video or pictures. Fazakas stated after the shots were fired he captured a short video, which he agreed to send to Jenkins. The short video will be included as evidence and can be reviewed for details.

Jenkins asked Fazakas if he observed any actions from the officers which he believed were inappropriate. Fazakas stated he did not see any inappropriate actions on the part of law enforcement.

Fazakas did mention to Jenkins he was pretty shook up after seeing the traumatic incident. Jenkins asked Fazakas if he needed to talk to a professional, such as a counselor, about what all he witnessed. Fazakas stated he did not, but may at a later time. Jenkins provided Fazakas a business card and advised him to call anytime, if he needed assistance in locating help.

The interview between Jenkins and Fazakas was audio recorded and can be reviewed for additional details. *See attachment 1 for a copy of the audio recorded interview.*

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01:John Fazakas, audio recorded interview, 3-5-21