



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



2024-1755

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4500 Block of Sullivant Ave,
Columbus, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Ahmed Jama (W)
Date of Activity: 06/12/2024
Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On June 11, 2024, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to respond to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) near 4500 Sullivant Avenue in Columbus, OH. It was initially reported shots were fired by multiple officers from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) during an encounter with an individual believed to be in possession of an edged weapon at this location. The involved individual, later identified as Noel Hernandez Cortaza (Cortaza), was transported to Doctors West Hospital with alleged multiple gunshot wounds, where he was pronounced deceased.

On June 12, 2024, BCI Special Agents Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) and Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) canvassed the area in the vicinity of the OICI to obtain information and statements from potential witnesses. During the neighborhood canvass, SA Douglass and SA Holcomb made contact with Ahmed Jama (Jama) in the parking lot of the Abubakar Asiddiq Islamic Center (AA Mosque), located at 591 Industrial Mile Road in Columbus, OH. Jama provided the following information, in summary:

Jama reported he was present during the OICI encounter between CPD officers and Cortaza on the night of June 10, 2024. Jama explained he was asleep inside his van, which was parked in the western side of the parking lot located at 4501 Sullivant Avenue. Jama described his van being located near the intersection of Sullivant Avenue and Brent Boulevard, along a white fence near Brittany Hill Apartments.

Jama recalled waking up after hearing a commotion outside of his van, and reported his van was struck by gunfire. Jama did not indicate witnessing anything prior to the shooting incident, but said he personally video recorded some of the incident on his cell phone. Jama claimed he was inside his van when it was struck by gunfire, although the video file he provided to BCI of the shooting incident was recorded outside of any vehicle and did not appear to have been recorded in the immediate vicinity to where Jama's van was parked during the incident.

Jama said CPD officers instructed him to leave the area of the incident after gunfire had ceased.

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Jama explained he walked to a nearby apartment where a friend lived, and slept there until the following morning. Jama stated he also filed a police report concerning the damage to his vehicle from alleged gunfire during the incident.

Jama provided the aforementioned video file to BCI electronically, which was subsequently added to Evidence.com/Axon as part of the case file. SA Holcomb took several photos of Jama's van, which appeared to have been struck by a projectile on the rear passenger side, behind the sliding door. Photos taken by SA Holcomb are attached to this report.

References:

Ahmed Jama Civilian Witness Video

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: IMG_0273 – Ahmed Jama vehicle photos

Attachment # 02: IMG_0274 – Ahmed Jama vehicle photos

Attachment # 03: IMG_0275 – Ahmed Jama vehicle photos





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