

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



2024-2371 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 197 West 8th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43201 (L)

Involves: Noah Belknap (W)

Date of Activity: 08/11/2024

Activity Location: - 1517 Worthington Street, Columbus, OH 43201

Author: SA David Wieging, #122

Narrative:

On August 11, 2024 at approximately 1510 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agent David Wieging (SA Wieging) and Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Detective Chris Journey (Detective Journey) interviewed Noah Belknap (Belknap) at the Young Life residence located at 1517 Worthington Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43201. Young Life is an organization that introduces and educates adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. Belknap was interviewed as a witness of an Officer-Involved Critical Incident which had occurred in the vicinity of the residence to include 197 W. 8th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, 43201.

It was reported that on August 11, 2024 at approximately 0817 hours, CPD officers attempted to make contact with Asante Miller (Miller) in response to a forced entry/break-in at the Young Life residence. Upon CPD arrival, Miller attempted to flee the area and an exchange of gunfire occurred at 242 W. 8th Avenue, Columbus. Officers from CPD as well as the Ohio State University Police Department (OSU PD) pursued Miller to 197 W. 8th Avenue, Columbus, where he barricaded himself. While attempting to locate Miller inside the residence, CPD and OSU PD officers were fired upon with at least one responding law enforcement officer returning fire. CPD and OSU PD officers retreated from where Miller had barricaded himself and a single gunshot was heard shortly thereafter. Miller was later located in a bedroom closet and found to be deceased with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. No law enforcement officers were injured.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be the most relevant to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information obtained during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Belknap provided his date of birth as July 14, 2005, and his social security number as

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. He also stated his cell phone number is

Belknap stated he has only been living at the house for a week. He related "everything took place" before he woke up at 0815 hours for church. A text was sent to the prayer group asking for prayers. When Belknap came downstairs the front door was wide open having been kicked in. Belknap observed police vehicles outside. He then heard Bradley Weaver (Weaver), a roommate and who was in a side room, call for him. Once in the room with Weaver, Weaver shared with Belknap that Miller had been in the house, had cocked a gun and ran out of the residence. Belknap said he only met Miller one time. He was aware that Miller was no longer welcome at the house and if Belknap ever saw Miller he was not allowed to let him in.

While in Weaver's bedroom, they heard yelling and gunshots outside. They decided then to go upstairs and barricade themselves. Having contacted the police, they looked outside. Belknap said he did not observe anything. While still on the phone, they were advised that they were safe and it was okay to go outside and speak with the police who were present.

SA Wieging and Detective Journey's interview with Belknap ended at approximately 1514 hours.

A copy of the audio-recorded interview with Belknap is attached to this report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Audio Interview with Noah Belknap 8.11.2024

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