



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



2021-0957
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus,
OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Shai-onta Craig (W), Ma'Khia Bryant (S)
Date of Activity: 04/20/2021
Activity Location: Bryant, Ma'Khia – Home – 3171 Legion Lane, Columbus, OH
43232, Franklin County
Author: SA Shane R. Hanshaw, #102

Narrative:

On Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at approximately 1956 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) SA Hanshaw interviewed Shai-onta Craig (Craig), relative to the officer-involved shooting which took place on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The interview took place near the residence of Angela Moore (Moore), located at 3171 Legion Lane in Columbus Ohio. The interview with Craig was conducted in SA Hanshaw's vehicle, using a handheld recording device. The purpose of interview was to obtain all relevant information regarding the activities that occurred on this date at 3171 Legion Lane in Columbus Ohio.

This report is intended to be a summary of the interview and does not contain all points discussed in the interview. The audio recording in its entirety is attached to this report.

At the onset of the interview, Craig stated, as a child, she lived at the Moore residence. Craig was a foster child to Moore, and considered Moore as a mother. Craig said Tianna Bonner (Bonner), also a former foster child to Moore, was in town visiting Moore for her birthday. Craig said the day before the incident, she and Bonner told Ma'Khia and Ja'Niah they needed to clean their rooms because the rooms were dirty. Craig said she thought this had something to do with how Ma'Khia and Ja'Niah were acting. Craig said she, Ma'Khia, and Ja'Niah have always gotten along. Craig said she lives near close and comes to visit Ma'Khia and Ja'Niah almost ever day and has never had a problem with either of them.

Craig said at approximately 1620 hours, she received a telephone call from Bonner stating that Moore's current foster children, Ma'Khia and Ja'Niah Bryant, were acting crazy. After receiving the call from Bonner, Craig said she drove to Moore's residence to see what was going on. Once inside the residence, Craig said Ma'Khia was standing at the top of the steps with a kitchen knife in her hand. Craig said she and Ma'Khia had a verbal exchange and she eventually left the Moore residence. Craig said she was outside and waited on Ma'Khia and

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Ja’Niah to come outside, but they did not come out. Craig stated she went to the door and spoke briefly with Ma’Khia and Ja’Niah’s grandmother. Craig did not know the grandmother's name. Craig said the grandmother closed and locked the door.

Craig stated she left the residence and went back to her residence to pick up her fiancée, Kennedy Watkins (Watkins). Craig and Watkins then went back to Moore’s residence. Craig said when she and Watkins arrived, Bonner told her that the police was on the way. Craig said as they first arrived, two African American males pulled up in a gold colored car. Craig said there was a small child, estimated to be about five years old in the gold colored car. Craig said Ma’Khia was standing in front of her and had a kitchen knife in her right hand. Craig said Ma’Khia was holding the knife behind her back, but she was able to see the knife. Craig said almost immediately, Ma’Khia charged toward her with the knife pointing toward her. Craig estimated that Ma’Khia was about ten feet away from her when she began to run toward her. Craig said as Ma’Khia got close to her, she went to the ground and tried to protect herself because she is pregnant. Craig said she thought she felt a body on top of her when she was on the ground.

Craig said as the incident was unfolding, two police officers arrived at the scene. Craig stated one of the officers was a black male, and the other officer was a white male. Craig said she could hear the officer giving verbal commands to Ma’Khia, but Ma’Khia was not listening. Craig said she did not think Ma’Khia saw the officers. Craig said she was unsure of the exact words the officer’s used, but thought they said drop the weapon and step back. Craig later said the officers may have also told Ma’Khia to get down.

When asked, Craig said the incident happened extremely fast. Craig said Ma’Khia charged her with the knife, the officers arrived, verbal commands were given by the officers to Ma’Khia, and shots were fired almost simultaneously. Craig said the white police officer was near her at the time of the incident and fired the shots. When asked if she was injured, Craig said her back was hurting, but had no additional injuries.

The interview with Shai-onta Craig was concluded at approximately 2041 hours.

A copy of the audio recorded interview with Shai-onta Craig is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Interview with Shai-onta Craig