

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



2022-0498 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus 43215 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Ives Goa Toure (W)

Date of Activity: 03/07/2022

Activity Location: Franklin County Sheriff's Office – Business – 373 South High

Street, Floor 2B, Columbus, OH 43215, Franklin County

Author: SA James Poole

Narrative:

On Monday, March 7, 2022, Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was contacted by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in regard to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident situation that occurred at a downtown multi-level parking garage located at 34 E. Fulton Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43215. This event occurred on the seventh floor of the structure. BCI was informed there was some sort of altercation between two (2) males and a female. When law enforcement observed the situation, they attempted to intervene. A physical altercation ensued between one of the males and law enforcement. During the altercation a firearm was discharged and the male was struck in the head and transported to Grant Hospital in critical condition. BCI was requested by the FCSO to investigate the situation.

These interviews were audio recorded and a copy of the recording was saved electronically within the case file. Please refer to the recording for specific quotes. The following is a summation of the interview.

On March 7, 2022, at 1148 hours, Special Agents James Poole (SA Poole) and Todd Fortner (SA Fortner) interviewed Ives Toure (Toure) in the Franklin County Sherriff's interview room on the 3rd floor, due to the fact the deputies detained Toure and placed him in the interview room, to wait for BCI to arrive. SA Poole read Toure his Miranda rights where Toure acknowledged, signed, and agreed to speak with the Agents without a lawyer present. An electronic copy of the rights waiver is stored in the case file and is attached below.

Toure explained that he and his girlfriend, identified as Sheena Doumbouya (Doumbouya), like to help people out by giving them a place to stay for a couple nights at Sheena's apartment. On March 6, 2022, the night prior, Toure claimed he saw the suspect, later identified as Rayshawn Meeks (Meeks) by his Ohio ID, homeless outside the Eight-ball bar. Toure kept referring to Meeks as "Smooth" throughout the interview, because he didn't know his full name. Toure

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remembered drinking and hanging out with Meeks and Doumbouya at the bar. Once they were going to leave, Toure recalled asking Doumbouya if Meeks could come over and stay since he didn't have a bed for the night. Toure stated Doumbouya agreed. After a little bit of small talk, Toure recalled everyone went to bed since Toure had to be at court in the morning.

When they woke up, Toure explained how it was, "The perfect morning," with nothing out of the ordinary. Doumbouya did not want to leave Meeks at the apartment by himself so Toure explained they asked Meeks to go to court with them. Toure remembered Doumbouya drove, with Toure in the passenger seat, and Meeks sitting behind Doumbouya in the back seat.

Toure recalled when they arrived at the parking garage on 34th E. Fulton Ave, they finally found a parking spot on the 7th floor. Toure stated he was getting out of the car to go to court when Meeks reached forward and grabbed Doumbouya's purse. Without hesitation Toure remembered Meeks started punching Doumbouya in the face since she wouldn't let go of the purse. Toure ran around the car to Meek's door, but he recollected the vehicle was parked too close so he couldn't get him out. Toure explained he ran back to the other side, swung the door open, and told Meeks to come out.

Toure explained that Meeks came out of the back seat and started to, "Square up," with Toure. Some punches were exchanged and Toure remembers hitting Meeks "good." At that point, Toure saw a couple of detectives walking down the parking lot towards them. Toure stated he immediately dropped his fighting posture and pointed to Meeks letting the detectives know he was the aggressor.

Toure explained the detectives approached Meeks where he started to swing and fight the detectives. Toure stated he saw Meeks punch one of the detectives several times making him hunch over. Toure remembered walking back to Doumbouya to comfort her and make sure she was okay. Toure stated several more deputies came out. Toure then saw a uniformed deputy use a "stun gun" (deployed a TASER) on Meeks, but Toure explained how it was not effective since Meeks was still fighting. Toure saw that the detectives were able to get Meeks on the ground, but he was still fighting. Toure remembered seeing a look in Meeks' eyes like he wasn't going to stop.

Toure turned his back towards the encounter and was consoling with Doumbouya when he heard one single gunshot. Toure looked back and saw Meeks on the ground not moving and the detectives getting off Meeks.

Toure remembered medics taking Meeks and Doumbouya to the hospital while deputies escorted him into the sheriff's office to wait to be interviewed.

SA Poole asked Toure how long he has known Meeks. Toure said he has known him for about a month where he has stayed a couple times at Doumbouya's apartment due to being homeless.

SA Poole asked if Doumbouya has known Meeks. Toure said yes, she has known Meeks longer, but doesn't know how long. The relationship between them are just friends.

Toure explained when they were out drinking the night prior that Meeks did seem more depressed than usual and told Toure that he had lost his job from the Turkey Hill.

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SA Poole asked why Toure did not know Meek's name and only called him by Smooth. Toure explained that everyone called him Smooth and he believed his first name might have been Dashawn or something like that. SA Poole asked Toure to describe Meeks to make sure Toure could positively identify Meeks. Toure stated Meeks was a male black, five foot eleven inches, with tattoos on his neck, skinny, and had long braids.

SA Poole asked if Meeks was on any drugs. Toure stated he didn't believe so and never saw him take any.

Sa Poole asked why Meeks would take Doumbouya's purse and if there was anything in it like money, drugs, or a gun. Toure stated there was nothing in Doumbouya's purse because they didn't have much money, she doesn't have a gun, and they don't do drugs. Toure explained that he was very confused on why he would try to steal it when he knew they didn't have anything.

Toure explained several times throughout the interview how they just wanted to help Meeks and how much potential Meeks had to be a great person.

SA Poole asked if Toure heard Meeks say anything during the encounter. Toure believes Meeks was yelling, "give me the purse," when trying to steal it and during fighting with Toure, he kept saying, "come on Bitch, let's go."

SA Poole asked Toure if the detectives or deputies ever said anything during the encounter. Toure explained they kept yelling at Meeks to, "Stop, and get down." Where Toure explained Meeks would not listen.

Toure explained he never saw the deputies or Meeks brandish a firearm during the encounter. He also explained he didn't believe Meeks had a gun on him.

SA Poole asked Toure if he could draw a map of where everyone was located during incident. Toure agreed and walked the Agents through the incident again, but this time showing the Agents where everyone was located on the drawing. An electronic copy of the drawing is attached to the case file. The original hard copy is saved in the physical case file.

SA Fortner asked Meeks if he believes the detectives or deputies did anything wrong. Toure explained no, because the detectives saved he and Doumbouya's lives from Meeks. Toure stated he didn't know what would have happened if they didn't show up.

SA Poole asked if Toure was under the influence of any alcohol or drugs that would prohibit him from giving an accurate testimony. Toure stated, "No."

The interview ended at 1240 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022-03-07 Ives Toure interview

Attachment # 02: Ives Toure Miranda Waiver

Attachment # 03: Ives Toure Map Drawling 2022-03-07

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Miranda Waiver

Warning of Rights

Before we ask you any questions, you must understand your rights.

You have the right to remain silent.

Anything you say can be used against you in court, or other proceedings.

You have the right to talk to a lawyer for advice before we ask you any questions to have him with you during questioning.

If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you before any questioning if you wish.

Signe

Date

Time

If you decide to answer questions now without a lawyer present, you will still have the right to stop the questioning at any time. You also have the right to stop the questioning at any time until you talk to a lawyer.

Waiver of Rights

I have read this statement of my rights and it has been read to me, and I understand what my rights are. I am willing to make a statement and answer questions. I do not want a lawyer at this time. I understand and know what I am doing. No promises or threats have been made to me and no pressure or coercion of any kind has been used against me. I hereby voluntarily and intentionally waive my rights and I am willing to make a statement and answer questions.

SHED	Signed	
Witness	Date	
	Time	

Witness

Witness

