



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



2024-2738

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 345 Lincoln Ave.,
Lancaster, OH 43130 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Corporal Austin Reeves
Involves: Cpl. Austin Reeves
Activity Date: 01/07/2025
Activity Location: 345 Lincoln Ave., Lancaster, OH
Authoring Agent: SA Aja Chung, #86

Narrative:

On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, at 1422 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung (SA Chung) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Fairfield County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Corporal (Cpl.) Austin Reeves (Cpl. Reeves), who was accompanied by his attorney, Joe Hegedus, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the above-mentioned activity location. The interview was audio recorded, was saved to the case file and is attached with this report.

Cpl. Reeves was identified as being a corrections officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the September 7, 2024 use of force incident which occurred inside the Fairfield County Jail (FCJ). The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Cpl. Reeves.

Cpl. Reeves has been employed with the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office for five (5) years, with eight (8) years total in law enforcement. Cpl. Reeves' badge number was CO 19 and on September 7, 2024, his normal shift hours were 0800 hours to 1600 hours. Cpl. Reeves explained his shift supervisor role was to ensure daily corrections officer activities get completed, and sometimes serve as extra support when low staffed.

Cpl. Reeves told agents he was briefed from the previous shift that Evangelista was under the influence of drugs based on the behavior Evangelista displayed since he was brought in.

Cpl. Reeves advised he was standing at the central monitoring/booking island, and he heard Evangelista fall down. Cpl. Reeves said he checked Evangelista to assess him. Cpl. Reeves stated he recognized something was wrong with Evangelista. Cpl. Reeves advised he did a sternum rub, touched his shoulder, and tapped on Evangelista's chest in an attempt to get Evangelista's attention. Evangelista did not respond to those efforts and Cpl. Reeves requested the nurse/medical.

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Cpl. Reeves stated he told corrections officer (CO) Hoy to call for a medic to respond to FCJ. At that same time, CO Keys and the nurse came to the cell and began life saving measures, that consisted of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Cpl. Reeves indicated as he was waiting for medics to arrive, he was organizing assignments for medical transport and contacting his supervisors. Once medics arrived, Cpl. Reeves indicated FCJ personnel kept out of the way until transport left.

The interview concluded at approximately 1434 hours.

References:

None

Attachments:

1. Cpl. Austin Reeves interview

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