



**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: Witness Interview
Involves: C.O. Cody Factor
Activity Date: 01/07/2025
Activity Location: 345 Lincoln Ave., Lancaster, OH 43130
Authoring Agent: SA James H Gore

Narrative:

On Tuesday, January 07, 2025, at approximately 1401 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung (SA Chung) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Correctional Officer Cody Factor (Ofc. Factor) at the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) in Lancaster. Ofc. Factor was accompanied by attorney Joe Hegedus, of the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The purpose of the interview was to obtain any relevant information that Ofc. Factor had regarding the death of inmate Chad Evangelista (Evangelista). Ofc. Factor was identified as an employee who witnessed and/or had some level of interaction with Evangelista during Evangelista's period of detention at the Fairfield County Jail on or about September 7, 2024.

Ofc. Factor advised that he has worked at the FCSO jail since March 2, 2024, and his badge number is 86. Ofc. Factor said he previously served in the United States Marine Corps.

Ofc. Factor stated on September 7, 2024, he was working his normal shift, which was 1600 – 2400 hours. He said that Mr. Evangelista appeared to be visibly intoxicated when he arrived at the jail. Ofc. Factor said he assisted Ofc. Kunkler and [REDACTED] escort Evangelista into the facility from the sally port. Ofc. Factor explained that Evangelista was being resistive by "dead-weighting" himself or refusing to move. Ofc. Factor mentioned that officers stabilized Evangelista's body on the ground using "three points of contact," without manipulating his head as the handcuffs were removed from him. Ofc. Factor said after the handcuffs were taken off, Evangelista was placed in one of the pre-intake rooms to detoxify.

Ofc. Factor stated that Evangelista inexplicably kept reciting his own name, his mother's name, and his mother's address. Ofc. Factor said the staff did not observe any medical condition for which Evangelista would have needed treatment at the time.

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Ofc. Factor recalled that around 2215 hours, he responded to the booking area for a radio call for assistance from Ofc. Kunkler. He said when he arrived, he saw Ofc. Kunkler and [REDACTED] in distress in the pre-intake area. Ofc. Factor stated that OC spray (oleoresin capsicum, pepper spray) had already been administered, and Ofc. Kunkler was escorting Evangelista to the ground.

Ofc. Factor said he assisted the officers by attempting to handcuff Evangelista, but he continued to resist by pulling his arms away. Ofc. Factor stated that [REDACTED] deployed her OC spray again.

Ofc. Factor said after Evangelista was placed in cuffs, he went and retrieved a restraint chair. The officers then placed Evangelista in the chair. Ofc. Factor said he saw blood on Evangelista's mouth, and he speculated that Evangelista may have bit his own lip when he was taken to the ground. Ofc. Factor said he called for an emergency squad to come to the jail and evaluate Evangelista. Ofc. Factor explained that as he was calling for the medics, Evangelista was moved in the chair into the change-out room to decontaminate from the OC spray.

According to Ofc. Factor, when the medics arrived, Evangelista refused to let them evaluate him or monitor his vital signs. Ofc. Factor said Evangelista called them 'robbers' and 'ninjas' and other similar words. Ofc. Factor described Evangelista as being very sweaty, and the medics were reportedly unable to get any vital sign readings. Ofc. Factor stated that Evangelista was then placed into a cell, while still in the restraint chair.

Ofc. Factor said when the midnight shift arrived, he assisted other officers with loosening Evangelista's limb restraints. Once the restraints were loosened, Evangelista reportedly resisted again by bracing or lifting one of his legs up. Officers had to force Evangelista's knee down to get his limb into a position to tighten the restraint again.

Ofc. Factor advised he had no other interaction with Evangelista.

The interview concluded at approximately 1418 hours. An audio copy of Ofc. Factor's interview is available for further review as an attachment to this report.

References:

No references.

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Attachments:

1. C.O. Cody Factor Interview

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