

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



2022-1726 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 15266 Gilchrist Rd., Mt. Vernon (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: DCSO Dep. (S)

Date of Activity: 08/31/2022

Activity Location: Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association – 92 Northwoods

Boulevard, Columbus, OH 43235, Franklin County

Author: SA John P. Tingley, #154

Narrative:

On Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at approximately 1104 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Tingley (Tingley) and SA Andy Russell (Russell) interviewed Delaware County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) Deputy (Dep.)

who was accompanied by Joe Hegedus, attorney from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the OPBA office, which is located at 92 Northwoods Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

Dep. was presented with the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form; which he read, understood and signed.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance 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 elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions, nor is it a word–for–word translation of either the questions or answers. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name:	Rank: Deputy
Badge Number:	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: N/A

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Radio Call Sign: N/A	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Diaz	
Radio Channel Utilized: SO21	Mobile Data Terminal: N/A	
Cruiser Description: Bearcat - Armored	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: N/A	
Assignment: Patrol & SWAT	Normal Shift: 2045 - 0400 (K-9)	
In-Car Camera: N/A	Spotlight: N/A	
Emergency Lights: N/A	Siren: N/A	
Shift Day of Incident: 2045 - 0400	Duty Status: SWAT	
Days Off: Sunday & Monday	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No	
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Unsure	Consider Self Well Rested: Yes	
Total Length as Officer: 25	Length at Current Agency: 22	
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No	
Uniform Worn: Tactical	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Rifle magazines, Radio	
Ballistic Vest: Outer Carrier/Tactical	Body Worn Camera: Yes	
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: Tactical Team	
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None	
Training or Areas of Specialty: SWAT, CIT	OPOTC Certification: Yes	
Military Experience/Training: No	Use-of-Force Training: Yes	

Prior Shooting Incidents: Yes	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force
	Complaints: No
Medications, Prescriptions or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No

Officer's Firearm

Weapon #1

Make: Daniel Defense	Model: MK 18
Caliber/Gauge: .223/5.56	Serial:
Type: Semi Auto Rifle	Method of Carry: Sling
Magazine Capacity: 30/Loaded to 27	Total Rounds as Carried (including
	chamber): 28
Extra Magazines: 5	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines:
	135
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident:	Number of Rounds Fired: 6 – 12
Unknown	
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right	Ownership: DCSO

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Last Qualification Date: May or June 2022 Type of Holster, if any: N/A		
Dep. read a written statement that he had prepared prior to his interview. After Dep. read his statement, agents asked several additional questions related to the incident. A summary of that information from the written statement is detailed below.		
Dep. advised that on August 20, 2022, at 0059 hours, the Delaware Tactical Unit (DTU) was activated to respond to the Knox County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) in regard to a shooting incident. He stated that two male subjects had shot at a bail bondsman and also at an Ohio State Highway Patrol helicopter. It was determined that the DTU would wait until daylight to deploy, as the two subjects were doing security sweeps of the property.		
Dep. stated that his DTU team and their Bearcat were deployed on Gilchrist Road, approximately half of a mile south of the subject's property at 15266 Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.		
While maintaining this position, drones were being used to monitor the two subjects' activities. At times, both of the male subjects were observed to be carrying long guns. The DTU team was then notified by incident command that the two subjects had left the residence on Gilchrist Road and were traveling west to the residence of one of the other subjects, located on 15159 Monroe Mills Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.		
Dep. advised that at this time, the DTU team was given the command to move to the residence on Gilchrist Road (the mother's house at 15266 Gilchrist Road) and to set up on the west side of the residence, in order to deny the two subjects access to the residence. Another DTU team in a BATT armored vehicle would attempt to contact the subjects at the Monroe Mills location.		
Dep. stated that his DTU team, in their Bearcat, approached the property on Gilchrist Road; went through the locked gate; and then went up to the residence. Once the Bearcat was parked beside the residence, Dep. stood up in the Bearcat turret and began covering the DTU team from that position.		
Once their position was established, Dep. advised that he heard numerous gunshots to the west; then several members of the DTU at the Monroe Mills Road location advised "shots fired" and that both male subjects were engaging them with gunfire. The DTU team at the Monroe Mills Road location then advised that the BATT armored vehicle had sustained damage to the windshield.		
Dep. advised that command then advised that the two subjects were on a "quad" vehicle and coming back toward the Gilchrist Road location. Dep. was		

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still maintaining his position in the turret and heard a vehicle coming.

Dep. stated, "I then saw a side-by-side vehicle through the tree line. The side by side came through an access drive through the tree line. The side by side began turning towards the house and I observed the passenger pointing a rifle towards me and the DTU members outside of the Bearcat. Fearing for my life and the safety of the DTU members outside of the Bearcat, I engaged the armed passenger with my rifle, shooting approximately 6 to 12 times. I finished engaging the armed passenger soon after the side by side came to rest and the threat was no longer present."
Dep. continued, "I engaged the armed passenger because I feared for my life and the lives of the DTU team members who were outside of the Bearcat when the passenger pointed his rifle in our direction."
DTU members in the MRAP and OSHP tactical units in the Bearcat then made contact with the subjects in the side by side. A Tactical Emergency Medical System (TEMS) unit with the OSHP tactical team checked the two subjects and pronounced them deceased.
Dep. stated that he and his DTU team were then told to get back into their Bearcat because of a possible explosive device. He stayed in the Bearcat until he was advised to return to the command post.
SA Tingley asked Dep. that in his statement he had mentioned that he heard various reports over the radio. He was asked what radio frequency he was monitoring. Dep. replied that he was monitoring the DTU channel but the team inside of the Bearcat was also monitoring the Knox County Sheriff's Office channel.
SA Tingley asked Dep. if the subject who was pointing the weapon at him had fired any rounds toward Dep. or the other DTU members. Dep. replied that he did not know.
SA Tingley asked Dep. if his actions were consistent with his training and experience; Dep. replied, yes.
SA Tingley asked how many other officers were with the Bearcat. Dep. replied that there were two negotiators, one KCSO SWAT deputy and six DTU members, including himself.
SA Russell asked Dep. how did he know the subjects had night vision, thermal imaging, high caliber rifles and possible body armor, as mentioned in his written statement. Dep. stated that he had been briefed by command.
SA Russell asked Dep. what it was that he saw that reflected as a rifle being held by the quad passenger. Dep. replied that the item was sticking out from the quad passenger's right hand, and he could clearly make it out as a rifle pointing at him and the DTU, even though he could not determine exactly what kind of rifle it

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was.

SA Russell then asked Dep. what the distance was when he engaged the quad. Dep. replied that it was 50 yards.

The interview was then concluded at approximately 1124 hours.

This interview was audio recorded. The audio recording, written statement and signed BCI Criminal Notification form are all attached to this case file.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022–1726 WRITTEN STATEMENT

Attachment # 02: 2022–1726 BCI CRIMINAL NOTIFICATION FORM
Attachment # 03: 2022–1726 DCSO DEPUTY INTERVIEW – INVOLVED

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On August 20, 2022 at 0059 hrs the Delaware Tactical Unit (DTU) was activated to respond to the Knox County Sheriff's Office reference a shooting. Two male subjects shot a bail bondsman's vehicle and they shot at the Ohio State Patrol helicopter on Gilchrist Road. Upon arrival, it was determined that DTU would wait to deploy to the target location closer to daybreak due to the subjects having night vision, thermal imaging, high caliber rifles, and possibly wearing ballistic rated armor plates. The two subjects were also doing security sweeps of the property in their vehicle.

I was assigned to the DTU bearcat with other DTU members, Delaware Negotiators, and one Knox County Deputy. Prior to sun up we positioned ourselves on Gilchrist Road approximately half of a mile South of the target location.

We held this position while negotiators attempted contact with the two male subjects. While standing by in this position, drones were over head of the target location and we were advised by Command that two male subjects were observed moving around the property. The male subjects were observed with long guns at various times. Command also advised that the male subjects had positioned a large propane truck at the end of the driveway to the target location, I assumed, to be utilized as a bomb.

Command advised that the two males had left the target location on Gilchrist Road and had traveled West to one of the subject's residence on Monroe Mills Road in a vehicle. At this time, Command advised our team to move to the target location and set up on the West side of the residence on Gilchrist to deny them access to the residence if they were to return. DTU members in the BAT armored vehicle would approach the residence on Monroe Mill Road and attempt contact with the two males.

We approached the residence on Gilchrist in the Bearcat, went through the locked fence, past the propane tanker truck, and then up to the residence. We went around the backside of the residence and parked. I took a position in the Bearcat turret covering out to the West. The negotiators in the Bearcat began hailing on the loud speaker for anyone in the house to come out the back door.

After we established our position I heard numerous gunshots to the West. Then several DTU members at the Monroe Mills Road location advised "shots fired" and both male subjects were engaging them with gunfire. I continued hearing gunshots coming from the West. Sgt. Karbler then advised that the BAT he was in had sustained gunshots to the windshield and the windshield had been compromised.

Command then advised the two subjects were on a quad vehicle and they were coming back to the East and coming fast. I was still in the turret of the Bearcat and could hear a vehicle coming from the West. I then saw a side-by-side vehicle through the tree line. The side-by-side came through an access drive through the tree line. The side-by-side began turning towards the house and I observed the passenger pointing a rifle towards me and the DTU members outside of the Bearcat. Fearing for my life and the safety of the DTU members outside of the Bearcat, I engaged the armed passenger with my rifle shooting approximately 6-12 times. I finished engaging the armed passenger soon after the side-by-side came to rest and the threat was no longer present.

I engaged the armed passenger because I feared for my life and the lives of DTU team members who were outside of the Bearcat when the passenger pointed his rifle in our direction.

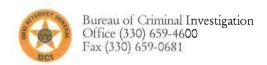
DTU members in the MRAP and OSP Units in the BEAR made contact with the subjects in the side-by-side. A TEMS unit pronounced the two subjects in the side-by-side. MRAP team and

BEAR team then backed away from the side-by-side and advised our team to get back into our Bearcat because of a possible explosive device.

I stayed in the Bearcat until I was advised to return to the Command.







Criminal Investigation Notification

- 1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- 3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Printed Name of Interviewee	8/31/22 11:04 Am Date / Time
Sig	
SA Jaw / (Navy *154) BCI Agent (Printed)	
St / 154 BCI Agent (Signature)	