



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



2025-2000
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - Tiedeman Road at I-480
 West, Brooklyn, OH 44144, Cuyahoga County

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 07/03/2025
Activity Location: FOP Lodge 15 - 716 W. 130th St., Hinckley, OH 44233
Authoring Agent: SA Allison Fletcher

Narrative:

On Thursday, July 03, 2025, at 1050 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Allison Fletcher (Fletcher) and SA Daniel Boerner (Boerner) interviewed Strongsville Police Department (SPD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Brian Smith, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at FOP Lodge 15 (716 W. 130th Street, Hinckley, Ohio 44233). The interview was audio and video recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

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. 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: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Commander Holderbaum
Radio Channel Utilized: Yes	Mobile Data Terminal: Not Present
Cruiser Description: SPD Supervisor vehicle - marked black SUV "Strongsville Police", [REDACTED]	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: N/A

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Assignment: ██████████	Normal Shift: ██████████
In-Car Camera: Operational, But Not Used	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present; Not Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: ██████████ ██████████) went straight to training after shift	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Unsure days off prior	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 5 hours before shift Monday night	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: ██████████	Length at Current Agency: ██████████
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Black t-shirt, ranger green plate carrier "Police" and SEB patch, multi-cam pants, helmet	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: regular duty belt with department issued Glock
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Not Present
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: Basic sniper, advanced sniper, CIT, peer support, SWAT basic training, advanced SWAT, hostage rescue	OPOTC Certification: OHSP Academy
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Force Science, yearly use of force update, teaches UOF at police academy
Prior Shooting Incidents: 8 total - involved officer in 2 prior ██████████ ██████████ 6 as witness officer	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
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

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Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Surgeon Scalpel	Model: Precision Rifle equipped with a suppressor
Caliber/Gauge: .308 caliber	Serial: Unknown
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: N/A
Magazine Capacity: 5	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 5
Extra Magazines: 1 extra mag in truck	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: Unknown
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 4	Number of Rounds Fired: 1
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Personally Owned
Last Qualification Date: 2-weeks prior	Type of Holster, if any: Tripod

██████████ reviewed drone footage of the incident two times. What he observed in the video was primarily what he recalled seeing and experiencing during the incident. The only difference ██████████ observed was that the drone captured the incident from overhead and showed the subject dropping the firearm that he held after being shot. Based upon ██████████ position during the incident, his view would have been obstructed and unable to see the subject after he fell.

Narrative:

After obtaining the preliminary and demographic information, ██████████ provided the following information related to the incident on June 24, 2025.

██████████ was at training on the day of the shooting incident. He has been assigned as a fulltime ██████████ for the Strongsville Police Department (SPD) and the Southwest Enforcement Bureau (SEB) SWAT team. ██████████ participates in weekly trainings for his assigned position.

While at training, ██████████ received a page via the 911 app utilized by the SEB SWAT team for call-outs and deployments. The page he received included information about a suicidal male in Brooklyn, Ohio and notified the user of the best route to the location.

While enroute to the incident, ██████████ contacted his Assistant Commander from the SWAT team to speak about "potential vantage points" where ██████████ could

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position himself. [REDACTED] was familiar with the area where the incident was located and was formulating a plan for his arrival.

[REDACTED] arrived on the scene at approximately 1150 hours. When he arrived, he parked his vehicle on the bridge that was south of the incident location. After parking his vehicle, [REDACTED] observed a crash scene surrounded by a SWAT armored vehicle parked on the east side of the roadway near the I-480 exit ramp to Tiedeman Road and numerous marked patrol vehicles surrounding a black pickup truck.

After taking a position behind the Bearcat, [REDACTED] learned that the involved subject was inside the black pickup truck located in the center of the intersection. [REDACTED] then positioned himself on top of the Bearcat in order to get a better position to observe the subject. From his position, he could see the subject sitting in the front seat of the vehicle moving around. He also observed a firearm in the subject's hand.

The weather at the time of the incident was sunny with high temperatures. Due to this, [REDACTED] had to move from his position on top of the Bearcat due to the heat causing the vehicle to become extremely hot. [REDACTED] then positioned himself behind the wheel well of the Bearcat.

A drone was deployed and the officers on scene learned that a victim was still trapped in the driver's seat of the white Nissan that was involved in the vehicle crash. Command staff then ordered the Bearcat to move and position itself between the subject's vehicle and the Nissan. The tactical positioning would allow officers and EMS personnel to safely remove the driver of the white Nissan.

[REDACTED] then moved his position again and found cover behind a marked police cruiser that was parked on the bridge near the incident location. From his position on the ground behind the police cruiser, [REDACTED] had a clear view of the passenger side of the pickup truck.

Additional Bearcats arrived on scene (three in total) and replaced the positions of the marked patrol vehicles. [REDACTED] had to move his position again due to his point of view now being obstructed. [REDACTED] described the positioning of the armored vehicles as forming an "L" (tactical L). The purpose of the positioning was to reduce any chances of crossfire from officers on scene while still providing containment of the subject.

[REDACTED] took his final position behind the Brooklyn, Ohio welcome sign where he positioned his rifle on a tripod on the south side of the sign.

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Through the optic lens on his firearm, [REDACTED] was able to observe the subject moving in and out of his vehicle for approximately four hours. [REDACTED] described the subject's movements, stating the subject was "moving from inside the car, from the driver's seat to the passenger seat. At one point he picked up a bunch of mirrors that were inside the car and started setting them up so he could watch where the team was and he slumped back into the seat" [37:14]. The subject appeared to be a white male with a beard and silver hair. The male was approximately 40-50 years in age.

[REDACTED] also observed the subject ejecting the magazine from the pistol and checking the magazine. The subject then inserted the magazine and charged the weapon to put a round in the chamber.

[REDACTED] further described the subject's actions and stated the following:

He, uh, was agitated multiple times. Kept putting the gun to his head. He'd get out of the car, put the gun on the seat, put the gun back up. This went on for about four hours. Uh, eventually he said that, uh, he positioned the door so they were protecting him, uh, so that they were closed. And, uh, he got out with the gun to his head and said, sorry guys, I'm gonna have to make you do this. He said that, repeated that twice at least, and then broke free from those doors and started moving towards the highway [27:39].

When the subject began walking towards the highway he had a firearm in his hand that was pointed at his head. At that time, two officers deployed less lethal rounds from their positions behind the bearcats. The subject continued to move towards the highway with the firearm in his hand. Seconds later, the subject moved the firearm from his head and [REDACTED] fired his rifle one time striking the subject in his center mass.

The subject then fell to the ground in front of the black pickup truck. [REDACTED] moved his rifle and himself to a position adjacent to the sign in order to better observe the subject's actions. [REDACTED] observed the subject in a seated position, but he was unable to observe the firearm.

When the subject moved/fell in front of the pickup truck, [REDACTED] was unsure if the subject was attempting to hide from officers and/or get a tactical advantage by hiding behind the vehicle. The subject did not make any statements that [REDACTED] could hear after he was struck by gunfire.

After [REDACTED] fired, multiple officers began providing medical aid to the subject.

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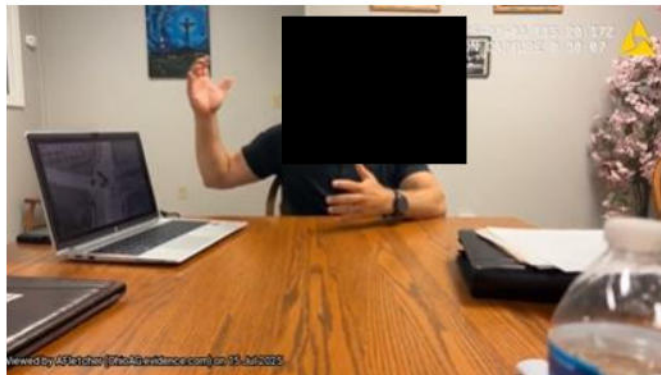


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At the time [REDACTED] fired his gun, the subject was walking towards the entrance ramp to I-480 West with the firearm pointed in the direction of the entrance ramp (see figure [REDACTED] *Interview 1*). The entrance ramp was being blocked by multiple vehicles manned by civilians. [REDACTED] made the decision to fire because "he (the subject) was walking towards civilians with a firearm" [29:41].



[REDACTED] Interview 1

[REDACTED] could not say definitively who or what the subject was pointing his firearm at after moving it from his head. [REDACTED] believed the level of danger to civilians on scene gave him no other option than to use lethal force to prevent the subject from fleeing. [REDACTED] stated, "That innocent lives were imminently at risk" [30:33]. [REDACTED] also was concerned that the subject intended to point his firearm and/or shoot at officers.

[REDACTED] also observed the actions of other officers and scene, and believed officers utilized numerous resources in an effort to deescalate the situation. This included negotiators providing water to the subject during the extremely hot weather. He believed all the officers on scene exhausted all methods to resolve the "mobile hostage situation."

Based upon the position [REDACTED] was at, he did not fear for his own safety. He did, however, fear for the safety of all the civilians who were exposed on scene and all of the innocent vehicles traveling on the highway.

The subject was approximately 34 yards away from [REDACTED] at the time he fired. He fired his gun in a northwest direction. [REDACTED] took extreme care to ensure the "backdrop" to where he aimed did not pose a hazard to others on scene or in the surrounding area.

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Numerous verbal commands had previously been given to the subject prior to [REDACTED] engaging. [REDACTED] could not provide an exact number of how many commands were given but stated, "the entire four hours were pleading and talking for him to put the weapon down" [33:10].

[REDACTED] was unable to hear the communication that took place between the subject and negotiators. However, he did recall the subject making statements that he did not want to hurt officers during the first hour of negotiation. During that time, the subject was unaware that someone had died as a result of the traffic crash. The subject then began changing his statements, including something to the effect that he didn't want to make officers "do this."

Also, during negotiations, the subject appeared to throw a phone on the ground. Negotiators then provided the subject with a new phone in order to continue their line of communication.

At some point during negotiations, the subject "began preparing himself for gas" by putting a cloth over his face. That led [REDACTED] to believe that other officers on scene had announced they would deploy chemical munitions.

[REDACTED] was unaware if the subject had fired his gun. [REDACTED] based his decision to shoot on the level of threat the subject was posing to others on scene and in the surrounding area.

SEB SWAT Command Staff did provide rules of engagement to officers on scene. This included plans to resolve the incident through negotiations and the use of less-lethal force should the subject fail to comply with orders. It was also determined if the subject stepped away from his vehicle at a distance of approximately five feet or more, the subject would be considered a "fleeing felon" and pose an imminent threat to the public [40:27].

Overall, [REDACTED] had the ability to use his discretion during the incident, and he made his own decision to fire his gun. [REDACTED] even went on to say that a fleeing felon does not automatically give someone the right to shoot, however, his assessment of the situation provided no other option.

[REDACTED] believed the subject's ultimate goal during the incident was to get officers to kill him.

[REDACTED] has been involved in eight other officer-involved critical incidents. He has been an involved officer in two of those incidents, both of which were during a

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SWAT deployment. The first incident occurred in [REDACTED] and was a hostage type situation and the second incident occurred in [REDACTED] in Brooklyn, Ohio.

[REDACTED] has responded to similar types of incidents in the past. He also has additional training in crisis intervention (CIT) and hostage negotiations. In most incident, subjects often surrender to police or will "take their own life" [22:19].

[REDACTED] was not familiar with the involved subject, who was later identified as Patrick Kerr (Kerr). He only learned information about Kerr after the conclusion of the incident.

[REDACTED] did not observe any actions by other officers on scene that would be considered a crime.

The interview concluded at approximately 1135 hours.

The interview was video recorded. The video recording was placed in Axon Justice in Reference Item K – Involved Office Interview. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.

References:

Reference Item K – Involved Officer Interview – Stored in Axon Justice

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification – [REDACTED]

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DAVE YOST
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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).



July 3, 2025 10:47
Date / Time

SA ALLISON FLETCHER #187
BCI Agent (Printed)

SA All Fletcher #187
BCI Agent (Signature)