



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## **Prosecutor Summary**

### ***INVESTIGATION REGARDING:***

Officer-Involved Critical Incident (Shooting) – Jeffrey Neff, Canton Police Department Officer Jacob Dryden

### ***INVESTIGATING AGENCY:***

Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation

### ***CASE NUMBERS:***

2023-1535    BCI Special Investigation Unit  
                  BCI Crime Scene Unit  
                  BCI Criminal Intelligence Unit  
                  BCI Cyber Crimes Unit  
23-34977    BCI Laboratory  
23-07204    Canton Police Department

### ***DATE OF INCIDENT:***

Wednesday June 7, 2023

### ***DATE OF REPORT:***

December 5, 2023

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

**Contents**

Investigative Team..... 6

Summary of Process ..... 7

Incident Summary/Overview ..... 9

Crime Scene Processing..... 10

    Interstate 77 North Entrance Ramp from Cleveland Ave. S.W. .... 10

    Recovered Firearm..... 13

Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital..... 15

Canton Police Department ..... 17

Neighborhood Canvass ..... 19

    310 Donald Place SW ..... 19

    307 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW ..... 20

    Canton Police Neighborhood Canvass..... 20

    Witnesses ..... 21

    Domnita Neff ..... 21

    April Betz..... 22

    Sandra Suiste..... 23

Law Enforcement Witness ..... 26

    Canton Police Officer Scott Wohlheter ..... 26

Involved Law Enforcement Officer ..... 28

    Officer Jacob Dryden Interview..... 28

    Officer Dryden Employment and Training Records..... 30

Subject Information – Jeffrey Neff ..... 32

    Jeffrey Neff – Background, Computerized Criminal History ..... 32

        Database Searches..... 32

        Social Media ..... 32

        Prior Law Enforcement Contacts..... 32

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Computerized Criminal History..... 33

Autopsy..... 34

    Autopsy Attended ..... 34

    Autopsy Report Reviewed ..... 34

BCI Laboratory Analysis ..... 41

    Firearms ..... 41

Dispatch-Related Information..... 42

    Audio recorded Calls to Police ..... 42

    Audio Recorded Police Radio Traffic..... 42

    Canton Police Department CAD Report..... 45

    MDT Records..... 45

Video Recordings..... 46

    Surveillance Video..... 46

    Law Enforcement Cameras..... 46

    Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC) Video Production ..... 46

        23-00059 Dryden Presentation..... 47

        Timing Information for Dryden and Cruiser Presentations ..... 54

    Dryden ..... 55

    Cruiser..... 55

Conclusion ..... 56

Contact Information..... 57

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Investigative Request

On Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at approximately 2300 hours, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by Chief John Gabbard (Gabbard) of the Canton Police Department (CPD). The request was for an independent investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 311 25th Street SW, Canton, Ohio. The incident involved a subject, Jeffrey Neff (Neff), and CPD Officer Jacob Dryden (Dryden). Both individuals were shot during the incident. Neff was transported to Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital in Canton where he died as a result of his injuries. Officer Dryden's pants were damaged, but he was not physically injured. The BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) were requested.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

**Preface:**

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the June 7, 2023, officer-involved shooting in Stark County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred during this incident. Every fact and detail are not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### **Investigative Team**

BCI Special Agent Matthew Armstrong from the Special Investigations Unit was assigned as the lead investigator. He received assistance from BCI SIU SA Nick Valente, SA Arvin Clar, SA Bill Conn and SA Chuck Moran.

BCI Crime Scene Unit (CSU) Larry Hootman and Crime Scene Technician Mike Rostocil documented and collected pertinent evidence at the scene.

Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Jon Lieber.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Video recorded interview of the involved officer who discharged his weapon.
- Video recorded interview of a witness officer who was in the area at the time of the incident.
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the medical treatment administered.
- Canvass for surveillance video cameras in the area surrounding the scene.
- Canvass for and interviews of 3 witnesses to the incident.
- Interviewed 2 relatives of the involved subject.
- Obtained and reviewed in-car camera video footage related to the incident.
- Obtained and reviewed body worn camera video footage related to the incident.
- Obtained and reviewed records of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject.
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- Processed the outdoor crime scenes for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting and collecting)
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident.
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident.
- Determined Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident did not exist.
- Review of the Canton Police Department's reports and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, (excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement)
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
  1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms and casings
  2. Firearm operability testing
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel file of the officer involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records.
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for the involved officer.
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the involved officer.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



---

2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### **Incident Summary/Overview**

On Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at approximately 2215 hours, officers of the Canton Police Department were dispatched to a trouble call at 311 25th Street SW, Canton, Ohio. An anonymous caller reported her neighbors, a male and a female, were fighting and they were in and out of the residence.

Officer Scott Wohlheter (Wohlheter) and Officer Jacob Dryden (Dryden) responded to the call. They were a two-man unit. Officer Wohlheter was the driver and Officer Dryden the passenger. As Officer Wohlheter drove up to the residence, Domnita Neff (Domnita) and Jeffrey Neff (Neff) were outside in front of the residence. Jeffrey Neff immediately began to run toward the rear of the residence. Officer Dryden and Officer Wohlheter exited their patrol car and pursued Neff. Officer Dryden led the pursuit while Officer Wohlheter followed closely behind Officer Dryden.

They ran north through the back yard of 311 25th Street SW, over a fence, across the IR 77 North/Cleveland Avenue exit ramp and on ramp, and into the median between the IR 77 North bound lanes and the north bound entrance ramp from Cleveland Ave. There Officer Dryden encountered Neff who fired a gun at Officer Dryden striking him once in the right thigh area. Officer Dryden then fired at Neff 16 times striking and killing Neff.

A .22 caliber pistol possessed by Neff was recovered and contained 9 fired cartridge cases in the cylinder. Officer Dryden fired his department-issued Glock 9mm pistol. A total of 16 fired cartridge cases were recovered at the scene which were forensically examined and confirmed to have been fired by his gun.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### Crime Scene Processing

The BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) responded to the crime scene to document, process and preserve items of potential evidence. The process included the search for, documentation and collection of potential evidence. Detailed photographs and crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

#### Interstate 77 North Entrance Ramp from Cleveland Ave. S.W.

SA Larry Hootman and Crime Scene Technician (CST) Mike Rostocil processed the scene located at the Interstate 77 North Entrance Ramp from Cleveland Ave. S.W.



2023-1535\_Diagram 1

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

CPD Detective Jeff Weller informed agents he placed a placard near the subject's weapon in the field where he was transported from.

SA Hootman noted the revolver was lying in a mowed grass area north of the entrance ramp, there were several items of medical intervention around the area including rubber gloves and packaging from medical supplies. The handgun was marked with the letter "A". SA Hootman used a metal detector and located several cartridge casings near two trees north of placard "A". There was also a tan Glock 9mm magazine, with one cartridge still in it, located between placard "A" and the cartridge casings that were found. The magazine held a total of 17 rounds, SA Hootman was told that the officer reported he did do a tactical reload after he returned fire, and the subject was down on the ground.



(Area where officers cartridge casings were located)  
Crime Scene Photograph LGH\_2494

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



(Placard indicating where subjects weapon was) Crime Scene Photograph *LGH\_2514*

SA Hootman and CST Rostocil used disposable placards to identify where the cartridge casings and other items of evidence were located. The letter "A" placed by Canton PD was replaced by placard #1, the number sequence continued through placard #18.

The items recovered included the following:

- Harrington & Richardson Model 929 Sidekick revolver, serial number V3455. The weapon was a 9 shot .22 caliber. It was found to have 9 spent cartridge casings, all .22 Super X.
- One Glock 9mm tan magazine
- Sixteen 9mm Luger Speer cartridge casings.

CST Rostocil deployed the Leica BLK360 scanner to document the scene and each item was then recovered, photographed, and placed in separate packaging.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

The two crime scene photographs included below depict the recovered firearm and its condition when recovered:



*LGH\_2537*

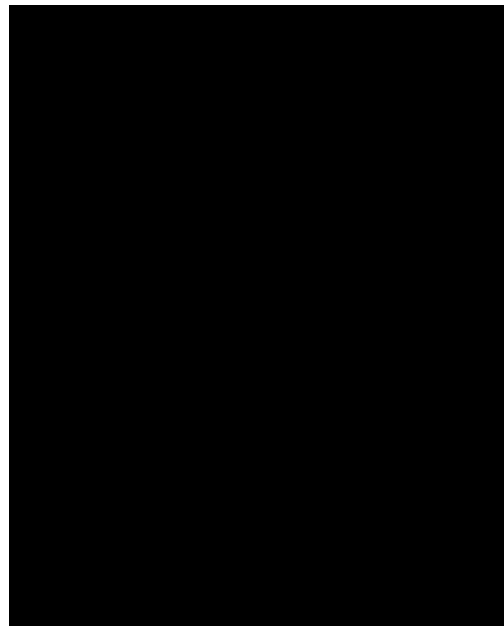


*LGH\_2561*

**Recovered Firearm**

An NCIC check on the recovered Harrington and Richardson firearm yielded no results.

A “Firearms Trace Summary” report from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives was obtained. The report contained the information depicted below:



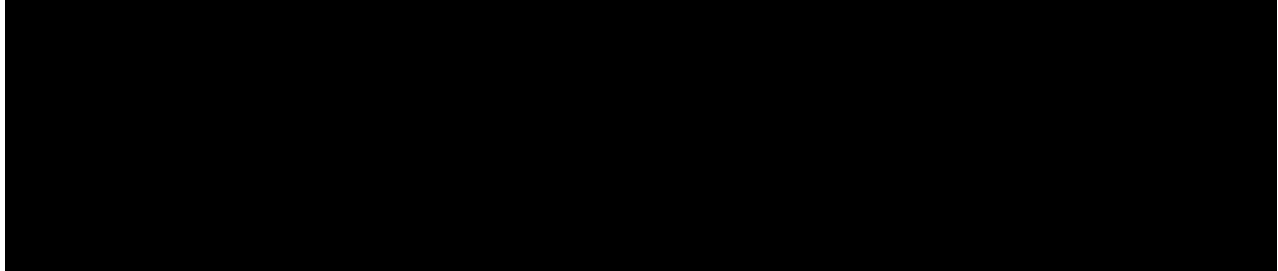
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



For additional details regarding the response to the police department refer to the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-21: ATF Information Received*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital

During the initial BCI response, BCI SIU SA Arvin Clar went to Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital, 1320 Mercy Drive, Canton, Ohio, and met with CPD Officer Jacob Rosen. Officer Rosen was posted outside of Emergency Room #8 and was standing guard with the deceased subject, Jeffrey Neff.

Stark County Coroner, Harry Campbell (Campbell) was present and examined Neff.

[REDACTED]

Campbell also reported that the subject's body would be transported to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office in Cleveland for a post-mortem examination. Campbell indicated the private transport service would bag Neff's hands prior to transport.

While present SA Clar collected the clothing worn by Neff from Mercy Hospital Emergency Room #8. The items were transported to the BCI Richfield Office and secured in the BCI Evidence Drying room.

On June 15, 2023, SA Valente photographed and examined the articles of clothing. They included the following:

- a red t-shirt
- grey sweatpants
- two black socks
- a pair of Nike tennis shoes

There was red staining on the t-shirt and sweatpants. Five defects were observed on the t-shirt. Two of the defects appeared to be cut or tear marks and were located near the waistline of the garment. The three remaining defects appeared consistent with being caused by ballistic penetration. These three defects were located on the left shirt sleeve, right shirt sleeve, and the center chest area of the garment. The items were packaged together and in a brown paper bag which was sealed and marked as Matrix Evidence Item 36.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



---

2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

For additional details regarding the response to the hospital and the collection and examination of Neff's clothing, refer to the Investigative Reports titled, *2023-06-07 Response to Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital* and *2023-06-15: Documentation of Subject's Clothing*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### Canton Police Department

SA Armstrong responded to the CPD to meet with the involved officer and collect evidence relevant to the incident. SA Armstrong met with Sgt. Robert Smith (Smith) and learned the involved officer was Jacob Dryden.

Sgt. Smith indicated Officer Dryden had been released from the hospital and sent home. His uniform pants had a defect on them and were collected along with his department issued firearm, magazines, and ammunition. Sgt. Smith indicated Officer Dryden did not have any physical injuries and that he had been photographed before being sent home. A copy of the photographs taken was later provided. The photographs depicted the right leg of Officer Dryden but did not depict him in uniform. There was no visible injury on the right leg of Officer Dryden.

The following items of evidence were collected from Sgt. Smith:

- One pair of blue uniform pants with one defect on the right thigh area
- One Glock, Model 17, 9mm pistol, SN: [REDACTED] with one live 9mm cartridge from the chamber and one magazine containing 17 live 9mm cartridges.
- One additional magazine containing 17 live 9mm cartridges.

The uniform pants and defect on the right thigh area were photographed. The images below depict the defect.



IMG\_0299



IMG\_0300

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

Officer Dryden's firearm, magazines and remaining ammunition were also photographed before being secured in evidence.



IMG\_0304



IMG\_0311

Sgt. Smith and CPD Officer Sean Flaherty explained Canton police officers are issued 52 rounds of ammunition. The magazine capacity for the issued Glock handgun is 17 rounds. Each magazine (three total) would typically be loaded to full capacity with one additional round in the firearm chamber (52). Officer Dryden's third magazine was located at the scene of the shooting. It contained one live cartridge. Based on the number of remaining cartridges (36), if Officer Dryden had his duty-issued firearm and each magazine loaded to capacity when this incident occurred, a total of 16 cartridges were unaccounted for, thus indicating he fired up to 16 times.

While present at the department, CPD Officer Flaherty provided two thumb drives, one containing body worn camera (BWC) recordings and one containing in-car camera recordings relevant to the shooting incident. The BWC recordings have been stored in the BCI SIU case file as Reference Item A. The in-car camera recordings have been stored in the BCI SIU case file as Reference Item B.

For additional details regarding the response to the police department refer to the investigative report titled, *2023-06-08: Response to Canton Police Department*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Neighborhood Canvass

While the crime scene was being processed, agents conducted a neighborhood canvass in the area of the shooting incident. The purpose of the canvass was to identify and interview potential witnesses to the officer-involved shootings. It was also conducted to identify any potential sources of video surveillance. Agents did not locate any operational surveillance cameras that recorded any portion of the incident. Agents did speak with three citizens present in the area when the incident occurred.

### 310 Donald Place SW

Brittany Sherwood (Brittany) and her husband Daniel Sherwood (Daniel) were present at 310 Donald Place SW. Their residence was located one street south of 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW. Brittany was identified as the party who called 911 reporting the disturbance at 311 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW. Brittany was friends with Domnita Neff (Domnita). They had known each other for years.

Brittany and Daniel provided the following information related to this incident:

That night Brittany received a text message from Domnita which stated "Britt, call the cops he wont leave." Brittany responded asking what she should say to the police. Domnita told her to say she was a neighbor and heard an argument. Brittany indicated she did not actually hear the argument, but she did call 911 and reported the incident.

Shortly after making the call, Brittany was sitting on her porch and heard gunshots. At that moment she feared Jeffrey Neff (Neff) may have shot Domnita.

Brittany said she heard a single gunshot, a short break (approximately one second) followed by a volley of six or eight additional gunshots.

Daniel stated that he and his wife, Brittany, were acquaintances with the Neff's and the two couples had gone out on occasion in the past. Daniel said Neff talked to his wife and kids poorly, was a drug addict, would leave for days on end doing drugs, and would randomly appear at the home and threaten his family.

Daniel said he heard the argument between the Neff's while sitting on his front porch. When he heard the gunshots, he was outside on his porch with Brittany. Daniel believed the first shot he heard was Neff shooting at the police and the quick volley of shots that followed was the police returning fire. Daniel believed the break in time between the first shot and the volley of

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

additional shots was less than 10 seconds. Daniel said Neff was known to carry a firearm. He added Neff was not necessarily anti-police, but he was not a friendly person.

### 307 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW

Roger Mearkley (Mearkley) was present at 307 25th Street SW. The residence was located directly north of Neff's residence. Mearkley stated he heard some inaudible yelling and saw police lights through his front room window. He then heard five or six popping sounds. He was not sure exactly how many popping sounds he heard. Mearkley stated it was a short time between the yelling and the popping sounds, but he was not certain exactly how long.

For additional details related to the canvass or the locations where contact was attempted refer to the investigative reports titled *2023-06-07: Interviews of Brittany Sherwood and Daniel Sherwood*; *2023-06-08 IIC ON-Scene Processing*; and *2023-06-07: Surveillance Video Canvass*.

### Canton Police Neighborhood Canvass

A copy of the CPD incident report generated for the incident was reviewed. It contained narrative reports from 27 CPD Officers. The reports detailed information related to a neighborhood canvass completed by Detectives Herrera, Thomas and Hampton. They spoke with the following documented individuals:

- Pat Parks of 316 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Roger Merkle of 307 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Rachel Sheets of 315 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Elwood Thompson and Rosemary Clark of 304 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Residents at 615 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Residents at 607 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW

None of the subjects visually witnessed the actual shooting incident.

For additional details regarding the neighborhood canvass completed by CPD and the review of the CPD incident report refer to the investigative report titled, *2023-06-08: Response to Canton Police Department*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Witnesses

BCI conducted audio recorded interviews of multiple witnesses throughout the investigation. Two witnesses were in close proximity to the shooting incident and had knowledge directly related to the incident. BCI agents also interviewed the mother of Neff who provided details related to Neff's mental state. All the interviews were conducted in person unless otherwise noted.

### Domnita Neff

On June 8, 2023, at approximately 2:12 AM, agents interviewed Domnita Neff (Domnita), the wife of Jeffrey Neff (Neff). Domnita had been transported to the CPD by police after the shooting incident and was present at the department when agents arrived.

Throughout the interview, Domnita provided the following information:

She had been in a relationship with Neff for 10 years and they had been married for the past 7 years. He was a drug addict who used drugs all day every day and would come and go from their home regularly. Neff stayed at their home the previous two nights.

Earlier that day she had a dentist's appointment at 2:30 PM. Her daughter Madylynn Neff had told her the drug dealer Frank (Last name possibly Lomabardi or Stalickney) had shown up while she was at the dentist. Domnita said Neff also took a nap while she was at the dentist. When he woke up, he started acting weird. Frank supposedly supplied Neff with cocaine, but she suspected it was meth. Domnita said whatever he was on he was not acting his normal self.

She also explained Neff had rented a truck from Lowes and loaned it out to Frank. Earlier that day, she received a certified letter from Lowes regarding the rented truck and they began arguing about it. Domnita told Neff if he didn't leave for rehab that night, he couldn't come back at all.

They continued arguing and Neff was standing in the front yard with his clothes waiting on Frank to come pick him up. She and her sister April Betz were in the front yard with Neff while he was yelling. Domnita was hoping she could just get him to leave but she texted Brittney (unknown last name) who lived the next road over and told her if she heard anything to call the police.

While they were in the front yard yelling the police pulled up. Neff took off running through the back yard and jumped the fence. Two police officers ran after him, and she followed the police. When she got to the fence and was climbing over it, she heard a lot of gunshots. She also fell and lost sight of them. When she stood up, she saw one of the officers standing over top of Neff with

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

his gun pointed at Neff. She did not hear the police yell anything at Neff and she did not hear Neff say anything to the police.

Domnita described the gunfire as repeated gunshots. She said there were so many that she did not know how many gunshots she heard. She believed Neff's gun only held 6 bullets and believed the officer's fired more than Neff did. She confirmed she did not actually see anyone fire a gun, but she did hear the gunshots.

Domnita was not aware of Neff ever being diagnosed with a mental illness. When asked if Neff had any hatred toward the police, she said she didn't think anyone liked the police, but Neff had never verbalized any negative feelings about the police. She said Neff would have never shot at the cops and it had to have been the drugs he was on that caused him to do that.

Neff did not carry guns. Approximately 4 years ago when his grandfather died, his sister gave him one of his grandfather's old .22 caliber guns. She said Neff was not able to legally have a gun and she never let him bring it into the house.

She did not record any videos of the incident on her cell phone. She had surveillance cameras on her home, but they had not worked since her house fire on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Her daughter Madylynn Neff was inside the home when the police arrived, but Domnita did not believe Madylynn, or her sister April had witnessed the shooting incident.

For additional details regarding the interview, refer to the audio recorded interview and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-08: Witness Interview - Domnita Neff*.

### **April Betz**

On June 8, 2023, at approximately 2:33 AM, Agents interviewed April Betz (Betz). Betz was Domnita's sister and was present at the CPD when agents arrived.

Throughout the interview, Betz provided the following information:

Betz arrived at her sister Domnita's residence at approximately 2000 hours to have coffee and visit as was her normal habit. Her niece was at the residence along with Domnita and her husband Neff.

Domnita and Neff were arguing, and she was asking Neff to leave. Neff had just returned after being gone for about 3 weeks, possibly because of drug use. Betz, Domnita and Neff went outside and were waiting for a ride for Neff. While they were waiting, Domnita walked down to the corner store to get some cigarettes and returned shortly after leaving.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

When Domnita returned, they were all talking when the police showed up. Neff then started walking toward the backyard. Betz said the passenger officer exited the cruiser in an aggressive fashion and yelled "what the fuck are you running for" and took off after Neff who was now running toward the backyard. Betz and Domnita then started running after the officer and Neff.

When Betz reached the fence in the backyard, she heard maybe three shots and then multiple shots in secession. She then heard her sister scream "they shot him, they shot him". Betz then returned to her vehicle which was parked in front of her Domnita's residence and drove to the scene where the shooting had taken place. When she arrived, she was prevented access by other police officers, so she returned to her sister's residence.

Betz said she had not seen Neff in possession of a weapon, and she was not aware of him ever having any weapons. Betz believed Neff ran from the police because of his drug use. Betz stated she was not aware of any domestic violence issues between Domnita and Neff. She said she had only seen them arguing in the past.

For additional details regarding the interview, refer to the audio recorded interview and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-09 OIC Witness Statement Summary*.

### **Sandra Suiste**

On June 14, 2023, at approximately 1520 hours, agents interviewed Sandra Suiste (Suiste). Suiste was the mother of Jeffrey Neff (Neff). The interview was audio recorded and took place in a conference room at the Canton Police Department (CPD). Suiste went to the CPD on June 13, 2023, and informed Det. Sgt. Bryan McWilliams she believed she had information relevant to the shooting incident involving her son Neff.

Throughout the interview, Suiste provided the following information:

Suiste explained Neff began using marijuana in his mid-teens and had abused drugs regularly since that time. She did not think he was using heroin or methamphetamine, but she suspected he was currently using crack cocaine. For the past ten years she noticed he had become extremely paranoid. He thought everyone was watching him including the neighbors. He had been a habitual drug abuser since his teens with only brief periods of sobriety.

Neff believed he was bi-polar but was never diagnosed with any mental illnesses because he was not willing to see a medical professional for mental illness. As a child and throughout his life he would threaten suicide when things did not go his way.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

Over the past three months he said he would not go back to jail. He had previously been in jail for a domestic in another relationship and he always said he would never go back to jail. He talked to her about how miserable he was with his wife Domnita. He said he didn't have a job or anything in life and felt like he had nothing to live for.

In April 2023, he told her he needed help getting off the drugs and getting away from his wife Domnita. In an attempt to become sober, he went to stay with his sister Jessica Neff in Dairy, Pennsylvania. After ten days he left and drove back home. She believed he came back to use drugs. After some time, she drove him back to Pennsylvania and dropped him off without a vehicle. He was there for 16 days.

On June 1, 2023, she talked to him on the phone. He said he needed to come back home because his grandfather had a heart attack that morning. Suiste said his grandfather was medically fine and did have a heart attack but it was not that day. She believed Neff was making an excuse to come back to use drugs. While on the phone, he said "'Mom, sorry, if you're coming here for a visit I won't be here' and he said, 'I probably won't talk to you again'" (4:30). Neff told her "If he seen the cops come to his house, he would take off running and that he would shoot so he would have to be shot" (20:52). She told him he couldn't do that and asked why he would talk that way and he told her "If you think I'm afraid to do it, I'm not" (21:26). Suiste said she never thought he would actually do it.

During her last two conversations with Neff, he told her over and over again that he was either going to kill Domnita and himself in a murder/suicide or if the cops showed up for a domestic, he would run and shoot until they had to kill him. She estimated he had told her this more than 20 times over the past three months.

Neff had a 17-year-old son named Chase Neff that he had not seen for 9 or 10 years. Neff had reached out to him before returning from Pennsylvania and because he wanted to see him for Father's Day. Chase told him he did not want to see him. She believed that was another factor causing Neff to feel like there was no reason to live.

When Suiste's dad passed away, Neff stole his gun. She knew it was a revolver but did not know any other details about it. She believed he carried it everywhere with him. Neff had told her he carried it in his waist band. She believed he had pulled the gun out on people in the past but did

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

not know if he had ever fired it. She recalled one instance when he told her he pulled it out and put it to Domnita's head while they were arguing.

Neff hated the police and always verbalized how much he hated the police. She explained whenever he saw an officer, he would make comments about hating the police, but he never talked about killing the police.

For additional details regarding the interview, refer to the audio recorded interview and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-14: Interview - Sandra Suiste*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Law Enforcement Witness

The following paragraphs include an abbreviated version of the witness officer's observations and account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident.

### Canton Police Officer Scott Wohlheter

Officer Scott Wohlheter was identified as a witness to the shooting incident. On June 14, 2023, at approximately 1500 hours, he was interviewed at the BCI Richfield Office. The interview was audio and video recorded.

Throughout the interview, Officer Wohlheter provided the following information:

During the incident, Officer Wohlheter drove a marked police cruiser #45. He was part of a two-man unit with Officer Jacob Dryden who was the passenger. Officer Wohlheter had two radio call signs. When using the police radio from inside his cruiser his radio call sign was Unit 45. When using his portable radio, his call sign was 212, his unit number. Officer Wohlheter had no prior knowledge of the subject involved in the shooting and did not recall any prior encounters with the subject. He learned the identity of the subject at the police department after the shooting incident.

On June 7, 2023, Officer Wohlheter was working the afternoon shift which was scheduled from 1530 hours through 2330 hours. Near the end of the shift, he and his partner were dispatched to 311 25th Street NW for neighbors fighting. As he pulled up to the residence, he exited the cruiser and heard Officer Dryden yell "Why are you running" (7:37). A female was present and yelling "Don't chase him. Don't chase him" (7:48). He asked her why the male was running, and she said, "He's just a coke head" (7:55).

Officer Wohlheter then followed Officer Dryden as he ran after the male subject. They ran along the right side of the residence through the back yard. He heard Officer Dryden say they were jumping the fence and headed toward the highway. The back yard was overgrown, and he utilized his hand-held flashlight as he made his way to the fence. He described it as a 6-foot chain link fence with brush grown up on it. He jumped the fence and continued in the direction of Officer Dryden.

When he reached the concrete barrier on the highway, he heard a light pop sound and thought it was a taser deployment. As he crossed the concrete barrier, he heard another pop sound. The popping sounds then continued and at that time he knew it wasn't a taser because their tasers only have two cartridges.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

He continued toward Officer Dryden and could see he was on the ground in the grassy area near a bush. He could see Officer Dryden's torso but could not see if he was in a seated or kneeling position. He also saw the male subject approximately 20 or 30 feet from Officer Dryden. He was lying face down on the ground with a gun in his hand. He then drew his weapon and began providing cover.

At the same time, Officer Dryden said he was hit. Officer Wohlheter told Officer Dryden to check himself. Officer Dryden then said there was no blood and he thought it was a graze wound. After Officer Dryden reloaded, he provided cover while Officer Wohlheter approached the subject.

Officer Wohlheter saw the gun was clinched in the subject's hand and there was no movement from the subject. He then shook the subject's hand causing the gun to fall from it and placed him in handcuffs. After checking him for weapons he began assessing the subject's injuries. Another officer brought a medical kit and Officer Wohlheter placed a chest seal on one of the subject's wounds. He was then removed from the scene.

Officer Wohlheter explained when he heard the popping sounds and realized it was gunfire, he feared for his safety. He said "Really it was a oh fuck moment you know. This, this is happening um, and Officer Dryden, he's my partner uh, so we rode together, all year. We got hired together um, so I want to make sure he's ok um, and do what I, I can do to a, however I can help the situation I wanted to help" (22:33).

Officer Wohlheter described the subject as a white male wearing a red sweatshirt. He described the female he encountered when he first arrived as a white female. He did not see anyone else around the house. He did not remember the female running through the backyard with him but recalled her on the highway ramp yelling moments after he secured the subject in handcuffs.

Officer Wohlheter did not hear the subject say anything before, during or after the shooting. He did not see the subject with the gun up or pointed at anyone during the incident.

For additional details regarding the interview, refer to the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-14: Witness Officer Interview - Scott Wohlheter* and the video recorded interview maintained in the BCI case file as Reference Item F.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Involved Law Enforcement Officer

BCI conducted video recorded interviews with the involved officer and reviewed their personnel files and training records. Included within this section are abbreviated versions of the involved officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and the discharging of his weapon.

### Officer Jacob Dryden Interview

Officer Dryden has been a police officer for 4 1/2 years and has worked for the Canton Police Department since becoming a police officer. During the incident, he wore his standard police uniform and was a passenger in a marked CPD cruiser.

Officer Dryden and his partner Officer Wohlheter were dispatched to 311 25th Street SW for people at the residence fighting. As they approached the residence, he saw a male walking on the side of the house in the driveway area. When they parked the cruiser, the male perked up very quickly in a nervous manner and it immediately caught his attention. He suspected the male was going to run and when Officer Dryden took a step out of the cruiser the male started running.

They had not had the opportunity to talk to anyone and due to the nature of the call he did not know if the male was a suspect or if the male had just hurt somebody, so he began pursuing the male on foot. They ran in a north bound direction toward the rear of the property. He radioed to dispatch that the subject was running and was jumping a chain link fence. He continued pursuing the subject over a concrete barrier on the north bound 77 on ramp and radioed a description of the subject; white male wearing a red shirt and blue jeans. After crossing the on ramp, they came to an open grassy field between the on ramp and Interstate 77. There were two medium sized islands of brush which the male ran between. The male then turned left and was headed back in the direction they had just run from.

Officer Dryden then explained:

*As I'm coming through the brush, I hear a round. I don't actually see him shoot this gun, but I hear a round take off and then I'm immediately struck in the outside of my right leg. I felt it clear as day and that's when you know obviously, as soon as it happened I, I knew exactly what just occurred. He has a gun and he shot me. Um. Obviously chasing this guy, I tried to, now that this just got a lot more elevated than what it was, instead of continuing to chase him, I'm trying to slow myself down and get a, just a stable platform for whatever might need to be done. Um. As I'm trying to get my footing I, I slip and fall, uh, this all happens very quickly. As I'm slipping and falling I, I can see him have a revolver in his hand. Um. Just with how it worked, I mean how it looked I, this all*

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

*happened very quickly. Like a shot rings out, I get struck in the outside of my right leg, I try to get my footing, I fall backwards um, I see him have a revolver in his hand so I drew my pistol and I opened fire until the threat ceased. Um. Like I said, I heard the gun shot, I knew I felt it, I knew I got tagged, and I see him have a revolver in his hand and I just, uh, obviously I felt threatened. Um. I don't think anybody wouldn't. Um. I don't know how many times I fired. Like I said I fired until the threat ceased. Um. When I stopped firing, the male was on the ground (24:41).*

After he finished firing, he radioed shots had been fired. Officer Wohlheter also made it to him. Officer Wohlheter told him to check himself. Officer Dryden checked himself and saw a hole in his pants but did not locate any blood. He then reloaded a fresh magazine into his gun while Officer Wohlheter provided cover.

After reloading his gun, Officer Dryden provided cover while he and Officer Wohlheter walked up to the subject. The gun was still clinched in the subject's right hand, and they shook the gun from the subject's hand. Officer Dryden then moved the gun a few feet away while Officer Wohlheter handcuffed the subject. While Officer Wohlheter tended to the subject, he tried to guide responding officers to their location. Within a minute multiple officers arrived and took over, providing the subject with first aid. Officer Dryden was almost immediately removed from the scene and checked by multiple officers and medics to ensure he was not injured. Sgt. Rastetter then transported him to the hospital. After being released from the hospital he was transported to the Canton Police Department where Sgt. Smith and Sgt. Rastetter collected his firearm.

Officer Dryden explained there were times he lost sight of the male during the foot pursuit. It was dark while pursuing the subject through the back yard. The driveway and backyard area were "tight", there were numerous items lying around in the back yard, and he recalled running past a trampoline. Once they made it to the grass field where the shooting occurred, it appeared well lit for it being nighttime.

When the foot pursuit began, Officer Dryden yelled for the male to come back and asked why he was running. He did not recall giving other verbal commands during the foot pursuit. Officer Dryden also did not remember the subject saying anything to him during pursuit.

Officer Dryden was unaware of whether the subject fired at him at other instances during the foot pursuit. He said the first time he knew he was fired at was when he felt the bullet hit him and then saw the firearm in the subject's hand. He did not know how many times the subject fired at him but after reviewing his body camera footage he believed the subject fired at him at least two times.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

When Officer Dryden began firing, he was in a seated/lying position because he had slipped and fallen to the ground. He did not remember what his point of aim was and only recalled seeing his sights briefly while he was firing.

He estimated the distance between him and the subject when he fired was approximately 20 feet. The male was in a standing position and facing him with the gun in his right hand. He could not remember if the gun was pointed at him, but he knew he did not start firing until after he had already been shot. Officer Dryden reiterated he stopped firing when the male was on the ground, he could no longer see the gun, and he was sure he was no longer being fired upon. He said he did not remember seeing the male fall to the ground and while he fired, he did not know where his rounds were impacting.

Officer Dryden was asked how he felt at the moment he realized he had been shot. He said, "I was scared" (43:21) and then added "It was scary. I'm not, I'm not going to lie. I don't feel like anybody would be in that situation, could sit there and say they wouldn't be scared. It definitely terrified me" (43:59).

Officer Dryden believed his actions were consistent with his training. He did not believe he had any other option than to use his firearm during this incident. He did not recall ever interacting with the subject or the address prior to this incident.

Officer Dryden consented to agents watching his body worn camera footage in its entirety and reviewing any written reports he may complete in the future. Following the incident, he was given a urine drug screen. He also consented to agents reviewing the drug screen results.

For additional details regarding the interview, refer to the Investigative Report titled, *2023-06-14: Involved Officer Interview - Jacob Dryden* and the video recorded interview maintained in the BCI case file as Reference Item F.

### **Officer Dryden Employment and Training Records**

Numerous records regarding Officer Dryden's employment as a police officer were received from the CPD. The records included applicant and new hire paperwork, performance evaluations, letters of commendation/recognition generated by the general public, discipline and copies of training certificates. Officer Dryden had no discipline related to the use of force.

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission records indicated Officer Dryden attended the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy as part of class BAS19-017. The academy took place from 2/4/2019 through 6/10/2019. Officer Dryden completed the academy and was certified on 6/26/2019. Officer Dryden was awarded certificate number 190719. Officer Dryden was

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

appointed to the Canton Police Department on 12/12/2018.

Officer Dryden last qualified with his department issued firearm utilized during the June 7, 2023, shooting incident on October 5, 2022.

Officer Dryden completed numerous law enforcement related trainings to include the following courses directly related to this incident or the use of force:

- 12-01-2022 – Stress and Use of Force
- 09-22-2022 – BCI Deadly Force CPT
- 03-02-2022 – BCI Lethal Use of Force and OIS Investigations
- 01-03-2019 – Crisis Conflict Management
- 03-01-2022 – Use of Deadly Force and Legal Guidelines
- 03-30-2021 – An Unexpected Physical Confrontation
- 05-29-2021 – The Increasing Dangers to Officers
- 09-30-2021 – A Call Quickly Deteriorates
- 12-25-2021 – Reality Training: How to Maintain your Situational Awareness and Avoid an Ambush

For additional details regarding the employment and training records, refer to the Investigative Reports titled *2023-07-10: Personnel File Review - Officer Dryden* and *2023-07-06: Review of Officer Dryden's Training Records*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Subject Information – Jeffrey Neff

This section contains information about the involved subject, Jeffrey Neff.

### Jeffrey Neff – Background, Computerized Criminal History

Background information for Neff was compiled and reviewed. It included researching past police reports involving Neff, criminal history records, court records, open/closed source database inquiries and social media posts.

### Database Searches

An Accurant report was obtained and reviewed. A “CashApp” account belonging to Neff was found. The CashApp account was opened 6/2019. The account name was “[REDACTED]” Note that in an interview with Neff’s widow, Domnita Neff, she relayed to agents having frequently sent money to Neff through this account/application.

### Social Media

No social media accounts belonging to Neff were located.

### Prior Law Enforcement Contacts

SA Armstrong requested CPD provide details regarding all previous encounters the agencies had with Neff. CPD provided records of four previous police reports involving Neff and list of additional cases where Neff’s presence was listed.

### Canton Police Report 17-04295:

Neff called police and reported that he was bitten by his Pitbull multiple times and did not feel safe entering his house with the dog. The dog warden was called (and presumably removed the dog). Neff was transported to the hospital for treatment of his injuries.

### Canton Police Report 17-04393:

Neff called police and reported that his juvenile daughter was assaulted at the bus stop. Police responded and reviewed cell phone video of the incident and determined that both involved children appeared to be willing participants in the fight. Neff was advised how to avoid further issues between his daughter and the other involved juvenile.

### Canton Police Report 18-07335:

Neff called police and reported an unknown person threw an egg and donut at his car during the overnight hours. Neff also reported two neighbor’s vehicles were struck by donuts by the unknown assailant(s).

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

Canton Police Report 19-17092:

Domnita Neff, widow of Jeffrey Neff, called police and reported her ex-husband, Frank Betz, while intoxicated came to the Neff family home and broke a window out of Neff's car. Neff reported he also received a threatening text message from his wife's ex-husband preceding this event. Note the officer who responded to this incident and authored the police report was Officer Dryden.

Additional Records:

An additional document was provided with the above reports that included the following (which were provided without further context):

Incident 1800058460 – Neff was listed as the “PRP” or person reporting to police without any additional information.

Incident 2300028297 and Incident 2307204. Both of these entries were related to Neff's death. The former was determined to be the Canton Fire Department run report involving the death of Neff and the latter police report detailing the same matter. These reports are reviewed in detail in Investigate Reports specifically detailing the information they contain.

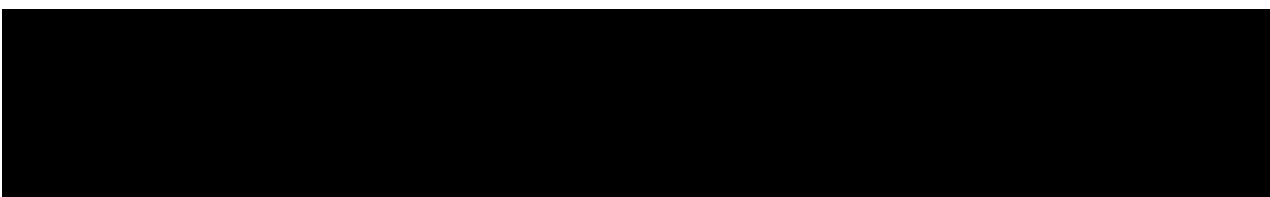
Incident 1917092 - Neff was listed as the victim. This entry appeared related to the incident involving Neff's wife's ex-husband damaging his car. This belief is based on the report numbers being consecutive.

A single entry (without a report) noted Neff was detained on a possible outstanding warrant and released when the warrant was not found. No additional information accompanied this entry.

A single entry with Neff's information existed with no notation of what Neff's involvement in the matter was or what the matter pertained to. No report or CAD entry accompanied this entry.

Computerized Criminal History

Neff's Computerized Criminal History (CCH) consisted of two offenses in Northeast Ohio. The table below displays information related to the charges detailed on Neff's CCH.



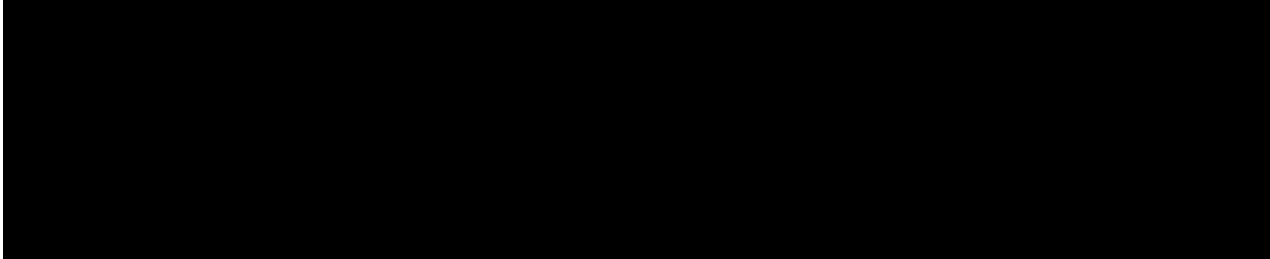
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



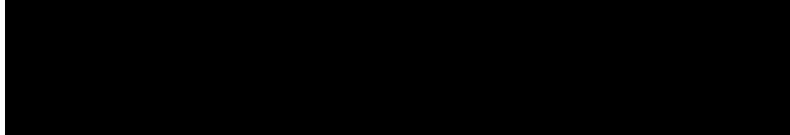
**Autopsy**

This section contains information related to the post-mortem examination (autopsy) of Neff.

**Autopsy Attended**

On Thursday, June 8, 2023, SA Clar attended the autopsy of Neff at the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office.

X-Rays performed on Neff prior to the autopsy revealed three projectiles and possible bullet "fragments" in the body. During the autopsy the following projectiles were recovered:



For additional details related to the autopsy refer to the investigative report titled *2023-6-8 Post Mortem Examination of Jeff Neff (S) at Cuyahoga County ME.*

**Autopsy Report Reviewed**

The autopsy report was authored by Chief Deputy Coroner of Stark County, Anthony P. Burtin, DO. The autopsy was performed by Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office Dr. David Dolinak on June 8, 2023, at 0910 hours.



This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



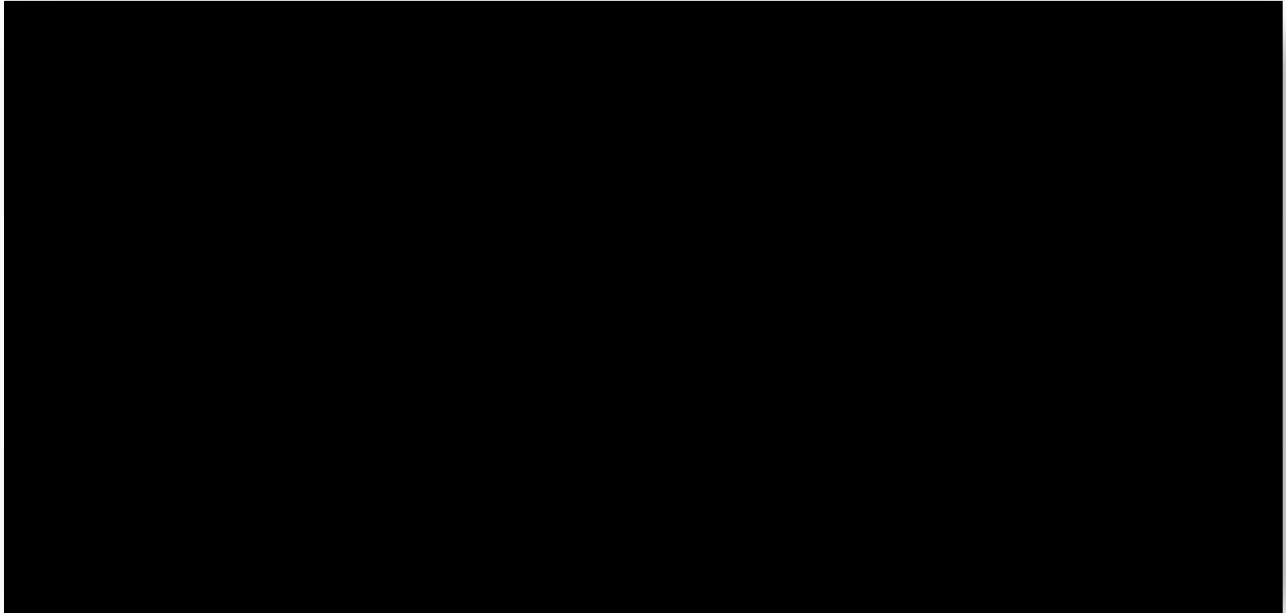
**Ohio Attorney General's Office**  
**Bureau of Criminal Investigation**  
Investigative Report



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

The "MANNER OF DEATH" was listed as "homicide."

The relevant information from the "DIAGNOSIS" section of the report included the following:



The "EVIDENCE OF INJURY" section identified six gunshot wounds. Projectiles associated with three of the wounds were recovered along with a projectile fragment. The report indicated the number in which the gunshot wounds were listed did not correspond with the number in which they were sustained. Details regarding the six gunshot wounds are outlined below:

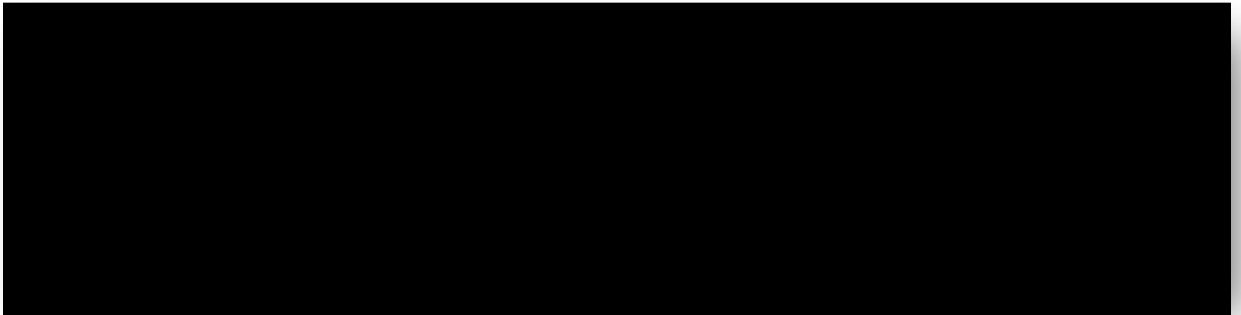
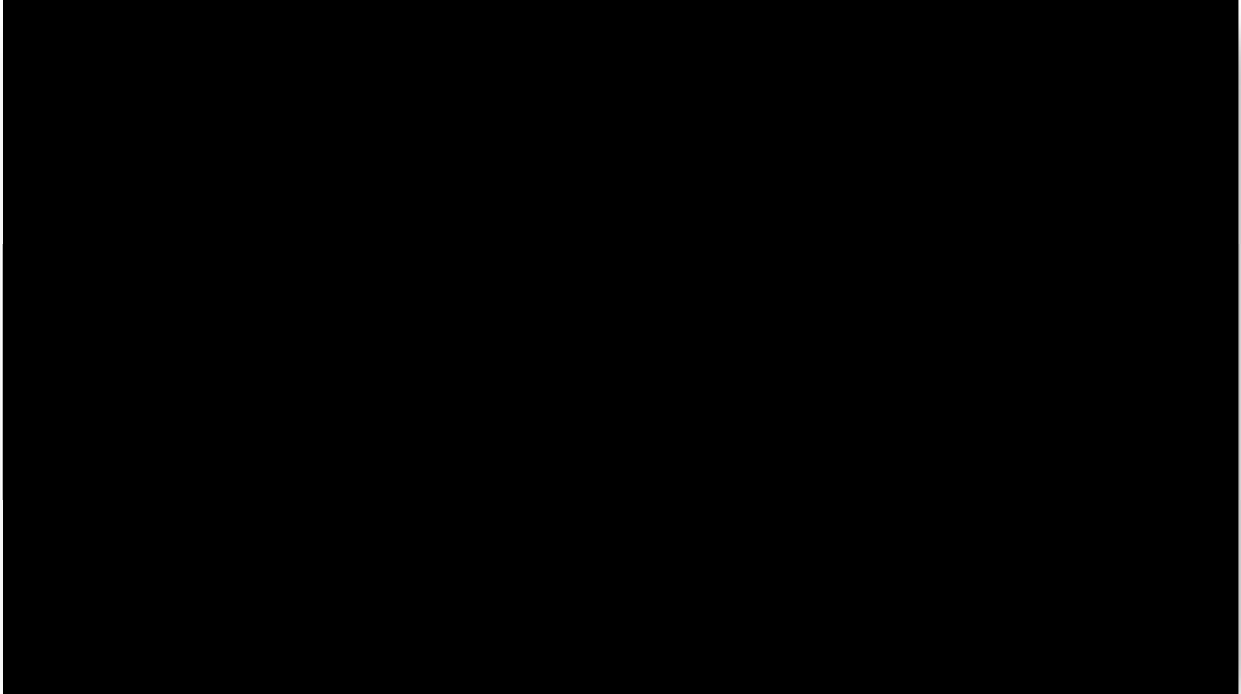
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



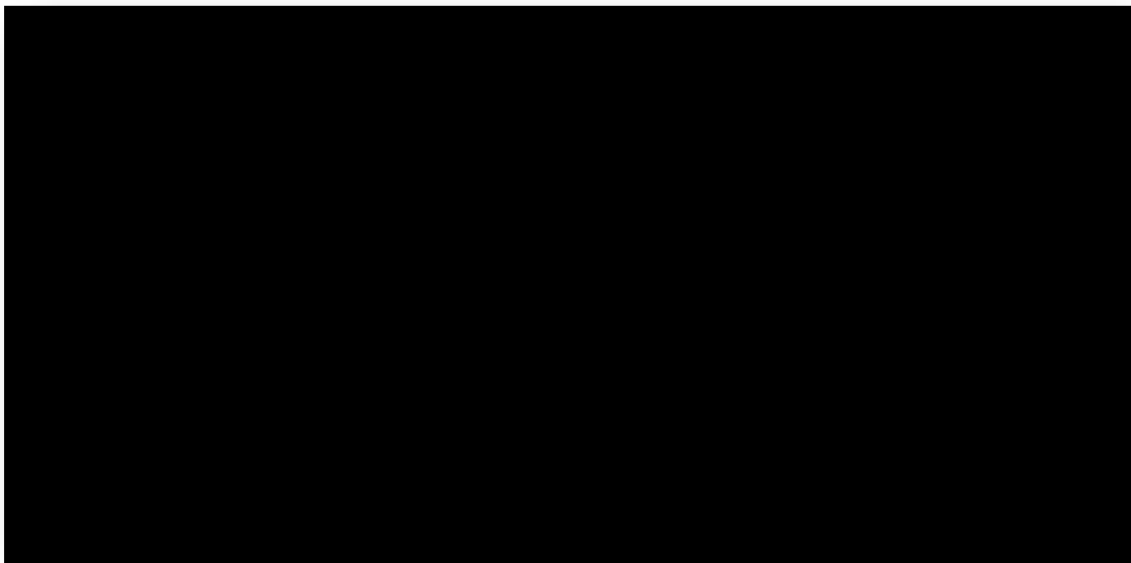
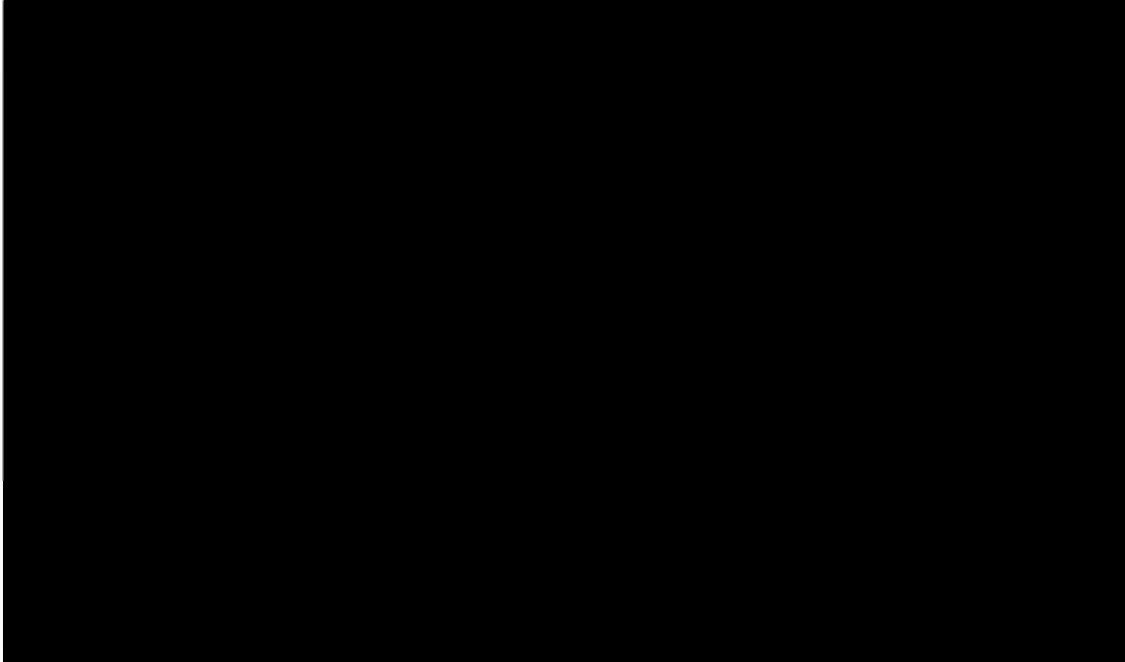
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



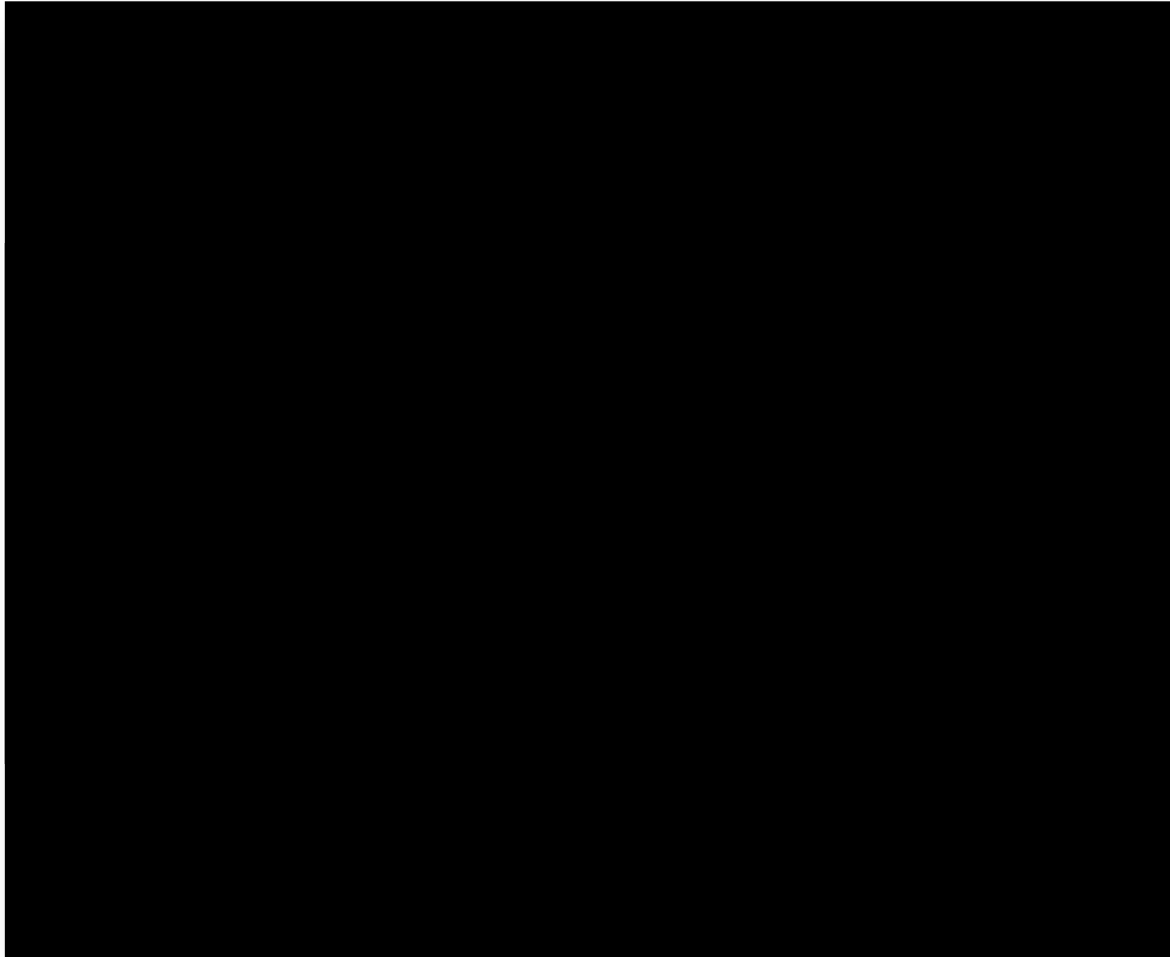
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



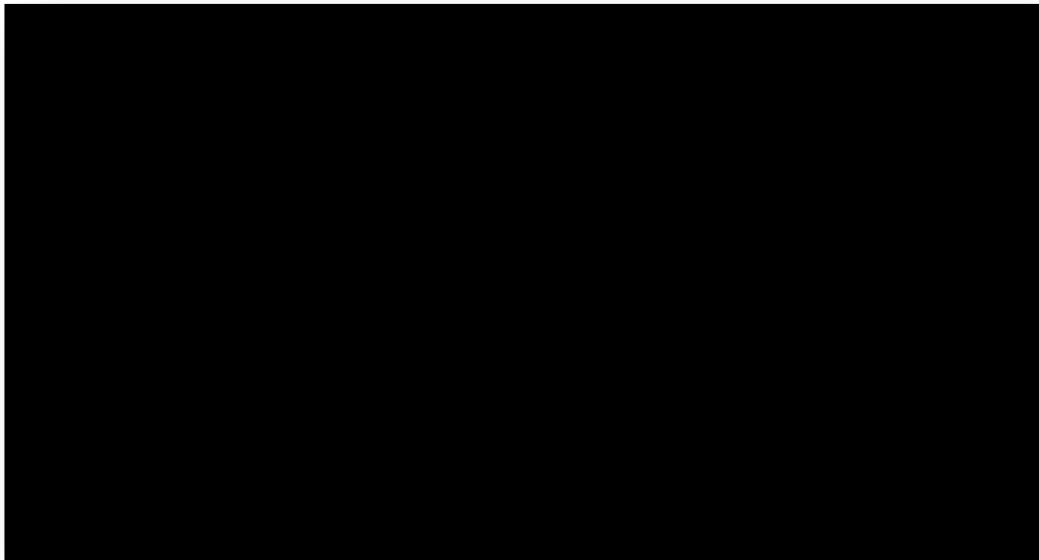
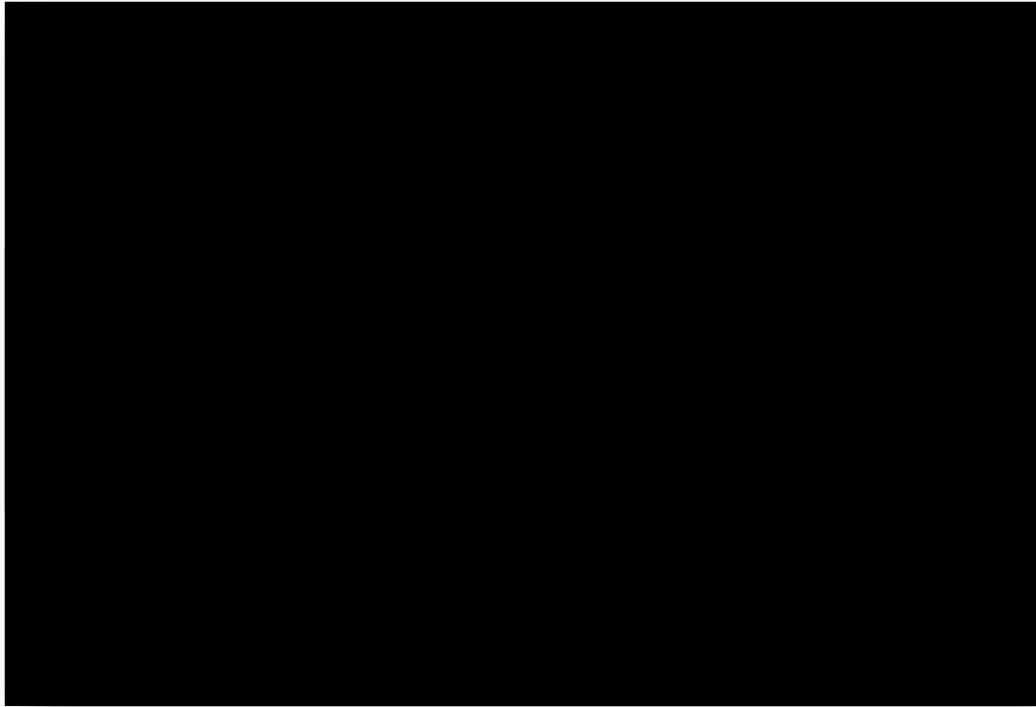
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

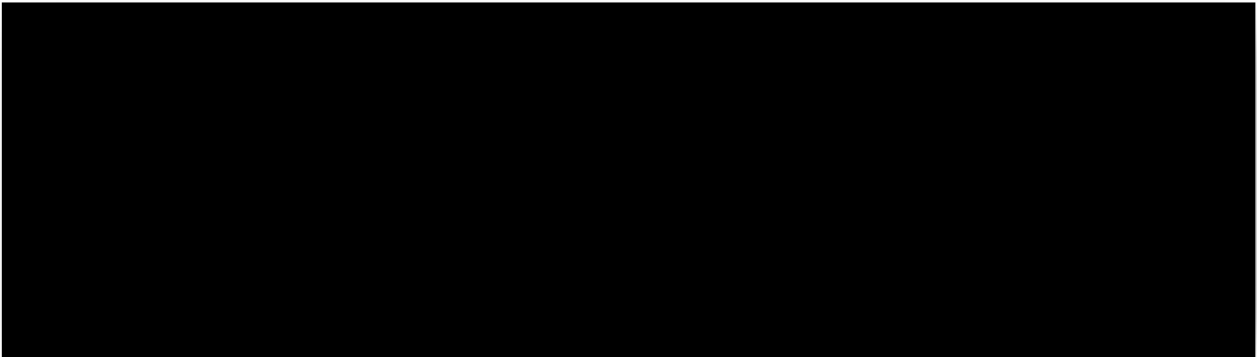
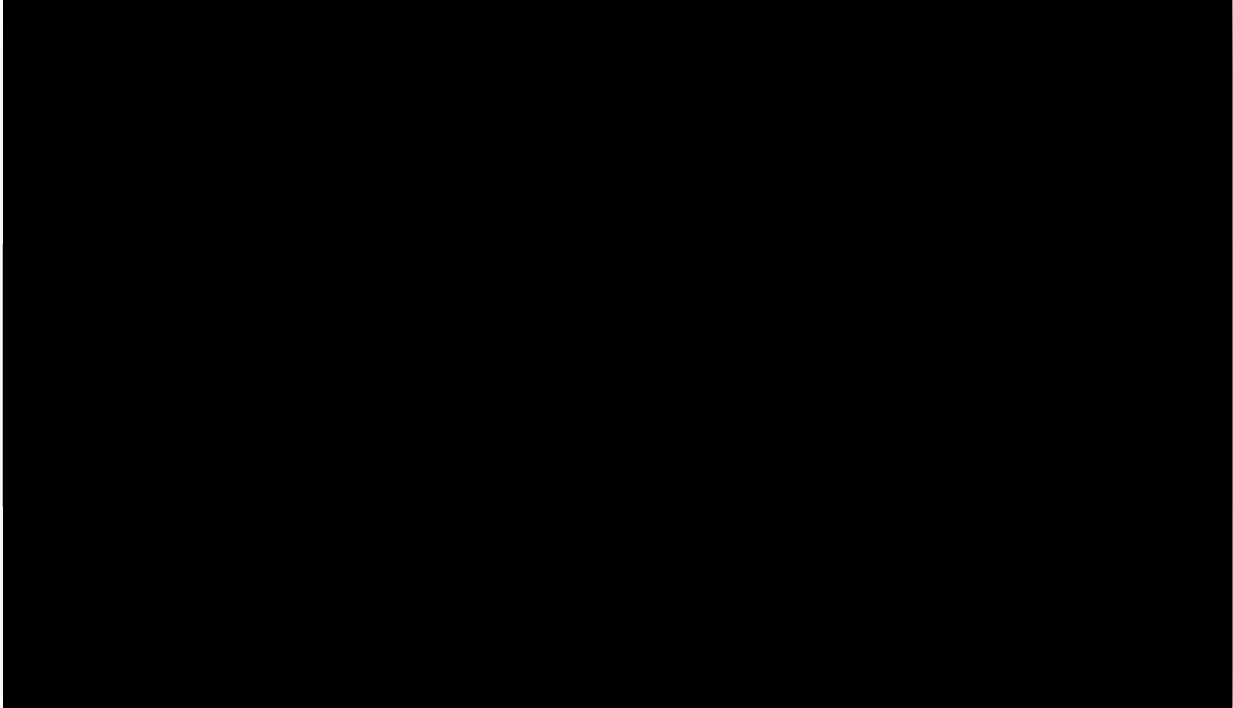




**Ohio Attorney General's Office  
Bureau of Criminal Investigation  
Investigative Report**



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio



For additional details refer to the actual autopsy report and the Investigative Report titled *2023-11-28: Review of Autopsy Report - Jeffrey Neff*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

**BCI Laboratory Analysis**

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

**Firearms**

The officer's firearm, the firearm collected from the scene, the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene and the projectiles recovered from Neff's body were submitted to the BCI Firearms Section for analysis. By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings to known standards from the weapons, identifications can be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from the firearms. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

**Findings**

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #1 – Harrington & Richardson revolver	N/A	Operable
Item #18 – Glock pistol	N/A	Operable
	Items #2 – 17 – sixteen (16) 9mm Luger fired cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Items #19 – 22 – three (3) fired bullets and one (1) bullet fragment	Inconclusive*

\*Similar class characteristics but insufficient corresponding individual characteristics to identify or exclude.

For additional details regarding the results of the Firearms analysis, refer to the lab report and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-07-26: Receipt and Review of Laboratory Analysis Report*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

**Dispatch-Related Information**

This section contains dispatch-related information associated with the incident. The information reviewed was obtained from the CPD.

**Audio recorded Calls to Police**

There was one recorded 911 call made to the police department. The recording was 1 minute, 30 seconds and titled *10\_911\_IP\_Position\_1\_2023\_06\_07\_22\_06\_11\_by\_Start\_Time\_asc*.

A female dispatcher answered the call stating “911 what is your emergency?” The female caller who requested to remain anonymous said her neighbors at 311 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW were fighting, and she was worried. She said a male and female were yelling and screaming and they were inside and outside the house. She did not know if they were physically fighting.

**Audio Recorded Police Radio Traffic**

There were 307 incident-related radio transmissions recorded from “Channel A” and 108 radio transmissions from “Channel 2”. The table below contains the radio data and content of the radio traffic for the transmissions believed to be most relevant to the actual shooting incident.

<b>Transmission #</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Radio ID</b>	<b>Officer Name</b>
301	Start: 2023-06-07 22:15:35	Dur: 00:07	Canton OP6 (7600005)	Dispatch
Can you respond to the trouble call, two eleven Twenty-fifth South West, two one one Twenty-Fifth South West for trouble?				
298	Start: 2023-06-07 22:15:52	Dur: 00:07	Canton OP6 (7600005)	Dispatch
Called in by a neighbor. States she can hear her other neighbors fighting. It's going to be a male and a female. They're in and out of the house.				
295	Start: 2023-06-07 22:17:05	Dur: 00:06	Canton OP6 (7600005)	Dispatch
I think I gave the address of two eleven Twenty-fifth South West. It's three eleven. Three, one, one, Twenty-fifth South West.				
293	Start: 2023-06-07 22:21:41	Dur: 00:03	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

I got one running. Running north behind the houses.				
292	Start: 2023-06-07 22:21:45	Dur: 00:02	Canton OP3 (7600002)	Dispatch
Copy one running. Any car close can advise?				
291	Start: 2023-06-07 22:21:46	Dur: 00:02	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Unintelligible				
290	Start: 2023-06-07 22:21:55	Dur: 00:05	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Unintelligible...Highway. White male, red shirt, blue jeans.				
288	Start:2023-06-07 22:22:18	Dur: 00:05	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Fired! Shots Fired! Suspect down. Give me everybody now!				
287	Start: 2023-06-07 22:22:23	Dur: 00:05	Canton OP6 (7600005)	Dispatch
Ten twenty-five. Ten twenty-five. Three eleven Twenty-fifth Street South West. Twenty-two, Twenty-two. Shots fired.				
277	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:19	Dur: 00:06	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Were on the exit ramp of Seventy-seven south and Cleveland Avenue. (Female yelling in background) Back Up!				
276	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:28	Dur: 00:10	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Going south. If you're going on Cleveland south. The exit ramp, or the entrance ramp, I'm sorry. Just north of Twenty-Fifth Street. We are in the grass.				
272	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:44	Dur: 00:03	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
(Unintelligible)...a medic now. Suspect down.				

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

271	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:47	Dur: 00:01	Canton OP3 (7600002)	Dispatch
They're enroute.				
270	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:49	Dur: 00:04	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
The male opened fire on me, hit me in the leg.				
269	Start: 2023-06-07 22:23:55	Dur: 00:02	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
I'm not bleeding.				
267	Start: 2023-06-07 22:24:16	Dur: 00:10	CPD7601952 (7601952)	Wohlheter
We got one to the chest. Uh, agonal breathing right now. Maybe one to the face.				
265	Start: 2023-06-07 22:24:30	Dur: 00:01	Canton OP6 (7600005)	Dispatch
We got medics coming.				
263	Start: 2023-06-07 22:24:44	Dur: 00:19	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
Coming south on Cleveland Avenue. Right at the, the entrance to Seventy-seven North. As you're going on the entrance we are in the grass between the actual main level part of the highway and the entrance ramp. We are on the uh the west side of Cleveland Avenue. I got my lights on. (Unintelligible)...the grass, look, look in the grass.				
262	Start: 2023-06-07 22:25:03	Dur: 00:02	CPD7600841 (7600841)	Huber
Gotcha. You need a med kit?				
261	Start: 2023-06-07 22:25:07	Dur: 00:02	CPD7601939 (7601939)	Dryden
(Unintelligible)...get a med kit out here.				

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### [Canton Police Department CAD Report](#)

The CPD CAD Report documented times and personnel assigned to the call. The report contained the dispatch, enroute, and arrival times of the officers who responded to the incident. The call was initiated on June 7, 2023, at 10:06:14 PM. The call type was entered as a "Shooting".

### [MDT Records](#)

Chat records for the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) utilized by Officer Dryden and Officer Wohlheter did not exist.

For additional details regarding the dispatch related information, refer to the recorded radio traffic and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-07-31: Review of Dispatch Related Information*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Video Recordings

This section contains information from the review of multiple video recordings obtained throughout the investigation. This includes surveillance video footage, body worn camera footage and in-car cruiser camera footage.

### Surveillance Video

A canvass for surveillance video cameras and footage was completed. No relevant footage was located. Agents did locate an Ohio Department of Transportation traffic camera at Interstate 77 and the intersection of Cleveland Avenue SW. However, the incident occurred outside the view of the camera.

### Law Enforcement Cameras

The CPD provided in-car cruiser camera footage from CPD cruiser 45 along with body worn camera (BWC) footage recorded by Officer Dryden and Officer Wohlheter's BWC's. The in-car cruiser camera audibly captured the shooting incident. Officer Dryden's BWC visually and audibly captured the actual shooting incident. Officer Wohlheter's BWC audibly captured the shooting incident and visually captured the moments immediately after the shots were fired.

### Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC) Video Production

Body worn camera footage from Officer Dryden, BWC footage from Officer Wohlheter and the in-car cruiser camera footage was submitted to OOCIC to create video productions for analysis. Specifically, OOCIC was requested to produce the following:

- One production for each video which includes the addition of a time coder, frame counter and audio wave bar.
- A separate production which includes all three videos synchronized if possible.
  - One synchronized production at full speed
  - One synchronized production at half speed
- Please set the time code presentation the same on the multi-camera presentation and the individual presentation.
- Include the file names for each of the videos being submitted and include the officer associated with each video.

The table below contains a list of the productions provided by OOCIC. Due to them containing duplicative material, only four of the eight productions were analyzed.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Video	Reviewed?
23-00059 Cruiser Camera Presentation – Speed Views	No
23-00059 Cruiser Camera Presentation	Yes
23-00059 Dryden Presentation – Speed Views	No
23-00059 Dryden Presentation	Yes
23-00059 Synchronized Timeline Presentation – Speed Views	No
23-00059 Synchronized Timeline Presentation	Yes
23-00059 Wohlheter Presentation – Speed Views	No
23-00059 Wohlheter Presentation	Yes

**23-00059 Dryden Presentation**

This video presentation consisted of 4647 frames (including 0 frame) and was 00:02:35:054 long. The color-coded columns correlate to timing spreadsheets generated for the purpose of calculating elapsed time. During a review of this presentation the following information was identified as most relevant to this investigation:

Frames (Amped Five)	1940
Frame Counter	002687
Timecode	00:00:59:20
Notes	<p>Officer Dryden ran around a bush and turned to his left. The subject was in the grass and was facing Officer Dryden. It was possible that the subject had both arms and hands extended outward in front of him. There was a light observed in this frame that was not present in frame 1939 nor 1941. The light was red/orange colored and it was located near the Neff's right chest/shoulder.</p> <p>In SA Moran's experience with video review and analysis, muzzle flashes, when captured on video, are only present for one frame, especially with pistols.</p> <p>About 5.67 seconds elapsed from TC 00:00:50:10.</p>

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	1957
Frame Counter	002704
Timecode	00:01:00:07
Notes	<p>Officer Dryden began to turn to his right. The subject, Neff, was in the grass and was facing Officer Dryden. It was possible that the subject had both arms and hands extended outward in front of him. There was a light observed in this frame that was not present in frame 1956 and was not present in frame 1958. The light was red/orange colored and it was located near Neff's right chest/shoulder. The FC was 002704. (Similar position/location observed in F1940).</p> <p>In SA Moran's experience with video review and analysis, muzzle flashes, when captured on video, are only present for one frame, especially with pistols.</p> <p>About 0.57 seconds elapsed from TC 00:00:59:20.</p>

Frames (Amped Five)	1974
Frame Counter	002721
Timecode	00:01:00:24
Notes	Officer Dryden yelled, "Oh fuck!" and turned to his right. The FC was 002721.

Frames (Amped Five)	1993
Frame Counter	002740
Timecode	00:01:01:13
Notes	<p>Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (1) from his pistol. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002740. In previous frames, Officer Dryden fell or moved to the ground.</p> <p>About 1.2 seconds elapsed from TC 00:01:00:07.</p>

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2020
Frame Counter	002767
Timecode	00:01:02:10
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (2) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002767.  About 0.9 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:01:13.

Frames (Amped Five)	2028
Frame Counter	002775
Timecode	00:01:02:18
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (3) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002775.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:02:10.

Frames (Amped Five)	2035
Frame Counter	002782
Timecode	00:01:02:25
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (4) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002782.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:02:18.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2042
Frame Counter	002789
Timecode	00:01:03:02
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (5) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002789.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:02:25.

Frames (Amped Five)	2049
Frame Counter	002796
Timecode	00:01:03:09
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (6) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002796.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:03:02.

Frames (Amped Five)	2056
Frame Counter	002803
Timecode	00:01:03:16
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (7) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002803.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:03:09.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2064 and 2065
Frame Counter	002811 and 002812
Timecode	00:01:03:24 and 00:01:03:25
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (8) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A large spike was observed on the waveform. The FC was 002811. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002812.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:03:16.

Frames (Amped Five)	2071
Frame Counter	002818
Timecode	00:01:04:01
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (9) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002818.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:03:24.

Frames (Amped Five)	2079
Frame Counter	002826
Timecode	00:01:04:09
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (10) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002826.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:04:01.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2086
Frame Counter	002833
Timecode	00:01:04:16
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (11) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002833.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:04:09.

Frames (Amped Five)	2093 and 2094
Frame Counter	002840 and 002841
Timecode	00:01:04:23 and 00:01:04:24
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (12) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A large spike was observed on the waveform. The CF was 002840. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002841.  About 0.23 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:04:16.

Frames (Amped Five)	2101 and 2102
Frame Counter	002848 and 002849
Timecode	00:01:05:01 and 00:01:05:02
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (13) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A large spike was observed on the waveform. The CF was 002848. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002849.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:04:23.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2109 and 2110
Frame Counter	002856 and 002857
Timecode	00:01:05:09 and 00:01:05:10
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (14) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A large spike was observed on the waveform. The FC was 002856. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002857.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:05:01.

Frames (Amped Five)	2117 and 2118
Frame Counter	002864 and 002865
Timecode	00:01:05:17 and 00:01:05:18
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (15) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A large spike was observed on the waveform. The FC was 002864. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002865.  About 0.27 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:05:09.

Frames (Amped Five)	2126
Frame Counter	002873
Timecode	00:01:05:26
Notes	Officer Dryden fired a gunshot (16) from his pistol while he was on the ground. A cartridge case was observed being ejected from his pistol and there was a large spike observed on the waveform. The FC was 002873.  About 0.33 of a second elapsed from TC 00:01:05:17.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Frames (Amped Five)	2273
Frame Counter	003020
Timecode	00:01:10:23
Notes	Officer Dryden stood up and radioed, "Shots fired! Suspect down! Give me everybody now!" The subject was observed lying on the grass some distance away. The FC was 003020.

Frames (Amped Five)	2818
Frame Counter	003565
Timecode	00:01:28:29
Notes	Officer Dryden said, "Bro, I don't know, I think it was like a graze!" This was after another officer told Officer Dryden to "check" himself (for injuries). The subject was observed lying on the grass some distance away. The FC was 003565.

Frames (Amped Five)	2940
Frame Counter	003687
Timecode	00:01:33:01
Notes	Officer Dryden said, "Yeah, I'm not bleeding bro." He possibly said, "It hit my light right here." He moved his right hand and on his right side. This was in response to another officer asking, "Are you good?" The FC was 003687.

**Timing Information for Dryden and Cruiser Presentations**

OOCIC determined the video presentations were playing at 29.97fps (frames-per second). Time was calculated by dividing 1second by 30 frames. The result was each frame represented 0.03333333 seconds. Using this calculation, the amount of time that transpired between significant events can be approximately calculated by multiplying the number of frames captured between the events and the amount of time each frame represented (0.03333333). The product is the approximate amount of elapsed time (number of frames X 0.03333333 = elapsed time). The elapsed time was rounded up or down to the nearest hundredth place for ease of comprehension i.e. 23 frames multiplied by 0.033333333 equaled 0.766666667 of a second or 0.77 of a second rounded.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
 Canton, Ohio

Using this formula, the elapsed time was used to correlate the percussive sounds recorded on the in-car cruiser camera and the possible muzzle flash from the firearm possessed by Neff as captured on Dryden's BWC footage. The tables below illustrate the same amount of time elapsed from what appears to be Neff's possible first shot and the first shot fired by Dryden.

**Dryden**

<b>TIMING ESTIMATE SUMMARY</b>	<b>FRAMES</b>	<b>1/30TH</b>	<b>TIME (SECONDS)</b>	<b>ROUNDED</b>
Neff in grass, arms extended, light observed (1st) (00:00:59:20) to Dryden gunshot 1 (00:01:01:13).	53	0.03333333	1.76666667	1.77

**Cruiser**

Start of (1st) muffled percussive-like sounds (00:01:00:02) to beginning (1st) of louder, repetitive percussive-like sounds (00:01:01:25).	53	0.03333333	1.76666667	1.77
--	----	------------	------------	------

Furthermore, these estimates could indicate Neff fired three gunshots from his pistol prior to Dryden firing his first gunshot. Dryden's BWC (possibly) visually captured two of the three gunshots possibly fired by Neff. The cruiser camera audio stream possibly captured three gunshots fired by Neff.

For additional details regarding the OOCIC video review, timing analysis and, to view the marked images, refer to the OOCIC video productions stored in Reference Item E, the Amped Five Project, Reports, and Derivatives from the review of the OOCIC video presentations stored in Reference Item H, and the Investigative Report titled, *2023-12-05: Review of OOCIC Video Presentations*.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

## Conclusion

This officer-involved shooting incident involved CPD Officer Jacob Dryden. Based upon the tangible/physical evidence, video and audio recordings, statements from uninvolved law enforcement officers, statements from witnesses and the totality of the investigation, it is concluded that CPD officers were dispatched to a disturbance at 311 25 Street SW. Upon their arrival Jeffrey Neff fled on foot. Officer Dryden pursued Neff with Officer Wohlheter following closely behind him.

Officer Dryden encountered Neff in the median between the IR 77 North and the north bound entrance ramp from Cleveland Ave. when Neff fired a gun at Officer Dryden striking him once in the right thigh area. Officer Dryden then fired at Neff 16 times striking and killing Neff.

Based on the physical evidence, it appeared Neff fired at officer Dryden as many as three times. Neff's firearm was a revolver which contained 9 fired cartridge cases in the cylinder. The video recordings audibly captured percussive sounds recorded at the time of the shooting incident however, they alone do not definitively distinguish the source of the percussion or that the percussive sound was in fact gunfire. Images captured on Officer Dryden's BWC footage captured what appeared to be two muzzle flashes from Neff's firearm. Due to insufficient corroborating evidence related to the number of times Neff fired, it appears Neff fired as many as three times. However, the actual number of shots fired by Neff could not definitively be confirmed.

Officer Dryden fired 16 times. This was confirmed by footage recorded on Officer Dryden's BWC which captured 16 cartridge cases being ejected from his firearm. Additionally, 16 fired cartridge cases were located at the scene. A count of Officer Dryden's remaining ammunition after the incident revealed officer Dryden had 36 live cartridges remaining which would indicate if he was loaded to full capacity (52 cartridges) the most he could have fired was 16 cartridges.

This conclusion was based on the totality of the investigation. Throughout the investigative process, investigators continually evaluated the physical evidence, in conjunction with audio and video recordings, forensic findings, witness statements, involved officer statements and other information to ensure all relevant facts and circumstances surrounding this incident were obtained.

This investigation was focused on the actual shooting incident and the use of force.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.





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



2023-1535  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 311 25th Street SW,  
Canton, Ohio

### Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved shooting incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Matthew Armstrong. SA Armstrong who can be reached via email at [matthew.armstrong@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:matthew.armstrong@OhioAGO.gov) or by telephone at 234-400-3395.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.