



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



2025-0151

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 350 South Arch Avenue,
Alliance, Ohio 44601, Stark County

Investigative Activity: Interview of Involved Officer Conducted
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 02/03/2025
Activity Location: Alliance Police Department, 470 E. Market Street,
Alliance, OH 44601
Authoring Agent: SA Nicholas Valente

Narrative:

On Monday, February 3, 2025, at 1422 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente (SA Valente) and SA Cory Momchilov (SA Momchilov) interviewed Alliance Police Department (APD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Daniel Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Alliance Police Department, 470 E. Market Street, Alliance, Ohio. The interview was audio and video recorded.

[REDACTED] read, stated he understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form prior to being questioned.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

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Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Lt. Shatzer
Radio Channel Utilized: PD1	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: Police patrol vehicle with standard identification markings.	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: [REDACTED] drove, [REDACTED] was the front seat passenger.
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Operational, But Not Used	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: None that he could recall.
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Seven or eight.	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: 10 years	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Standard issue marked patrol uniform pants, shirt, and vest, police patches on shoulders of shirt and on vest.	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Pistol, handcuffs, glove pouch, flashlight, taser, BWC mounted on center chest, POV camera attachment for head, two pistol magazines, on vest carrier.
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: [REDACTED]
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: [REDACTED] CIT training, Stark County Fatal Crash Team member.	OPOTC Certification: Obtained from Kent State University in [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Received yearly from the department.
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs

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**that might Impair Your Duties at Time
of Incident:** None

**that might Impair You Now for
Interview:** None

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: BCM	Model: Did not know.
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56 mm	Serial: Did not know.
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Sling
Magazine Capacity: Did not know.	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): Did not know.
Extra Magazines: None on person, two left in vehicle.	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: Did not know.
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Did not know.	Number of Rounds Fired: Approximately five or six.
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Late 2024	Type of Holster, if any: None/sling utilized

Narrative:

██████████ had watched a news piece covering the shooting that included body-worn camera (BWC) video of the incident. ██████████ believed he watched this video approximately 20 times. ██████████ reported he intentionally watched the video without sound. ██████████ stated he did not learn anything about the incident of significance from watching the video he did not recall from memory apart from not recalling the fire alarm going off after the shooting. ██████████ stated his recollection of the incident was similar to what he observed when he watched the news piece that included the BWC video.

██████████ did not recall ever responding to a call or interacting with the subject, Mason French (French), or the victim, Stacy Pride (Pride) prior to this incident.

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██████████ was ██████████ at the time of the incident. ██████████ told agents APD has a "Live 911" system that allows officers to listen in on 911 calls as they are received by dispatchers. ██████████ recalled he was in the police station and away from ██████████ when ██████████ called him. ██████████ answered the call and ██████████ told him he was actively listening to a new 911 call that involved a woman being shot. ██████████ quickly relayed this information to other officers in the police station. ██████████ then joined ██████████ in their cruiser and began to respond to the scene based on the 911 call. ██████████ and ██████████ continued listening to the live 911 call as they responded to the scene. ██████████ believed he heard the caller tell the dispatcher they heard arguing followed by the sound of a gunshot but could not recall any specific details of what was said during the 911 call.

Upon arrival, ██████████ and ██████████ both took their rifles with them into the apartment building. Officer Kevin Brown (Officer Brown) and Officer Paul Vesco (Officer Vesco) arrived almost immediately after ██████████ and ██████████. The four officers entered the building and rode up the elevator together to the fifth floor. Once the elevator doors opened ██████████ observed a man standing at the elevator with this hand extended out as if to stop the group of officers from exiting the elevator. ██████████ believed this person told them the subject had a gun but could not recall the specific statement made to officers by this man.

Officer Brown was the first to exit the elevator. Officer Brown turned to the right as he exited the elevator and began yelling commands. Officer Brown had his pistol unholstered at that time. ██████████ was second to exit the elevator. ██████████ was third to exit the elevator. Officer Vesco was the last to exit the elevator and was at the rear of the group of officers as they began to walk down the hallway.

██████████ stated, (17:27 mark of recording) "Um, and then I remember that guy, uh, shooting her, uh, in the hallway and, uh, Kevin Brown has me switch positions with him, uh, assuming because I had my long gun with me. Um, and he had popped into like, there's like a little nook there where he could like kind of hide behind. Um, and he came back out and, uh, he still had his gun in his hand. I saw him raise his hand up or his arm up, and I just remember getting a sight picture and shooting. And then I remember, uh, Kevin Brown says, uh, like ceasefire or something to that effect, and then, um, we're walking down the hallway, and I just remember there was smoke and then, uh, he told us to go in the car and wait for somebody to talk to us."

When asked at what point he first saw the subject with the gun in his hand, ██████████ stated it was after Officer Brown stated aloud that the subject had a gun.

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When asked if he knew where the subject's attention was focused during the incident, Officer Brown stated (19:29 mark of recording), "So I remember the, uh, gunshot, he was looking at her. And then, um, when we fired, uh, I remember him look, looking towards us, and then I just remember his arm kind of like moving, and that's when I thought that he was going to shoot at us. So that's when we fired."

When asked to describe in more detail the positioning of French and Pride at the moment French shot Pride, [REDACTED] stated, (20:07 mark of recording) "I, um, just, so if this is the hallway, she was laying horizontally if, if I remember correctly. And, uh, I don't remember how his body was oriented, but he was like, right here and like, you know, if this is the nook or whatever, that he ended up hiding behind, but I don't remember if he went like this or if his body was like this. But that's his position in relation to hers." As [REDACTED] explained the moment he observed French shoot Pride he demonstrated by pointing his arm fully extended out and downward.

[REDACTED] recalled hearing the gunshot when French shot Pride.

When asked to describe how he switched places with Officer Brown, [REDACTED] stated, (21:46 mark of recording) "Um, yeah, he, I mean, if he said get up here essentially, and I just went up in front of him."

When asked if he felt Officer Brown pushed or interfered with his movement at the time, [REDACTED] stated he was aware of Officer Brown having an impact on his ability to shoot. When asked if he recalled anything happening around the time he fired that would have prevented him from shooting accurately, [REDACTED] stated "no."

[REDACTED] stated at the moment the subject reappeared in his line of sight, the subject began to raise his arm and weapon towards the officers and that was the moment he began to fire at the subject. [REDACTED] stated he was kneeling at the time he fired and believed he took the kneeling position because he had slipped.

When asked why he chose to fire at the moment he did so, [REDACTED] stated (22:46) "Um, uh, he had clearly demonstrated that he was, you know, I, I didn't know if she was alive or dead at this point, that he, he was a hundred percent committed to harming her and her life and that I was very concerned that he was going to harm us or kill us."

When asked what he thought the subject was going to do as he raised his arm and pistol in the direction of officers, [REDACTED] stated (23:12 mark of recording) "I thought he was going to shoot us."

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██████████ indicated he feared for his safety, the safety of other officers and the safety of Pride during the incident, ██████████ did not feel he had any other options available to him other than the use of deadly force at the moment he fired.

██████████ stated his point of aim was the subject's upper torso, and he believed his rounds struck that same general area.

██████████ stated after the gunfire stopped the group of officers approached the victim and subject. ██████████ did not see either party move as the group approached their position or anytime thereafter.

██████████ did not recall the subject or victim ever saying anything during the incident.

██████████ felt his actions were consistent with his training. ██████████ did not believe any of the actions of the other involved officers were inappropriate or potentially criminal in nature.

The audio recording of the interview was attached to this report. The signed Criminal Investigation Notification Form was attached to this report. The video recording of the interview was saved as part of Reference Item D in the evidence.com case folder.

References:

D - Video recorded interview of ██████████

Attachments:

1. Audio Interview of ██████████
2. ██████████ Criminal Investigation Notification Form

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DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Bureau of Criminal Investigation
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Criminal Investigation Notification

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



Printed Name of Interviewee

2-3-25

Date / Time



Signature of Interviewee

S/A Nick VALENTE #139

BCI Agent (Printed)



BCI Agent (Signature)