



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



2024-3294
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - Portage Bike Trail near
 North Freedom Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266

Investigative Activity: Receipt and Review of RPD Incident Report
Involves: Ravenna Police Department (O)
Activity Date: 10/28/2024
Activity Location: BCI - Richfield
Authoring Agent: SA Allison Fletcher

Narrative:

On Monday, October 28, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Allison Fletcher (Fletcher) received documents from Ravenna Police Department (RPD) Captain Jason Smallfield (Smallfield). The records which were requested included any reports pertaining to the October 22, 2024, officer-involved critical incident, except for any statements made by the involved officers. SA Fletcher reviewed the documents and noted the following:

Investigative Report/Incident #: [REDACTED]

The report included narratives completed by the following RPD officers:

- Patrolman Joshua Erb (Erb)
- Patrolman Cruz Montes (Montes)
- Patrolman Brock Wise (Wise)
- Patrolman Dominic Nicolino (Nicolino)
- Patrolman Duane Kaley (Kaley)
- Patrolman Steve Lincoln (Lincoln)
- Patrolman Zachary Milush (Milush)
- Sergeant Dustin Svab (Svab)

In reviewing the report, SA Fletcher learned that RPD Officer Wise transported [REDACTED] to University Hospital (UH) for evaluation and Sergeant Svab transported [REDACTED] to the UH for evaluation. Officer Twigg and Meyer transported themselves to the hospital.

The body cameras of the four officers were collected by Sergeant Svab. [REDACTED] Officer Twigg had BWC # 27, and Officer Meyers had BWC #24.

According to the narrative reports. Officers, Erb, Montes, Wise, Nicolino, Kaley, Lincoln, and Milush assisted with crime scene security. Officer Lincoln also conducted an

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interview with the witness Jack Chandler.

Information about the involved subject's sister was included in Officer Milush's narrative.

The report for RPD incident # [REDACTED] was attached to this investigative report. Please refer to the attachment for further details.

SA Fletcher did not identify any other relevant information which had not previously been discovered throughout the investigation.

Additional documents provided included 103 photographs. The files were in JPEG format and captured portions of the crime scene. The photographs have been attached to this report for further review.

References:

None

Attachments:

1. RPD Incident Report
2. RPD crime scene [REDACTED] - RPD crime scene [REDACTED] (103 files)

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Ravenna City Police Department

Ravenna City
Police Department
220 Park Way
Ravenna, OH 44266
Phone: (330)296-6486
Fax: (330)296-4561

Investigative Report

Incident #: [REDACTED]

Report Date:

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Incident Information

Call Type: **SHOOTING** Call ID: [REDACTED]

Location: FREEDOM ST/BIKE & BIKE TRAIL 0 FREEDOM ST/HIKE & BIKE T Ravenna Zone: RCPD

Occurred Between: 10/22/2024 11:03:00 And 10/22/2024 11:03:00

Supervisor: RCFD Unit on Scene:

Officer Report: RCFD Officer Assigned: RCFD

Boards: D, C or J: Copies To:

Approved By: Approved Date:

Clearance Code: -

Dispatch Times

Received: 11:03 Dispatched: 11:04 Arrived: Cleared: 11:06 Total: 0:03

Incident Names

Entry Type COM	Name: , BETH Address: Sex: Race: Hgt: Wgt: Hair: Eyes:	DOB: 01/01/1900 Phone1: [REDACTED] Phone2:
Entry Type SUB	Name: CHANDLER, JACK ARNOLD Address: 450 WARWICK ST AKRON, OH 44305 Sex: M Race: U Hgt: 5 9 Wgt: 215 Hair: BLN Eyes: BLU	DOB: 03/18/1967 Phone1: Phone2:
Entry Type SUB	Name: BULMAN, JOSEPH EDWARD Address: 1307 LAWRENCE CT APT 202 201 KENT, OH 44240 Sex: M Race: W Hgt: 5 8 Wgt: 205 Hair: BRO Eyes: BRO	DOB: 12/06/1986 Phone1: [REDACTED] Phone2:
Entry Type SUB	Name: KOTECKI, JESSICA ROSE Address: 1044 FRONEK DR STREETSBORO, OH 44241 Sex: F Race: W Hgt: 5 3 Wgt: 186 Hair: BRO Eyes: HAZ	DOB: 10/20/1987 Phone1: [REDACTED] Phone2:
Entry Type SUB	Name: FRIES, MATTHEW JAMES Address: Homeless RAVENNA, OH 44266 Sex: M Race: W Hgt: 5 9 Wgt: 165 Hair: BLN Eyes: BLU	DOB: 10/31/1980 Phone1: Phone2:
Entry Type VIC	Name: BURGHEY, LARRY JUNIOR Address: 215 GATES ST ANDOVER, OH 44003 Sex: M Race: W Hgt: 5 6 Wgt: 145 Hair: GRY Eyes: GRN	DOB: 10/18/1971 Phone1: Phone2:
Entry Type WIT	Name: LAMARCA, GERARD Address: 3605 STATE ROUTE 82 MANTUA, OH 44255 Sex: M Race: W Hgt: 5 10 Wgt: 215 Hair: WHI Eyes: BRO	DOB: 10/16/1957 Phone1: Phone2:

Narrative Report

(10/22/2024 11:03:43 By: clllandj) MALE POSSIBLE STABBED. PR WAS ON THE HIKE & BIKE AND SOMEONE SAID THEY NEEDED HELP. SHE DID NOT SEE ANYONE ELSE IN THE AREA, SHE LEFT THE AREA OUT OF SAFETY. SHER HEARD ANOTHER BIKER STATE SOMETHING ABOUT BEING STABBED.
(10/22/2024 11:04:26 By: angela.hager) 2ND 911 CALL - MALE STABBED IN UPPER LEG/BUTTOCKS AND



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Investigative Report

Incident #: [REDACTED]

Report Date:

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

ARM FROM THE AREA OF THE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT - WALKING DOWN THE TRAIL AWAY FROM 14 TOWARD FREEDOM - PR DID NOT SEE ANYONE ELSE THAT APPEARED TO BE FLEEING THE AREA (10/22/2024 11:05:59 By: angela.hager) VIC ADVISED 2ND PR THAT THE PERP IS BELOW 14 ON THE HIKE & BKE TRAIL

- (10/22/2024 11:06:45 By: angela.hager) 2ND PR JACK JAMMER [REDACTED]
- (10/22/2024 11:09:04 By: angela.hager) SINGLE STAB TO THE ARM
- (10/22/2024 11:10:09 By: angela.hager) 426 - MALE HAS A KNIFE/SWORD - [REDACTED] HE HAS HATCHET
- (10/22/2024 11:10:44 By: angela.hager) 424 - SHOTS FIRED
- (10/22/2024 11:11:21 By: angela.hager) 432 - K9 UNITS ENR FROM COPLEY // 10 AND 2ND SQUAD REQ
- (10/22/2024 11:11:40 By: angela.hager) DB ENR
- (10/22/2024 11:12:26 By: angela.hager) 100 ENR
- (10/22/2024 11:21:06 By: clellandj) 2311-TRANSPORTED TO UH PORTAGE +27
- (10/22/2024 11:22:49 By: angela.hager) 2ND GENERAL ALARM FOR STATION FILL
- (10/22/2024 11:32:37 By: clellandj) 425 & 432 ARE ON SCENE
- (10/22/2024 11:36:34 By: angela.hager) 404 PROSECUTER OSC
- (10/22/2024 11:38:18 By: angela.hager) 429 - WILL BE TRANSPORTING [REDACTED] TO UH
- (10/22/2024 11:38:53 By: angela.hager) 404 - 83 WITH [REDACTED] TO UH
- (10/22/2024 11:40:59 By: angela.hager) 429 - OUT AT UH
- (10/22/2024 11:41:54 By: angela.hager) BLUE SKY BEE SUPPLY LTD - 930 N FREEDOM ST
- (10/22/2024 12:07:39 By: angela.hager) 424 AND 426 WILL BE ENR TO UH // 403 - HAVE ANOTHER UNIT COME DOWN TO 423, HAVE ANOTHER LOCATION FOR POSSIBILITY OF STABBING - 425 WILL BE ENR
- (10/22/2024 12:08:27 By: angela.hager) 423 - 401 403 - 50 YARDS NORTH OF THE 14 BRIDGE
- (10/22/2024 12:20:43 By: angela.hager) 424/426 WILL BE OUT AT UH
- (10/22/2024 12:30:03 By: clellandj) 425-BCI IS ON SCENE
- (10/22/2024 12:35:37 By: clellandj) POST 67 WILL BE CLOSING THE ENTRANCE TO BIKE & HIKE AT PECK
- (10/22/2024 12:55:28 By: angela.hager) 101 OSC
- (10/22/2024 13:53:07 By: angela.hager) 429 - [REDACTED] & 424 ALL CLEAR FROM UH
- (10/22/2024 14:14:43 By: angela.hager) 2312 - OUT OF SERVICE, ON THE AIR
- (10/22/2024 14:50:22 By: angela.hager) 423 - ENR 25 WITH BCI AGENT
- (10/22/2024 14:55:10 By: angela.hager) 423 - 25

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

Approved By: _____

Date: _____



Ravenna City Police Department

Ravenna City
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220 Park Way
Ravenna, OH 44266
Phone: (330)296-6486
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Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/22/2024 Reporting Officer: 432 Joshua Erb INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Supplement

On 10-22-2024 at approximately 1103hrs., I was at bi-weekly K9 training in Copley when I heard this call dispatched. Ptl. Nicolino was present and we monitored radio traffic. At approximately 1110hrs., we heard the shots fired call on the radio and Ptl. Nicolino and I began to leave training. I radioed to [REDACTED] to verify our assistance was needed and we began to respond in emergency fashion.

At approximately 1132hrs., Ptl. Nicolino and I arrived on scene. We were advised to contain the crime scene perimeter on Freedom St. at the Hike and Bike Trail. At about 1230hrs., a cyclist, Gerald LaMarca, came from the west to the edge of the crime scene tape. A witness that was speaking to Ptl. Lincoln began advising us that this cyclist was a witness as well. BCI arrived about this time as well.

Ptl. Nicolino and I spoke to Gerald and a written statement was obtained, which is attached to this report. Gerald advised he was riding his bicycle westbound near the bridge for State Route 14 around 11AM. He said he observed a white male with his arm wrapped and bleeding. He advised there was another male on his phone and appeared to be helping the bleeding subject so Gerald felt he would be of no help. He said he continued riding and a little further west on the trail he saw two females walking. Gerald advised me he rode his bicycle to Brady Lake area and then turned around.

After obtaining his written statement, Gerald then spoke to a BCI agent and then was released.

At approximately 1320hrs., I was requested by Captain Smallfield to begin a crime scene log of people coming and going. This log was completed and is attached in e-storage.

While continuing to contain the scene a female and male came to the scene. They spoke to Ptl. Milush and he obtained their information. The female advised she was the suspect, Matthew Fries, girlfriend. She advised she was fighting with him yesterday and he told her he was going to cause problems on the Hike and Bike Trail today.

BCI completed their investigation and the scene was then opened up.

Car 7 and BWC 7

Reporting Officer:	_____	Date:	_____
Supervisor:	_____	Date:	_____
Entered By:	_____	Date:	_____
Approved By:	_____	Date:	_____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/22/2024

Reporting Officer: 428 Cruz Montes



Supplement Title: Supplement

On October 22, 2024 I was at the court house for a trial on a no license citation when I became aware of an incident involving a stabbing in the city, I received a phone call from Sgt. Svab at 11:20 AM advising me to get a patrol vehicle and head to the scene. Upon arrival, I met with officers and assisted in setting the scene. Ptl. Milush and myself were requested to set up police crime scene tape at Loomis Pkwy and the Hike and Bike trail. We were also requested to meet up near the SR 14 bridge to clear tents that were located of the bike trail in the wooded area. Det. Kaley spoke with Carl who was on scene in a tent and obtained consent to search the tent. Ptl. Milush and myself cleared the tents in the west side of the tent camp and did not observe anyone else or anything out of the ordinary.

I was instructed to take Carl back to Freedom St. where he was to meet with BCI agents. I introduced Carl to SRO Lincoln and made my way back near the SR 14 bridge to hold the scene for BCI agents. Ptl. Milush and myself walked an agent to a tent where blood was reported to have been discovered. Ptl. Erb asked via radio RFD was asking if they could remove equipment of a patient to which I asked BCI agents and they advised it was okay. I relayed this information to Ptl. Erb via radio. While on scene blood droplets were observed on the ground and when a BCI agent arrived to take pictures of the crime scene I advised him of the findings. BCI advised they were done collecting evidence and were clearing the scene. The Hike and Bike trail was reopened.

BWC# 30, P-12

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/22/2024

Reporting Officer: 429 Brock Wise

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Supplement

On 10/22/2024 at approximately 1121 hours, I received a call from Ptl. Milush. Ptl. Milush advised I was needed to assist Det. Svab and officers with an officer involved shooting. At this time, I was already on station and in uniform due to an unrelated court case. I immediately contacted Det. Svab and confirmed I was needed at the scene. I then proceeded to get a marked patrol vehicle (P-6) and headed to the scene.

Upon arrival, I was instructed to transport [REDACTED] to UH PMC to be evaluated. I transported him without incident and stood by at the hospital for the next few hours with all the officers involved ([REDACTED], Ptl. Meyers, and Ptl. Twigg). After officers were cleared/medically released, I transported [REDACTED] back to the police department.

It should be noted that while at UH PMC, Officer Adam Harris (UH PD) collected the stabbing victim's (Larry J. Burghy) clothing at approximately 1200 hours. Officer Harris then transferred Larry's clothing into my custody at approximately 1208 hours, which was labeled and secured in a marked cruiser [REDACTED]. Upon the arrival of BCI, the clothing collected was transferred to BCI and labeled accordingly.

BWC 31 was activated upon arrival to the scene and remained recording until [REDACTED] arrived back at the police department.

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/23/2024

Reporting Officer: 425 Dominic Nicolino

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Supplement

On 10/22/24 While at K9 training myself and Ptl. Erb were able to hear RPD officers be dispatched to a stabbing call on the Hike and Bike Trail. At 1110 Hours I was able to hear officers advise shots had been fired and myself and Ptl. Erb began to respond to the scene from training. Ptl. Erb requested permission to respond which was given by [REDACTED]

Myself and Ptl. Erb arrived on scene at 1132 Hours and were requested to maintain a perimeter of the crime scene at the intersection of the Hike and Bike trail and Freedom St. I then assisted in putting crime scene tape up across the trail and advising travelers on the trail that it was now closed.

While doing so officers met with Gerald LaMarca who was found to be in the area during the initial incident. His information was gathered and he provided a written statement to Ptl. Erb which has been scanned into the report.

I stayed on the perimeter of the scene as BCI agents began to arrive and advised them of the witnesses which had been moved out of the scene. I stayed at the scene until BCI was completed with the investigation and cleared after opening the hike and bike trail.

BWC 16

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/23/2024

Reporting Officer: 423 Duane Kaley

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Detective Bureau Response

On 10/22/24, Sgt. Svab and myself heard a radio call for help and shots had been fired from this incident. We both along with Chief Wallis and Capt Smallfield responded with emergency lights and sirens from Ravenna PD. Upon arrival I ascertained a stab victim was safe and the offender of this stabbing had been neutralized with gunfire by uniformed patrol officers who initially responded to the stabbing.

I ascertained a total of four Ravenna Police officers were directly involved with the incident ([REDACTED] Ptl. Meyers, and Ptl. Twigg). Once adequate help arrived (Ravenna City Fire and Ravenna Police) the four officers were out of the scene. I located [REDACTED] outside of the scene and asked them individually where they were located when the shooting occurred. This question was at the direction of the RPD administration to orient BCI investigators when they arrived. I asked both [REDACTED] this question while their BWC's were activated.

I entered the immediate scene to ascertain physical evidence and maintain security. Sgt. Svab went to University Hospital Portage Medical Center with the four officers and the stab victim. The obvious scene consisted of a long sleeved shirt on the bike path west of the offender. This shirt had what appeared to be blood on the sleeve. I took photographs and it remained how it was located. I continued to advance east on the bike path and in close proximity of offender (pronounced dead at the scene by RFD) was a curved bladed knife and black handle. The tip of the knife appeared to have blood on the end of it. I took photographs and it remained how it was located.

Only feet away from this knife was the offender/deceased (Matt Fries) with a sheet covering his body. Matt's body was laying on the bike path feet facing southeast, head northwest. RFD medical supplies remained on and around Matt as not to disturb the scene and clear medical personnel out since Matt had passed. Directly southeast only feet away from Matt's feet was a full size wooden handle double bladed ax. The ax was sitting between the railroad tracks and the paved bike path. The handle appeared to have blood on it. I took photographs of the knife, where Matt was laying, and the ax.

Southwest of where Matt's body was laying on the bike path I observed in plain view 6 silver .45 casings. These casings were located in between the railroad tracks and the pavement of the hike and bike path. I took photographs of the casings. This entire area described was secured with yellow police tape and security was maintained by Chief Wallis, Capt. Smallfield, and myself. BCI was contacted to assist with the scene and investigation at the request of Chief Wallis.

I learned both Matt and the stab victim, Larry Burghy were frequenting a camp area composed of several tents off the hike and bike trail. I was familiar with this camp from previous incidents. Chief Wallis, Capt. Smallfield, Prosecutor Vic Viglucci, Asst. Prosecutor Steve Michniak, and myself continued to canvas down the hike and bike trail locating spots of blood which led back to the area of the camp.

We encountered Carl Smith in a tent approximately 200 feet north of the bike path west of St. Rt 14 bridge. Michniak and I spoke with Carl and ascertained a dispute occurred immediately prior to the incident on the bike path. Carl stated he could hear gunshots after both had cleared the camp. Carl agreed to come with Ptl. Montes and Milush where he was transported to a BCI

agent for an interview.

In plain view inside a blue colored tent was more blood. It appeared this tent was part of the stabbing scene and probable where the altercation originated. This area was secured with yellow police tape and security maintained. S/A Nick Valente (BCI, SIU) arrived on scene. I introduced myself and gave a general description of the scene along with a walk through. Ravenna PD, BCI, and Portage County Prosecutors Office conferred it be best practice to write and secure a search warrant for the tent as it exhibited a living quarters with potential evidence to a violent felony act.

I contacted Judge Poland and assisted in S/A Valente securing a search warrant. At the conclusion of meeting with Judge Poland I never returned to the scene.

Reporting Officer:	_____	Date:	_____
Supervisor:	_____	Date:	_____
Entered By:	_____	Date:	_____
Approved By:	_____	Date:	_____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/23/2024

Reporting Officer: 417 Steve Lincoln

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Supplement

On October 22, 2023, at approximately 1103 hours, while at the Ravenna High School, I heard via handheld radio Ravenna dispatch request for dayshift patrolmen to respond to the location of North Freedom Street and the Hike and Bike Trail for a report of someone being stabbed. It was also dispatched at that time that the individual who committed the stabbing was not observed at the scene.

Moments later, I heard dispatch advise that the person reporting should be in that area and was the one waving his hand to alert the responding patrolmen. As the patrolmen arrive, it was disclosed via radio to dispatch there was another male subject at the scene with an ax. Several seconds past and I heard Patrolman Meyers advise dispatch "Shots fired! Shots fire!"

At that time, I cleared from the school and proceeded to the incident location in an emergency fashion with lights and sirens activated on my police cruiser. Once on scene, I observed [REDACTED] walking westbound on the Hike and Bike Trail towards my direction, while Patrolmen Meyers, Twigg and [REDACTED] stood to the east of us near what appeared to be a human body laying on the trail. Also walking in my direction was a male subject who was wearing a bicycle helmet. As this subject past me, [REDACTED] told me that a statement was needed from that individual. As I turned around, that subject encountered Captain Smallfield. Captain Smallfield advised this subject that he was to go with me to give a statement.

I then escorted the male subject, who was identified as Jack Chandler, to my police cruiser. Jack provided a written statement to what he observed during this incident. He wrote in his statement, "Riding my bike east on the trail. two ladies said someone was yelling for help. I rode down to him and found he was stabbed in the arm + hip. I called 911. The wound man walking toward Freedom St. Officers arrived and came to the victom. A man came down the trail yelling and carrying an axe. He kept coming towards the officers yelling and refusing to put down the axe. The man came to a close proximity of the officer and at that time the officers fired there weapons." I reviewed his statement with Jack asked him to explain more details about how many patrolman were involved and whether or not he could determine who fired their weapons. Jack then provided, "There were 4 officers with guns out facing away from me. I heard multiple gun shots and the man fell. I asked Jack if he heard the officer say anything to the male subject. Jack answered, "The officers repeatedly told the man to get down on the ground and he wouldn't. He just kept coming at them with the axe and yelling and swearing at them".

While speaking with Jack, he started to explain more in detail regarding there being two subjects involved and that the subject with the axe and the subject who got stabbed were two different people. It was learned that they male subject that was stabbed had already been transported prior to my arrival, so to my observation when I arrived on scene, I believed that the male subject who was stabbed was the subject who possessed the axe. I asked that Jack provide more to his written statement explaining this. Jack provided, Subject A: "The man that was stabbed, was calling for help and walking toward Freedom St. This man had no visible weapon and did not appear to be a threat only need medical assist. Victom finally layed down and I flagged down the 1st officer on scene and went back to victim. More officers arrived and came to victom. Subject B : At that time a man came up on the trail coming towards us from Rt. 14 bridge. Officers went towards him, he was approximately 100 yrds away this man was cariing an axe, yelling and swearing at officers. This man continued towards them not following commands to get down on the ground and did not appear to plan doing soo. He came very close to the officer, that is when

the officers fired on the man with the axe. I got some of it on video. I provided it to the officers". I asked Jack what happened after the male subject was shot and what did he do. Jack replied, "I was standing by the man that was stabbed when paramedics came to help him. At that time, an officer asked for the Lucus (Lucas device to help aid in CPR). I went to let the paramedics know and helped them with the cot, to go to the man that had been shot. The man that was shot was lying on the ground. I saw the axe and a hook bladed knife with blood on it lying on the trail as I was walking away from the scene." A copy of this statement is attached to this report.

While Jack was writing his statement, I informed Detective Sgt. Svab that Jack had recorded the incident on his phone. It was instructed to record the video as it played on Jack's cell phone and then seize the phone to have the video extracted at a later time. I explained this to Jack and he granted us consent to access his phone and retrieve the video he recorded. Jack at that time, provided me with access to his phone, so I could review and record the video captured during this incident. Upon reviewing the video, it appeared that Jack started the recording as patrolmen had already engaged a shirtless, white male, bald headed, subject carrying an axe in his left hand. Patrolmen Meyers, Twigg, [REDACTED] can be observed walking backwards creating distance as the male subject was walking towards them. The patrolmen could be heard giving the male subject commands to put down the axe and the male replied "fuck off". At that particular moment, Jack moves the camera away from the patrolmen as he tells someone to stay down on the ground (Believed to be the victim of the stabbing). Seconds later, several gunshots could be heard. Jack then moves the camera back onto the patrolman. The male subject is observed lying on his back. The male starts to move his arms near towards his head as the patrolmen move around him giving commands to roll over. The video ends shortly after. A recording of this video was retained for evidence and will be attached to this report.

By this time, it was apparent that the male subject who was shot by the patrolmen had deceased. I informed Captain Smallfield about the recording on Jack's phone and he advised me that the Bureau of Criminal Investigations ("BCI") was responding to take over the scene and that Jack needed to stay on scene to be interviewed by the investigators. Captain Smallfield advised me that someone from BCI's Special Investigations Unit ("SIU") would also be responding to the scene to retrieve the video from Jack's cell phone. I explained this to Jack and he acknowledged understanding the circumstances and agreed to stay on scene.

I was later asked by Captain Smallfield to obtain the deceased subject's information. It was told to me by assisting patrolmen that the subject's name was Matthew Fries. I was unfamiliar with Matthew's physical description, so I located a Matthew Fries, DOB: 10/31/1980 in the Ravenna Police Department's records database. A booking image of Matthew was located, which confirmed to be him as his booking image matched the male subject observed in the video provided by Jack. Matthew's information was provided to Detective Kaley and an investigator with BCI.

The remainder of my involvement during this incident was scene security. I cleared from the scene at approximately 1518 hours.

Reporting Officer:	_____	Date:	_____
Supervisor:	_____	Date:	_____
Entered By:	_____	Date:	_____
Approved By:	_____	Date:	_____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/25/2024

Reporting Officer: 421 Zach Milush

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: Supplement

On October 22, 2024, at approximately 1100 hours, I was attending court for a trial when I became notified of a stabbing and a shooting on the Portage Bike and Hike Trail, near N. Freedom Street. Sgt. Svab was contacted and instructed me to proceed to the scene with a marked patrol vehicle (P-03) to assist.

Upon arrival, I assisted other units with setting up a crime scene perimeter. Several minutes later, Detective Kaley #423 requested Ptl. Montes #428 and myself to secure the opposite end of the trail, near Loomis Parkway, with crime scene tape. Ptl. Montes and I arrived, securing crime scene tape around the trail head. Units then met with Det. Kaley near the State Route 14 Bridge passing over the trail. Det. Kaley requested us to assist in clearing tents located adjacent to the Bike and Hike Trail. A witness, whom also lived within the tents, identified as "Carl", gave us consent to check the tents for any other persons residing within them. The tents were cleared without issue. Det. Kaley then requested us to transport "Carl" to meet with BCI on N. Freedom Street. Carl consented to a search of his person, which a pocket knife was located. The pocket knife was secured with me, for officer safety. "Carl" was transported by Ptl. Montes and myself, in Patrol Vehicle #12, to N. Freedom Street. "Carl" was turned over to Ptl. Lincoln #417 to await BCI. Ohio State Highway Patrol arrived to assist in closing off the trail head near Loomis Parkway.

Ptl. Montes and I went back to the scene under the SR-14 bridge and maintained crime scene security. Several minutes later, Ptl. Montes and I were instructed to walk one of the BCI agents through the tent area to collect photographic evidence. Upon completion, units returned back to P -12 where we stood security at the scene.

While standing by, at approximately 1355 hours, we observed blood spatter leading in a trail from the asphalt/gravel on the South side of the trail to the wooden fencing on the North side. This spatter trail was documented on BWC #32 as we did not have a camera available. Det. Kaley was notified via phone.

Det. Kaley then requested a unit to leave the scene in order to stand by with Ptl. Nicolino #425 on N. Freedom Street. I left the scene under the watch of Ptl. Montes and returned to N. Freedom Street.

At approximately 1550 hours, Ravenna City FD notified us of a pair of glasses found on the crime scene during the clean up process. BCI was notified and took custody of the glasses. Units stood by during this process.

Upon returning to N. Freedom Street, units were approached by a female subject, identified as Jessica Kotecki. Kotecki stated she believed her boyfriend was the individual involved in the shooting. Captain Smallfield #403 confirmed this, as she identified her boyfriend as Matthew Fries. Kotecki provided her contact information, as well as contact information for Fries' sister, Crystal Jones: [REDACTED] Kotecki stated Fries' mother could be contacted by Jones, as his mother currently resides in Alabama.

Captain Smallfield and I opened the roadway to N. Freedom and cleared the scene.

As I arrived at Ravenna Police Station, I noticed I still had "Carl's" pocket knife on my person. I

informed Sgt. Wilmington #408 of this and he collected the knife to be given to the detective bureau.

BWC #32, Dashcam P-03.

Reporting Officer:	_____	Date:	_____
Supervisor:	_____	Date:	_____
Entered By:	_____	Date:	_____
Approved By:	_____	Date:	_____

Investigative Report Supplement

Date: 10/25/2024

Reporting Officer: 404 Dustin Svab

INC#: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement Title: DB Response

I responded to the area of the hike and bike trail off N. freedom St after a request for assistance by on duty officers at the scene. Upon arrival I approached the trail and walked east towards SR 14, as that was the location in which I observed a Ravenna Police squad, and several officers. As I neared them, I walked past what I presumed at that time to be the victim of the stabbing. He was laying on the ground, he appeared to be in pain, but was stable. There was no apparent severe or active bleeding occurring that I could readily see.

Nearing the officers, I then observed a second male laying on the ground. He was being tended to by paramedics. It was at that point I became aware this incident involved the use of deadly force by responding officers.

At that time, I shifted my focus to officers involved in the use of force. I directed them to leave the immediate area and return to the area where the trail intersects with N Freedom St. Efforts were made to separate officers and avoid conversations amongst themselves.

Initial focus was given to [REDACTED] as they were identified as the 2 officers that fired their weapons. Ptl Brock soon arrived and I asked him to transport [REDACTED] to the hospital for evaluation. I transported [REDACTED] myself.

Once there, and just outside the ambulance canopy, I collected each of their department issued bodycams [REDACTED] was using camera [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was using camera [REDACTED]. I had previously instructed each officer to allow their bodycams to continue to record until which time I collected them. They were each recording and I watched as each was stopped just prior to collection by myself. Once collected they were secured within my unmarked, departmental issued vehicle.

I then made arrangements through UH Police for each officer to have individual rooms and soon each were accompanied into the hospital. I remained at the hospital and outside of each room, with the exception of making repeated checks on each officer, as did Ptl Wise. We waited until which time they were cleared.

While there, PTLs Meyers and Twigg, also present during the use of force, transported themselves for evaluation. I collected their bodycams upon their arrival at the hospital. Ptl Twigg had camera 27 and Ptl Meyers had camera 24. Each was given a private room to await evaluation.

BCI Special Agent Allsion Fletcher arrived along with Special Agent Bynum and Special Agent Laura McClintock. They introduced themselves to each officer and answered any questions the officers had. McClintock then collected firearms from [REDACTED]

Once cleared, I transported [REDACTED] to the police station where she was provided a replacement firearm. Ptl Wise transported [REDACTED] and he, too, was provided a replacement service weapon. PTLs Twigg and Meyers arrived on station shortly thereafter, and after meeting with Chief Wallis individually, each was then permitted to leave.

The collected bodycams were docked in the Detective Bureau Getac docking and access station

Investigation continues.

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

Approved By: _____

Date: _____













































































































































































































