



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



2022-1564  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1132 Ashwood Drive, South  
Charleston, OH (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Video Review  
**Involves:** Clark County Sheriff's Office (O)  
**Date of Activity:** 07/25/2022  
**Activity Location:** Clark County Sheriff's Office – Business – 120 North Fountain  
Avenue, Springfield, OH 45502, Clark County  
**Author:** SA Perry K. Roeser, #114

**Narrative:**

On July 25, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Perry Roeser received ten (10) compact disc (CD) files containing Body Worn Camera (BWC) files from two Clark County Sheriff's deputies. Lieutenant D. White (Lt. White) provided the CDs, which included the footage from when Deputy Sergeant Chad Stadler (Stadler) and Deputy Holly Risner (Risner) had arrived on the scene at 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, Ohio. SA Roeser asked Lt. White if any cruiser cam footage existed. He said, "no".

The BWCs the sheriff's office used were called Safe Fleet Mobile Vision. The BWCs were attached to the outer vest carrier of the deputies uniforms. The camera offers no real-time stamp on the footage.

SA Roeser first reviewed Stadler's BWC. Stadler arrived in a marked SUV-style cruiser and parked on the west side of the roadway of Ashwood. Deputy Matthew Yates (Yates) arrived just behind Stadler and parked to the north, on the east side of Ashwood. Both deputies encountered a female named Kristen Mills (Mills).

Mills was the wife to Jodi Arbuckle (Arbuckle), and Arbuckle was the mother to Cole White (White). Mills told Stadler that Arbuckle was in the mobile home with White when she heard Arbuckle "scream." Mills was frantic as she attempted to tell Stadler what was happening inside the mobile home. Deputies Brian Melchi and Holly Risner arrived while Stadler was engaged with Mills.

Mills told Stadler, "you have to save her." The conversation between Stadler and Mills took place in the roadway in front of 1132 Ashwood. The deputies discussed options in the street, whether to "go up" or "get some more help." Some of the conversation was inaudible. Stadler decided to "get geared up, and we would go."

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On the north side of the mobile home, the deputies positioned themselves for a deliberate entry. Yates was in the number 1 position, Stadler was in the number 2 position, Melchi was underneath the covered patio near Stadler, and Risner was just to the east of Stadler. Four wooden steps led to the entry door where Yates found the door secured. Yates kicked the door for entry. After several attempts, the door was knocked off its hinges and fell into the home. Yates and Stadler both shouted, "sheriff's office come out," as they approached the home and after the door was breached.

From Stadler's BWC footage, an aluminum ladder was positioned next to the home and at a window broken out or opened. The window screen was on the ground near the ladder.

After the door was breached, Yates and Stadler broke the threshold of the door's entrance. Yates was wearing a ballistic-style helmet and had a shotgun in his hands. Stadler also wore a ballistic helmet and had his service weapon in his hand. As the two barely entered the home's living room area, it appeared from Stadler's BWC that no threats were down the hallway looking westward. Stadler warned Yates about a blind corner. As Stadler held the westward hallway at gunpoint, Yates took one more step, two shots of gunfire were heard, and Yates fell to the ground, face first.

Stadler, while in the doorway, aired shots fired and asked, "Matt, are you okay?" Stadler then retreated from the entryway, shouting, "he's down, he's down," and took cover behind a tree east of the door's entrance. Stadler then used his radio often and asked Matt if he was okay with no response heard. Melchi aired, "Shots fired with one of our units down inside."

Stadler maintained a safe distance from the target property with the other deputies until support arrived. Due to the position of Stadler and Risner, the sequencing of the aftermath events could not be accurately depicted.

SA Roeser then reviewed Risner's BWC and found no inconsistency with Stadler's BWC. The CDs were approximately 45 minutes in length.

SA Roeser uploaded the first two CDs of Stadler and Risner, which captured the critical incident under investigation, to the shared drive folder, F drive at BCI. All the videos/CDs will be held at BCI London, Ohio, for safekeeping.

BCI's Special Investigation Unit will conduct independent interviews with all involved law enforcement agencies that responded to the scene to gather all facts.

## References:

Body Worn Camera