



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



2025-3290
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 3810 Louise Ct., Grove
City, OH 43123 (L)

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview
Involves: ██████████ (S)
Activity Date: 10/24/2025
Activity Location: 4444 Broadway, Grove City, OH 43123
Authoring Agent: SA James H Gore

Narrative:

On Friday, October 24, 2025, at approximately 1205 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents James Gore and Richard Ward (SA Gore and SA Ward) interviewed ██████████ at the Grove City Police Annex, 4444 Broadway, Grove City. Also present was Attorney Nicole Wannemacher as ██████████ legal counsel from the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP). ██████████ was one of several officers involved in a critical incident which took place on the evening of October 8, 2025.

This report is a summary of what the author deemed to be the most relevant information, and it does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. It is suggested that the recording and/or statement be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Before beginning the interview, SA Gore read and presented a BCI "Criminal Investigation Notification" form to ██████████. The form advised ██████████ of his rights, and it also advised him that the investigation was not administrative in nature. ██████████ acknowledged his rights, and he signed the form.

Attorney Wannemacher provided a printed statement from ██████████ which was a detailed summary of ██████████ involvement in the incident. ██████████ was asked to read his statement aloud to refresh his memory. After reading, ██████████ signed his statement and agreed to answer follow-up questions.

██████████ explained that he began his employment with Grove City in ██████████. He said he previously served as an ██████████. ██████████ said his normal shift is ██████████. On the date of the incident, ██████████ explained that he worked an overtime shift prior to his normal shift from ██████████. ██████████ advised that his badge number is ██████████, he was driving cruiser ██████████ and he was wearing his normal patrol uniform, armed

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with his department-issued Glock handgun. ██████████ said he also had a department-issued Daniel Defense rifle, but he did not discharge it during the incident.

██████████ advised that when he responded to the initial call at 3810 Louise Court, he took up positions overlooking the back of the residence from between houses on Barbee Avenue, and he settled between 3085 and 3095 Barbee. He explained that it was a burglary in progress call involving a man with a gun. The call evolved into a barricaded suspect situation. ██████████ said he directed ██████████ to go around to the front of the house. ██████████ added that he was joined at his position on Barbee by Ofc. Pertz.

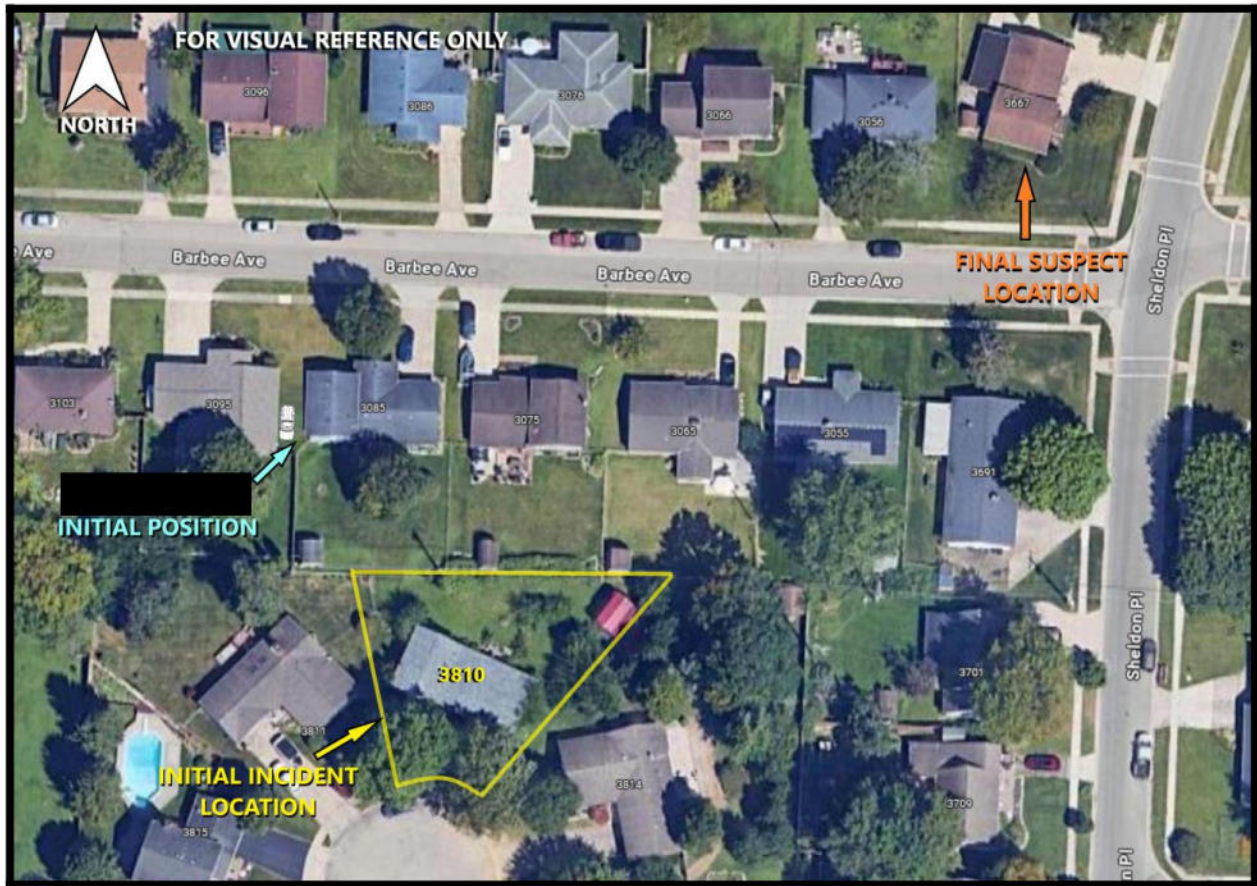


Figure 1: Reference map

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██████████ explained that he positioned his police vehicle between 3085 and 3095 Barbee at approximately 1945 hours so that he could use its spotlight to illuminate the back of 3810 Louise Court, as it had gotten dark by that time. He reported that at approximately 2035 hours, the Grove City Police Strategic Response Team (SRT) began to deploy gas into the house. He said a few minutes later, he saw the suspect run from the back of the house toward Barbee Avenue. ██████████ said he yelled at the suspect to stop, and that he was under arrest, but he lost sight of him as the suspect ran between houses.

██████████ wrote in his statement:

I then saw the suspect run back across Barbee Avenue to the east of my location. I again told him to stop as I ran after him. I saw an Officer, who I now know was ██████████ come towards my location from the south. The suspect looked to be breathing heavily, which I assumed was from the gas. He ran into the side (south) yard of 3667 Sheldon Place, which was on the northwest corner of Barbee Avenue and Sheldon Place.

The suspect either fell or laid down on the side lawn. At that point, I believed he was giving up and going to comply with orders. He was laying close to the cider block foundation of the basement. There was an air condition unit directly to the west of him. I saw an Officer, who I now know is ██████████ come up on my right side, slightly in front of me to the northeast. As we approached the subject, I still believed he was giving up based on his posture. I believe his head was pointed east and his feet to the west. Suddenly, the suspect rolled towards us and saw what I believe to be a muzzle flash coming from the ground and heard a gunshot. A muzzle flash from the suspect indicated to me that he had shot a gun. I saw ██████████ who was still to my right slightly in front of me, flinch. I began to fire at the suspect as I crossed the yard to the west seeking cover. ██████████ moved to the east side of the house. I know I saw at least two (2) muzzle flashes from the suspect's location, but there could have likely been more. I never saw the suspect's weapon.

██████████ said he believed that ██████████ flinched as he was struck by the suspect's gunfire. He stated that he fired eighteen (18) times at the suspect's center mass as the suspect was on the ground. ██████████ believed he was approximately five to ten feet from the suspect, and he was wearing his gas mask while he fired his weapon. ██████████ concluded that there was no other reasonable alternative to protect himself or ██████████ from death or imminent bodily harm.

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SA Gore showed [REDACTED] a series of screenshots from his body-worn camera (BWC) to provide context and to aid his recall of the incident. The first image was merely a daytime view of the back of 3810 Louise Court, from [REDACTED] position between 3085 and 3095 Barbee Avenue.



Figure 2: Screenshot from [REDACTED] BWC footage, daytime view

The second image was the back of 3810 Louise Court illuminated by [REDACTED] patrol car spotlight.

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Figure 3: Screenshot from [REDACTED] BWC, nighttime view

The third image was from when [REDACTED] yelled at the suspect to stop when he saw him in the back yard. Though not discernible in the video or image, [REDACTED] confirmed that the suspect ran from right to left, in a northeastward direction.



Figure 4: Screenshot from [REDACTED] BWC footage, 20:37:24 timestamp

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The fourth image was of the suspect running north across Barbee Avenue.



Figure 5: Screenshot from [REDACTED] BWC footage, suspect running across road

The sixth image was from when [REDACTED] approached the suspect on the south side of 3667 Sheldon Place. He confirmed that the person holding the flashlight on the right side of the image would have been [REDACTED]



Figure 6: Screenshot from [REDACTED] BWC footage, 20:38:34 timestamp

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An assortment of area maps was also provided to [REDACTED] to assist in his recall of the events. [REDACTED] traced his approximate route of travel on one of the maps, from the time when he saw the suspect to the moment he engaged him in gunfire.



Figure 7: [REDACTED] route of travel

An audio copy of [REDACTED] interview is available for review as an attachment to this report. Copies of [REDACTED] Criminal Investigation Notification, printed statement, and map are also available for review as attachments.

References:

No references.

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Attachments:

1. 2025-10-24 [REDACTED] audio Interview SA Gore, SA Ward
2. [REDACTED] CIN, Statement, Diagram Map

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2025-0290



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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

10/26/25
Date / Time

Signature of Interviewee

JAMES GORE 168
BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

BADGE NUMBER [REDACTED]

This statement is regarding my involvement in an officer involved shooting that occurred on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, between 5:15pm and 8:45pm. I am voluntarily giving this statement as part of the criminal investigation into this matter conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

I was hired as a police officer by the Grove City Police Department on [REDACTED]. I received my Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) certification in [REDACTED]. I was previously an [REDACTED]. At the time of this incident, I was assigned to [REDACTED]. My regular duty hours are [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] off. On Wednesday, October 8, 2025, I was working prescheduled overtime and began my shift at [REDACTED]. I worked from [REDACTED] on overtime and then worked my regular [REDACTED] shift assignment. At the time of the incident, I was working my regularly scheduled shift. I was assigned to Cruiser [REDACTED] which is marked with the Grove City Police insignia with red and blue lights consistent with police vehicles. I was alone and did not have a partner.

I was dressed in the patrol uniform of the day, which consisted of navy-blue uniform pants and a navy-blue collared shirt with insignia on the shoulders and a badge on my chest that identified me as a Grove City Police Officer. At the time of the incident, I had put on an external body armor/rifle plates, which also identified me as POLICE in white letters along the front and back. I was wearing my body worn camera mounted about center mass on the rifle plate vest. I had my body worn camera on for the entirety of the incident. I was armed with a department-issued Glock 19 9mm with standard department-issued ammunition. I keep my handgun completely loaded with one (1) in the chamber for a total of eighteen (18) rounds. My handgun has a mounted

optic and backup iron sights with a Streamlight TLR9 affixed to the frame. During a portion of the standoff preceding the shooting, I was carrying a department-issued Daniel Defense rifle, though I never fired it during the incident. I was and am current on my range qualifications for my handgun, optics, light, and rifle.

I am right hand dominant. I was in good health at the time of this incident. I had not worked any special duty for the twenty-four (24) hour time period prior to the incident. I had worked a prescheduled overtime shift prior to the incident. I had plenty of sleep prior to my shift beginning at [REDACTED]. I was not under any unusual stress. I do not wear hearing aids nor do I have problems with my hearing. I do not wear contacts or glasses nor do I have any problems with my sight. I was not taking medication or drugs, whether prescribed or not, that would in any way affect my ability to carry out my responsibilities and duties as a police officer. I have no disability that would in any way affect my ability to carry out my responsibilities and duties as a police officer. I do not have any discipline in my personnel file for uses of force outside of the established City policy.

On Wednesday, October 8, I responded to a 10-8 (burglary in progress) at 3810 Louise Court in Grove City. Dispatch relayed that the caller had reported a man in his home, who lifted up his shirt and had "33 in his waistband," which is the 10 code for gun. The suspect reportedly would not leave the house. I asked Dispatch on my way to the call if the suspect was still in the home. Dispatch relayed that he was and that the suspect was currently looking out the front window.

When I arrived near the location, Grove City [REDACTED] was also in the area. I directed [REDACTED] to go around to the front of the address, as I went around back. I reviewed the map and determined that I should be able to see the back of the Louise Court address from the backyard of a home on Barbee Avenue. I posted up in the back yard of what I now know

is 3085 Barbee Avenue facing southeast towards the back of 3810 Louise Court. The Louise Court house was a white two-story single-family residence. From my position, I was looking over a 3-to 4-foot-high chain linked fence, which surrounded the entire yard at 3085, towards the northwest facing back of the home. There was a taller wooden fence to my right, south of the chain link fence. I could see a sliding glass door and the back door to the garage of the Louise Court house, but a large bush blocked my view to the northwest corner of the home. I was approximately 100 feet from the home.

Dispatch relayed that the suspect was a male black with a backpack. Homeowner had walked in after seeing a utility truck in the driveway and a man in the house. When the homeowner asked who he was, the man said words to the effect of "I know your wife." The homeowner left and went across the street to call police. From the radio traffic, I knew that the suspect had come to the doors/exists multiple time and then would go back inside, which could be seen by the officers in front of the house. At one point, the suspect allegedly had something, perhaps a screwdriver, in his hand. It was also reported that the same utility truck was part at the house last night and I was sent a picture of the suspect vehicle over text message. Grove City Sergeant Hennessy began to make announcements from the front of house identifying us as the Grove City Police, telling the suspect to come up with his hands up and that he was under arrest. The suspect failed to comply. During this same period of time, Grove City Officer Pertz joined me at my location in the backyard of 3085 Barbee Avenue.

About an hour and a half into the standoff, I went to my cruiser after being told over radio to get my gear on. This gear included an external ballistic vest with POLICE in white letters on the front and back, as well as my ballistic helmet. I also retrieved the department-issued rifle from

my cruiser. Grove City Police continued to make announcements for the suspect to come out of the home. He continued to not comply with these orders.

As it got darker, I was forced to use my flashlight to see the back of the house. At approximately 7:45pm, I moved my cruiser to the grass between 3095 and 3085 Barbee Avenue, so that I could point my cruiser spotlight at the back of the house. At approximately 8:00pm, the Grove City Strategic Response Team (SRT) arrived and I learned that they were going to gas the house. I retrieved my gas mask from my cruiser and put it on. I strapped the carrying pouch to my left leg.

At approximately 8:35pm, I could hear the Grove City SRT announce that they were firing gas rounds into the house. I then heard the round deploy. In addition to the cruiser spotlight, I was using my flashlight in my left hand to view the area. I saw movement close to the ground in the back of the house, but the movement was very slight. As I had seen a brown cat entering and leaving the yard several times in the afternoon, I was unsure if the movement was the suspect. A couple of minutes after the first round was deployed, a second round of gas was launched into the lower windows. Once I heard that round deploy, I saw the suspect run from the 2/3 corner of the house to the 3/4 corner north towards Barbee Avenue. I yelled at the suspect to stop and that he was under arrest. I radioed that I had a visual on him at the back of the house. I lost sight of him as he ran in between houses. Upon review of a map of the area, I believe the suspect ran between 3085 and 3075 Barbee Avenue. I ran north towards Barbee Avenue looking east after I cleared the house for the subject. Officer Pertz was running with me, but I told him to stay put in case the suspect doubled back around.

I saw the suspect running east on Barbee Avenue. I told him to “stop and get on the ground” or something to that effect. He did not comply. He ran back south in between houses, which I

believe to be 3065 and 3055 Barbee Avenue. I lost sight of him again. My gas mask pouch was wrapped around my left leg and was hindering me from running full speed. I took the opportunity to attempt to remove it. I then saw the suspect run back across Barbee Avenue to the east of my location. I again told him to stop as I ran after him. I saw an Officer, who I now know was [REDACTED] come towards my location from the south. The suspect looked to be breathing heavily, which I assumed was from the gas. He ran into the side (south) yard of 3667 Sheldon Place, which was on the northwest corner of Barbee Avenue and Sheldon Place.

The suspect either fell or laid down on the side lawn. At that point, I believed he was giving up and going to comply with orders. He was laying close to the cinder block foundation of the basement. There was an air condition unit directly to the west of him. I saw an Officer, who I now know is [REDACTED] come up on my right side, slightly in front of me to the northeast. As we approached the subject, I still believed he was giving up based on his posture. I believe his head was pointed east and his feet to the west. Suddenly, the suspect rolled towards us and saw what I believe to be a muzzle flash coming from the ground and heard a gunshot. A muzzle flash from the suspect indicated to me that he had shot a gun. I saw [REDACTED] who was still to my right slightly in front of me, flinch. I began to fire at the suspect as I crossed the yard to the west seeking cover. [REDACTED] moved to the east side of the house. I know I saw at least two (2) muzzle flashes from the suspect's location, but there could have likely been more. I never saw the suspect's weapon.

I heard gun fire coming from all around, but do not know who or from where the fire was coming. The only officer I remember seeing during the incident is [REDACTED] who again I did not know the identity of at the time. I continued to fire until I ran out of ammunition. At this point I was on the southwest corner of the fence behind the home and the AC unit was in-between myself

and the suspect. Almost immediately after I had emptied my magazine, I heard someone give the cease fire order. Staying behind the AC unit for cover, I saw officers approach the subject. Other officers checked me for injuries.

I was eventually transported back to the Grove City Police Station to await my FOP representation. I had no further involvement in the incident.

I fired a total of eighteen (18) times. Before I fired, the suspect had remained barricaded in the home for approximately three (3) hours and repeatedly refusing to obey the commands made over the loudspeaker by officers ordering him to come out with his hands up or other similar orders. After finally leaving the home once officers had to resort to the use of gas, the suspect ran and attempted to evade police. He repeatedly refused my commands stop. Once he laid down on the ground on the side yard of 3677 Sheldon Place, I assumed that he was giving up and approached with another officer, who I now know was [REDACTED] with the intent of taking him into custody. I then saw the suspect roll to his side and saw a muzzle flash in what appeared to be my direction, heard a gunshot, and saw [REDACTED] flinch with what I assume was an impact from a round.

As [REDACTED] ran east, I ran west and continually fired at the suspect. When I fired, I believed that the suspect had already shot at us and was continuing to do so. I also believed that [REDACTED] may have been hit. I was unaware of the location of other officers. During all shots, I was approximately five (5) to ten (10) feet from the suspect. I fired at the suspect's center of mass on the ground from a standing position using my right hand. For the majority of my shots, I did not fire from cover. I was wearing my gas mask and did not use my sights. I was using a flashlight but am unsure whether the light on my gun was also on. As I was firing from a standing position and the suspect was on the ground, my backdrop was the ground/cinderblock of the basement. I estimate that all of my shot occurred in a matter of seconds.

At all times that I fired during the incident, I did not believe I had any other reasonable choice other than to fire to protect the lives of [REDACTED] or myself from death or imminent bodily harm. I was also unaware of the location of other officers, who could have also been in harm's way. I stopped firing when I ran out of ammunition.

I did not attempt to use less than lethal force because at the time, I assumed the suspect was giving up and was approaching him to take custody. I did not react until I saw the suspect roll and saw a muzzle flash. There was not adequate time to safely deploy a taser under the circumstances.

I now know that the suspect's name was Dominique Byrdsong. I do not recall any prior interactions with the suspect either personal or professional.

I have now reviewed video of the incident. Prior to reviewing the video, I believed I had shot from a stationary position with both hands, but I now know that I was moving and likely firing with just one hand. I also do not remember hearing rifle rounds during the incident, but those could clearly be heard on the video recording. Other than that, the video does not materially alter my recollection of events

This statement consists of seven (7) pages.

[REDACTED]



Barbee Ave

Barbee Ave



Barbee Ave

2025-3290

Carol Ave

3104

3096

3086

3076

3066

3056

3667

3651

3664

3018

3008

3103

3095

3085

3075

3065

3055

3691

3029

3017

3007

3810

3701

3811

3814

3709

3706

3020

3012

3006

3815

3822

3727

3027

3019

3011

3003

3825

3094

Louise Ct

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl