



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



2025-2909

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Stanhope-Kelloggsville
Rd. and Anderson Rd., Denmark Township, OH 44032,
Ashtabula County

Investigative Activity:

Interview - [REDACTED]

Involves:

[REDACTED] (S)

Activity Date:

09/22/2025

Activity Location:

Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office - 25 West Jefferson
Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

Authoring Agent:

SA Joseph Lamping #184

Narrative:

On Monday, September 22, 2025, at 1047 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joe Lamping (SA Lamping) and SA Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) interviewed Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorneys, Dan Leffler and Amanda Hays, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA) as well as two union stewards, Detective Ryan Reece and Detective Jonelle Gerke. The interview took place at the ACSO. The interview was audio and video recorded.

[REDACTED] was provided with, and signed, the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

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.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Brian Sterrick
Radio Channel Utilized: ACSO Patrol	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: Marked Dodge Charger	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: [REDACTED]

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Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Sunday, then Wednesday and Thursday	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: Part time shift from 0700-1900 hours at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Unknown	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Sheriff's Office uniform	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Keys, magazine pouch, taser, handcuffs, duty weapon, radio
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: Contusion/cut to left leg from an environmental object	Equipment Damage: Abrasion to magazine pouch.
Training or Areas of Specialty: Subject Control and Firearms Instructor.	OPOTC Certification: Certified
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: OPOTA yearly updates
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: See separate report reference Oklahoma County, Oklahoma incident.
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Unknown

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Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 45
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: Unknown
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 34
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Unknown	Number of Rounds Fired: Unknown
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Unknown	Type of Holster, if any: Retention

Narrative:

The video recorded interview of [REDACTED] is broken into three parts. On two occasions [REDACTED] legal counsel requested a private meeting with him to discuss matters related to questions in this investigation.

The first recording began at 1047 hours and was paused at 1056 hours. This section of the interview consisted of basic questions from the above tables. When asked about prior use of force incidents, [REDACTED] began to tell the investigators about an incident in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma that occurred when he was [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that he had been exonerated in the incident which occurred around [REDACTED]. When asked to provide details about this incident, Attorneys Leffler and Hays left the room with [REDACTED] to have a private discussion. The recording was paused after they left the interview room.

At 1101 hours the second recording was initiated. [REDACTED] explained the incident in Oklahoma as follows:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office incident described by [REDACTED] was investigated and documented in a separate investigative report. All documentation located by SA Lamping supported the claims made by [REDACTED] in his interview.

SA Lamping continued and asked [REDACTED] if he would grant investigators permission to review the alcohol and drug tests that he, along with the other involved ACSO deputies, were compelled to take the night of the shooting. After asking the question, Attorney Leffler escorted [REDACTED] out of the interview room for another short conference. The recording was paused at 1103 hours.

The recording was resumed at 1104 hours at which time [REDACTED] provided the investigators consent to review the alcohol and drug screening results.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] about his initial response to the incident. [REDACTED] reported that he overheard Dep. Michael Chicarell (Dep. Chicarell) engage in a pursuit and went to assist. He went on to explain that Dep. Chicarell was providing the initial radio traffic related to the pursuit until [REDACTED] arrived and took over the radio traffic for Dep. Chicarell. [REDACTED] recalled hearing that the subject of the pursuit, Jerry Pegram (Pegram) had thrown objects from the motorcycle while being pursued.

[REDACTED] was provided with an overhead drone photo of the terminal point of the pursuit along with a marker. He was asked to draw his approximate route of travel on the map. The below image was utilized and depicted by [REDACTED].

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████████ stated, and indicated on the diagram, that he parked along the curve of the intersection of Stanhope-Kelloggsville Road and Anderson Road. When he exited his vehicle, he recalled hearing a commotion in the woods, so he ran directly towards Pegram's motorcycle, jumped over it, and fell down. When he got up, he continued towards the woods.

When ██████████ entered the woods he said that he observed ██████████ making physical contact with Pegram. He described what he saw and did as follows:

████████ I could see him going for an arm or going towards his [Pegram's] upper body. I did deploy my taser initially it was clear and obvious that it was ineffective. Um, he [Pegram] was still reaching and struggling for what I appeared to be a firearm (11:04).

████████ recalled seeing Pegram manipulating the handle of a firearm after the taser failed to work. He described Pegram's actions in the following manner:

I saw the handle of a firearm. I saw the male going for it and gripping it. I saw, I do not know if it was in a holster through his pants. I saw a rise pointed directly at me (9:28).

████████ did not recall how many rounds he fired. However, he did recall falling down and aiming at Pegram's center mass when he fired. He also noted that Pegram was on his back when the shooting started, but he was not sure if Pegram was lying

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down or sitting up. He estimated the distance between himself and Pegram as five to eight feet.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] to provide a demonstration of what Pegram was doing with his hands when [REDACTED] believed he was manipulating a firearm. The screen capture below is a rough approximation made by [REDACTED] of Pegram's actions:



[REDACTED] provided further clarification of what Pegram was doing with his hands as follows:

It looked like there was, he had control, possibly losing control, trying to regain control, had control, and then manipulating the item that he had in his hands (14:28).

SA Boerner asked [REDACTED] what the object Pegram was manipulating looked like to him, and he stated, "A firearm, the butt of a gun" (14:43).

[REDACTED] went on to describe the handle of the firearm as black with a hammer. SA Boerner asked [REDACTED] how close he initially was to Pegram. He said that he felt that he was right over top of him, possibly within touching distance. [REDACTED] said that, at the time shots were fired, he had created a little bit of distance from Pegram compared to his initial distance. He also said that he could not recall how he specifically ended up on the ground when the shots were fired.

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[REDACTED] was asked if he could recall the position of the other deputies during the shooting. He was not sure if the officers were positioned in a line or an arc but believed that he was somewhere near the middle of the officers as he perceived officers on both sides of him. When asked what he recalled after the shooting occurred, [REDACTED] became emotional while he described checking on the other officers, himself, and his attempt to render aid to Pegram.

[REDACTED] granted the investigators permission to review any reports he writes about the incident as well as any body worn camera footage that contained conversations with supervision.

The interview concluded at approximately 1128 hours.

The interview was audio and video recorded. The recordings were uploaded to Axon Justice and stored as part of Reference Item C – Involved Officer Interviews. The times referenced in this report correspond to the elapsed time from the video recordings and not the time of day. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form and the diagram created by [REDACTED] were attached to this report where they can be reviewed in their entirety.

References:

Reference Item C – Involved Officer Interviews: Subfolder – [REDACTED]
Interview; stored on Axon Justice

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification – [REDACTED]
2. Diagram - [REDACTED]

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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


Signature

 9-22-25 @1047
Date / Time

JOE HAMPTON #184
BCI Agent (Printed)

 #184
BCI Agent (Signature)

52-22-6

