

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



2023–1809 Officer Involved Critical Incident – 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43227 (L)

Investigative Activity:	Interview with Subject, Interview with Officer
Involves:	(S)
Date of Activity:	08/31/2023
Activity Location:	Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman – 4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, Franklin County
Author:	SA Ryan D. Scheiderer, #89

## Narrative:

On August 31, 2023 at approximately 1541 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) obtained a recorded statement from Columbus Division of Police (CPD) eqarding the shooting incident involving officers from CPD, deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), and Antwan Lindsey (Lindsey) that occurred on July 08, 2023, at 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio (Franklin County). Lindsey was fatally shot by officers during that incident. The contact with **second** took place at his attorney's office and his attorney, Lathan Lipperman, was present. signed a Criminal Investigation Notification (CIN) form affirming his decision to provide a voluntary statement. Prior to meeting with SA Scheiderer, and his attorney prepared typed statement which signed in front of SA Scheiderer affirming that would be his official statement regarding this incident. That statement (Attachment # 01) is attached to this report and available for review. The following is a summation of the contact with **second** additional details can be found in the attached audio recording. (It should be noted that during the interview, Lindsey was referred to as "suspect" by the officer and that verbiage may be used throughout the summary when trying to quote the officer or document what an officer stated they heard or thought regarding the incident.)

### EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENT

"I was in fear for my life and the lives of the other officers at the times I fired my weapon. Before arriving on scene, the suspect had reportedly used deadly force and fired his weapon at a Franklin County deputy, resulting in a 10-3. When I got to the scene several minutes later, the suspect had not surrendered. At least one gunshot went off as I ran to the back of

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the apartment building with other officers. It sounded like that shot came from nearby, and I thought the suspect might have been firing at me and the other officers running towards the back of the building. And though I recall a sergeant airing an officer had an AD a brief time later, I was not certain whether the AD was the same shot I hear."

"The male in the basement was wearing the same clothing as the suspect's description. One or more officers in front of me also believed and announced that they thought the suspect had a gun. M/hen that announcement was made, though, I could not see the suspect's hands given his position in the doorway and because there were three other officers m front of me.

"Once the other officers and I moved up the hallway and those officers knelt, I had a better view of the suspect, though his hands were still hidden. During this encounter, the suspect was given repeated commands by multiple officers to show his hands/ put his hands up. But the suspect never gave any signs of compliance or surrender. Instead, he remained in the threshold of the hallway entrance in such a position that it seemed like he was deliberately concealing his hands from view. At no time during this incident do I recall seeing his left hand."

"When the loud pop occurred, I believed the suspect had a weapon since I knew he had already fired at one law enforcement officer, and the other officers with me had announced they thought he had a gun. I thought he had the weapon in his left hand since his right hand/ann was near or on the top of the door and I do not recall seeing a weapon in it. I believed the suspect had most likely fired at the officers near the front entrance since he was primarily facing that direction (south), but I also thought he could have fired at me and the others since I could not see his left hand. And the instant after the pop the suspect's body quickly appeared to turn in my direction. I believed he was turning to track his weapon and fire and that I and the others would be seriously injured or killed. I was especially concerned because there was no cover or concealment for any of us. The hall was also narrow, and the back door was about 20 yards away, heightening the threat that the suspect's rounds could strike and kill one or more officers before anyone could escape or get cover. At the times I fired, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect my life or the lives of the other officers from the deadly threat presented by the suspect's actions." After this incident I learned the suspect's name is Antwan Lindsey. I do not know Mr. Lindsey, and to my knowledge I have never before encountered him.

"I have now had the opportunity to watch the BWC footage of this incident. After doing so, I now believe the loud pop I heard in the moment before firing was the sound of a taser being discharged from an officer on the other side of the blue door near the front entrance. Officers at the front entrance made announcements before the taser was deployed, and those announcements can be heard on my BWC, but I did not hear that when this happened. First, as those announcements were made, Sgt. Goodrich was airing information right next to me. His words were also being transmitted over our radios, so it sounded like two people talking at once. I also had not been able to specifically make out anything officers said from the other side of the door except possibly a command to see hands at one point. Those officers were relatively far away and the suspect and the blue door dampened sound from travelling between officers. From my position, I also could not see the officers from the other side of the door. The blue door was only partly open, and I could not see past it, And in any case the suspect was also standing in the doorway, blocking my view. The officers on the other side were also in an

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elevated position near the front entrance."

"Before the taser deployment, a black handgun can be seen on the ground behind (south of) the suspect. When I first got to the ground floor with the others, one or more of the officers had thought they saw the suspect with the gun. At no time did I see the suspect drop the weapon.

And from my position I did not see the weapon on the ground behind the suspect during this incident, Nor did any other officer ever announce that they saw the suspect drop the gun or that the gun was on the ground."

### FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

SA Scheiderer asked a series of clarifying questions after receiving **series** official statement. The following is a summation of the information gained from those questions.

While responding to the incident location, where the ard information over the radio that the involved-deputy was "taking fire", then he heard the deputy was "down", then he heard the "suspect" was "down", but ultimately, he was uncertain what was taking place. When he heard the suspect of the incident location was in Zone 2 which is on Channel 2. When he arrived on scene, was mean aware of the exact locations of the involved-deputy or Lindsey at the incident location until he and other officers encountered Lindsey in the hallway of the lower level of the building. Was made a "gun". When the hallway with Lindsey, officers in front of a jacket. While in the hallway with Lindsey, officers in front of a firearm at that time.

did not observe any signs that Lindsey was attempting to surrender. stated Lindsey was "resisting arrest" for multiple minutes and officers issued multiple commands to Lindsey ordering him to show his hands. multiple opportunities to surrender peacefully, and would have been taken into custody without further incident had he surrendered. that were initially non-compliant, but then surrendered and were taken into custody without further incident.

stated that deadly force was the only option available to him based on what he believed was occurring at the time he discharged his firearm. **Second** also stated he believed Lindsey was still armed and had already used "deadly force" on a deputy, therefore, the appropriate response was deadly force. After discharging his firearm, **Second** and **Second** and out the back of the building because he believed he was being shot at or in crossfire from officers at the south end of the building. **Second** was aware there were officers at the south end of the building, but not their exact locations. **Second** stated his actions were consistent with the training he had received from CPD and his experience as a police officer. **Second** denied any sustained disciplinary actions regarding uses of force.

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acknowledged that due to there being multiple radio channels used by officers responding to the scene from different zones, information is not always distributed equally and can create confusion about what is occurring at a scene.

Attachments:



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STATEMENT OF

#### , BADGE NO.

This statement regards my involvement in an incident that occurred on Saturday, July 8, 2023, at about 8:00 p.m. I am providing this voluntary statement as part of the investigation being conducted by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

My date of hire with the Columbus Division of Police ("CPD" or the "Division") is December 8, 2014. I received my OPOTA certification after I graduated from the CPD police academy on September 14, 2011. Before I joined CPD, I was a reserve officer for Ashtabula from September 2012 – June 2015. I was never enlisted in the military.

My regular assignment is 11C1, and I work third shift (10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.). My regular days off are Saturday and Sunday. This incident occurred on my first day off, but I was working a Park Special overtime assignment. I was scheduled to work that assignment from 4:00 p.m. until midnight.

I was wearing the patrol uniform of navy pants, a navy short sleeved shirt that displayed the CPD emblem on both shoulders, and an external vest carrier that displayed "COLUMBUS POLICE" on the back. I believe I was also wearing sunglasses that were propped on top of my head. Finally, I was also equipped with a body worn camera ("BWC") mounted to my chest on my vest carrier. My BWC was on and recording during this event.

I was carrying my Division-issued Smith & Wesson 2.0 9mm handgun. That weapon was loaded with Division-issued ammunition. It was equipped with a light on the underside of the frame. My qualifications were current. I was not carrying any backup firearm.

My partner that day was Megan Andres. There were also multiple members of CPD present when this incident occurred. I was in Cruiser even operating as a Park Special. I was driving.

I am in good health. I do not have any disabilities. I do not need hearing aids or corrective lenses as my hearing and vision are good. I was not taking any medication that could impair the performance of my duties. I did not drink any alcohol on the day prior or before my shift. I worked a double shift on the day before this event; but I got plenty of sleep and arrived at my overtime assignment well rested.

Shortly before 8:00 p.m., Officer Andres and I helped make several arrests at Franklin Park off East Broad Street. A few other officers had taken custody of the suspects, and I was driving back to the 11/12 Substation to work on the arrest paperwork when dispatch aired a "10-3" (officer in trouble). Specifically, it was reported that a Franklin County deputy was under fire at 3110 East Livingston Avenue.

At that time, I was travelling south on S. Ohio Avenue, near the E Main Street intersection. Officer Andres immediately pulled up the route on GPS. I believe we were about 10 minutes away. I activated lights and sirens and continued south to East Livingston Avenue. I recall marking on the run around that time. I turned left (east) once at E. Livingston Ave. While driving, a radio transmission went out that an officer was down, corrected a brief time later that a suspect, not an officer, was down. We also received a suspect description: a male white wearing tan pants and a black shirt.

We arrived at 3110 E. Livingston Ave. several minutes later. By that time, multiple other cruisers had arrived and were parked in front of the target address, which appeared to be an apartment building. I parked about 30-40 yards west of the building, on the northern side of the road. I got out, unholstered my weapon, and ran northeast. I took cover behind a building west of the target address. I believe Officer Andres ran east towards several officers covering the front of the building from behind cruisers.

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After I took cover, I saw a CPD cruiser driving north along the western side of the target apartment building. Some officers were running along the driver's side of the cruiser, using it as cover. I ran towards that cruiser, and moments later as I neared the western side of the apartment building, a gunshot rang out. It sounded like the shot came from nearby, and I believed the suspect may have fired at me and the group of officers running by the cruiser. I sprinted north and joined several other officers in the back of the building. Seconds later, I believe a sergeant aired that an officer had an "AD" (accidental discharge). But I did not know for certain whether the AD was the same shot I heard moments prior.

It was believed that the suspect was somewhere inside the apartment building. Officers made entry into the back entrance less than a minute later. The entrance opens to a split level of stairs leading up to the second floor and stairs leading down to the first floor. I believe 3-4 officers went upstairs. I followed about three other officers downstairs. Multiple officers were loudly announcing "Columbus Police!" as we entered the building. I was the last in the line of officers. The small staircase led to a blue door at the bottom of the landing. An officer opened the blue door and the others and I followed single file.

The blue door opened to a long and narrow hallway that seemed to run the length of the building. There were apartment doors along the left and right sides of the hallway. The apartment doors near the back/northern part of the hall were all shut. I could not see the southern end of the hall since it was narrow and there were three officers in front of me, blocking my view. The hall was also poorly lit. As we moved south, I continuously looked back (north) to make sure we were not ambushed from behind.

After we got about halfway down the hallway, I heard an officer say something like "we got someone here." I peered between the officers and saw the blue door to the landing by the

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front entrance was slightly ajar, and there was a male black in the doorway, partly behind the doorframe. He was wearing a black shirt and tan pants—the same suspect-clothing description given by dispatch.

About a second or two later an officer ordered "let me see your hands!" Moments later an officer yelled something like "he's got a gun!" and another officer said he could not tell for sure. I could not see the gun or the suspect's hands since I was behind the other officers and the suspect was partly behind the doorframe. But the other officers and I immediately backed several steps up the hallway, keeping eyes on the suspect. I announced "retreat" as we stepped back. I made it to the blue door at the back entrance of the hall, but the other three officers stayed about 5-10 yards south of me. They were continuously ordering the suspect to show his hands / put his hands up. I held at the northern door for several moments as the three other officers stepped several additional feet down the hall while giving commands.

I joined the three other officers seconds later. I recall also ordering a civilian to get back into his apartment as I went down the hallway. All three of the officers were kneeling parallel to one another about halfway into the hall. I stood on the right (western) side of the hall, behind one of those officers and trained my weapon on the suspect. A brief time later Sgt. Goodrich joined us and stood to my left (east). He told the three kneeling officers not to stand to avoid crossfire from behind.

Officers were yelling commands for the suspect to show his hands, but he was not complying. The suspect's right side was partly in the doorway and that side of his body was somewhat bladed towards me and the other officers such that he was mostly facing away from us. His left side was partially behind the doorframe. I still could not see his hands since his left hand/arm was behind the doorframe and his right hand/arm was in front of his body. There also

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seemed to be a neon shirt or vest hanging on the suspect, obstructing my view of his midsection. At times he seemed to be saying/murmuring something, but I could not hear him.

Shortly after we got into position, I could also hear what I believed were officers yelling from behind (south of) the suspect from what I believed was at or near the building entrance. But I could not make out what those officers were yelling except I may have heard a command to see hands at one point. The suspect was occasionally turning his head from north to south, looking towards me and the other officers and what I believed were the officers near the front entrance. A few times he also moved his right arm such that I was able to momentarily see his right hand. During those fleeting moments it did not appear he had a gun in that hand.

I held in place covering the suspect with the other officers as commands were given. But he continued his refusal to comply or give up. By this point, the suspect's left hand/arm were still hidden behind the doorframe, but his right arm was on or grabbing near the top of the blue door and the neon vest was in his right hand and/or draping on his right arm. It did not appear that he had anything in his right hand, but I could not see his left hand.

Suddenly, just as Sgt. Goodrich was airing something over the radio, I heard a loud pop that sounded like a gunshot that came from the suspect. I believed he was shooting at the officers near the front entrance or possibly at me and the officers with me. And an instant later the suspect's body appeared to quickly turn in my direction. I believed he was turning to target and fire at me and the other officers and it was that moment I fired at the suspect. Other officers were also firing at that time.

I fired three shots in rapid succession. I would estimate the time between my first and last shot was about one second. I fired from a standing position. I may have been backpedaling. I used a two handed (left strong) grip. I do not recall using my sights, but my target was the suspect's center mass. My backdrop was the blue door and landing at the bottom of the stairs. At no time did I see any officers or civilians in my backdrop. I could not see directly behind the suspect since the blue door was only cracked open and the suspect was in the doorway. But the officers that I believed were near the front entrance were elevated and not in my line of fire. I fired in a southerly direction. The hallway was not well lit. I would estimate that I was about 15-20 yards from the suspect when I fired. Besides the officer kneeling in front of me, I had no cover or concealment.

I stopped firing when I believed the suspect was going to the ground, and I immediately retreated north. I ran out the back entrance for cover. Several other officers were gathered outside near that entrance. An officer asked whether I was shot, and I replied I was okay. I followed those officers back into the building seconds later. I saw the suspect on the ground at the southern entrance to the hallway. He did not appear to be moving, and officers were kneeling rendering aid. There were numerous other CPD officers in the hall.

Seconds later a supervisor ordered any officer that fired their weapon to leave the scene. I exited the front entrance with several other officers. This ended my involvement with this incident. I was transported from the scene by Officer Support after a short while. Later that night I gave BCI investigators my firearm and had photos taken as part of the investigation.

I was in fear for my life and the lives of the other officers at the times I fired my weapon. Before arriving on scene, the suspect had reportedly used deadly force and fired his weapon at a Franklin County deputy, resulting in a 10-3. When I got to the scene several minutes later, the suspect had not surrendered. At least one gunshot went off as I ran to the back of the apartment building with other officers. It sounded like that shot came from nearby, and I thought the suspect might have been firing at me and the other officers running towards the back of the

6

building. And though I recall a sergeant airing an officer had an AD a brief time later, I was not certain whether the AD was the same shot I heard.

The male in the basement was wearing the same clothing as the suspect's description. One or more officers in front of me also believed and announced that they thought the suspect had a gun. When that announcement was made, though, I could not see the suspect's hands given his position in the doorway and because there were three other officers in front of me.

Once the other officers and I moved up the hallway and those officers knelt, I had a better view of the suspect, though his hands were still hidden. During this encounter, the suspect was given repeated commands by multiple officers to show his hands/ put his hands up. But the suspect never gave any signs of compliance or surrender. Instead, he remained in the threshold of the hallway entrance in such a position that it seemed like he was deliberately concealing his hands from view. At no time during this incident do I recall seeing his left hand.

When the loud pop occurred, I believed the suspect had a weapon since I knew he had already fired at one law enforcement officer, and the other officers with me had announced they thought he had a gun. I thought he had the weapon in his left hand since his right hand/arm was near or on the top of the door and I do not recall seeing a weapon in it. I believed the suspect had most likely fired at the officers near the front entrance since he was primarily facing that direction (south), but I also thought he could have fired at me and the others since I could not see his left hand. And the instant after the pop the suspect's body quickly appeared to turn in my direction. I believed he was turning to track his weapon and fire and that I and the others would be seriously injured or killed. I was especially concerned because there was no cover or concealment for any of us. The hall was also narrow, and the back door was about 20 yards

7

away, heightening the threat that the suspect's rounds could strike and kill one or more officers before anyone could escape or get cover.

At the times I fired, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect my life or the lives of the other officers from the deadly threat presented by the suspect's actions.

After this incident I learned the suspect's name is Antwan Lindsey. I do not know Mr. Lindsey, and to my knowledge I have never before encountered him.

I have now had the opportunity to watch the BWC footage of this incident. After doing so, I now believe the loud pop I heard in the moment before firing was the sound of a taser being discharged from an officer on the other side of the blue door near the front entrance. Officers at the front entrance made announcements before the taser was deployed, and those announcements can be heard on my BWC, but I did not hear that when this happened. First, as those announcements were made, Sgt. Goodrich was airing information right next to me. His words were also being transmitted over our radios, so it sounded like two people talking at once. I also had not been able to specifically make out anything officers said from the other side of the door except possibly a command to see hands at one point. Those officers were relatively far away and the suspect and the blue door dampened sound from travelling between officers.

From my position, I also could not see the officers from the other side of the door. The blue door was only partly open, and I could not see past it. And in any case the suspect was also standing in the doorway, blocking my view. The officers on the other side were also in an elevated position near the front entrance.

Before the taser deployment, a black handgun can be seen on the ground behind (south of) the suspect. When I first got to the ground floor with the others, one or more of the officers had thought they saw the suspect with the gun. At no time did I see the suspect drop the weapon.

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And from my position I did not see the weapon on the ground behind the suspect during this incident. Nor did any other officer ever announce that they saw the suspect drop the gun or that the gun was on the ground.

This concludes my statement.





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



# **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.
- Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the 2. 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 In	nterviewee
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	iewee

31/23 3:44 pm

tSIPSUSK BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)