



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4175 Brush Creek Rd., Manchester, OH 45144 (L)

To: Aaron Haslam, Adams County Prosecutor  
 Cc: SAS Kevin Barbeau, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI  
 From: SA Chad Holcomb, Special Agent, Ohio BCI  
 Date: January 6, 2026  
 Involves: Christopher Lindner, [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4175 Brush Creek Rd., Manchester, OH 45144 (L)  
 BCI Case Numbers: Force Investigations Unit (FIU): 2025-3709  
 BCI Laboratory: 25-134824

**Investigative Request**

On Friday, November 14, 2025, Sheriff Kenny Dick of the Adams County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on November 14, 2025 around 4175 Brush Creek Road, Manchester, Ohio and resulted in the death of Christopher Lindner (Lindner).

*Preface:*

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the November 14, 2025 officer-involved shooting in Adams County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

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**Investigative Team**

BCI Special Agent Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) was assigned as the lead FIU case agent. SA Holcomb received assistance in the investigation from SA Josh Welty, SA David Wieging, SA Kyle Douglass, SA Richard Ward, SA Jon Jenkins, SA Amanda North and SA James Gore. BCI Special Agents Aja Chung & SA Mathew Austin of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Computer Forensic Specialist (CFS) Ryan Pacala of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an extraction and analysis of the DVR system recovered from the residence. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Kevin Barbeau. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

**Summary of Process**

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during this investigation, by the investigative team, to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the five (5) officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of eight (8) officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance to post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available dash cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident

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- Review of all available surveillance videos which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
  1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
  2. Firearm operability testing
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review

**Incident Summary/Overview**

On November 14, 2025, the Adams County Sheriff's Office and the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) attempted to pull over Christopher Lindner. A pursuit began and ended at his residence on Brush Creek Road.

Law enforcement surrounded the house and OSHP SRT were called to respond with a two-hour estimate. While waiting for SRT, it's reported that Lindner exited the second story balcony and discharged a firearm. A total of five law enforcement officers returned fire.

**Decedent**

On December 21, 2019, Indian Hills Police Department filed an aggravated menacing charge regarding a domestic dispute between Lindner and his wife, Tabitha. The charge was later dropped.

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On October 9, 2025, a protection order was issued with the protected person(s) being [REDACTED]

### **Autopsy Report**

The autopsy report for the decedent (Christopher Lindner) was obtained from the Adams County Coroner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

The cause of death for Lindner was determined to be [REDACTED] The toxicology report indicated [REDACTED]

### **Physical Evidence**

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

Agents located three areas of .223 casings in the wooded area and labeled them items 1-3, respectively. A group of 18 casings with 'Hornady' headstamp were collected as item 1. A group of 21 casings with 'LC 21' headstamp were collected as item 2; and a group of six casings with a 'Hornady' headstamp was collected as item 3. These areas were all to the south of a small creek that ran approximately parallel to the driveway.

One .223 casing was located by the rear driver side tire of the Peebles Police Department truck and was collected as item 4.

On Monday, November 17th, 2025, BCI Special Agents Matt Collins and Rick Ward returned to the property to search for the fourth area of .223 casings during daylight hours and located 13 additional casings.

A .338 LARM bolt action rifle with serial number: 74-06-004-24 was located on Lindner's body. SA Chung rendered the rifle 'safe' by removing one .338 casing from the chamber and two .338 cartridges from the internal magazine. The rifle, casing and two cartridges were packaged together as item 7.

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

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*The BCI laboratory has not begun analysis of the evidence. Once the BCI laboratory completes their analysis, SA Holcomb will forward the completed reports to the Adams County Prosecutors Office.*

**Witnesses**

**Carl H. Lindner, III**

Carl mentioned that he talked to Christopher briefly two times for about ten seconds each time on the day of the incident. Carl said, "It wasn't my son," and "... he had departed from reality. He was talking to people that didn't exist. Really, didn't, I'm not sure he even knew who I was." Carl pleaded with Christopher to drop any weapons that he had and to surrender himself. Christopher ultimately hung up on both phone calls from his father.

**Officer Interviews**

The following paragraphs are extremely abbreviated versions of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and/or discharging their weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

**Ohio State Highway Patrol** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he was made aware of the situation by a BOLO (be on (the) lookout) for a black Range Rover that had threatened construction workers with a knife. [REDACTED] later heard that Adams County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) was in pursuit with the Range Rover. He proceeded to Adams County.

As [REDACTED] arrived on scene, he was informed that [REDACTED] was in an unsafe position. Himself, along with OSP [REDACTED] assisted in getting Tpr. [REDACTED] to a safe position. All four troopers then took position together in a creek bed to watch the residence.

[REDACTED] wrote in his statement, "I moved closer to [REDACTED] because he had the ballistic shield. I heard the suspect yelling, but I could not make out what he was saying. I was able to observe the left profile side of the suspect standing on the third deck. I heard a shot coming from the direction of the suspect."

[REDACTED] continued to write, "I believed that I and other officers were in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, the other officers on the scene, or other possibly

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innocent persons in the area. I discharged my rifle. I fired several shots. I observed the suspect go down. I was unable to tell if the suspect had been hit, so I continued suppression fire to keep the suspect down and protect other officers.”

Ohio State Highway Patrol [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated he was made aware of the situation by a BOLO (be on (the) lookout) for a driver, later identified as Christopher Lindner (Lindner), who threatened construction workers with a knife. He then later learned Adams County Sheriff's deputies were in pursuit of the BOLO vehicle. [REDACTED] was then "... informed that the suspect was possibly armed," and "... that [REDACTED] became the primary officer in the pursuit.”

[REDACTED] and other law enforcement eventually ended up at Lindner's residence. While holding concealment, [REDACTED] heard the suspect yelling but was unable to hear what was being said. He then wrote; "I heard a shot coming from the direction of the suspect. I then heard shots fired by other officers.”

[REDACTED] continued to write; "I believed that I and other officers were in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, the other officers on the scene, or other possibly innocent persons in the area. I observed the suspect on the deck standing upright in a fighting position. I discharged my rifle. I fired several shots. I observed the suspect go down. I was unable to tell if the suspect had been hit.”

Ohio State Highway Patrol [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he was made aware of the situation by a BOLO (be on (the) lookout) for a driver who had threatened some construction workers with a knife. [REDACTED] was later informed that Adam's County Sheriff's deputies were in pursuit of the BOLO vehicle and proceeded towards the pursuit.

[REDACTED] continued to pursue the vehicle until arriving at a residence. Once at the residence, he observed the suspect exit the vehicle and enter the house. At this moment [REDACTED] wrote, "I was advised by dispatch to get away from the residence because the suspect had several firearms." [REDACTED] and other OSP troopers took up a position in the wooded area near a creek bed.

[REDACTED] wrote, "I observed the male subject on the balcony of the third floor. I could see him holding something, but could not tell exactly what was in his hand. I heard the suspect yelling but I could not make out what he was saying. I heard a shot

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coming from the direction of the suspect.” SA Holcomb asked if he could describe the item in Lindner’s hand; he stated it appeared he was holding something in his hands but could not describe the color or size.

██████████ further wrote, “I believed that I and other officers were in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, the other officers on the scene, or other possibly innocent persons in the area. I discharged my rifle. I fired several shots. I observed the suspect stand for a little bit and stopped firing when I no longer could see him.”

Ohio State Highway Patrol ██████████

██████████ stated he was at the Georgetown Post when he received a BOLO (be on (the) lookout) for a black Range Rover. The BOLO “... told that the driver had threatened some construction workers with a knife.” He then learned “... Adams County deputies were in pursuit of the vehicle.” ██████████ and other law enforcement eventually ended up at Lindner’s residence. ██████████ eventually ended up in a wooded area near a creek bed.

While in the creek bed, ██████████ “...observed the suspect open a glass door and step out holding a long gun.” He then wrote; “I heard the suspect yelling but I could not make out what he was saying. I was able to observe the suspect raise the rifle to chest level. I observed him pull the trigger, saw the rifle recoil, and saw a puff of smoke. I heard a shot coming from the direction of the suspect and yelled, ‘shots fired’.” ██████████ described the gun as a long gun, wooden stock, and sizable.

██████████ further wrote; “I believed that I and other officers were in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, the other officers on the scene, or other possible innocent persons in the area. I discharged my rifle. I fired several shots. I observed the suspect recoil from getting hit with two shots and go down. I continued suppression firing until I could no longer see the suspect.”

West Union Police ██████████

██████████ stated he first became involved in the incident after receiving a call relative to an “armed individual” (later to be identified as Christopher Lindner) harassing his brother. ██████████ responded to assist the Adams County Sheriff’s deputy responding to the call.

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Upon arriving at Lindner's residence on Brush Creek Road, [REDACTED] heard Lindner was armed and went inside the residence, describing it as a barricade. He retrieved his rifle from his patrol vehicle and accompanied the Chief of Peebles Police Department to the south side of the residence, where a deputy later joined them.

[REDACTED] observed movement in a side window (first floor), described as a "pane window" but could not get 'PID' (positive identification). He then saw Lindner exit the residence on the second floor. [REDACTED] at this point had a 'keyhole' (sight picture - full body with no obstruction) and attempted to relay information to other officers by radio but was unsuccessful. Specifically, he tried to radio Lindner had a weapon.

[REDACTED] saw Lindner discharge his firearm. He explained it was "in the direction of other officers," and "... to prevent loss of life of anybody else" he [REDACTED] discharged his firearm, firing one round. After discharging his firearm, [REDACTED] regained sight of Lindner and noticed he was laying down. He did not see any movement but continued to cover the exit while the other officers made their approach.

[REDACTED] further stated Lindner made a statement when he shouldered his rifle. The statement: "this is the Lord's land, and you have no right to be here." [REDACTED] estimated Lindner was on the balcony for 15-20 seconds before being shot. He also described Lindner as casual, not rushing, methodical, and knew what he was doing.

[REDACTED] was asked by SA Holcomb to describe Lindner's firearm. He described the gun as having a wood stock, black barrel, scoped, long gun. He also noted based on his experience the sound of the firearm told him the weapon was a high-powered rifle, upwards of .308 - 30-06 caliber.

[REDACTED] was asked by SA Holcomb if he feared for his life, or life of others on the scene when he discharged his rifle. He stated yes. He further shared his experience, coupled with the sound of the firearm told him it would either kill or extremely damage other people. [REDACTED] stated his plates (body armor) may not have stopped a round of that size.

### **Video Recordings**

There is no video footage that completely shows the shooting in its entirety. [REDACTED] dash camera however does pick up audio from the shooting.

### **Contact Information**

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further

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review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Chad Holcomb. SA Holcomb can be reached via email at [Chad.Holcomb@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Chad.Holcomb@OhioAGO.gov) or by telephone, at 614-813-8496.

**References:**

No references.

**Attachments:**

No attachments.

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