



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

To: Lauren Knight, Harrison County Prosecutor  
Cc: Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran, Ohio BCI  
From: Special Agents Joseph Lamping and John Tingley, Ohio BCI  
Date: May 19, 2026  
Involves: Michael W. Decker (S), [REDACTED] (S), [REDACTED] (S), [REDACTED] (S)  
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County  
BCI Case Numbers: Force Investigations (FIU): 2026-1239  
Crime Scene (CSU): 2026-1239  
BCI Laboratory: 26-32400

## Investigative Request

On Monday, March 30, 2026, Harrison County Sheriff Mark Touville requested assistance from 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 March 30, 2026, in various locations across Harrison County and resulted in the death of Michael W. Decker (Decker).

## Preface

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the March 30, 2026, officer-involved shooting in Harrison 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 Agents John Tingley (Tingley) and Joe Lamping (Lamping) were assigned as the lead FIU case agents. Special Agents Tingley and Lamping received assistance in the investigation from Special Agents Joe Goudy (Goudy), Daniel Boerner (Boerner), David Hammond (Hammond), Jesse Bynum (Bynum) and Joshua Lish (Lish). BCI Special Agents Larry Hootman (Hootman), Bernard Doran (Doran) and Ed Lulla (Lulla) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scenes of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran (Moran). 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 the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the three officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of four officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Interview of two civilian witnesses to the incident
- Special agent attendance at post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subject, including 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
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident areas
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Shooting reconstruction and trajectory analysis
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident

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- 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
- Reviewed medical records of those injured, obtained through patient consent
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered
- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident
- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

## Incident Summary/Overview

On Monday, March 30, 2026, at approximately 11:31 hours, Harrison County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) [REDACTED] conducted a traffic stop on a blue Dodge Journey. The stop took place on US 250 near Tappan Lake. During the stop, [REDACTED] spoke with the female driver, Nikki Reynard (Reynard). Reynard was cooperative with [REDACTED] and ultimately consented to a search of the vehicle she was driving. [REDACTED] spoke with the rear seat passenger, later identified as Michael Decker (Decker). Decker was not cooperative and provided false identifying information to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] requested Decker exit the vehicle and asked permission to check Decker for weapons. Decker declined [REDACTED] request and kept his left hand by his waistband, a common location in which firearms and weapons are carried. [REDACTED] attempted to take control of Decker at which point a short altercation occurred. During the altercation, Decker drew a black Sig Sauer P229 equipped with a Sig Sauer Romeo 1 miniature red dot optic and pointed it at [REDACTED] upper body/head. [REDACTED] pushed the firearm away from him, retreated, and fell

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down an embankment while Decker fired at him. [REDACTED] sustained an injury during the fall but attempted to return fire. Decker fled the scene after stealing Reynard's Dodge Journey.

[REDACTED] called for assistance, advised that shots had been fired, and that he had been injured. While responding to assist [REDACTED] Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) [REDACTED] spotted Decker fleeing the area East bound on US 250. A pursuit was initiated involving [REDACTED] as the lead law enforcement officer, as well as HCSO Deputy Jason Saylor (Deputy Saylor), HCSO Sergeant Thomas Smith (Sergeant Smith), Cadiz Police Department (CPD) Lieutenant Ronald Carter (Lieutenant Carter), and several other law enforcement officers. During the pursuit, Decker drove in a reckless manner reaching speeds over 100 miles per hour.

Several attempts to terminate the pursuit with spike strips occurred. The third deployment of spike strips by OSHP Lieutenant Robert Bodo (Lieutenant Bodo), which occurred on US 22, was effective. After Decker struck the spike strips, he crossed the center median of the freeway and came to a final rest in the westbound lanes of US 22. [REDACTED] maneuvered his vehicle behind Decker's vehicle. Decker then exited his vehicle with a firearm in his hand, prompting a second officer involved shooting in which [REDACTED] fired at Decker while Decker returned fire.

Nobody was injured during the second shooting, and Decker fled into the woods north of US 22. While on scene, Special Agent Lamping spoke with HCSO and OSHP representatives. They requested that BCI handle the entirety of the investigation due to the multiple officer involved shootings and the large geographic area of the incident. Special Agent Supervisor Moran placed Special Agent Tingley in charge of the officer involved shooting investigations and placed Special Agent Lamping in charge of the investigation into Decker's conduct.

A large manhunt for Decker took place spanning several hours. OSHP aviation, OSHP Special Response Team (SRT), United States Marshals, and other agencies responded in an attempt to locate Decker, who had absconded into the woods. While the manhunt took place, Special Agent Lamping gathered information related to Decker's actions and eventually met with Harrison County Prosecutor Lauren Knight to draft charges. It was ultimately determined that warrants would be issued against Decker for the following charges:

- Attempted Murder, Felony 1
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- Failure to Comply with the Order of Signal of a Police Officer, Felony 3

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- Discharge of a Firearm on or Near Prohibited Premises, Felony 3
- Discharge of a Firearm on or Near Prohibited Premises, Felony 3
- Having Weapons While Under Disability, Felony 3

The warrants for Decker were entered into the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). OSHP SRT was alerted to their existence prior to commencing the search for Decker.

Following a protracted search for Decker, law enforcement obtained intelligence that Decker was spotted at 86505 Black Road. The residents, Walter Pase (Pase) and Rebecca Grim (Grim) had reportedly been held at gunpoint by Decker. Decker also stole a jacket from Pase, changed his clothing, and shaved his beard prior to fleeing the residence.

Shortly after Decker fled the Black Road residence, OSHP aviation located him in the woods east of Black Road and west of Mine Road. The OSHP aviation unit observed that Decker was still armed with a handgun. They also gave Decker numerous orders to drop his firearm and surrender, none of which Decker complied with.

OSHP SRT eventually deployed into the woods, with the assistance of CPD [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to attempt to apprehend Decker. When the law enforcement officers approached Decker, they employed the use of a less lethal projectile and a police canine. When [REDACTED] released his canine partner, [REDACTED], he had no cover or concealment. As the dog approached Decker, Decker pointed his firearm in the direction of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], at which time [REDACTED] discharged his firearm one-time, striking Decker in the head. It was also discovered that Decker possibly shot himself in the chest with his pistol immediately before or simultaneously with the shot fired by [REDACTED].

After Decker was shot, medical aid was rendered, and he was moved to a nearby ambulance for additional care. He was ultimately pronounced deceased on scene.

Due to the complex nature of the incident, the three law enforcement shootings will be classified as follows: US 250 scene, US 22 scene, and Mine Road scene. This prosecutor summary was placed in a chronological order encompassing the information that became known to the law enforcement officers at each scene, and as such it blends the interviews of citizens and law enforcement officers into one flowing narration of the event.

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## Decedent

The decedent in this investigation was identified as Michael W. Decker. Decker, a 53-year-old white male, was pronounced deceased at the Mine Road scene.

## Autopsy Report

As of Monday, May 15, 2026, the Cuyahoga County Coroner's Office had yet to finalize Decker's autopsy report. Once the report is finalized, it will be reviewed and forwarded to the Harrison County Prosecutor's Office.

## Physical Evidence

An assortment of evidence was located at the scene of the shooting. A total of four firearms were recovered, three of which belonged to the involved officers. The fourth firearm, pictured below, was in Decker's possession during the incident:



The image to the left was taken at the Mine Road scene, and the image to the right was taken from [REDACTED] BWC, which captured Decker's first interaction with law enforcement on Monday, March 30, 2026. The firearm pictured is a Sig Sauer P229 semi-automatic pistol equipped with a Sig Sauer Romeo 1 miniature red dot optic.

## Crime Scene Processing

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the US 250 and US 22 scenes in order to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, including photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. The third scene at Mine Road was processed by Special Agent Supervisor Moran and

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Special Agent Lamping. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

### US 250 Scene

Special Agent Hootman responded to, and processed, the US 250 scene. During his investigation, an assortment of photographs and scans were taken. No shell casings or bullets were recovered from the US 250 scene.

### US 22 Scene

Special Agents Lulla and Doran responded to the US 22 scene. The Crime Scene Agents processed the scene obtaining photographs, scans, and bullet trajectory information. Of note, two bullet impacts were located on the vehicle Decker was driving, and five bullet impacts were located on [REDACTED] vehicle. An assortment of 9mm shell casings and bullets were located at the scene.

### Mine Road Scene

Special Agent Supervisor Moran and Special Agent Lamping evaluated the Mine Road scene. Due to the location of the scene, Decker's body being moved, and the small amount of physical evidence it was determined that the Crime Scene Unit would not be required to process the scene.

The scene was located at the following GPS coordinates: 40.344016, -80.920476. Special Agent Lamping collected Decker's Sig Sauer P226. While collecting the firearm, Special Agent Lamping observed that the firearm was out of battery due to a malfunction:



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Aside from the cartridge casing that caused the malfunction of Decker's pistol, no other cartridge casings were located. The photographs from the Mine Road scene were taken by the Harrison County Coroner's Office.

**BCI Laboratory Analysis**

An assortment of evidence was submitted to the BCI laboratory for analysis. Only the most pertinent finds were documented in the table below:

Item	Findings
██████████ M&P 2.0	Unable to be linked to any cartridge casings or projectiles.
██████████ Sig Sauer P320	Determined to be the source of three projectiles and six cartridge casings.
██████████ Sig Sauer P320	Unable to be linked to any cartridge casings or projectiles.
Decker's Sig Sauer P229	Determined to be the source of five cartridge casings as well as one projectile recovered during Decker's autopsy <sup>1</sup> .

**Interviews**

A total of ten interviews with citizens and law enforcement were conducted in this investigation. The interviews were placed in a chronological order beginning at the US 250 scene and culminating with the Mine Road scene.

**US 250 Scene**

██████████ was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 14, 2026.

██████████ was asked to detail the incident to the best of his recollection. He stated that he was stationary on US 250 near Plum Run Road when he observed a blue SUV approaching him. He recalled seeing a female driving the vehicle, and an older white male sitting in the rear passenger area. He noted that as the vehicle passed him the male leaned forward between the driver and passenger seat and looked at him.

██████████ described the look the male gave him:

<sup>1</sup> Matrix Item #43/Lab Item #20, a fired bullet, which was recovered during Decker's autopsy, indicates that Decker suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound at the Mine Road scene.

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*And the look that he gave me was just like, like, it's almost like you're a kid, like, and you get caught in trouble and they're like, oh shit, there's the cops. (09:11)*

██████████ found the look that the male gave him, along with where he was sitting, suspicious, almost as if he had been trying to hide. ██████████ pulled out behind the SUV after a few cars passed his location. He said that the SUV began to follow the pickup truck in front of them so closely that the pickup truck in front of them had to move out of the way to allow them to pass.

██████████ turned on his emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop for following too closely. The SUV came to a stop on US 250 near Eslick Road. ██████████ approached the vehicle and attempted to speak to the female driver. He said that the window wouldn't open, so he had to open the driver's door to effectively communicate with her. He recalled the following about the initial interactions with the occupants:

*I tell her the reason. She's like, oh yeah, like, you know, seemed, you know, fine. But I noticed the guy in the backseat's like, like eyeing me up, you know? And then I think at one point he, he lit up a fresh, uh, a fresh cigarette. He's getting on his phone, he's texting, just, you know, some of the stuff that I've been taught over the, you know, the years, like these are some red flags, so, and why? And plus, he's in the back seat and there's no one in the front seat. (11:16)*

██████████ carried on with his interactions with the driver. He stated that she did not have her license or proof of insurance on her, but she provided her social security number. After she was successfully identified, ██████████ asked her to make contact with someone who could send her proof of insurance. While she made arrangements for the insurance to be sent over, ██████████ asked her to step out of the vehicle and walk to the front of his cruiser. He then asked her if there was anything illegal in the vehicle, and what she and the passenger were doing. The driver told ██████████ that the male passenger was an exterminator. ██████████ asked the driver who the male passenger was, and he believes she identified him as "Randy." She claimed not to know the male well and could not provide his last name.

██████████ asked the female for consent to search the vehicle, which she provided. He then approached the rear passenger and asked him for his name. The passenger identified himself as Randy. ██████████ said that the male was initially cooperative but then became confrontational. When the male was informed that ██████████ had consent to search the vehicle he became, "defensive" and asked

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what his probable cause for the search was. [REDACTED] told the passenger that the driver had consented to the search and then asked the passenger to step out.

[REDACTED] recalled that once the male exited the vehicle, he made some alarming movements. He noted that the male's hand was down by his waistband and out of view towards his back. [REDACTED] asked the male if he had any weapons and the male said that he did not. [REDACTED] said that the male's hand was still by his waistband, and that he was refusing to move it. [REDACTED] then attempted to grab the male's hand:

*So, I went and I went to grab his hand. And as soon as he did that, or as soon as I did that, we kind of got locked up, you know, and then like, uh, shoving match, if you will. We go from the, um, the back seat area and we kind of, we work our way to the back of the vehicle and we're kind of locked up. And I just, you know, I got, you know, a couple feet away from him and I thought he was just, you know, a guy wanting to fight. So, I start to draw my taser. I wear it on my left side as I'm going for my taser in a cross draw. I like unclip it with this hand, and then I start to disengage it and get ready to pull it out. He presents a firearm from his left side. (15:36)*

[REDACTED] provided greater detail about the male presenting the firearm towards him:

*He pulls that gun out and he instantly aimed it right at like, it was anywhere from like my head to my chest area. And I remember it vividly, like, oh, sorry, before I do this though, I remember looking him dead in his eyes and they were just gray. And this was right before, you know, he's actually presents it. I look him right in his eyes. His eyes are just gray. And I can see his lips like starting to curl like, you know, like violent, uh, like violent indicators. This guy's about to do something violent. I remember seeing that. And then he draws his, uh, hand or he draws that handgun out with his left hand and starts to present it like this. (16:19)*

[REDACTED] utilized an inert firearm to demonstrate how the male presented the firearm:

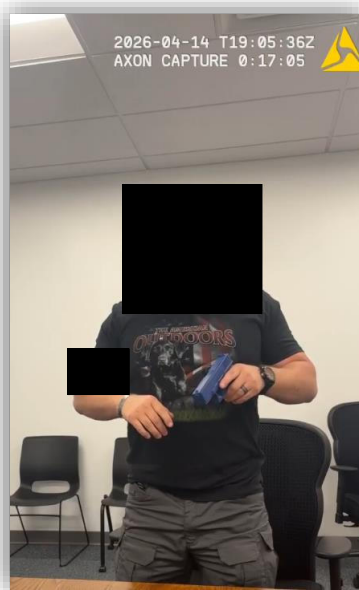
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██████████ continued to describe the male's actions:

*And I, that's right when I seen the firearm and I'm like in a cross draw with my taser, and I'm like, this guy's got a gun. I've got a taser. I'm in trouble. 'cause now he's got his gun drawn on me already. I, I vividly remember it was a black semi-automatic pistol, and it had a red dot sight on the back. And it might've been a, uh, vortex because I think I remember seeing the Vortex logo, but I remember seeing that red dot and just so many things are going through my mind. Like, this guy, I'm done. I'm toast. This guy has his gun on me. I'm not gonna be his react, my reaction time. So, he gr... he goes and he grabs, he's facing this way, he goes and he grabs and starts to present it and get like a two-hand grip. And I remember seeing his finger that this part of his finger trigger sticking through the trigger guard. Like, I'm done. Like, I'm toast. I don't even have my gun out yet. So, he starts to, you know, draw down to get a two-hand grip on me. And I'm still mid-cross draw with my taser. I throw that taser down and what I did was with my left hand, I went and hit his hand. So, it had been this way. I hit his hand and knocked him off target like that. (17:04)*

██████████ demonstrated pushing the firearm away from him:

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further described the encounter:

*And as soon as I got, knocked his hand and he got him kind of like off balance, I took as many steps as I could to make space. And then I started going down over that steep embankment. And as soon as, as soon as I went over that embankment, he fired a shot at me. And when he shot, I went down and I hit my, I landed on, I think somewhere on this left shoulder. (18:18)*

After hit the ground, he recalled turning over and his glasses, body worn camera, and other equipment fell. He thought that the male would be approaching him to continue his attack, so he drew his weapons and attempted to obtain a two-hand grip on it:

*And that's when I realized my left arm isn't working. I was like, he, he shot me, my left arm's paralyzed. I can't even grip my pistol. So, I, I was convinced I was hit. So, I, uh, I one handed and I drew up and pointed at him. He was standing a few, quite a few feet away from his car. Like I said, I think he was kind of walking toward, I don't know if he was walking towards me to finish me off or what, but I went, I shot two shots right at him. And I, I thought I swore I seen him go down.*

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*Um, I thought I hit him. And then after that I got on the radio. I said, uh, 34, 17, 34, something like that. I said, '34 shots fired. I need help. I'm hurt bad' (19:41)*

██████████ recalled the male entering the driver side of the vehicle and fleeing the scene. The female driver was frantic and asked ██████████ if he was alright. She then checked ██████████ for injuries while he removed his vest:

*I think I'm hit because I can't use my left arm. I need help. So, I started taking my stuff off my uniform, started taking it off. And I'm telling her, check me for holes. Check me for blood. Something's wrong. You know, I was, I was a hundred percent convinced I had a bullet hole somewhere. And she was like, I don't see anything. And I'm like, no, you're missing it. There's something wrong here. My shoulder, I can't even move. I can't, I'm trying to do something with my left hand and it's just not working. (21:09)*

EMS and other law enforcement officers arrived on scene shortly after. ██████████ was checked for injuries again by EMS prior to being transported to Wheeling Hospital.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ when he became aware that the male was not named Randy. He recalled that HCSO Detective Morgan Knight arrived at the hospital and showed him a picture that he identified as the male. Detective Knight then informed ██████████ that the male's name was Michael Decker.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ what it meant to him when someone reached for their waistband. He indicated that it generally means that someone is reaching for a weapon.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ if Decker gave any indication of wanting to flee when the initial altercation occurred. ██████████ did not feel that Decker had any intent to flee. He also recalled that Decker stated, "I said no" when he went to grab Decker's left hand that was near his waistband.

### **Nikki Reynard**

Reynard was interviewed by Special Agents Goudy and Tingley on March 30, 2026, after she was provided with a Miranda Warning.

Reynard stated that while traveling down State Route 250, a Harrison County Sheriff's Deputy pulled her over for following too closely behind a semi-truck. After she was pulled over, Reynard stated that she told the Deputy that she was driving her friend to

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do a “pest drop” for which he paid her \$50 for a ride. After explaining why she was in the area, the Deputy asked Reynard to step out of her vehicle and if he was authorized to search the vehicle. Reynard agreed to allow the Deputy to search the vehicle.

After the Deputy was done speaking with Reynard, she stated that he walked back up to the vehicle and had her friend step out of the vehicle. She explained that her friend sat in the back seat because he had all his pest control things with him and she did not want them to tip over and spill. Reynard described the moment when her friend, “Mike” exited the vehicle:

*So, I, um, he got him out the car and the next thing I know, I look over Mike pulled his gun out, pointed it to the cop, uh, made a shot of fire. I ran behind the cop car, which I could still see the cop, but I couldn't see Mike at this time. And um, and I was telling Mike ‘What are you doing? Stop please’. And, um, the cop is like down there and I see he, he, uh, shot off two rounds and then I didn't know where Mike went. (3:20)*

After the shooting stopped, Reynard ran down to check on the Deputy, while “Mike” fled the scene in her vehicle.

Reynard stated that “Mike’s” full name was Michael Brost (Brost)<sup>2</sup> and that he lived in Lincoln Heights. Reynard stated she was not aware that Brost had a gun until he pointed it at the Deputy, which she described as a handgun. Reynard stated that Brost was a friend of her husband.

When Reynard was asked how Brost reacted when the Deputy pulled them over, she stated, “He was scared, like, he’s like, oh God.” (06:09). Reynard stated she tried to calm him down by telling him to relax. When she stopped for the Deputy, she stated that Brost did not say anything or react. She was asked whether she or Brost were under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. Reynard stated that she was not, and although she did not believe Brost was under the influence of anything, she could not say for certain.

## US 22 Scene

### Lieutenant Robert Bodo

Lieutenant Bodo was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 2, 2026.

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<sup>2</sup> Brost is a known and documented alias for Decker.

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Lieutenant Bodo recalled that, when the incident began, he was at the Jefferson County Post completing administrative duties. He heard the radio call, regarding shots fired, from Harrison County. He exited the office and began heading west on US 22. While en route he learned, through additional radio traffic, that the initial incident occurred on US 250 and involved a dark blue Dodge Journey with a white sticker on the rear window. Lieutenant Bodo then heard via radio that [REDACTED] had located the vehicle and was pursuing it. He noted that the pursuit eventually led to US 22.

Lieutenant Bodo reported that another Trooper was on US 22 and attempted to deploy spike strips. [REDACTED] advised over the radio that the spike strips were not effective. Lieutenant Bodo then decided to attempt to deploy spike strips on US 22 near SR 151. Lieutenant Bodo decided to deploy the spike strips near milepost 23 on US 22 on an overpass. He advised that he chose this location as it offered him cover with the guardrails and bridge abutment. Lieutenant Bodo recalled the following about the deployment of the spike strips:

*Um, I could hear the sirens coming. Uh, [REDACTED] gave out a description of the vehicle. Once again. Uh, I made visual confirmation that the vehicle was heading towards me in the right lane, at which point when he approached me, I was able to pull the spike strips into the middle of US 22 and, uh, able to make a successful spike on the vehicle. Uh, I started to pull the spikes out of the road, heard that vehicle lose, lose control, travel through the median and was in the westbound lanes now. (03:16)*

Lieutenant Bodo reported that he removed the spike strips from the roadway to avoid impacting additional vehicles. While he did that, he radioed that the spikes were successful. While on the radio he heard gunfire, which he described as follows:

*...I started to hear gunfire from where the vehicle became disabled. Um, I look back, I never saw shots fired or I could see who was shooting. I just heard gunfire. Uh, at which point I radioed the dispatch that, you know, shots were fired. (04:08)*

After taking care of the spike strips, Lieutenant Bodo made his way to the scene. By that time the subject had fled north bound into the woods. He checked on [REDACTED] and noticed that [REDACTED] vehicle had been struck by gunfire. He then confirmed that [REDACTED] had fired his weapon during the incident. Afterwards he took on scene command responsibilities and called for aviation assistance.

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Special Agent Lamping asked Lieutenant Bodo to describe the cadence of the gunshots he heard. He stated that the initial volley was rapid, followed by a short pause, and a few more shots. Lieutenant Bodo was not certain how many rounds were fired. Lieutenant Bodo also noted that he did not observe any of the shots being fired and only heard them.

Special Agent Lamping asked Lieutenant Bodo if the subject made any evasive maneuvers to avoid the spike strips. Lieutenant Bodo stated that he thought that the subject did attempt to avoid the spike strips as he moved rapidly from the left lane to the right lane. Even with the evasive maneuver, the spike strip did impact one of the subject's tires. The subject vehicle then fishtailed, started to rotate, and spun around in the median.

#### Deputy Jason Saylor

Deputy Saylor was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 2, 2026.

Deputy Saylor recalled being in the HCSO when [REDACTED] stopped a vehicle. After some time, [REDACTED] advised over the radio that he had consent to search the stopped vehicle. Shortly afterwards, Deputy Saylor remembered hearing [REDACTED] yelling over the radio that shots had been fired. A brief description was put out for the vehicle. It was described as a dark, possibly blue, SUV. Deputy Saylor advised that he started heading towards [REDACTED] location on US 250 with the intent of either locating the vehicle or reaching [REDACTED]

Deputy Saylor recalled passing the subject's vehicle on US 250 near County Road 55. Deputy Saylor radioed to a nearby HCSO Sergeant to alert them that the vehicle that had passed them was likely the subject's vehicle. As Deputy Saylor began to turn around to catch up to the vehicle, an OSHP Trooper also turned and began to pursue the subject vehicle. Deputy Saylor noted that the speeds of the pursuit were roughly one hundred miles per hour, and that after leaving US 250, the subject entered US 22 east bound.

While on US 22 one set of spike strips were deployed that were ineffective. As pursuit continued east bound on US 22, Deputy Saylor stated that a second set of spike strips were deployed, which were effective. Deputy Saylor was able to avoid the spike strips, but other law enforcement vehicles struck them. The suspect vehicle reportedly veered to the left, struck the ditch in the median, and came to a rest on US 22 in the westbound lanes. Deputy Saylor said that the lead Trooper was able to place his vehicle directly behind the subject vehicle.

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Deputy Saylor stated that he maneuvered his vehicle towards the subject vehicle. He recalled the following:

*... as soon as he crashed, as soon as he stopped, driver door opened and I could see him get out. When he got out, it was shooting posture, he was out. So, I, uh, right when I, uh, pretty much hit the westbound lane, um, I, I could hear boom, boom, boom, boom. Probably four or five, six shots, whenever he started shooting... (05:02)*

Deputy Saylor went on to explain that he and HCSO Sergeant Thomas Smith (Sergeant Smith) were attempting to radio out that shots had been fired. He then backed his vehicle up in order to use it as cover. When he exited his vehicle, he positioned himself behind it and observed the subject for a few seconds. Deputy Saylor reported that he was unable to see the trooper, but he did watch as the subject ran northbound and jumped a fence into the woods.

Special Agent Lamping asked Deputy Saylor to further describe the shooting posture he said that the subject took upon exiting his vehicle. Deputy Saylor advised that the subject took a deliberate posture while aiming towards the Trooper/Trooper's vehicle. He further stated that his belief was that the subject had the intent to kill the officers on scene.

Special Agent Lamping asked Deputy Saylor if he would have fired at the subject had he had a clear shot. Deputy Saylor advised, "Yes, *absolutely.*" (07:26)

Special Agent Lamping asked Deputy Saylor if he had anything that he was not asked that he would like to inform the investigators of. He told the agents that a member of HCSO had been in contact with the subject's brother, and during the conversation the brother alerted the Deputy that the subject would likely not be taken alive. Deputy Saylor noted that this information was relayed to the officers on scene while they were searching for the subject. According to Deputy Saylor, this placed the officers on scene at an even higher level of alertness due to the belief that the subject would not cooperate with officers if located. Deputy Saylor went on to explain his heightened safety concern from when the subject jumped the fence line North of US 22:

*That's, we didn't even jump. Once he jumped the fence, um, the, the two troopers that he was shooting at, at least the one, they jumped the ditch line too, and they went to crest the hill and Sergeant Smith called them back because in my mind, I, I thought for sure he was laying at the bottom of that ravine waiting for us. I, I, so we just did a brief scan, backed off, called air support, and went from there. (08:42)*

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**Sergeant Thomas Smith**

Sergeant Smith was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 2, 2026.

Sergeant Smith stated that around 1045 hours [REDACTED] initiated a traffic stop on US 250. [REDACTED] advised over the radio that shots had been fired while on the traffic stop. At that time, Sergeant Smith was in the HCSO administrative building. He recalled exiting the building and responding to the scene after he heard the radio traffic advising that shots had been fired. While Sergeant Smith was making his way towards the location of the traffic stop, he recalled hearing radio traffic from Deputy Saylor which indicated that there were officers in pursuit of the vehicle that [REDACTED] had stopped.

Sergeant Smith recalled that once he heard the pursuit was heading towards him, he placed himself in a location to block the vehicle from entering the town of Cadiz. When the pursuit approached Sergeant Smith's location it continued to US 250 east bound. As the subject vehicle passed him, Sergeant Smith observed that the driver had a phone in his hand, pressed to his ear, as if he was talking. He noted that OSHP [REDACTED], Deputy Saylor, CPD Lieutenant Carter and CPD Officer Lenoir Sweeny were all involved in the pursuit. Sergeant Smith joined as the fifth pursuing vehicle. As he joined the pursuit the subject entered the US 22 on ramp and continued east bound.

While on US 22, an OSHP Trooper attempted to deploy spike strips. The first set of spike strips were ineffective. A second Trooper, Lieutenant Bodo, was able to deploy spike strips further east on US 22. The spike strip deployed by Lieutenant Bodo was effective. Sergeant Smith estimated that the speeds of the pursuit were near 100 miles per hour when the subject struck the second set of spike strips. He stated that after the subject struck the spike strips, they lost control, crossed the center median, and came to a rest in the west bound lanes while still facing east. He also recalled that several police vehicles struck the spike strip.

Sergeant Smith recalled the following when the subject vehicle came to a final rest:

*[REDACTED] uh, pulled his cruiser in close proximity, uh behind the suspect's vehicle facing the same direction. And I was still in the Eastbound lanes as [REDACTED] was in the Westbound Lane. Uh, Lieutenant Carter was directly adjacent to me when we parked our vehicles in the eastbound lane. And I got out and obtained cover, uh, behind his vehicle. But before I exited my vehicle, I could tell there was gunfire going on. I couldn't physically see the subject shooting, but I could see, uh, like a impact on [REDACTED] uh, roof. I could*

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*see the impact, and I, I knew that it, it was gunfire. I, I, was in the military. I did two deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan; I know what gunfire is like. Uhm, and I, and I called that out over the radio. And then I exited my vehicle, drew my service weapons, obtained cover, and was just trying to locate what the subject was doing, where he was at. Couldn't see him. The, uh, from my vantage point I couldn't see if [REDACTED] was hit. I couldn't see the subject out of the vehicle, I couldn't see nothing. (07:40)*

Sergeant Smith continued on to explain that he maneuvered behind cover in an attempt to locate the subject. By the time Sergeant Smith was able to observe the subject, he was running north bound and over a fence that ran along the north side of US 22 and the woods. Sergeant Smith observed [REDACTED] to be alert and orient, so he advised that his primary concern shifted from rendering aide to setting up a perimeter to contain the subject. Sergeant Smith noted his concern for public safety with the subject at large:

*I was worried that if we didn't do that [setting up a perimeter for containment] the possibility of a carjacking or him breaking into a house or God only knows what if that man was doing that, you know, what could have happed after that. (10:19)*

Sergeant Smith requested air support and drones to assist in the efforts of locating the subject. Sergeant Smith went on to detail his actions as the scene commander on US 22.

Special Agent Tingley asked Sergeant Smith if he knew who initiated the pursuit of the subject after the initial shots fired call. Sergeant Smith believed that [REDACTED] had initiated the pursuit after Deputy Saylor located the vehicle.

Special Agent Tingley asked Sergeant Smith if he observed the subject to be armed when he jumped the fence north of US 22. Sergeant Smith stated that though he could not clearly observe if the subject had any weapons in his hands, he felt that the subject was still armed.

Special Agent Lamping asked Sergeant Smith to describe the gunshots that were by the subject towards [REDACTED]. He described them as "*pretty rapid, but at a controlled pace*" (12:36) He also noted that they seemed to be aimed. Special Agent Lamping asked Sergeant Smith what he felt the subject's intent was when he fired the shots, and he responded, "*To kill him [REDACTED]*" (12:50)

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**Lieutenant Ronald Carter**

Lieutenant Carter was interviewed by Special Agent Tingley on April 7, 2026.

Lieutenant Carter stated that he heard dispatch notify CPD Units that a pursuit was coming into Cadiz on US Route 250 and that the suspect, in the vehicle being pursued, had just fired at a law enforcement officer.

Lieutenant Carter went to the Harrison County Home on US Route 250 (which is west of Cadiz) and stood by as the pursuit approached. When the vehicle being pursued passed his location, Lieutenant Carter observed the driver/suspect (Michael Decker) to be a white male with facial hair.

Lieutenant Carter joined the pursuit which traveled eastbound on US Route 250 before turning eastbound onto US Route 22.

As the pursuit continued on US Route 22, Lieutenant Carter observed an OSHP Trooper deploy stop sticks. However, Decker successfully evaded the stop sticks and the pursuit continued eastbound on US Route 22.

As the pursuit approached the US Route 22/Ohio State Route 151 exit on US Route 22, Lieutenant Carter observed OSHP Lieutenant Bodo preparing to deploy stop sticks.

This time the deployment was successful, and Decker's vehicle ran over the stop sticks. After running over the stop sticks, Decker lost control of his vehicle and went across the median, ending up in the westbound lanes on US Route 22.

Lieutenant Carter, who was still facing eastbound in the eastbound lanes of US Route 22, stopped his vehicle and prepared to deploy his K9.

Lieutenant Carter then stated, "*I went to go hook my K9 up and then gunshots rang out.*" (07:56)

Lieutenant Carter then observed Decker behind Decker's vehicle in the westbound lane of US Route 22. He said:

*...I could see the Trooper still in his car and it looked...it appeared that he was laying across the seat, like behind the dash as the suspect was shooting. Um, and I heard the suspect, the, I heard multiple, multiple, multiple rounds. Um, I thought that was the suspect but couldn't find out. The Trooper had returned fire as well. (09:01)*

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Lieutenant Carter then observed Decker running northbound towards a fence that runs parallel to US Route 22. Decker crossed the fence and went into the woods that were on the north side of the fence.

HCSO Sergeant Smith and Lieutenant Carter then checked Decker's vehicle and made sure that there were no other people inside of the vehicle. Once the vehicle was checked and secured, Lieutenant Carter assisted with setting up and maintaining a perimeter on US Route 22.

Eventually, Lieutenant Carter went to the Mine Road location where Decker had been spotted and helped to set up and maintain the perimeter at that location. During that time, CPD [REDACTED] and his K9 partner had entered into the woods at the Mine Road location with the OSHP Tactical Team members.

After an undetermined amount of time, Lieutenant Carter heard that a shot had been fired and that Decker was "down". Lieutenant Carter then learned that [REDACTED] had fired his duty weapon and Lieutenant Carter proceeded to the scene of the shooting where he contacted [REDACTED]

Eventually, Lieutenant Carter escorted [REDACTED] down to Mine Road where they contacted Special Agent Tingley.

Though Lieutenant Carter missed the initial exchange of gunfire while attempting to deploy his canine partner, he did observe Decker raise his firearm towards [REDACTED] vehicle while advancing towards it.

### Timothy Withrow

Special Agent Lamping interviewed Timothy Withrow (Withrow) on March 30, 2026.

Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow to describe what he observed. Withrow reported that he was traveling west on US 22 when he observed an array of police lights. He then observed a vehicle crash in front of him. Withrow described the events after the crash:

*... a, uh, white male, uh, looked probably be mid-forties-ish, um, got out, had a silver handgun, fired off a couple rounds from the driver's side door. Then, uh, a few seconds later he took off running to the wood line, uh, turned again, and, uh, I don't know if he fired off at, there was so much going on at that point, but it looked like he pointed a gun back to the police officers and shot again before going into the woods. (00:57)*

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Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow if the officers returned fire towards the male. Withrow explained that he was not certain if the officers had fired or not. He did note that when the male entered the wood line, he made a right (East) turn towards a set of powerlines.

Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow if he captured the incident with his in-vehicle camera. He advised that he did. Special Agent Lamping asked if the video could be provided to the investigators, and Withrow stated that it could be provided.

Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow about the male's appearance. He described the male as having gray hair, wearing a blue shirt, possibly a sweater, and sneakers. Withrow also described the firearm as a large handgun.

Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow if he noticed if the male took aim at the officers when he fired his weapon. Withrow recalled:

*Yes. When he turned, he turned his whole body around and knew what he was doing when he turned at the driver's side and racked off a couple, couple right there at the driver's side before taking off. (02:51)*

Special Agent Lamping asked Withrow if the male was firing while running away or if he was deliberately aiming his weapon towards the officers. Withrow stated:

*No, he was... he was trying to kill the police officers. (03:09)*

████████████████████  
████████████████████ was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 14, 2026.

████████████████████ prepared a written statement which he agreed to read. ██████████  
████████████████████ signed written statement was attached to this report.

████████████████████ recalled that at roughly 11:40 hours he was notified by radio that Harrison County Deputies had been shot at near US 250 and Eslick Road. ██████████  
████████████████████ made his way towards the area of the shooting, while watching for the suspect vehicle, a blue Dodge Journey. While on the way towards the Harrison County Deputy, he located the vehicle involved:

*... as I was traveling west on US 250, I saw the suspect vehicle traveling Eastbound between mile post 12 and 13. Harrison County Sheriff's Cruisers appeared to be approximately a quarter mile behind the suspect's vehicle. I crossed the center and continued East behind*

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*the suspect vehicle. I was the lead law enforcement vehicle behind the suspect. I observed (the) suspect commit multiple lane violations and, and drive at speeds between 70 and a hundred miles an hour. The speed limit on that road was 55 miles per hour. (11:16)*

██████████ continued to detail his actions during the pursuit. He noted that the subject made his way to US 22. While on US 22, OSHP Trooper Jeremy Grubb attempted to deploy stop sticks near mile marker 19. The first set of stop sticks were ineffective. Shortly after, at mile marker 23, OSHP Lieutenant Robert Bodo deployed stop sticks. The second set of stop sticks were effective. However, ██████████ stated that he also struck the stop sticks. After the subject hit the stop sticks, he travelled into the westbound lanes and came to a rest while facing east. ██████████ maneuvered his vehicle behind the subject vehicle and recalled the following:

*After my cruiser came to rest, I began to open my, my driver side cruiser door. I unholstered my duty weapon as I opened the door. Simultaneously, I could see the suspect ex... exiting the vehicle and moving on foot with a black handgun pointed in my direction. I yelled to the effect of, let me see your hands. I fired at the suspect who returned fire. The suspect fired three to four rounds in my direction from the, from standing position on the driver's side of the, of his vehicle. I fired five rounds at the suspect. My gun jammed as I reloaded. I saw the suspect who was wearing a dark... was wearing dark clothing, run north over the fence into the a wooded area. I aired shots had been fired. I also heard OSP, Lieutenant Bodo air that shots had been fired. OSP Trooper Grubb and I walked north and checked the tree line for the suspect. The suspect had advanced into the woods and was not able to be located. I aired a description of the suspect to be a white male around age 50. I returned to my cruiser. I heard someone radio for air support. I retrieved my rifle and took a defensive position behind my cruiser. I noticed damage to my cruiser consistent with the suspect's gunfire striking... the... above the driver's side door. (13:18)*

██████████ explained the events that occurred on scene after the shooting occurred. OSHP Special Response Team (SRT) and other agencies were requested on scene. ██████████ also retrieved his rifle and plate carrier from his vehicle while he maintained a position on the perimeter. After roughly one hour, ██████████ was relieved of his duties on the perimeter and was transported to OSHP post 41 by OSHP Lieutenant Hawkins.

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██████████ provided further details in regard to the shots that he fired:

*I fired five rounds at the suspect. My shots were fired from a seated position between my... be... between the open door and the A pillar of the cruiser. I fired with two hand grip, uh, with my right hand as my strong hand. I believe I used my sights when I fired. My shots were fired in the Northeastern direction. I believe I was approximately 15 to 20 feet, 25 feet from the suspect at the time that I fired. There were approximately two to four seconds between my first and last shot. My target was the suspect's center mass. The backdrop of my shots was an embankment in a wooded area. I had cover/concealment from my cruiser. I was in, uh, I was daylight. It was daylight and the lighting was good. I stopped firing because my gun jammed. And by the time I reloaded, the suspect had fled into the wooded area at the time I fired my, uh, my weapon at the suspect. I do not, I do not believe I had any responsible alternatives to protect my life and the lives of other officers in the area. I did not have a taser. You did . Uh, I did have a taser with me. However, given the fact that the suspect had fired his gun at myself and other law enforcement officers, I didn't, I did not believe it would be appropriate to counter their deadly force with a taser. (16:09)*

██████████ also reported that he learned that the subject's name was Michael Decker (Decker). He could not recall any interaction he had with Decker in the past. ██████████ had reviewed his body worn camera footage and noted that the only major difference from his recollection of the incident was related to Cadiz Police Department's attempt to deploy stop sticks on Decker's vehicle. He also noted that after his firearm jammed, he retrieved his backup firearm from his ankle. ██████████ backup firearm, a Sig Sauer P365, was not fired during the incident.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ if he or Decker fired first. ██████████ stated that he fired first since Decker was pointing a gun at him.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ if Decker was in a stance to take aimed shots or more along the lines of someone trying to flee from officers. ██████████ said that Decker was taking aimed shots at him. Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ if he was in fear of the seemingly well-placed shots fired by Decker and he agreed that he was.

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## Mine Road Scene

### Walter Pase

Pase was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 13, 2026.

The agents met with Pase at his residence and explained the reason for their visit. Pase agreed to speak with the agents and began to retell his encounter with Decker:

Pase told the agents he and his girlfriend, Rebecca Grim (Grim), were in their trailer prior to the incident. They exited their trailer to let their dog out and began to walk towards a garage on their property. Pase indicated that when he was in the below area, he observed Decker standing in the highlighted area of the garage:



Pase stated that as soon as Decker noticed them, Decker pointed a firearm at them and stated “*Woah, woah, woah.*” This resulted in Pase backing up and putting his hands in the air. Pase was holding his dog in one hand and a knife in another. When Decker observed the knife, he became alarmed and made a statement about Pase having a weapon on him. Pase also recalled that Decker was clean shaven at this point and had taken Pase’s green winter coat and a can of fruit. He also noted that Decker had hair hanging out of one of his pockets. Pase inquired about the items Decker had taken and Decker indicated that he had already searched several areas of the residence as well as several cars on the property. Pase later located his hair clippers, which he believes Decker used to cut his facial hair, in another of his outbuildings.

Pase attempted to deescalate the situation and calm Decker down. While doing so, he created a diversion by intentionally slicing his finger open on a can so that he would have an excuse to leave Decker’s immediate area. The diversion allowed Pase to walk over to his brother’s residence and alert him to Decker’s presence. When Pase returned, he was able to make it to his trailer with Grim. Decker knocked on the door

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shortly afterwards, which resulted in Pase calling 911. Decker ran off and hid behind a rubbish pile on the property. At some point, Decker fled the property and law enforcement arrived. Pase recalled being instructed to exit his trailer with his hands up and walk towards the officers.

Pase advised that he was in fear that Decker would harm them during the incident. He also stated that he had no prior dealings/knowledge of Decker.

██████████  
██████████ was interviewed by Special Agents Lamping and Tingley on April 21, 2026.

Special Agent Lamping asked ██████████ to detail his actions on March 30, 2026, beginning with his initial involvement in the incident:

██████████ recalled being off duty and on his way home when he passed the initial traffic stop that was conducted. As ██████████ continued down US 250, somewhere near Tappan Lake, he recalled seeing the vehicle that had been pulled over drive past him in a reckless manner. When ██████████ made it to his driveway, he received a phone call from Cadiz Police Department Officer Sweeney. Officer Sweeney informed ██████████ that there was an active shooter on US 22 near Hopedale. ██████████ called Harrison County Dispatch and asked if he and ██████████ were needed on scene. He was informed that they would be needed.

██████████ got dressed in his normal uniform and responded to the scene in a marked Cadiz Police Department vehicle. When ██████████ arrived at the US 22 scene, he noted that the vehicle that had passed him earlier while driving erratically was involved in the incident. He identified the vehicle as a blue Dodge SUV with a sticker in the rear window.

When he initially arrived on scene, ██████████ was assigned to hold the perimeter. He was also notified at that time that the involved subject, later identified as Michael Decker (Decker), had shot at an Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Trooper and fled into the woods. OSHP deployed their Special Response Team (SRT) as well as a variety of arial assets to assist in searching for Decker. ██████████ also recalled some confusion regarding the firearm Decker was allegedly armed with. Initially it was thought that Decker was armed with a revolver as no shell casings were located at the US 250 scene. However, officers located shell casings from a 9mm pistol on US 22. No firearm had been recovered, and it was thought that Decker may have had access to two firearms.

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When OSHP SRT arrived, a plan was formulated. They determined that they would conduct a line search of the woods. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were attached to the SRT search team. [REDACTED] recalled the following about the initial search:

*Um, at that time, you know, we're don't, this guy's been there for several hours. We can't find him on the camera. We're, you know, we know he is armed. We don't know if he's in there to ambush us or, you know, at at what point there. So, we're, you know, pretty nerve wracking as showing up over the hills and stuff and not knowing where he might possibly be. (06:57)*

While [REDACTED] was in the woods with OSHP SRT, a caller contacted law enforcement. They reported that Decker may have stolen a vehicle on Mine Road, and that he may have fired several gunshots from a long gun. This was ultimately determined to be unrelated. During the erroneous search, a person, who claimed to be Decker's brother, was located at a gas station near the search area. [REDACTED] recalled the following information being broadcast over the radio by officer that spoke with Decker's brother:

*Um, there was radio communication that they actually located a male claiming to be his brother, and that he had been on the phone with him throughout the pursuit, and that he had basically told him that he wasn't coming out or, or, you know, and that the brother had made a statement that, you know, he was probably armed with a semiautomatic, um, same thing that we carry, uh, uh, P320, SIG P320, um, and that he basically told him his last goodbyes and then his phone's, you know, been off, which was consistent with our attempts to ping his phone and find his location. (08:07)*

As time went on, another incident involving Decker occurred. It was related to [REDACTED] that Decker had pointed a firearm at a citizen near a cabin, had stolen a green jacket and sweatpants, and had shaved his facial hair. Following the new intelligence, the OSHP helicopter located Decker in the woods near the cabin.

[REDACTED] made his way out of the initial search area and was transported closer to the area Decker had been located by a Harrison County Deputy. [REDACTED] met with other law enforcement officers near a HUMVEE. There was a laptop live streaming the helicopter video feed. [REDACTED] recalled the following:

*And they were just radioing that he was still armed. Uh, he was circling around this tree. Um, I would say we were probably there an*

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*hour maybe, maybe more, maybe, you know, somewhere around there. Um, he wasn't dropping the firearm, that he wasn't listening. They were giving commands from the helicopter to, you know, give up and come out. (10:46)*

It was ultimately decided that [REDACTED], and a group of OSHP SRT members would push into the woods in an attempt to apprehend Decker. [REDACTED] believed he may have been the only non-OSHP SRT member involved in the search.

[REDACTED] recalled that he was the only officer not in full tactical equipment, and that he had the added responsibility of [REDACTED]. He recalled the following about their push into the woods:

*We, we don't have a pinpoint, this is the tree. Just, you know, you're going into the woods. So, I'm, you know, at this point I'm constantly staring around like, where's this guy at? You know, he is already shot at two cops, is he gonna start shooting outta nowhere, um, move through the woods and it's super thick and briery and, you know, I was all cut up and, uh, leash tangling around the stuff. (12:21)*

[REDACTED] stated that his attention was divided between searching for Decker, and making sure [REDACTED] stayed on task. He also noted that the only true cover he had was a small shed which he would not fit behind due to his large stature.

[REDACTED] recalled having the following thoughts during the search:

*So, um, as we get closer, still don't know exactly where this guy is, you know, the anxiety of like, hey, I know we're getting closer. I know he is got a pistol, so I know that we're in in range, that if he just starts shooting at any point, he could just get lucky and, and, and still hit me or hit one of the other guys. And, you know, um, so scared that, you know, that's gonna happen. Trying to focus on the dog and, and, keep eyes out at the same time. (13:17)*

[REDACTED] stated that as they approached the tree Decker was behind, he felt that there was a possibility that Decker may have been attempting to set up an ambush:

*... hey, that's probably, you know, he didn't wanna leave a tree for, for whatever reason, whether it's a, to me, I, in my head, I'm thinking it's a great ambush point. He is got cover. Like, he doesn't wanna leave that*

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*tree for some reason. Whe, whether, you know, I know he is in this cabin. I don't know if he got another gun. I don't know if he, you know, it's Harrison County, everybody hunts. And so, I don't know what, what the case is. (14:03)*

██████████ stated that the woods were dark, he was attempting to keep his dog quiet, and he did not have the night vision goggles that OSHP SRT had. The OSHP SRT commander asked ██████████ if he could send his dog, and ██████████ advised that there was too much stimulation to do so. Shortly after ██████████ observed movement behind a nearby tree. ██████████ recalled moving to his right to get out of a thicket so that ██████████ would have a clear path towards Decker. When ██████████ moved to a better deployment spot for ██████████ it took him away from any cover, including the ballistic shield. The OSHP SRT team to ██████████ left advised that they would be deploying a less lethal munition, and ██████████ acknowledged the action by echoing the less lethal command. ██████████ expressed the concerns he had for his safety at that time:

*Um, at that point, I'm standing in the middle of, I had no cover. I honestly, tactically it was a bad, bad spot, but, um, so I'm scared that, hey, at any point he can just reach around that tree and, and shoot me right now or shoot one of them. And, and I got no way to, you know, I'm trying to, I'm in no man's land, so I was scared that, you know, I'm, I'm about to get shot and, uh, or they're about to get shot. And, um, I don't know what we're up against. I, I think, I think it's a pistol. You know, I know he shot some rounds. I don't know how many rounds he's got left. I'm, you know, so I'm, I'm at this point it's getting scared that, okay, this is about to happen, you know, and we're super close. (16:19)*

██████████ recalled that an OSHP SRT Trooper fired a less lethal projectile at Decker. The OSHP helicopter kept watch of Decker and reported that he was still noncompliant and armed with a gun. After the less lethal round was fired, there was a pause in which commands were given to Decker to drop the gun and surrender. He did not comply with those commands. ██████████ believed that Decker was still armed and released ██████████.

██████████ recalled the events after ██████████ was released:

*So, I, I cut the leash, um, to send ██████████ I give him his bite command. Um, he, again, because of the noise and everything, he did not immediately, um, orientate to the tree that the guy was behind. He tried to go to the, the trooper team that was to my right. Um, so at this*

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*point now, instead of watching the tree to see if this guy's gonna pop out with a gun, now I'm like, crap, I'm in no man's land. I'm trying to look over here at the dog. I've never worked with these guys. I don't know what they're you know, uh, and I don't know where they're at. You know, when it comes to covering me, whatever I, you know, I'm by myself. I don't have anybody else right there with me. Um, so I'm getting closer because I'm trying to orientate the dog to where he needs to go. And, um, so now I'm inching closer as I'm trying to point and say, you know, Stellen, which is his bite command, and pointing toward, you know, behind that tree, behind that tree. And finally at that point, I, um, when I released the leash, I had, you know, I figure I'm standing here, I, I had drew my, uh, service pistol, um, so that I had some type of protection. (18:01)*

██████████ began to position himself in a way that he could observe Decker. He described seeing Decker's legs and that Decker had his back pressed against the tree. ██████████ described Decker's actions as follows:

*Um, as I was coming around to the right, I could clearly see that he had the pistol in his left hand, and he looked towards me as the gun started coming my way, I was scared he was gonna shoot. So, I, uh, discharged my firearm and, and shot him. And at that point I verbalized gun, gun, gun so that everybody knew there was a gun. And, um, my dog at that point, you know, like I said, this is where the, the camera had clarified to me, I thought he was already on the bite, but he, it was actually just before that. Uh, so my dog had engaged, so I seen that he was laying, you know, fell back behind the tree. So, I closed the distance. (19:29)*

██████████ then closed the distance, realized that Decker did not have possession of the firearm any longer, let the other law enforcement on scene know that there was no further threat, holstered his weapon, and removed ██████████ from Decker.

██████████ explained the feelings he experienced leading into the shooting:

*Um, yeah, I just remember being, you know, scared that, hey, his, his pistol was, you know, he's already shot. He's not, there's not gonna be a question in his mind. He's been out here for nine hours. He's, he's told his brother that he's not coming outta these woods. Like, I, I know that he's gonna shoot us, you're gonna shoot at us or, or make us, you know, you know, suicide by cop type thing. And, and I just knew that,*

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*you know, when he had that gun coming towards us that I, I couldn't give him a chance to, you know, pull the trigger at me. Um, so I, I mean, I feared that, you know, he was either gonna shoot me or shoot someone else, and one of the other officers. (20:46)*

Following the shooting, an OSHP SRT team leader instructed [REDACTED] to turn off his body worn camera. [REDACTED] also noted that other officers on scene were attempting to render aid to Decker after the shooting. [REDACTED] was escorted out of the woods where he met with CPD Lieutenant Carter.

Special Agent Lamping asked [REDACTED] if he was aware of any pending charges against Decker when the initial search for him took place. [REDACTED] was aware that there were several warrants for Decker, and that BCI was obtaining additional charges related to the shootings involving Decker from earlier in the day.

Special Agent Lamping asked [REDACTED] where he was aiming when he fired at Decker. He reported the following:

*I remember coming around the tree and the, in my head, I, I'm pretty good with a pistol, but I remember, hey, the biggest target because of a, and that was his, his head, um, he was sitting against that tree and everything else was kind of bladed. And I felt that, you know, uhm, that's the biggest thing I have to shoot at. Um, and being that close, you know, that's where initially I was aiming, whether that's, you know, I, I'm not gonna lie to you. I don't know if that's where I initially, you know, actually squeezed the trigger at, or if I drop, you know, my, my sights at that point down. I just know that I never had a bigger target than that. (25:07)*

[REDACTED] believed he only fired one shot at Decker.

Special Agent Tingley asked [REDACTED] if he was able to hear the radio traffic from the OSHP helicopter. [REDACTED] noted that he was on the same frequency as the OSHP aviation team.

## Dispatch-Related Information

The radio and dispatch related information for this incident was handled by three separate agencies. The initial traffic occurred on the HCSO main channel, and the OSHP main channel. During the incident and ongoing search for Decker the radio channels were patched together and dispatched via XS041 which is dispatched by the Jefferson

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County Sheriff's Office (JCSO). The most pertinent information related to the radio traffic was documented below.

**Harrison County Radio Traffic**

The information below was obtained from the HCSO CAD records. The CAD records matched the information provided by officers over the radio. The below chart only contains the most relevant radio traffic documentation.

Time	Traffic
11:31:47	The initial traffic stop was entered into the CAD records
11:32:17	A social security number [REDACTED] was entered into the CAD records
11:39:26	"ALL UNITS ENROUTE AS WELL AS OSP [REDACTED] WAS SHOT AT SUSPECT TOOK OFF"
11:40:26	Cadiz Police Department (CPD) were also alerted to the shooting
11:43:00	[REDACTED] reported that he was injured
11:45:14	Deputy Jason Saylor (Deputy Saylor) reported that Decker's vehicle passed him on US 250
11:48:10	Speeds were logged at 113 miles per hour
11:49:04	Decker led the pursuit onto US 22
11:53:49	Deputy Saylor advised that Decker's vehicle had been hit by spike strips and that Decker was shooting at officers on scene
11:54:26	Decker was reported to have run into the woods
12:01:29	"MALE IS STILL ARMED JUMPED FENCE NEAR PLANT OF MARK WEST"
12:04:49	Sergeant Thomas Smith (Sergeant Smith) advised dispatch that the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Special Response Team (SRT) had been activated
16:24:38	"3405 [Sergeant Smith] IS OUT AT THE GAS STATION TO SPEAK THE BROTHER OF THE SUSPECT"
18:04:47	"ALL UNITS ENTERING WOODS OFF OF 22, SPREAD OUT SEARCH TO GIACOBBI ROAD"
18:08:51	"UNITS ARE GOING INTO THE WOODS NOW AND SEARCHING"
19:18:21	"SEVERAL UNITS OUT, CURRENT 911 CALL ALLEGING SUSPECT IS AT THAT RESIDENCE"
19:26:23	"MULTIPE UNITS OUT TO CHECK OUT COMPLAINT"
19:36:18	"86505 BLACK ROAD CONFIRMATION MALE WAS AT THE RESIDENTS IN A STRUCTURE FOUND CLIPPERS AND BEAD CLIPINGS IN THE STRUCTURE AND OUTSIDE OF IT"
19:37:20	"OSP CHOPPER IS BACK OVER THE AREA HAVE POSSIBLE LOCATION ON MALE TO THE WEST OF THE LOCATION NEAR MINE AND SINFIELD RD"

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19:38:65	"MALE IS ABOUT 75 FEET OFF THE ROAD ROAD BEHIND DOING 360 AROUND A TREE AS TEY ARE FLYING AROUND MALE LOOKS TO BE IN BLACK PANTS AND BROWN/GREEN JACEKT HEAVY SET"
19:40:01	"MALE IS HEADING SOUTH BOUND THROUGH THE WOODS"
19:41:57	"MALE IN THE WOODS MESSING WITH HIS HANDS"
19:42:38	"OSP ADVISED 40 IS IN THE MALE RIGHT HAND"
19:43:43	"MALE IS WORKING HIS WAY TO THE UTILITY LINE ABOUT 30 YARDS FROM IT"
19:47:41	"K9 [REDACTED] AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL"
20:18:07	"MALE MOVED BACK WEST BOUND 40 IS STILL IN THE MALE RIGHT HAND"
20:21:17	"LANE OPENED FOR SWAUD IF IT NEEDS TO COME THROUGH"
20:25:21	"3404 [Captain John Thompson] ADVISED TO HAVE EMS COME IN CLOSER TO THE SCENE"
20:28:26	"SQUAD IS RELOCATED TO THE OLD MINE ENTRANCE"
20:35:25	"GROUND UNITS ADVISED GROUP OF 12 THAT WILL BE MOVING IN"
20:36:23	"GROUND UNITS ARE MOVING IN NOW OSP CHOPPER ADVISED NO NEW MOVEMENT OF THE MALE IN THE WOODS"
20:48:38	"OSP CHOPPER ADVISED 100 FEET OUT MALE IS STANDING UP NEGATIVE CONTACT WITH HANDS"
20:51:44	"OSP CHOPPER ADVISED MALE IS POSTED UP BEHIND THE TREE 75 FEET AHEAD AND LOOKS TO HAVE THE 40 IN HIS RIGHT HAND"
20:52:23	"OSP CHOPPER 50 FEET AHEAD DANGER CLOSE"
20:52:44	"CLEAR SHOT AVAILABLE ON BEAN BAG"
20:53:27	"K9 DEPLOYED 40 IN MALES LEFT HAND"
20:53:37	"MAKING CONTACT WITH THE MALE"
20:53:56	"ONE SHOT FIRED FROM BLUE"
20:56:05	"GROUND UNITS ADVISED HEAD SHOT WOUND TO THE SUSEPCT ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT IS GOOD"
20:57:23	"GROUND ADVISED GET A VEHICLE DOWN THE CLEARING DOING FIRST AID TO THE MALE NOW"
21:04:25	"AIR ADVISED GROUND UNITS ARE OUT OF THE WOODS WITH THE SUSPECT AND AT THE ATV"
21:11:06	"501 IS WITH THE PATIENT DOING A EVALUATION CONFIRMS CODE 16"

**Ohio State Highway Patrol Radio Traffic**

The most pertinent portions of OSHP radio traffic was documented in the below chart. The elapsed time of the recording was used to time stamp each transmission.

Elapsed Time	Traffic
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00:00:00	Dispatch advised that HCSO had shots fired and the subject vehicle description was provided as a blue SUV
00:01:13	A registration of JSC4504 was provided for the subject vehicle, and unit [REDACTED] located the vehicle
00:02:40	Cadiz Police attempted to deploy stop sticks on US 250 near the Harrison County Home
0:04:12	An unsuccessful spike strip attempt was conducted by OSHP
00:04:55	A successful spike strip attempt was conducted and it was reported that shots were fired
00:05:13	Unit 1720 advised that Decker had fled into the woods
00:06:33	Unit [REDACTED] broadcast that the subject was a white male around 50 years old
01:35:30 through 01:41:01	Information was continually transmitted in reference to the subject being located at 86505 Black Road, that the subject was armed, and that the subject had changed his clothing
01:43:02	Decker was located by the aviation unit near Mine Road
01:47:05	Aviation reported that Decker was still armed with a handgun
01:48:57	Emergency medical assistance was requested to stage in the area
01:54:55	Aviation reported that Decker was still armed
02:05:51	Aviation stated that it appeared that Decker was still holding the firearm
02:06:16	A unit asked if a bean bag round could be deployed and another unit granted permission
02:06:30	A unit reported, "canines deployed, he's reaching for the gun guys. Watch him, by his left hand. The gun's down by his left hand"
02:06:30	A unit requested that EMS be brought as close as possible and that one shot was fired by law enforcement
02:07:05	A unit reported that Decker had a headshot wound
02:07:13	First aide and Decker's movement to EMS were being coordinated

**Jefferson County Radio Traffic**

The Jefferson County radio traffic did not have a corresponding traditional CAD record. Additionally, though the radio traffic covered a total of 10 hours, the audio file was compressed to 1 hour and 46 minutes. The times referenced in the table below reflect the elapsed time of the recording and not the time of day.

Elapsed Time	Traffic
00:00:36	A dispatcher advised that multiple channels/agencies were being patched
00:10:06	SRT advised that they would be checking the fence line when the helicopter returned from fueling

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00:26:27	A unit advised that Decker's brother was at a gas station near the search area
00:28:48	A unit identified Decker's brother as Randy Brost
00:50:41	A unit requested an EMS crew to be on standby
00:53:16	SRT advised that they were preparing to enter the woods off of US 22
00:55:23	A unit advised that Brost told an officer that Decker was in the woods watching the helicopter
01:04:09	Dispatch advised SRT units of the complaint from 86505 Black Road in reference to Decker being on the property armed with a gun
01:06:03	A unit advised that a perimeter was set around 86505 Black Road
01:06:16	Dispatch advised that the complainant reported that Decker had entered one of the buildings/campers and was attempting to acquire keys to a vehicle
01:08:22	A transmission was made indicating that the parties in the camper on Black Road could not see anything outside, but that Decker was at their camper roughly 5-10 minutes prior attempting to make entry into the camper
01:09:41	A unit reported that the people in the camper stated that Decker was there, shaved his beard, took a green winter coat, black sweatpants, and then fled from their camper
01:10:50	Residents on Black Road informed the deputies that Decker had presented a black and silver handgun with an optic towards them
01:11:18	A unit transmitted that they verified that Decker was in the camper and also located shaved facial hair along with hair clippers
01:11:56	Decker was reported to have fled East bound from the Black Road residence
01:12:39	OSHP aviation advised that they located Decker at the end of Mine Road and Sinfield Road. They also noted that Decker was attempting to avoid detection
01:13:27	OSHP aviation provided a description of Decker; black pants, brownish green coat, heavier set, and making 360-degree circles around the tree while they orbited
01:15:20	OSHP aviation reported that Decker was moving South/West through the woods
01:16:03	OSHP aviation advised that Decker was "messing around with his hands"
01:16:34	OSHP aviation advised that Decker had a pistol in his right hand
01:17:09	OSHP aviation advised that they had their door open and AUF was deployed

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01:17:19	OSHP aviation confirmed that they were issuing commands to Decker
01:18:18	A unit requested that EMS stage closer to the scene
01:20:40	A canine unit was requested at the scene to assist the units searching the woods
01:20:30	OSHP aviation advised that Decker was 250-300 yards West of the staged units
01:24:19	OSHP aviation advised that Decker was moving to the West and had a pistol in his right hand
01:25:16	OSHP aviation advised that they were giving commands for Decker to surrender from the helicopter
01:25:27	Ground units confirmed they could hear OSHP aviation's commands
01:26:06	OSHP aviation reported the Decker was still hiding in the trees while they were orbiting
01:27:44	OSHP aviation was able to see the pistol in Decker's right hand
01:30:47	OSHP SRT reported that they had a group of twelve that would be entering the woods
01:32:43	OSHP SRT requested that aviation issue additional commands to Decker when they got closer
01:35:07	OSHP aviation advised that Decker had the gun in his right hand
01:35:33	OSHP SRT discussed the use of a bean bag round and someone advised to go ahead with the bean bag if there was a clear shot
01:35:39	OSHP aviation reported that a canine had been deployed and that Decker was reaching for a gun that was by his left hand
01:35:47	OSHP SRT advised that they were making contact with Decker
01:35:52	OSHP SRT requested that the EMS responders get their vehicle as close to them as possible
01:35:57	OSHP SRT advised that one shot had been fired from officers
01:36:20	OSHP SRT reported that Decker had a gunshot wound to the head
01:37:08	OSHP SRT stated that they would be moving Decker to the clearing
01:39:11	OSHP SRT requested that medics be transported to the UTV

## Video Recordings

An assortment of video footage was obtained and reviewed in reference to this incident. Not all video footage was included below, only the most pertinent videos were documented in this section. Special Agent Supervisor Moran obtained the below images using AMPED Replay, an advanced video review program. It is recommended that the AMPED Replay productions be reviewed in their entirety as the images only represent snippets of a dynamic and quickly occurring event.

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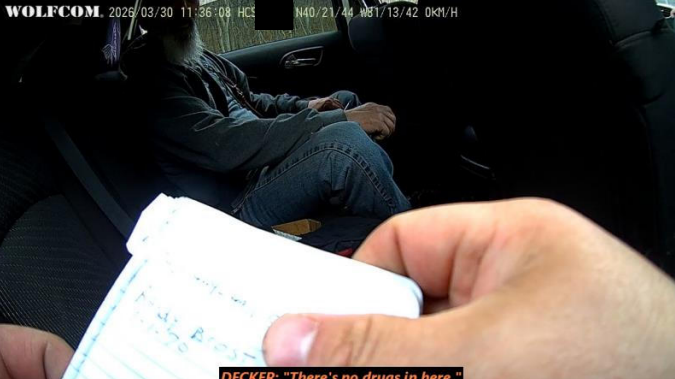
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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

US 250 Scene

Body Worn Camera

Time	Image and Description
11:35:38	 <p><b>DECKER: "Brost."</b></p> <p>The above image was captured as Decker was providing false identifying information to [redacted]. Decker also asked [redacted] why he was being questioned as he was simply a passenger in the vehicle.</p>
11:36:08	 <p><b>DECKER: "There's no drugs in here."</b></p> <p>Decker indicated that there were no drugs in the vehicle, but he did not answer [redacted] previous question about the presence of firearms in the vehicle.</p>


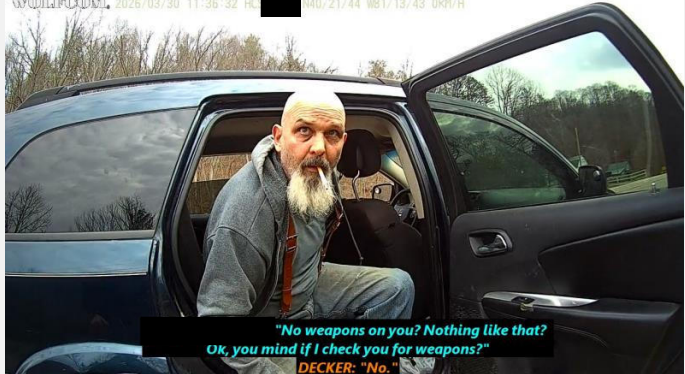

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<p>11:36:26</p>	 <p>Decker placed all of his belonging into his right hand, leaving his left hand free. It should be noted that Decker is left handed.</p>
<p>11:36:32</p>	 <p>"No weapons on you? Nothing like that?      OK, you mind if I check you for weapons?"      DECKER: "No."</p> <p>asked Decker if he had any weapons on him, and Decker replied, "No." Decker reaffirmed that he did not want patting him down.</p>
<p>11:36:39</p>	 <p>"I understand that, go ahead and take your hand out from behind your back."</p> <p>instructed Decker to remove his hand from behind his back. Decker complied but held the bottom left side of his jacket.</p>


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11:36:42	 <p>Decker began to push [REDACTED] hands away from him.</p>
11:36:43	 <p>Decker reached his left hand towards the rear of his body; the reflection of his left hand's location can be seen in the vehicle.</p>
11:36:43	 <p>Decker drew a Sig Sauer P229 equipped with a miniature red dot sight from his rear waistline area. In the below image, the firearm can be seen in its entirety.</p>


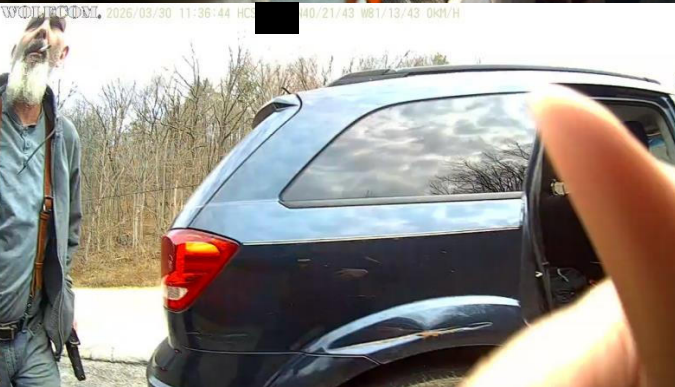

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	 <p>WOLFCOM, 2026/03/30 11:36:43 HCS N40/21/43 W81/13/43 0K1/H</p>
11:36:44	 <p>WOLFCOM, 2026/03/30 11:36:44 HC [REDACTED] N40/21/43 W81/13/43 0K1/H</p> <p>In the above image, [REDACTED] and Decker disengaged, Decker can be seen holding his pistol in his left hand. In the below image, Decker brought his right hand towards his pistol as he raised it from his side.</p>  <p>In the three images below, Decker brought the pistol up and aimed it at [REDACTED]. His left index finger is observed in the trigger guard, presumably on the trigger. [REDACTED] used his left hand to push Decker's hands/the firearm away.</p>

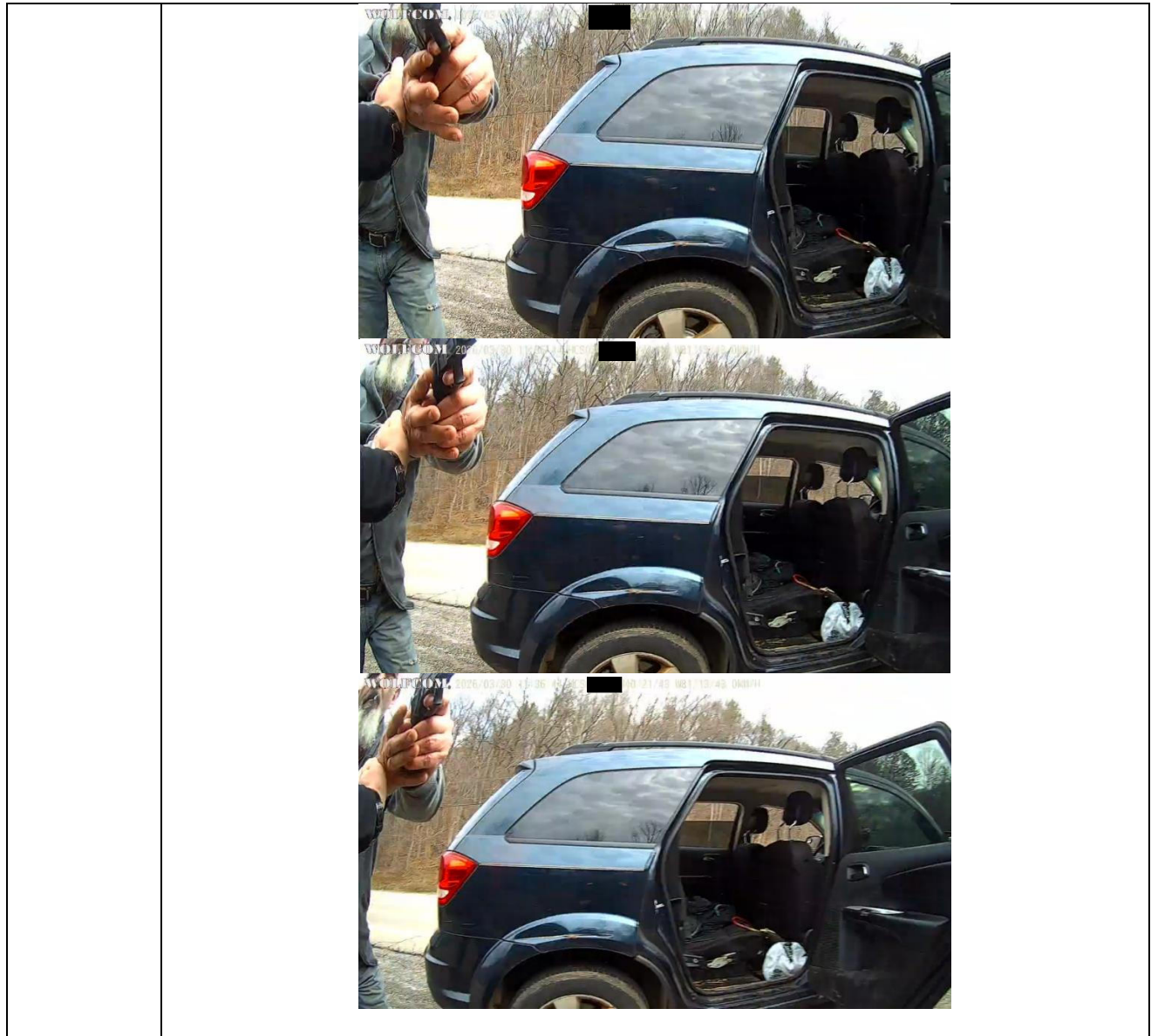
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<p>11:36:45</p>	 <p>██████████ was heard stating, "No! No!" He also appeared to pivot his body to the right, and Decker was no longer captured in the camera's field of view.</p>
<p>11:36:46</p>	 <p>In the above image, ██████████ is observed falling down the embankment. In the below image, what is likely the first gunshot fired by Decker is heard while ██████████ continued to fall.</p>  <p>DECKER: LIKELY GUNSHOT 1</p>

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11:36:53	 <p>Two loud percussive sounds consistent with gunshots, likely fired by [REDACTED] were heard on the video.</p>
----------	--

**[REDACTED]'s Dash Camera**

Time	Image and Description
10:34:40	 <p>[REDACTED] was captured on camera standing by the rear passenger side door of the Dodge Journey after opening it.</p>
10:35:48	




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	<p>Decker's arm was captured in a raised position, likely while he was engaging [REDACTED] in a physical altercation. The majority of the incident was obscured by Reynard.</p>	
<p>10:35:50</p>		 <p>03/30/26 10:35:50 AM</p> <p>[REDACTED] and Decker were engaged in a physical altercation. [REDACTED] was moving backwards as Decker was moving his arms in an attempt to dislodge [REDACTED] grasp.</p>
<p>10:35:51</p>	<p>The above image showed [REDACTED] moving backwards as Decker moved forwards.</p>	 <p>03/30/26 10:35:51 AM</p>  <p>03/30/26 10:35:51 AM</p>




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	<p>The above image was captured as [REDACTED] went out of frame. Decker appeared to advance on him with both hands in front of his body.</p>	
<p>10:36:00</p>		 <p>03/30/26 10:36:00 AM</p> <p>Decker returned to the camera's field of view, bent over to pick up items from the roadway, and was holding a dark object, likely his pistol. It should be noted that the pistol was not on the ground and was already in his hand.</p>
<p>10:36:01</p>		 <p>03/30/26 10:36:01 AM</p> <p>In the above image, Decker continued to pick up items while holding the pistol. In the below image, Decker made his way towards the driver side of the vehicle while holding the pistol by the slide.</p>  <p>03/30/26 10:36:01 AM</p>


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10:36:02	<p>The below image shows Decker holding a cellphone in his hand as he continued to the driver side of the vehicle.</p>  <p>The below image showed Decker moving towards the driver side door, still in possession of the pistol.</p> 
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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

US 22 Scene

Body Worn Camera

Time	Image and Description
11:53:17	 <p>[REDACTED] was observed with his primary service weapon, a Sig Sauer P320, in his hand while opening his driver's side door.</p>
11:53:18	 <p>[REDACTED] started to obtain a firing grip on his Sig Sauer P320 while aiming between the "A" pillar of his vehicle and the driver side door while in a seated position. He also issued yelled, "LET ME SEE YOUR HANDS!"</p>
11:53:19	

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██████████ rapidly fired several rounds towards Decker; his pistol is seen in the rearward position in the above frame.



An additional image is captured of ██████████ firearm with the slide in the rearward position as he fired a second round.



██████████ maintained a firing position with the firearm directed towards Decker and fired a third round.



██████████ maintained a firing position with the firearm directed towards Decker and fired a fourth round.




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<p>11:53:20</p>	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:20 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>██████████ continued to point his firearm towards Decker's position and fire a fifth round.</p>
<p>11:53:22</p>	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:22 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>██████████ repositioned from his initial shooting position, possibly to obtain better cover, while a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot was heard. The second image shows ██████████ reentering his patrol vehicle, yelling "SHOTS FIRED," and glass fragments can be observed entering the passenger compartment. The fragments were likely caused by a round fired by Decker.</p>  <p>2026-03-30 11:53:22 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p>




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<p>11:53:23</p>	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:23 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>A percussive sound consistent with a gunshot followed by a metallic impact sound were noted on the audio stream for the above image.</p>  <p>2026-03-30 11:53:23 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>██████████ appeared to seek better cover inside of the passenger compartment of his vehicle in the above images while more debris, possibly glass, was observed near the door and steering wheel.</p>
<p>11:53:24</p>	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:24 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>The above image was captured when a percussive sound consistent with a gunshot was captured in the audio stream. An additional metallic impact sound was noted shortly afterwards.</p>




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		 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:24 -0400 AXON BODY 4 001A6751C</p>	
11:53:25		 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:25 -0400 AXON BODY 4 001A6751C</p>	
11:53:29		 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:29 -0400 AXON BODY 4 001A6751C</p>	

In the above image, [REDACTED] began to reposition himself in his patrol vehicle, and then took a firing position. The slide of his firearm was observed in a rearward position in the second image, and suspected gunshots can be heard on the video.

[REDACTED] released the magazine from his pistol.

[REDACTED] began to reload his Sig Sauer P320. Additionally, a large crack is present near the top left corner of the windshield.




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11:53:30	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:30 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>█ appeared to manipulate his pistol's slide.</p>
11:53:31	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:31 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>█ resumed a firing position with his primary service weapon, and as he pressed the trigger he experienced a failure to fire malfunction.</p>
11:53:34	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:34 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p> <p>█ began to unholster his back-up weapon, a Sig Sauer P365.</p>




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11:53:37	 <p>██████████ took a firing position with his back-up weapon, but did not shoot.</p>
11:53:41	 <p>██████████ was seen exiting his vehicle with his backup weapon in his right hand and his primary weapon in his left hand.</p>
11:53:44	 <p>██████████ secured his backup weapon and took control of his primary service weapon.</p>

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11:53:47	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:47 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p>
<p>_____ exited his patrol vehicle while Decker ran into the woodline.</p>	
11:53:48	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:48 -0400 AXON BODY 4 D01A6751C</p>
<p>_____ inserted a magazine into his primary weapon while making his way to the rear of his vehicle.</p>	

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dash Camera**

Time	Image and Description
11:53:18	 <p>2026-03-30 11:53:18 -0400 AXON FLEET 3 F X683526TG</p> <p>DECKER: aiming pistol</p>
<p>Decker aimed a semi-automatic pistol in the direction of _____</p>	

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	<p>██████████ issued the verbal command of, "LET ME SEE YOUR HANDS!"</p>
<p>11:53:19</p>	<p>The below images related to gunshots, likely fired by ██████████, that were captured on the audio stream from the video footage. Additionally, a bouncing cartridge case, likely from the second shot fired, can be seen bouncing near the hood of the vehicle during the video stream.</p> <div data-bbox="430 619 1388 1018"> <p>Possible 1st shot fired</p> </div> <div data-bbox="430 1018 1388 1396"> <p>Possible 2nd shot fired</p> </div> <div data-bbox="430 1396 1388 1774"> <p>Possible 3rd shot fired</p> </div>



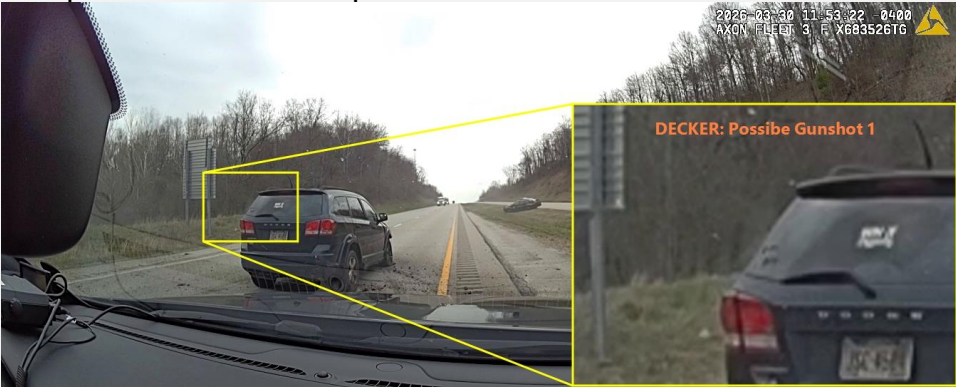
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11:53:20	
11:53:22	<p>The below image was captured while Decker was likely firing his first shot. An opaque cloud was observed near the rear driver side window. The audio stream captured a metallic impact sound.</p>  <p>The below image captured another possible gunshot from Decker. An additional opaque cloud was observed, and the sound stream captured a metallic impact sound.</p>


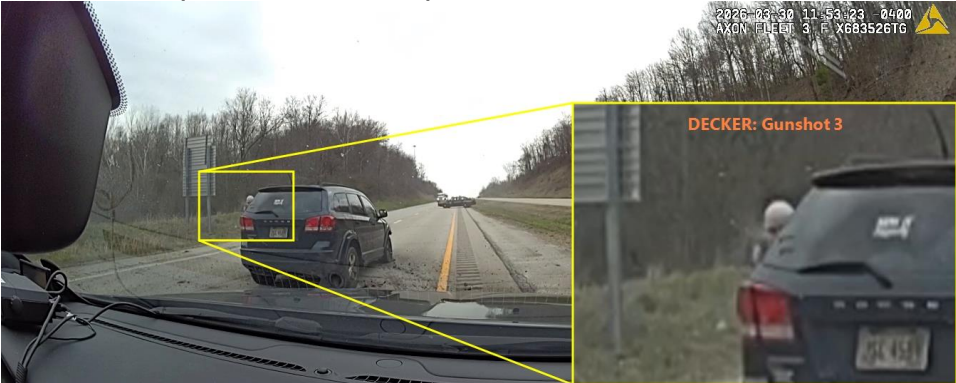
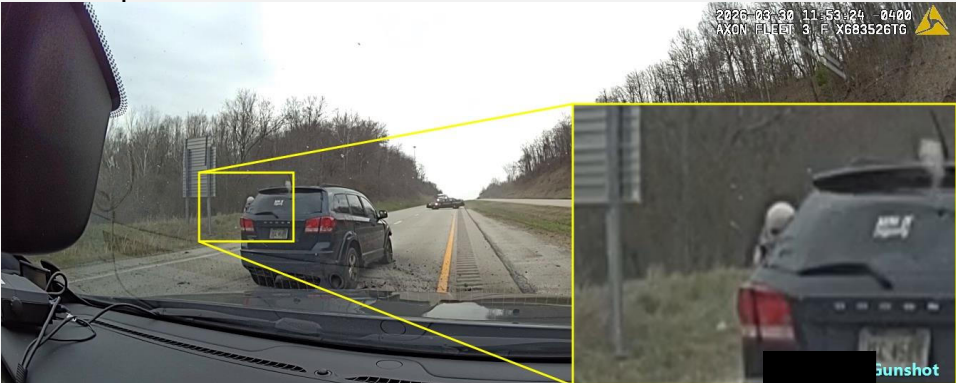
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11:53:23	<p>The below image captured a possible third gunshot fired by Decker. Recoil from a semi-automatic pistol was observed, and opaque cloud was observed, and a metallic impact sound was captured on the audio stream.</p> 
11:53:24	<p>The below image captured a possible gunshot fired by [REDACTED]. The round impacted the vehicle rear windshield.</p>  <p>The below image captured a possible gunshot fired by Decker. Recoil was observed from the semi-automatic pistol in his hands, an opaque cloud was observed, and a metallic impact sound was captured on the audio stream.</p>

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11:53:36	<p>Decker aimed his pistol at [REDACTED] while he was fleeing on foot.</p>

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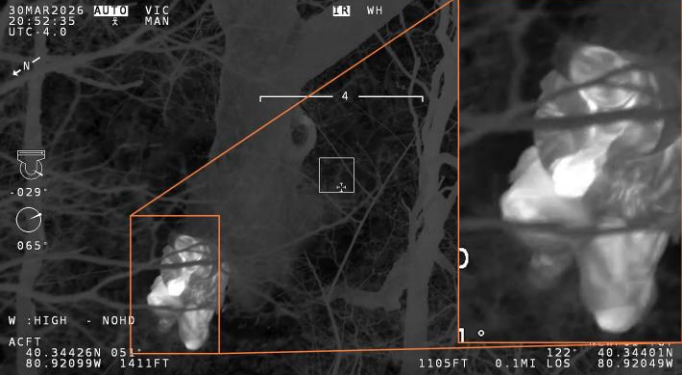
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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

**Mine Road Scene**

**Ohio State Highway Patrol Aviation Unit**

Time	Image and Description
20:51:14	 <p>Decker was captured on camera with a pistol in his right hand. The firearm was pointed at his chest.</p>
20:52:14	 <p>Decker was captured on camera crouched behind a tree, looking to his left in the direction of approaching law enforcement, while pointing a pistol at his chest.</p>
20:52:35	




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	<p>Decker was captured on camera still crouching behind a tree, looking around the tree to his right (in the direction of [REDACTED] and canine [REDACTED]), holding a pistol in both hands that was pointed at his chest.</p>
<p>20:52:45</p>	 <p>Decker sat on the ground, looking in the direction of approaching law enforcement with the pistol in his right hand.</p>
<p>20:52:55</p>	 <p>Decker looking around the tree to his right and in the direction of [REDACTED] and canine [REDACTED]</p>
<p>20:53:01</p>	 <p>Decker was sitting on the ground, looking around the tree to his right. The</p>

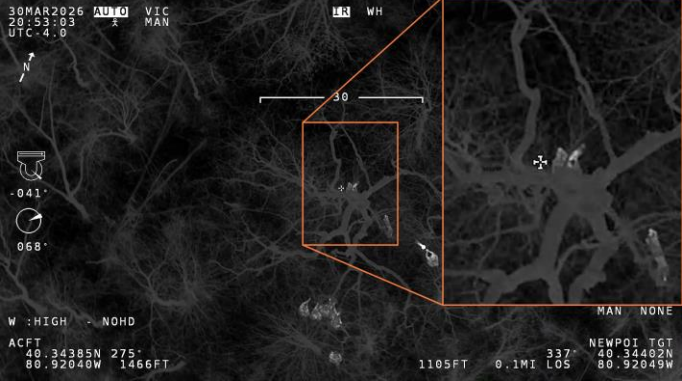

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<p>20:53:03</p>	<p>pistol was likely still in Decker's hands near his chest.</p>  <p>Decker was can be seen behind the tree as officers, along with [REDACTED] canine partner [REDACTED], approached his locaiton. What appears to be a muzzle flash is also observable from [REDACTED] firearm.</p>
<p>20:53:04</p>	<p>The following images were captured in rapid succesion following [REDACTED] gunshot and show canine [REDACTED] engage Decker. The first image shows Decker's hands near his chest, likely still holding the pistol.</p>  <p>The below image showed Decker's left arm moved outwards to his left. His right hand was still near his chest with the pistol.</p>

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The below image showed Decker's right hand, which held the pistol, move to the left.



The below image shows Decker's right hand, still holding the pistol, move to the left as canine bit.






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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route 250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

<p>20:53:05</p>	 <p>Canine [REDACTED] was observed engaging Decker's leg and shaking, and a pistol can be seen lying on the ground near Decker's left forearm.</p>
<p>20:53:06</p>	 <p>Canine [REDACTED] remained engaged on Decker who appeared to be moving his extremities. The pistol remained near Decker's left forearm.</p>
<p>20:53:07</p>	 <p>Canine [REDACTED] was still engaged. Decker's hands moved away from the firearm and appeared to be above his head. A lighter colored circle/mark was observable on Decker's chest.</p>




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<p>20:53:07</p>	 <p>While canine [REDACTED] was engaged, one of Decker's hands appeared to move downwards towards the firearm.</p>
<p>20:53:11</p>	 <p>Canine [REDACTED] was still engaged. Both of Decker's arms moved down and outward from his sides. It appeared that his movements slowed/stopped. The pistol was on the ground near his left forearm. [REDACTED] approached from Decker's right.</p>
<p>20:53:18</p>	 <p>[REDACTED] pulled Decker away from the base of the tree. Another officer attempted to kick the pistol away but missed.</p>


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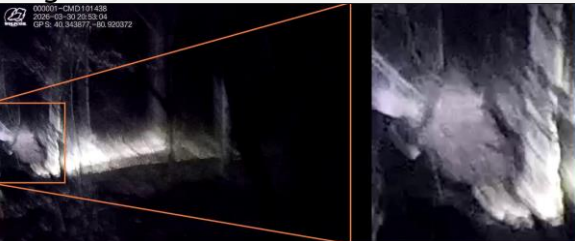


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20:53:32	 <p>Officers checked Decker for a pulse. A circle/mark was observed on Decker's middle/center chest area.</p>
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Body Worn Camera	
Time	Image and Description
20:53:00	 <p>yelled, "SHOW ME YOUR HANDS!"</p>
20:53:03	 <p>Decker is still behind the tree in a crouched position while [REDACTED] was ordering Decker to show his hands.</p>
20:53:04	 <p>The above enhancement is captured at the approximate time that a shot</p>

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	was fired by [REDACTED]
20:53:05	 <p>[REDACTED] was heard yelling, "Gun" repeatedly as his canine partner engaged Decker.</p>

## Conclusion

Based upon documents reviewed, physical evidence recovered, and interviews conducted, investigation 2026-1239 supports the following conclusions, facts, and/or information.

During the initial traffic stop, Decker exhibited behavior that alarmed [REDACTED] such as keeping his hand out of sight and in an area commonly used to conceal firearms. Ultimately, [REDACTED] concerns were validated as a physical altercation occurred, and Decker produced a Sig Sauer P229 pistol. Decker pointed the firearm towards [REDACTED] head/chest and attempted to shoot him. [REDACTED] was able to evade the shot, retreated, fell down an embankment, and sustained an injury to his shoulder. [REDACTED] fired back at Decker. However, his rounds did not strike Decker.

Decker fled the scene of the first officer involved shooting in a blue Dodge Journey. Decker was located by law enforcement, including [REDACTED]. Decker led law enforcement on a high-speed pursuit which ended on US 22 near Hopedale as a result of a successful spike strip deployment. As Decker's vehicle came to a stop, [REDACTED] maneuvered his vehicle behind it. Decker exited his vehicle, once again holding his Sig Sauer P229. An exchange of gunfire occurred between [REDACTED] and Decker. Decker fired several rounds that impacted [REDACTED] vehicle. None of [REDACTED] rounds struck Decker.

Decker then fled into the woods north of US 22. An assortment of criminal charges was filed against Decker including two charges of Attempted Murder. While evading law enforcement, Decker briefly held two civilians at gunpoint on Black Road. Decker invaded their residence, used hair clippers to cut his facial hair, changed his clothes, and stole food. Decker fled the residence and was later located by OSHP aviation. OSHP

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SRT eventually attempted to apprehend Decker, who did not comply with commands issued from the aviation unit ordering him to drop his weapon and surrender.

██████████ and his canine partner were attached to the OSHP SRT unit as they attempted to apprehend Decker. While interviewing ██████████, he explained to the investigators that he fired one round from his weapon as he was in fear for not only his safety, but also the safety of the other officers and his canine partner.

██████████ further explained that Decker's actions during his prior encounters with law enforcement placed him at a heightened sense of concern for his safety.

██████████ said that when he saw Decker raise the gun towards him, he did not want to afford him an additional opportunity to shoot at law enforcement officers, including himself.

Subsequent to his involvement in three separate shootings across Harrison County, Decker was pronounced deceased. He was ultimately struck by two rounds, one reported to have been fired by ██████████, and one that Decker fired. The only round recovered during Decker's autopsy was linked to his firearm, indicating that one of the gunshots (likely to his center chest) was self-inflicted.

## Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incidents on March 20, 2026. For further 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 John Tingley or Special Agent Joe Lamping. Special Agent Tingley can be reached via email at [John.Tingley@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:John.Tingley@OhioAGO.gov) or by telephone, at 216-218-2425. Special Agent Lamping can be reached via email at [Joseph.Lamping@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Joseph.Lamping@OhioAGO.gov) or by telephone at 330-289-7256.

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