



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



2024-3258  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1273 Rosedale Drive, Dayton,  
 OH (Montgomery Co.) (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** [REDACTED]  
**Date of Activity:** 11/04/2024  
**Activity Location:** Doll, Jansen & Ford – 111 West First Street, Suite 1100, Dayton, OH 45402  
**Author:** SA Richard Ward, #55

**Narrative:**

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, the Dayton Police Department requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation in investigating the facts and circumstances surrounding an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on the same date on Access Road near Rosedale Drive in the city of Dayton.

On Monday, November 04, 2024 at approximately 1654 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agents Richard Ward and Steve Seitzman interviewed Dayton Police [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his Fraternal Order of Police attorney, Joshua Engel. [REDACTED] was identified as an officer who discharged his weapon during the OICI. The interview took place in a conference room at the law office of Doll, Jansen & Ford, located at 111 West First Street, Suite 1100, Dayton, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded. [REDACTED] stated he understood and signed the *Criminal Investigation Notification*, (attached to this report).

The details below summarize what the author believed to be the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader’s overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

**Preliminary and Demographic Information:**

<b>Name:</b> Officer [REDACTED]	<b>Rank:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Badge Number:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Cruiser/Vehicle Number:</b> Click here to enter text.
<b>Radio Call Sign:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Immediate Supervisor:</b> N/A
<b>Radio Channel Utilized:</b> Dayton West	<b>Mobile Data Terminal:</b> Yes

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Cruiser Description: White w/ blue lettering	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: One/driver
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: Yes
In-Car Camera: Yes	Spotlight: Yes
Emergency Lights: Yes	Siren: Yes
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: active/ patrol
Days Off: N/A	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: RTA bus stop
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: N/A	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: Since [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: None
Uniform Worn: Navy blue / exterior vest with police markings	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Pepper spray/ASP/Taser
Ballistic Vest: Yes	Body Worn Camera: Yes
Other Recording Devices: Cell phone video	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: None	OPOTC Certification: Yes
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Yes
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None reported
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? Yes	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Friday prior, two or three drinks

**Officer's Firearm(s):**

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9MM	Serial: N/A
Type: pistol	Method of Carry: Hip
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: Two	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17 each
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: None
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 12	Number of Rounds Fired: Six
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right	Ownership: Dayton Police
Last Qualification Date: 11-10-2023	Type of Holster, if any: Security holster

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██████████ provided and read his typed written statement prior to any questions, (attached to this report). In the morning hours of October 19, 2024, ██████ responded to a "99", the designation for an officers need assistance, and arrived in the area from the south of Rosedale. ██████ was instructed by Dayton Police Officer Kloos to move to the other side of the scene and ██████ relocated to block traffic west of Access Road. ██████ was informed by other officers that the suspect [Taylor Cotton] was armed with a firearm. ██████ observed the the barrel of the firearm held by Cotton and drew his firearm to maintain cover on Cotton. ██████ activated his spotlight to disrupt Cotton's vision of the officers positions. ██████ knew officers were attempting to communicate with Cotton, but ██████ did not specifically what was being said.

██████████ observed a black male approach his location, which may have been Cotton's brother. ██████ instructed the male suspect to tune back and he complied. Using an aerial photograph, ██████ provided his location; near the intersection of Rosedale Drive and Access Road. ██████ observed Cotton exit a vehicle and point the shotgun in the direction of officers. ██████ stated, "I believed that I was in imminent of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, other officers, or other possibly innocent persons in the area."

According to ██████████, other officers fired at Cotton and as a result, Cotton fell to the ground. ██████ did not see the shotgun any longer and approached Cotton, turned him over and did not observed any additional weapons. Other Officers began life saving efforts on Cotton while ██████ remained on scene. Cotton was transported to the hospital by medic and ██████ was transported to the Dayton Safety Building where was was photographed by BCI.

██████████ fired six rounds at Cotton, but did not know where his rounds impacted. Ma complied with the Dayton Police Use of Force policy and believed he and others officers were in danger of death or serious bodily injury.

Agent Ward concluded the audio recorded interview, (attached to this report) with ██████████ at 1711 hours.

#### References:

No references.

#### Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: 2024-11-04 Interview of Dayton Police ██████████
- Attachment # 02: Typed Statement of ██████████
- Attachment # 03: Criminal Investigation Notification- ██████████

# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**

## **Exhibit 2**

**STATEMENT OF** [REDACTED]

**OCTOBER 24, 2024**

I am a [REDACTED] with the Dayton Police Department. I have been employed as a law enforcement officer since [REDACTED]. I have worked for the Miami Valley Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff, and the City of Union Police Department. I have been employed by Dayton since October [REDACTED]. I graduated from the Edison State Police Academy in [REDACTED].

I am currently assigned as a [REDACTED]

I am providing this statement voluntarily. I have prepared the statement to the best of my recollection. I have had the opportunity to review available videos of the incident. It is possible that a future review of additional materials might refresh my recollection in the future.

I am familiar with the Dayton police department policies and procedures on use of force. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications for handgun in Fall 2023.

On the morning October 19, 2024, I worked a shift from [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I was wearing my uniform and operating my patrol car during my shift.

While on duty, I carry my Glock 17 9mm pistol along with 3 magazines containing 17 rounds each. One magazine is contained in the firearm, 2 are carried on my belt. My firearm had 18 rounds (1 in the weapon and 17 in the magazine).

I became aware of a call from Dispatch at approximately 0845 on October 19, 2024. The weather that morning was clear and cold.

I was aware that officers were responding potentially problematic call and monitoring radio traffic. I heard a "99 call," which indicates a request for assistance from an officer in distress.

I proceed to the scene with my lights and sirens.

I pulled up south of Rosedale. I was advised by Officer Kloos to respond to the other side of the scene. I drove around the block to the scene from the west side at Access Road. I pulled up behind another cruiser and observed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. After speaking with the other officers, I parked

[REDACTED]

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my vehicle. The other officers told me the suspect had a firearm. I took my firearm out of the holster and maintained cover on the suspect. I turned on my spotlight and pointed it toward the driver in order to disrupt his line of sight.

I observed what may have been the barrel of the long gun.

I maintained cover on the suspect.

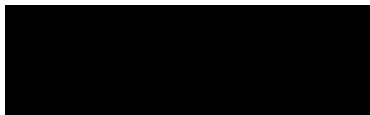
I observed an unknown black male approaching the scene. Other officers believed that this was the brother of the suspect. I indicated to him that he should "go back." He complied and left the scene.

I am aware that other officers were speaking to the suspect in an effort to diffuse the situation, but I could not hear exactly what was being said.

The suspect exited his vehicle and pointed a shotgun in the direction of other officers. I believed that I was in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, other officers, or other possibly innocent persons in the area. I remained behind the car and fired at the suspect. I believed that I had a clear line of sight on the suspect.

Other officers fired on the suspect as well. I observed the suspect fall to the ground. The shotgun was no longer in his hands. I approached the suspect. I turned over the suspect and did not observe any other weapons during a visual inspection. Other officers began life saving measures and a medic was called to the scene. The suspect was transported to a hospital.

I remained on the scene for a period of time. I left my vehicle at the scene. I, along with other officers at the scene, was transported to the Safety Building. I remained in my uniform until an evidence tech from BCI arrived. BCI photographed me and secured my firearm. I did not receive any injuries as a result of this incident.



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## **Exhibit 3**



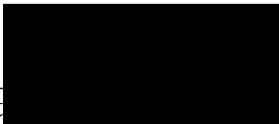


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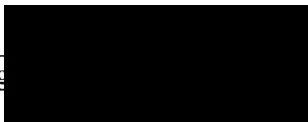


## Criminal Investigation Notification


1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Print 

11-4-24  
Date / Time

Sig 

STEVEN D. SEITZMAN  
BCI Agent (Printed)

  
BCI Agent (Signature)