



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2212 Tryon Rd.,  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To: Colleen M. O'Toole, Ashtabula County Prosecutor  
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI  
From: SA Cory M. Momchilov, Special Agent, Ohio BCI  
Date: December 2, 2024  
Involves: Jon Perry (S), [REDACTED]  
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 2212 Tryon Rd., Ashtabula, Ohio  
44004  
BCI Case Numbers: Special Investigations (SIU): 2024-1658  
BCI Laboratory: 24-34073

### **Investigative Request**

On Saturday, June 01, 2024, Sheriff William Niemi of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) 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 June 1, 2024 in the area of 2212 Tryon Road, Ashtabula, Ohio and resulted in the death of John Perry.

#### *Preface:*

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the June 1, 2024 officer-involved shooting in Ashtabula County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

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

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**Investigative Team**

BCI Special Agent Cory Momchilov (SA Momchilov) was assigned as the lead SIU case agent. SA Momchilov received assistance in the investigation from SA Andrew Harasimchuk (SA Harasimchuck) and SA Erik Lehnhart (SA Lehnhart). BCI Special Agents Megan Roberts (SA Roberts) and Sarah Taylor (SA Taylor) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Special Agent William Conn of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an extraction of cellular phone video recovered from a neighbor who recorded portions of the incident. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles 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 two officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of 9 officers/medics who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Recorded interview(s) of the involved subject and others subjects directly involved in the incident
- Interviews of two civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance at post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved 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 body cameras involved in the incident

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- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Obtained prosecutor's authorization for the subject's phones and performed an analysis of the data present
- 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
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered

**Incident Summary/Overview**

John Perry (Perry) lived alone at 2212 Tryon Road, Ashtabula, Ohio. According to family members, Perry was previously diagnosed with a mental disorder, possibly paranoid schizophrenia. It was reported Perry had been taking medication for his disorder for approximately 8 years and quit taking the medication 6 to 8 months prior to the incident.

On May 31, 2024, at approximately 1905 hours, Shanon Turnquist (Shanon), who lives across the street from Perry, was in her front yard of her residence with her children and dog. Shanon stated she looked towards Perry's residence and Perry was outside in his driveway, pointing a gun at her. Shanon called her husband Dwayne Turnquist

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(Dwayne) who was not home at the time. Dwayne then called the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office and returned home. Prior to Dwayne arriving home, Shanon took pictures of Perry holding/pointing the rifle with her cellular phone.



*Still Images from Shanon Turnquist's cellular phone video*

Ashtabula County Deputies responded to the scene and made contact with Dwayne and Shanon.

Deputies then contacted Nathan Lukkarila (Lukkarila), Perry's nephew, via phone. Lukkarila was requested to respond to the scene in an attempt to defuse Perry (Lukkarila later described his relationship with Perry as "close").

When Lukkarila arrived on scene, two sheriff deputies walked over with Lukkarila to Perry's residence. Lukkarila knocked on the door of Perry's residence while the deputies stayed by the garage area of the house. Lukkarila advised that he attempted to speak with Perry through the door and that he could hear Perry "talking a little bit" but could not make out what Perry was saying. Lukkarila explained after a couple minutes, Perry stated something about, "getting off of the porch," Lukkarila advised at

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that point, he stepped off the porch and began to approach the deputies who were standing near the garage area. Lukkarila stated that Perry then exited his house and stepped onto the porch with the gun. According to Lukkarila, Perry "Kind of pointed it in the direction of the two police officers that were there." Lukkarila stated the two deputies "threw me back in between the two houses and told him to put the gun down and he wasn't doing that." Lukkarila stated that Perry then went back inside his residence.

At this point, the Lake County Reginal SWAT Team was activated and a standoff ensued.

The SWAT Team eventually arrived on scene with armored vehicles (two armored vehicles named "David" and "Goliath"). Announcements were made over David's public address system, every two minutes for a "couple hours." However, team members stated that music was "blaring" from the residence. Team members disconnected the electricity and natural gas from the residence in an attempt to communicate with Perry.

After receiving no response from Perry, it was decided that David, using a fixed ram that was attached to its front, would break out the front window of the residence.



*Still Image from drone video footage*

A "throw" phone and drone would then be inserted into the residence. After the throw phone was placed into the residence through the window, team members reported that at one point, Perry came to the front window with a knife in his hand. It appeared that Perry was yelling something and then disappeared back into the residence.

A drone was also flown into the residence. As the drone was inside the residence, Perry was observed knocking down the drone using the barrel of the shotgun.

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*Still Images from drone video footage*

At some point, as David was still parked near the front window of the residence and after the drone was knocked down, Perry came to the front window. Team members reported that Perry aimed the shotgun and lunged forward. Team members described the lunging action as a possible misfire. Perry was then observed, manipulating the shotgun. Perry then aimed the shotgun and fired.

The fired projectile struck the windshield area of David.



*Photographs of armored vehicle "David"*

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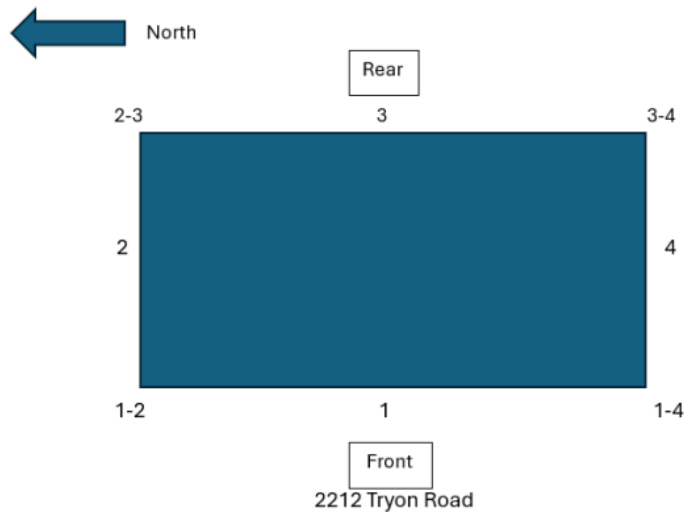


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*During tactical situations, a tactical numbering system is often utilized to quickly identify positions around a residence. The main entrance of the residence is usually referred to as the “1 side”, counting clockwise around the house, the sides are then sequentially numbered. The corners are then designated by indicating which sides meet at that corner, e.g. corner 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, and 1-4. This number system was utilized by the Lake County Reginal SWAT Team during this incident (See diagram below).*



After David was struck, David retreated to the street area and Perry retreated into the house. At this point, David was positioned on the street near the 1-4 corner of the residence. Goliath was positioned on the street near the 1-2 corner.

Team members devised a plan to begin introducing tear gas into the residence. Members began by launching gas from a 40-millimeter gas gun into the basement hopper windows. Team members eventually launched gas into the bathroom as well.

As the night progressed, team members reported that Perry was moving around the residence. Team members believed, based on drone footage, that Perry was getting/storing ammunition in the bedroom located on the 1-4 corner of the residence. A team member launched a gas canister into that bedroom, the team member reloaded the 40-millimeter gas gun and fired another round. According to team members, Perry contemporaneously fired a round from his shotgun in the direction of David as the second gas canister was being fired into the bedroom.

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After about 20 to 30 minutes, the team decided to conduct another volley of gas rounds to the rear of the residence. However, the 40-millimeter gas launcher that was assigned to Goliath had malfunctioned. The team assigned to David had an extra gas launcher. It was decided that Goliath, who was positioned on the street at the 1-2 corner, and David, who was positioned on the street at the 1-4 corner, would traverse towards each other. Once David and Goliath neared each other, a team member from David would run the extra gas launcher to Goliath.

When David and Goliath arrived approximately 10 feet away from each other, nose to nose, they stopped. Team members were positioned outside of David, providing cover. A team member then ran from David to Goliath to provide the gas launcher. Once the gas launcher was provided, the team member began running back towards David. It was reported, at this point Perry appeared in the window, with the shotgun shouldered. Two team members [REDACTED] discharged their rifles, striking Perry. Perry died as a result of the shooting. The shooting was captured by cellular phone video taken by Shanon.



*Still Images from Shanon Turnquist's cellular phone video*

**Contact Information**

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further 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 Cory Momchilov. SA Momchilov can be reached via email at [Cory.Momchilov@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Cory.Momchilov@OhioAGO.gov)

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