



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



2025-3709
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4175 Brush Creek Rd.,
 Manchester, OH 45144 (L)

Investigative Activity: Involved Trooper Interview
Involves: ██████████
Activity Date: 12/04/2025
Activity Location: Engle & Martin LLC: 4660 Duke Drive, Suite 101, Mason Ohio 45040
Authoring Agent: SA Joshua Welty #173

Narrative:

On Wednesday, December 03, 2025, at 1453 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) and SA Josh Welty (SA Welty) interviewed Ohio State Highway Patrol (OHSP) ██████████ ██████████ who was accompanied by his attorney, Josh Engle, from the law office of Engle & Martin. The interview took place at 4660 Duke Drive, Suite 101, Mason, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

██████████ read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: ██████████	Rank: ██████████
Badge Number: ██████	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: ██████████
Radio Call Sign: ██████	Immediate Supervisor: Lt. Charles Jordan
Radio Channel Utilized: N/A	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: Newer Durango - Dark Grey, with logo.	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: No
Assignment: Georgetown Post	Normal Shift: ██████████

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In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: No	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED] years	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED] years
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): No	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Uniform of the day - long-sleeved shirt, regular duty belt.	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser
Ballistic Vest: Tactical Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: No
Injuries: No	Equipment Damage: No
Training or Areas of Specialty: Pistol Instructor (Fall 2024)	OPOTC Certification: Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: No	Use-of-Force Training: 2025
Prior Shooting Incidents: No	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: No
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: N/A

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Sig Sauer	Model: P320
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Duty Belt
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: 5	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17 in each magazine
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary

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Rounds Remaining After Incident: 18	Number of Rounds Fired: Firearm not discharged
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 04/30/2025	Type of Holster, if any: Retention Holster

Weapon #2

Make: Sig Sauer	Model: P365
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Concealed
Magazine Capacity: 10	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 11
Extra Magazines: No	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: N/A
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Backup
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 11	Number of Rounds Fired: Firearm not discharged
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 04/30/2025	Type of Holster, if any: Concealed

Weapon #3

Make: Aero Precision	Model: M4E1
Caliber/Gauge: .223 caliber	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Sling
Magazine Capacity: 28	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 28
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 28 in each magazine
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 71	Number of Rounds Fired: 13
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 04/30/2025	Type of Holster, if any: N/A

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Narrative:

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

As the pursuit continued, ██████████ learned the suspect had arrived at his residence on Brush Creek Road and entered the residence. ██████████ arrived at the residence and "... was approached by a sergeant from the Sheriff's Office and informed that the suspect has weapons and that ██████████ was in an unsafe exposed spot."

██████████ along with ██████████ assisted in getting ██████████ ██████████ to a safe position. All four troopers then took concealment into a creek bed to watch the residence. SA Holcomb asked ██████████ approximately how far from the residence he was when located in the creek bed. He estimated the distance to be 50-75 yards.

While holding concealment, ██████████ heard the suspect yelling but was unable to hear what was being said. He then wrote; "I heard a shot coming from the direction of the suspect. I then heard shots fired by other officers."

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

SA Holcomb asked ██████████ to describe his line of sight. He stated he could see parts of the house but could not see Lindner and did not fire until he could see Lindner. When he saw Lindner, he seen the lower portion of his torso and legs. He described Lindner's stance as a 'fighting position', where his feet were staggered, "just as if you were going to shoot." SA Holcomb then asked ██████████ if he could see a firearm, and he stated he did not.

██████████ was asked by SA Holcomb to describe his aim point. He explained it to be center mass, probably around his naval.

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SA Holcomb asked [REDACTED] additional follow-up questions. [REDACTED] was asked why his body worn camera (BWC) was turned on after the shooting and not prior to. He stated due to their position and the need to lay prone on the ground, the location of his BWC on his uniform, coupled with his position creating pressure on the BWC, it would have caused the BWC to continue turning on and off. [REDACTED] stated after they discharged their weapons his BWC was turned on.

[REDACTED] stated that he has had no prior contact (personal or professional) with Christopher Lindner.

[REDACTED] stated he believed he followed all OHSP policies and procedures the day of the incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 1506 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. A written statement was provided. The audio recording and statement was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment #1: CIN - [REDACTED]

Attachment #2: OSP [REDACTED] - Written Statement

Attachment #3: 2025-12-03 - OSP [REDACTED] Interview (2025-3709)

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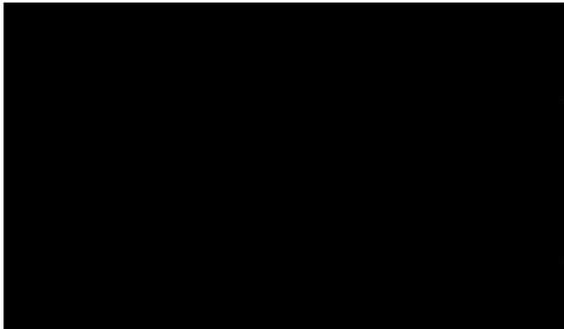


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Criminal Investigation Notification

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).



12-3-25 1453
Date / Time

SA Josh Welty #173
BCI Agent (Printed)

SA J. Welty
BCI Agent (Signature)

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

DECEMBER 3, 2025

I am a [REDACTED] with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. I have served in that position since [REDACTED]. I have been employed as a full time sworn law enforcement officer with the Highway Patrol since [REDACTED]. I graduated from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy in Columbus, Ohio in [REDACTED].

I am currently assigned as a [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]. I work throughout Adams and Brown Counties.

I am providing this statement voluntarily. I have prepared the statement to the best of my recollection. I have not yet had the opportunity to review all of the videos of the incident and it is possible that this review might refresh my recollection in the future.

I am familiar with the Highway Patrol's policies and procedures on use of force. My most recent training on use of force occurred in 2025. I have also attended various in-service trainings. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications in 2025.

On November 14, 2025, I was working [REDACTED]. The weather was over cast but not raining. I was wearing my uniform. I carry my Sig Sauer P320 9mm pistol along with 5 magazines each holding 17 rounds. One magazine is contained in the firearm, 2 magazines are carried on my duty belt, and the remaining two are on my tactical vest. My firearm had 18 rounds (1 in the weapon and 17 in the magazine).

I also had with me an Aero Precision AR-15 locked in the trunk of my vehicle. I had 3 magazines containing 28 rounds each. One magazine is in the rifle, and two magazines are carried in the tactical plates vest.

I was on the road when I heard a BOLO for a driver who had threatened some construction workers with a knife. I was not in position to respond so took no action. Later, heard about a two vehicle accident on SR41. I started to respond to the scene when I observed that another trooper was responding to the crash. I then was informed that Adams County Sheriff's deputies were in pursuit of the BOLO vehicle. I proceeded towards the pursuit. I was informed that the suspect was possibly armed and the possible identity of the suspect.

At some point, I was informed that [REDACTED] became the primary officer in the pursuit. I was also told that the subject had hit some stop sticks but had not stopped.

I was informed that the suspect may be heading to his residence on Brush Creek Road. A sergeant from Adams County Sheriff's Office said to try to prevent the suspect from getting in his house.

[REDACTED] said that the suspect had entered the house. I proceeded to the residence on Brush Creek Road. I observed other units from Highway Patrol and Adams County Sheriff's Office on the scene. I was approached by a Sergeant from the Sheriff's Office and informed that the suspect had weapons and that [REDACTED] was in an unsafe exposed spot. The Sergeant from the Sheriff's Office asked if I, along with [REDACTED] could assist in extracting [REDACTED]

I put on my ballistic plates and helmet and retrieved my rifle from the car. We also obtained a ballistic shield from the Sheriff's Office. I gave my helmet to [REDACTED] I, along with [REDACTED] walked along a creek bed towards the residence. We were able to see [REDACTED] and retrieved him using a "leapfrog" technique. I, along with [REDACTED] took concealed positions in the creek bed to watch the house.

I maintained our position and were told that the OSHP SRT was enroute with a two hour ETA. A deputy from Adams County later joined our position. We discussed whether the suspect had thermal optics and other positions we could take after sundown.

I maintained cover on the house with my rifle while waiting for SRT to arrive. I heard the suspect yelling but I could not make out what he was saying. Another officer said, "movement up top" indicating that they were able to see the suspect on the deck. I heard a shot coming from the direction of the suspect. I then heard shots fired by other officers.

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

innocent persons in the area. I observed the suspect on the deck standing upright in a fighting position. I discharged my rifle. I fired several shots. I observed the suspect go down. I was unable to tell if the suspect had been hit. When I stopped firing I changed magazines and secured the magazine that I had fired from in my vest.

Brown County deputies were able to fly the drone near the suspect. I was informed that the suspect was lying on his back with a weapon at his feet. I communicated with [REDACTED] and the Sergeant of the Sheriff's Office to assemble a team to enter the house and provide medical assistance. I, along, with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Adams County Deputies, and Winchester Police officers met at the back door in order to make an entry.

[REDACTED] tried to kick the door in. I checked doors to see if we could make entry. [REDACTED] was able to unlock a door and enter the residence. I then announced myself and entered the residence. We tactically moved through the residence and found the suspect on the third floor balcony. The suspect was laying on his back with a rifle near his feet. The suspect appeared to be dead. Another officer said that the suspect had an unsurvivable head wound determined that medical assistance was not warranted. We left the house.

I again changed magazines, putting the magazine I had shot from back in my weapon. I cleared my rifle to make it safe for transport, put the round that had been in the rifle back in the magazine, and secured my rifle and tactical vest in my patrol car. I did not receive medical attention. I returned to the Patrol Post where I gave my firearm to BCI.

[REDACTED]