



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



2024-1837

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 223 Durling Dr.,  
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

**Investigative Activity:** Witness Officer Interview – Cody Seiler  
**Involves:** WPD Officer Cody Seiler (W)  
**Activity Date:** 07/10/2024  
**Activity Location:** BCI – Richfield  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Allison Fletcher #187

### Narrative:

On Wednesday, July 10, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Armstrong, SA Allison Fletcher, and SA Justin Rotili interviewed Wadsworth Police Department (WPD) Officer Cody Seiler (Seiler). Officer Seiler was accompanied by George Gerken, Attorney at Law with the Ohio Patrolman's Benevolent Association. The interview took place in the conference room at BCI Richfield located at 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, Ohio 44286. The interview was audio and video recorded and the audio recording has been attached to this report. The video has been stored in the BCI SIU Case File as Reference Item O.

Officer Seiler was identified as a WPD officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 18, 2024, officer-involved shooting which occurred at 223 Durling Drive, Wadsworth, Ohio 44281. Officer Seiler did not discharge a firearm during the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Officer Seiler.

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 the 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. It 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 obtained during the interview.

Throughout the interview, Officer Seiler provided the following information:

Officer Seiler has been a police officer for approximately five and a half years with the WPD. On June 18, 2024, he was wearing the uniform of the day, which included dark navy-blue uniform pants and a dark navy-blue uniform shirt with Wadsworth Police patches on each shoulder. Over his shirt he wore an external vest carrier which had his name and badge displayed on it and a duty belt which contained his duty equipment. This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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He was equipped with a body camera and advised the camera was activated during the incident. He did not have any other recording devices in his person. During the incident, he drove a WPD marked police cruiser #5. Officer Seiler believed he was well represented as a police officer during the incident.

Officer Seiler's radio call sign is 34, which is the same as his badge/unit number. Officer Seiler had no prior knowledge of the subject involved in the shooting and did not recall any prior encounters with the subject. He recalled after the incident that he previously responded to the residence for an incident involving a juvenile.

Prior to the incident, Officer Seiler stated he was at the WPD when an "all tones" from dispatch went out, requesting all available units of the WPD to respond to 223 Durling Drive. The nature of the call was a male with a gun who was possibly suicidal and walking around inside and outside the residence. He did not recall receiving any updates from dispatch while responding.

Officer Seiler stated he responded from the WPD and activated his overhead lights and sirens. He said multiple units were responding at the same time from the WPD and there was a line of police cruisers en route to the location. Officer Seiler stated he parked his police cruiser on Broad Street, which runs perpendicular to Durling Drive on the north end. He then retrieved his AR-style rifle from the trunk of his vehicle.

Officer Seiler stated he, and Officers [REDACTED] who also parked on Broad Street, began traveling south on Durling Drive towards the residence. Officer Seiler stated he and the other three officers remained on the east side of the roadway, traveling through the front yards of houses to maintain cover.

Officer Seiler said they approached the neighbor's house, 213 Durling Drive, and met outside with the female resident and wife of the involved subject, Stacy Sloan (Stacy). Officer Seiler stated he also observed the male resident in the rear yard of 213 Durling Drive. While speaking with the female neighbor and Stacy, Officer Seiler attempted to usher them inside the neighbor's house where it was safe.

Officer Seiler said at this time, [REDACTED] began approaching 223 Durling Drive, traveling south on foot across the front yard of the house. [REDACTED] approached the north side of the house at the northeast corner. Officer Seiler said where he was standing at the neighbor's house, he could see the involved subject, later identified as Shannon Sloan (Sloan). Officer Seiler said he was unable to see him clearly and could not tell if he had anything in his hands. Officer Seiler was able to identify that Sloan was wearing a neon green shirt and shorts.

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██████████ then traveled south across the front yard of the house towards ██████████ location. Officer Seiler observed ██████████ possibly engaging in conversation with Sloan. He was unable to hear Sloan and was unsure if Sloan was responding to ██████████. At this time, Officer Seiler began making his way towards ██████████ location. This was when he lost sight of Sloan. While he was approximately 15-20 feet behind ██████████ Officer Seiler stated,

[08:34] I could hear ██████████ say he couldn't put his gun down, um, I then heard him yell something along the lines of 'stop it' or 'don't do that.' Um, and that that point I heard gun shots, but my visual of, um, Shannon (Sloan) was blocked by the house, so I couldn't physically see him at all.

Officer Seiler estimates the commands provided by ██████████ and the possible exchange in conversation between ██████████ and Sloan was approximately one minute total. Officer Seiler stated after the gunfire ended, which he described to be a quick grouping of rounds, he notified dispatch of "shots fired."

Officer Seiler indicated he knew ██████████ had fired his weapon due to the visual recoil he observed. He was also certain another officer had fired because he observed ground disturbance from bullets striking the area near Sloan's location, and it was coming from a different direction than that of ██████████. Officer Seiler was unsure if Sloan had fired his weapon because he was unable to see him.

Officer Seiler stated he did not fire his weapon because he did not have a good visual on Sloan and was not in a good position to fire. When describing the feelings he had about the situation, Officer Seiler stated,

[20:24] I feared for the safety of both the subject and the caller. Um, if he is walking around with a gun and suicidal, I was obviously concerned with her being in the immediate close proximity, if there is an argument going on between them, if something could happen to her. Um, I was then in fear for the safety of the neighbors once I responded on scene because they were both right out in the open, and I could see him who was reported to be having a gun and going through some sort of crisis. Um, and then I feared for the other officers' safety as they were approaching the house and stuff like that.

After gunfire ceased, Officer Seiler stated he and ██████████ approached the subject. Officer Seiler observed the subject lying on the ground wearing a shoulder strap holster with two loaded magazines in the magazine carrier and the gun holster empty. He observed a firearm lying on the ground near the subject who was unresponsive. At that time, Officer Seiler provided cover while ██████████ secured Sloan in handcuffs and checked him for additional weapons. Once Sloan was

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checked and secured, [REDACTED] removed the handcuffs, rolled Sloan onto his back, and Officer Seiler and [REDACTED] began administering first-aid.

Officer Seiler indicated during the interview that he had previously reviewed his body-cam footage one-time, and what he observed was consistent with his memory. Officer Seiler also watched another officer's (unknown officer) body-camera footage that was featured in a news article. He watched this video approximately one or two times.

**References:**

Reference Item O - Thumb drive of WPD Officer Interviews

**Attachments:**

1. 2024-07-10 Interview Witness Officer Cody Seiler

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