



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



2023-2080

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 45 Great Southern Blvd., Columbus,
OH 43207 (L)

Investigative Activity: Crime Scene Processing (*Scene #1*)
Activity Date: August 9, 2023
Activity Location: Parking lot of 45 Great Southern Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43207
Authoring Agent: Crime Scene Technician Amy Gill, #203

On August 9, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Crime Scene Technician (CST) Amy Gill, Special Agent (SA) Sarah Taylor, SA Mathew Austin, and SA Supervisor Joshua Durst, along with members of the BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU), were assigned to assist the Columbus Police Department (CPD) with an officer involved critical incident. It was reported that a male, later identified as Austin Huntzinger (Huntzinger), had attempted to rob people at gunpoint near the above location. Police were called and upon their arrival, gunfire was exchanged between Huntzinger and CPD officers. One CPD officer, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), was struck by gunfire and transported to Grant Medical Center (GMC) for treatment. Huntzinger was also struck by gunfire and transported to GMC, where he was pronounced deceased.



Image 1. Parking lot of 45 Great Southern Blvd.

BCI personnel arrived on scene at approximately 0840 hours. 45 Great Southern Boulevard was described to be part of a strip mall occupied by multiple businesses. A large section of the parking lot was secured with crime scene tape. Two CPD cruisers, a Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) cruiser, a silver Honda Civic (OH/ AM68HF), and a silver Chevrolet Equinox (OH/ EDW 3843) were observed inside the crime scene tape. The scene was photographed as it was upon arrival. A Leica 3D scanner and a drone were utilized to further document the scene.

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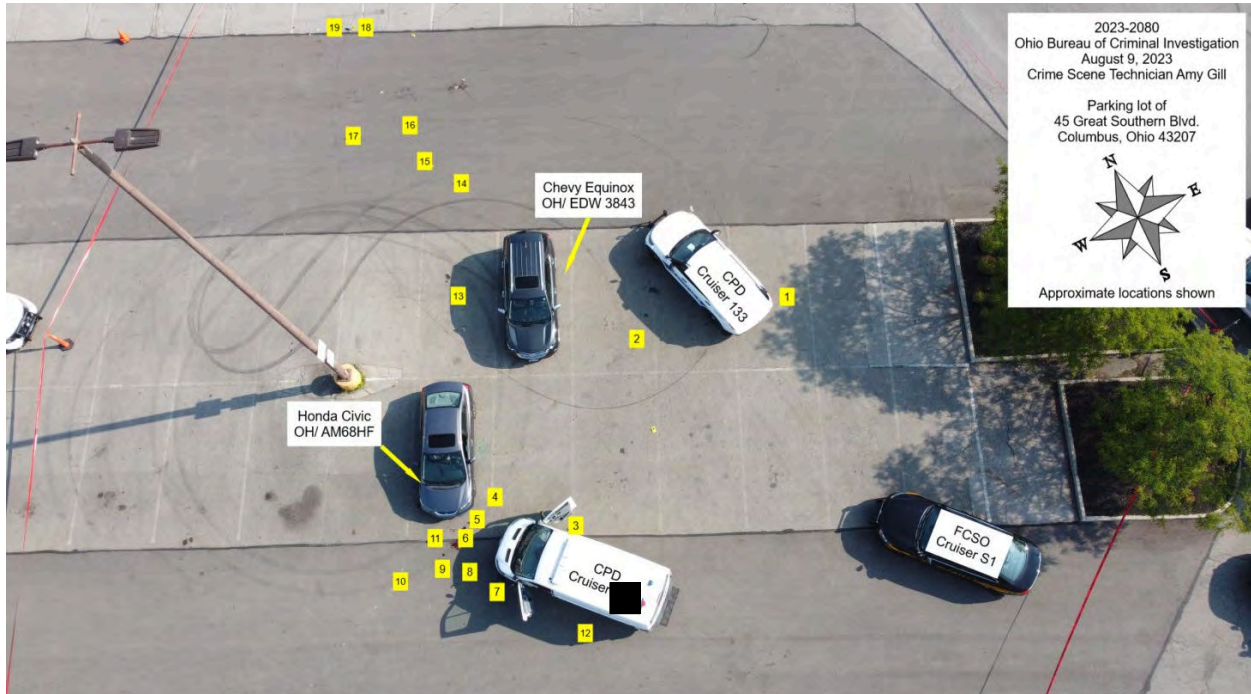


Image 2. Parking lot of 45 Great Southern Blvd.

Seventeen Speer 9mm cartridge casings were located near the passenger side of CPD cruiser [redacted] and collected together as item 1. Once the vehicle was removed from the scene, one additional Speer 9mm cartridge casing was located on the ground in the same area and collected as item 21. An empty Smith & Wesson magazine (item 2) was located on the ground near the driver side of cruiser 133, between the cruiser and the Chevrolet Equinox. Several miscellaneous cards, with the name Austin Huntziner, were located on the ground near the passenger side of the Chevrolet Equinox (item 13).

The following items were located on the ground near CPD Cruiser [redacted]

Item #	Description
3	Three Speer 9mm cartridge casings
4	Two Speer 9mm cartridge casings
5	Black and silver pocket knife
6	Two Speer 9mm cartridge casings
7	Blue CPD ballcap
8	Two Speer 9mm cartridge casings
9	Four black belt keepers
10	Eight Speer 9mm cartridge casings

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11	Smith & Wesson M&P9 M2.0 9mm semi-automatic pistol S/N: [REDACTED] with attached flashlight and empty seated magazine
12	One Speer 9mm cartridge casing

In the parking lot, to the north of the parked vehicles, a Taurus G2c 9mm semi-automatic pistol with S/N: ADC045839 was located. The firearm was observed to have a seated magazine containing 10 cartridges, all with the headstamp S&B 9x19. There was no cartridge in the chamber. The firearm, magazine, and cartridges were collected together as item 14. Two S&B 9x19 cartridge casings were located on the ground near the firearm and collected as items 15 and 17. It was reported that following the incident, officers had emptied the contents of Huntzinger's pant's pockets onto the pavement, prior to him begin transported to the hospital. The removed items were located on the ground and collected as the following:

Item #	Description
18	Two lighters, blue pocket knife, miscellaneous cards with the name Austin Huntzinger, broken glass pipe
18.1	Blue Motorola cellphone
19	9mm magazine containing 12 cartridges with headstamp AMMO INC 9mm

With written consent from the owner, Richard Simms (Simms), the silver Honda Civic was processed. The glass in the front driver window was observed to be shattered. A suspected ballistic event (BE) was located near the top corner of the driver door frame and labeled as BE 1.0. A projectile appeared to have struck the door frame, however it did not perforate the sheet metal. No projectile was recovered from this event. A Honda key fob was collected from the parking lot as item 16 and released on scene back to Simms.

Following a canvass of the shopping center, BCI personnel were notified that one business appeared to have been struck by gunfire. Midwest Mattress and Furniture Outlet, located at 3823 South High Street, was positioned to the northwest of the main scene. The following BE's were observed and documented:

BE	Location	Description
1.0	Front window, exterior side, left of front door	Perforating hole with radial and concentric fractures to exterior pane of glass
1.1	Front window, interior side, left of front door	Perforating hole with radial and concentric fractures to interior pane of glass
1.2	Chair leg, just inside front window	Misshaped entrance hole with splintered wood
2.0	Metal exterior window frame, right of front door	Perforating elongated entrance hole with leading edge

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3.0	Front window, exterior side, right of front door	Perforating hole with radial and concentric fractures to exterior pane of glass
4.0	Side of pillar to right of front door	Perforating elongated entrance hole
5.0	Side of pillar to left of front door	Perforating elongated entrance hole
6.0	Front of pillar to right of front door- under "Ollie's" sign, middle area	Perforating elongated entrance hole
7.0	Front of pillar to right of front door- under "Ollie's" sign, top area	Perforating elongated entrance hole

A projectile was located on the floor, just inside the entrance door, and collected as item 20. An additional projectile, associated with BE 3.0, was observed inside the front window, between the two panes of glass and was unable to be collected.

CST Gill was informed that prior to the shooting, Huntzinger had reportedly been accompanied by a female, later identified as Xayla Scheurell. CPD officers had taken her into custody following the incident. Prior to her departure from the scene, her and Huntzinger's belongings were photographed for documentation purposes and collected by CPD officers.

No additional items of evidentiary value were collected and BCI personnel cleared the scene at approximately 1325 hours. At 1700 hours, CST Gill placed all items collected from Scenes 1-3 in the BCI Crime Scene Unit temporary evidence locker located in London, Ohio.

On August 10, 2023, at 0935 hours CST Gill removed the evidence from the temporary evidence locker. At 1152 hours, the cartridge casings, firearms, and projectile (items 1,3-4,8,10-12,14-15,17,20-21) from Scene 1 along with Ofc. [REDACTED]'s firearm (item 1) from Scene 3 were submitted to the BCI laboratory for examination. All remaining items were placed into the BCI Temporary Evidence Locker #2 to be submitted to the BCI major crimes evidence vault.

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