

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



2023-1809

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43227 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Su
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Involves: (S)

**Date of Activity:** 08/29/2023

Activity Location: Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman – 4683 Winterset

Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, Franklin County

Author: SA Ryan D. Scheiderer, #89

#### Narrative:

On August 29, 2023 at approximately 1502 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) obtained a recorded statement from Columbus Division of Police (CPD) regarding the shooting incident involving officers from CPD, deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), and Antwan Lindsey (Lindsey) that occurred on July 08, 2023, at 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio (Franklin County). Lindsey was fatally shot by officers during that incident. The contact with took place at his attorney's office and his attorney, Lathan Lipperman, was present. signed a Criminal Investigation Notification (CIN) form affirming his decision to provide a voluntary statement. Prior to meeting and his attorney prepared typed statement which with SA Scheiderer. signed in front of SA Scheiderer affirming that would be his official statement regarding this incident. That statement (Attachment # 03) is attached to this report and available for review. The following is a summation of the contact with seems and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording. (It should be noted that during the interview, Lindsey was referred to as "suspect" by the officer and that verbiage may be used throughout the summary when trying to quote the officer or document what an officer stated they heard or thought regarding the incident)

### **EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENT**

"I was in fear for my life and for the lives of the other officers covering the suspect at the times I fired. I believed that the man was the same individual that had fired at the Franklin County deputy. First, announced that he thought that individual had a gun. That man was also the only civilian I saw inside the building. And finally, he was not complying with officers'

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repeated commands to show his hands and seemed to mutter "fuck you" after we gave those orders."

"Once I got to the ground floor, exclaimed that he thought the man standing at the other end of the hall had a gun. I could not tell whether he had a gun, but I believed it was likely he had a gun since he had already used deadly force and shot at a deputy. I had also heard what I believed were at least two gunshots only minutes before this incident. And I believed the suspect had fired those rounds since I did not hear any officer air shots fired. At the times I heard those shots, I believed the deputy was still unaccounted for and possibly somewhere inside the apartment building."

"From the time I first saw the suspect until I heard the pop, his right hand/arm was in front of his body almost the entire incident, and his left hand/arm was hidden behind the door and doorway. He was ordered numerous times by multiple officers to show his hands. But he refused to comply or surrender. I believed he was deliberately hiding his hands from our view. At the moment I heard the loud pop, the suspect's left hand/arm were still hidden behind the door. And his right arm/hand was near the top of the blue door like he was holding onto it. From in the hallway, the loud pop sounded like a gunshot. That sound also seemed to come directly from the suspect such that he had fired his weapon. I believed he likely had the weapon in his left hand since it was still hidden from my view. I was not sure whether the suspect was firing at officers that might have been near the entrance or whether he was firing at me and the other officers with me. But I believed he was shooting at officers and that I or the others would be seriously injured or killed. That fear was heightened since neither I nor any of the other officers with me had cover or concealment and the hallway was narrow with only one escape far behind us, making it much likelier the suspect could strike one or more of us. At the time I fired my weapon, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect my life or the lives of the other officers from the deadly threat presented by the suspect's actions."

## **FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS**

Before asking any follow-up questions, SA Scheiderer made record that he had prior contact regarding a December 2020 shooting incident where witnessing officer and SA Scheiderer was the lead investigator. SA Scheiderer asked a series of follow up questions regarding the July 8<sup>th</sup> incident and learned the following information. Stated the initial radio traffic from Dispatch was that the deputy had been shot or was down. Then heard the "suspect" was down. clarified he wasn't sure if the deputy had been shot, the "suspect" had been shot, or both. didn't observe any FCSO vehicles when he arrived on scene, but observed several never observed anyone other than officers near the front entrance of the apartment building at 3110 E. Livingston Avenue. was never provided with the any locations of the involved-deputy or Lindsey throughout the incident. not know the status of the involved-deputy during he incident, but he believed he requested an update and never heard a response. gunshot he heard, but could tell it was from the incident location. While exiting the apartment building after the shooting incident, building after the shooting afte

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believed his actions during the incident were consistent with the training he had
received from CPD. Delieved deadly force was the only option available to him
based on the information he had at the time he fired his weapon.
Lindsey in possession of a firearm, but heard announce he observed Lindsey with
a "gun"never observed Lindsey discard a firearmnever observed
any actions or behaviors from Lindsey that would indicate he was surrendering or would comply
with officers. was asked if Lindsey had done any behaviors consistent with
surrendering or verbally stated he was surrendering, would he have been taken into custody
and he replied "He would have been". had experienced prior incidents where a
"suspect" was initially non-compliant with officers, but then surrendered and they were taken
into custody without deadly force being used. Had Lindsey "given up" or "surrendered",
would not have discharged his firearm at Lindsey. Let denied any sustained
disciplinary actions regarding uses of force.
Before concluding the recorded statement, attorney, Lathan Lipperman,
requested a break to confer with his client. The recording was stopped and a new recording
was started at approximately 1519 hours. Clarified that he did observe a civilian
on the side of the building that appeared to be "waiving down" officers, but he never observed
Lindsey until he encountered him in the lower-level hallway.
additional information.
auditional information.

### Attachments:

Attachment # 01: CPD Audio Interview Part I 8.29.2023
Attachment # 02: CPD Audio Interview Part II 8.29.2023
Attachment # 03: Signed Statement 8.29.2023
Attachment # 04: CIN 8.29.2023

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.

This statement is regarding my involvement in an incident that occurred on Saturday, July 8, 2023, between approximately 7:55 p.m. and 8:05 p.m. I am voluntarily making this statement as part of the investigation being conducted by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

I was hired by the Columbus Division of Police ("CPD" or the "Division") on June 24, 2013. I got my OPOTA certificate when I graduated from the CPD Police Academy about six months later. Concurrent with my CPD employment, I also served in the Marine Corps Reserve from 2011-2018. I do not have any other law enforcement or military experience.

My regular assignment is Z2E1-3. I work an evening midwatch shift, 7:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. My regular days off are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. On the day of this incident, I worked a special duty assignment from 3:00 p.m. until my regular shift started at 7:00 p.m. That assignment was uneventful.

I was wearing the CPD patrol uniform: navy pants, a short-sleeved navy shirt, a navy hat that stated "COLUMBUS POLICE" on the front, and a navy external vest carrier that also stated "COLUMBUS POLICE" on the back. I was equipped with a body worn camera ("BWC") which was mounted to my chest. My BWC was activated during this event. I was carrying my Division-issued service weapon: an S&W 2.0 9mm handgun, loaded with Division-issued ammunition. That weapon was equipped with a light mounted on the underside of the frame. My range qualifications were current for that weapon. I was not carrying any backup firearm.

I was not working with a partner, but several other members of CPD were present when this incident occurred. I was assigned to Cruiser

I have good hearing and vision and do not need hearing aids or glasses/contacts. I am also in good health and do not suffer from any disabilities. I was not taking any medication that could cause impairment. Nor did I drink alcohol in the 24 hours before my shift started. I got plenty of sleep before my shift and arrived well-rested.

Before this incident, I was conducting routine patrol on South Hampton Road, searching for a stolen car. A few minutes before 8:00 p.m., a 10-3 went out over the radio, the code for "officer in trouble." Dispatch aired that a deputy with Franklin County was getting shot at. The reported location was 3110 East Livingston Avenue. I was about 2-3 miles from the scene. I immediately activated lights and sirens and continued south on S. Hampton Road. At E. Livingston Ave. I turned right and went east. I got to the scene a brief time later: There were multiple cruisers parked in front of 3110 E. Livington Avenue, which looked like an apartment building. Several officers were taking cover behind their cruisers and had guns drawn on the building.

At first, I parked in front of the building and exited my cruiser. But then a civilian (that I believe was a maintenance man for the apartment complex) directed me to the back of the building. I got back into my cruiser, did a U turn on E. Livingston, and drove north into the parking lot that runs adjacent to the building. I parked near the back (northern) lot, and got out and unholstered my weapon. I joined several other officers near the back (northern) entrance of the building.

At that time, I thought the deputy that had been shot at was in the building and unaccounted for. I went into the back entrance followed by a few other officers. That entrance opens to a split staircase leading up towards the second and third floors or down towards the first/ground floor. I went up the stairs and quickly searched for signs of the suspect or the deputy,

but I did not see or hear anything. I went back down, and just as I neared the back entrance, I heard what sounded like a single gunshot. It seemed like it came from the other side of the building. I asked a few other officers who fired, but no one knew. I believe I radioed that someone was shooting.

After finding no one inside the back part of the building, I went back outside with several other officers. A few officers ran through the parking lot towards the front of the building, and I got into my cruiser and followed. I initially parked near the southeast corner of the building. I briefly spoke with and we decided to cover the back of the building since there were numerous officers out front. I drove west then cut north and drove along the western side of the apartment building. The ran along the driver's side of my cruiser for cover. I heard a gunshot as I neared the northwest corner of the apartment building. It sounded like the shot came from inside the building, possibly the western side.

I parked near the northwest corner and exited my cruiser. There were several other CPD officers in the back lot. I unholstered my weapon and approached the back entrance of the building. A decision was made to enter and clear the building. I announced some officers should go downstairs and clear the ground/first floor and others should clear the upper floors. An officer said he would go upstairs, and I said I would take the downstairs. I entered the building and went to the first floor landing, followed by about three other CPD officers. I recall announcing "Columbus Police!" as I did so.

There was a blue door at the first floor landing that opened to a long hallway that ran the stretch of the building. I opened that door and went into the hallway. There were apartment doors on the right and left side of the hall. I did not see anyone at first and I do not think any of those

doors were open. There were a few ceiling lights in the hall, but it was dimly lit. I believe I turned on my gun's light.

I got about halfway down the hall when I noticed someone standing in the doorway at the first floor landing opposite me (coming from the front entrance). The individual was a male black wearing tan pants and a black shirt. He was standing at an angle, where part of his body (I believe his right side) was bladed towards me. I could not see either of his hands from my position. Another officer and I ordered him to show us his hands. A second later exclaimed that he thought the suspect had a gun. I could not tell from my vantage point, though.

The other officers and I quickly backpedaled from the suspect and loudly ordered him to show his hands. The suspect had the hallway door partly propped open, and I could see a sliver of the front windows behind (south of) him where officers were outside running past the front entrance. But I could not see whether any officers, including the officers that went to clear the second floor, were behind the suspect near the entrance.

The suspect refused to comply with our orders as we backed away. He muttered something like "fuck you" in response. After backing a bit down the hall, I took a few steps forward with the other officers. We continued giving the suspect commands to show his hands. I took a knee along with and another CPD officer. All three of us were side by side; I was kneeling next to the right/western wall, and another officer was standing behind me. Sgt. Goodrich joined moments later and stood behind us. He told me and the other two kneeling officers not to stand to avoid crossfire.

The suspect was still standing at an angle such that I could not see his hands: The right side of his body was partially bladed towards us, and he was largely facing the other direction. The blue door was resting against the front of his body. His left arm was behind the blue

door/doorframe, and I could not see his left hand. The suspect's right arm/hand was in front of him and obscured by a yellow/green jacket. He was also continuously turning his head and looking back at me and the others then turning to face ahead (south).

The other officers and I continued covering the suspect and ordering him to show his hands. At no time, though, did the suspect ever give any indication of compliance or surrender. As we continued covering the suspect, Sgt. Goodrich started to air some information when suddenly I heard a loud pop which I perceived to be a gunshot fired by the suspect. At that time, I still could not see the suspect's left hand, and I believed he was firing at officers on the other side of the door and/or intended to fire at me and the other officers and it was at that moment I fired. Other officers with me also fired at that time.

I stopped firing when the suspect went to the ground. The others did the same. A second later another officer told us to move up. I moved forward and announced "blue" (to alert any officers coming from the other direction). The suspect had fallen onto his back just inside the hallway. Other officers covered me while I quickly knelt, cuffed the suspect, then started to put on gloves to render aid. I believe another officer secured the suspect's gun, which was on the ground on the other side of the door. I applied pressure to a back wound, but seconds later a supervisor instructed any officer that fired to clear the scene. Another officer took my place, and I left the building from the front entrance. This ended my involvement with this incident.

A brief time later I was joined by an Officer Support team member and transported to a nearby substation. I later met with investigators from BCI who collected my weapon as evidence and took photographs as part of their investigation.

I now know I fired thirteen rounds. I fired those rounds in rapid succession. I would estimate that the time between my first and last shot was about two or three seconds. I fired those

rounds in a southerly direction. My target was the suspect's center mass. My backdrop was the blue door, wall, and stairs behind (south of) the suspect. I never saw any civilians or officers in my backdrop. I believed one or more officers could be near the entrance and/or on the second floor stairs since I knew several officers went to clear the upper floors and I had caught a glimpse of officers running near the entrance, but I did not know for sure where other officers were at.

But in any case, I did not think anyone was immediately behind the suspect, and any officer near the entrance or the stairs would have been elevated, out of my line of fire. I recall using my gun's iron sights. I used a two handed (left strong) grip. I believe my gun's light was on when I fired as the lighting in the hallway was poor. I would estimate that I was about twenty yards from the suspect when I fired. I had no cover or concealment at any time during this incident.

I was in fear for my life and for the lives of the other officers covering the suspect at the times I fired. I believed that the man was the same individual that had fired at the Franklin County deputy. First, announced that he thought that individual had a gun. That man was also the only civilian I saw inside the building. And finally, he was not complying with officers' repeated commands to show his hands and seemed to mutter "fuck you" after we gave those orders.

Once I got to the ground floor, exclaimed that he thought the man standing at the other end of the hall had a gun. I could not tell whether he had a gun, but I believed it was likely he had a gun since he had already used deadly force and shot at a deputy. I had also heard what I believed were at least two gunshots only minutes before this incident. And I believed the suspect had fired those rounds since I did not hear any officer air shots fired. At the times I heard those shots, I believed the deputy was still unaccounted for and possibly somewhere inside the apartment building.

From the time I first saw the suspect until I heard the pop, his right hand/arm was in front of his body almost the entire incident, and his left hand/arm was hidden behind the door and doorway. He was ordered numerous times by multiple officers to show his hands. But he refused to comply or surrender. I believed he was deliberately hiding his hands from our view.

At the moment I heard the loud pop, the suspect's left hand/arm were still hidden behind the door. And his right arm/hand was near the top of the blue door like he was holding onto it.

From in the hallway, the loud pop sounded like a gunshot. That sound also seemed to come directly from the suspect such that he had fired his weapon. I believed he likely had the weapon in his left hand since it was still hidden from my view. I was not sure whether the suspect was firing at officers that might have been near the entrance or whether he was firing at me and the other officers with me. But I believed he was shooting at officers and that I or the others would be seriously injured or killed. That fear was heightened since neither I nor any of the other officers with me had cover or concealment and the hallway was narrow with only one escape far behind us, making it much likelier the suspect could strike one or more of us. At the time I fired my weapon, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect my life or the lives of the other officers from the deadly threat presented by the suspect's actions.

Following this incident, I learned the suspect's name is Antwan Lindsey. I have never met the suspect previously, and I do not know him.

I was able to watch the BWC footage after this incident. After doing so, I now believe that the loud pop I heard immediately before firing was the sound of an officer deploying a taser near the front entrance. That officer and others with him apparently announced the taser deployment beforehand. Those announcements can be made out on my BWC, but I did not hear any of their commands. I knew that several officers went to clear the upper floors and other

officers were covering the front of the building and had run by the entrance, so I believed that officers could be near/at the front entrance; but I could not see or hear those officers during this incident.

First, those officers were elevated and on the other side of a steel door. Not only was that door only partially open, but the suspect was also inside the doorway, blocking my view and obstructing sound from travelling down the hall. Also, when officers announced the taser deployment, Sgt. Goodrich was airing information, which was then echoed over my radio (such that it sounded like two people talking simultaneously). I would estimate the officers near the entrance were also about 25-30 yards away.

Before the taser is deployed, a handgun can be seen on the ground near the suspect. Specifically, the gun is just inside the first floor landing behind the doorframe. At no time before firing did I see the suspect drop his weapon or otherwise see the weapon on the ground. After announced that he thought the suspect had a gun, no other officer ever announced seeing the suspect drop his weapon or that the weapon was on the ground. So when I heard the loud pop come from the suspect, I believed he had fired his weapon and intended to shoot me and/or the other officers covering the suspect.

This concludes my statement.



# Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation



## **Criminal Investigation Notification**

- 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.
- 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 <u>not</u> a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Printed Name of Interviewee	8/29/23 3:00 Date/Time	f
BCI Agent (Printed)		