



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



2024-4066
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1004 Park Lane, Apartment A,
Middletown, Ohio (Butler County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Officer Ryun Rawlins (W)
Date of Activity: 01/09/2025
Activity Location: Middletown Police Department – Business – One Donham Plaza,
Middletown, OH 45042
Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

Narrative:

On Thursday, January 9, 2025, at approximately 1002 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Steven Seitzman and Dave Hornyak interviewed Middletown Police Officer Ryun Rawlins, who was accompanied by his attorneys Jennifer Knight and Robb Stokar from Front Line Advisors, LLC. The interview took place in a conference room in the administrative section of the Middletown Police Department (MPD).

The interview was audio recorded. This report is a summary only. The entire interview can be reviewed on the recording.

Officer Rawlins stated that he has been with MPD for approximately 4.5 years and currently works as a patrol officer with a secondary assignment as the FTO of Officer Marc Hunt. Regarding the incident that occurred on December 24, 2024, Officer Rawlins provided the following information:

He was on duty at the police station when he heard a dispatch for a disturbance call at 1004 Park Lane. He and Off. Hunt departed for the location. Off. Rawlins was wearing his full MPD uniform with clearly marked "Police" patches, his nameplate, and badge apparent and in view.

The two officers arrived at the location at the same time as responding MPD Officers Jacob Swanger and [REDACTED]. The officers determined that the disturbance was occurring on the second floor of the apartment building where they could hear two males talking loudly through the door.

[REDACTED] positioned himself on the left side of the apartment door and knocked, first multiple times with his knuckles, and then with his flashlight. While knocking, [REDACTED] also announced, "Middletown Police." Officers Rawlins and Hunt were positioned behind [REDACTED]

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██████████. While ██████████ was knocking, Off. Swanger positioned himself on the stairs going up to the next level of the building.

At one point, Off. Rawlins heard the apartment door "crack open" and then "a couple of seconds" went by before ██████████ reached for his weapon and fired 4-5 shots. A male subject was hit and fell to the ground.

Once Off. Rawlins saw the downed subject, he sequestered ██████████ away from the area of the shooting. Off. Swanger informed the other officers that there was a gun on the ground. A pistol was in fact found, which "had fallen under a coffee table." Another male was then encountered in the apartment and complied with orders to remain where he was.

Off. Rawlins moved the found gun away from the fallen subject and directed Off. Hunt to initiate CPR on the subject while Off. Rawlins and Swanger cleared the apartment. Once the apartment was cleared, Off. Rawlins went outside to check on ██████████ and then re-entered to assist other officers with life saving measures.

Off. Rawlins said that no other officers fired during the encounter and ██████████ did not make any statements after the shooting other than to say he was okay. The fallen subject did not say anything during the encounter. The other male in the apartment had screamed "What happened? What happened? What happened?!" and said "You shot my dad!"

Off. Rawlins stated to investigators that from his position behind ██████████, he could not see the threat, did not have a shot, and therefore did not fire. Off. Rawlins said he believed that MPD officers did everything in their power in attempting to save the subject's life. Off. Rawlins said there was no available cover or concealment in the hallway when they were knocking on the door.

The interview terminated at approximately 1014 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-01-09 / Off. Ryun Rawlins interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.