



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



2022-1472  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 2793 Waterpark Drive, Mason,  
OH (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Thomas Henry Cromwell (S), Deputy Adam Sturgill (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 07/13/2022  
**Activity Location:** Warren County Sheriff's Office – Business – 822 Memorial Drive ,  
Lebanon, OH 45036, Warren County

**Narrative:**

On July 12, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at the Baymont hotel, located at 2793 Waterpark Drive in the city of Mason. During the OICI, an operator with the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team mortally wounded a suspect and recent River City Correctional Center escapee, Thomas Cromwell (Cromwell), during a hostage rescue situation.

On July 13, 2022, at 1318 hours, BCI Special Agent Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. negotiator Officer Adam Sturgill (Deputy Sturgill) regarding his involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the Warren County Sheriff's Office. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. 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 audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Deputy Sturgill advised that he works for the Warren County Sheriff's Office as a deputy. He has been so employed for approximately 15 years. He is currently assigned to Court Services. He has been assigned as a negotiator on the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team for approximately six years. He has been to specialized negotiator training, including a week long negotiator school at the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Academy (OPOTA). The Negotiator team trains once a month. Deputy Sturgill has attended the Midwest Negotiator's Conference in Columbus, Ohio, for the last five years. Deputy Sturgill has also been to Crisis Negotiation Training for people with mental health issues. He has been on numerous callouts (maybe 15) with negotiation aspects.

Regarding the OICI, Deputy Sturgill advised BCI agents of the following information:

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.

On Monday, July 11, 2022, Deputy Sturgill received a S.W.A.T. call-out for an incident at the Baymont hotel located in the city of Mason. He had to retrieve additional equipment from the office and when he arrived on scene, Officer Frasher was already talking to Cromwell on the phone and had already gathered some intelligence on the situation. Deputy Sturgill set up the equipment and advised that Officer Frasher would be the primary negotiator and Deputy Sturgill would be the secondary.

Contact was established with Cromwell, but Deputy Sturgill felt that Cromwell was in contact with others because Cromwell kept saying "hold on" and hanging up on negotiators. Cromwell also continuously stated that he wanted to talk to "his people". Cromwell could never get off the points that he was not coming out of the room and he was not going back to jail.

Deputy Sturgill interviewed members of Cromwell's family and his ex-girlfriend Jade. Jade told Deputy Sturgill that Cromwell was out of his mind right now and that she had not seen him like that ever. Jade told Deputy Sturgill that she knew Cromwell had a knife, but she wasn't sure if he had a gun. Cromwell kept telling negotiators to "get his people and we can turn it up." There were times where Cromwell would ignore many many calls from negotiators before answering.

Deputy Sturgill stated that they were not sure at first that Rose was unwilling to be there and that she was angry with Deputy Sturgill on the phone after the television and Wi-Fi were turned off. The SWAT operators could hear Rose and Cromwell arguing in the room and relayed this to the negotiators over the radio.

Deputy Sturgill stated that after Cromwell posted the Facebook Live video where Cromwell threatened Rose with a knife, it became clear to the negotiations team that Rose was truly a hostage and that the situation was dangerous.

After the video and around 0100 hours, Cromwell called Deputy Sturgill and said he wanted cigarettes, cheeseburgers and alcohol, which he then changed to Sprite for Rose. Cromwell also wanted them to let the dog out. Deputy Sturgill offered to get all of these things, as well as a Dog Warden to babysit the dog until later. Deputy Sturgill then had a meeting with the commander and talked about this exchange as an opportunity for the team. The Warren County Team was then called back to the scene to enact the plan.

The plan was for Deputy Sturgill to call Cromwell and offer to do the exchange. While Deputy Sturgill was on the phone negotiating the exchange, entry would be made into the room.

Deputy Sturgill stated that when entry was made, he could hear Cromwell yelling at the Entry Team to "back the fuck up", repeatedly on the open phone line. He then heard the Entry Team call for a Medic.

The interview was concluded at 1342 hours.

#### **Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-07-13 / Deputy Adam Sturgill Interview

# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**