

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



2025-1049 Officer Involved Critical Incident - Interstate 275 / State Route 32, OH, 45245 (Clermont County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: Officer Alex Puckett (W)

Date of Activity: 04/02/2025

Activity Location: – Business – 1000 Hospital Drive,

Batavia, OH 45103

Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

Narrative:

On April 2, 2025, at approximately 1507 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Dave Hornyak interviewed Union Twp. Police Officer Alex Puckett relative to the officer-involved critical incident that occurred earlier that morning at on I-275 in Clermont County, Ohio. Officer Puckett stated that he was voluntarily participating in the interview and then provided the following information:

His involvement with the incident began when he was dispatched on a report of a wrong-way vehicle on I-275. While patrolling I-275 south, the vehicle went past him traveling north in the southbound (SB) lanes. Off. Puckett continued traveling south until able to turn around in the northbound (NB) lanes to reestablish contact with the wrong-way vehicle.

When he next saw the vehicle, an Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) cruiser struck the wrong-way vehicle until both cars were stationary, side-by-side, still in the SB lanes of I-275. Both vehicles faced north and the subject vehicle was wedged sideways against the barrier wall. The passenger side of the OSP cruiser was directly next to the driver's side of the subject vehicle.

Off. Puckett parked his cruiser on the NB berm, went over the guardrail on foot, and ran over to the stationary vehicles. Taking a position at the front of the wrong-way vehicle, Off. Puckett and other law enforcement officers drew their firearms and voiced commands for the vehicle occupant to show her hands. Union Twp. Police Department (UTPD) and (Derek) Disbennett along with UTPD Off. Tyler Hale were also near Off. Puckett with guns drawn. Multiple shots were then fired and the window of the subject vehicle shattered. At the time, Off. Puckett did not know who fired, but later learned it was the OSP trooper. Off. Puckett stated he does not know that trooper or his name.

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After the shots were fired, the trooper moved his cruiser to provide officers with access to the wrong-way vehicle. The wrong-way vehicle then also started to move at which point, UTPD stated he was going to shoot the tires, and then proceeded to do so. The subject vehicle slowed and came to a stop when it struck the berm on the opposite side of the highway. Off. Puckett believes the subject vehicle was only rolling when it began to move and was not being actively driven by the subject whose hands were not on the wheel.

When the vehicle came to a stop, officers removed the female subject who was then handcuffed by Off. Puckett. Officers then began life-saving measures. Off. Puckett observed a firearm fall out of the wrong-way vehicle when the subject was being removed. Off. Puckett described the subject as a White female and stated that she did not say anything during the encounter.

Off. Puckett stated that his body-worn camera (BWC) was active during the entire incident and advised that his cruiser was not outfitted with a separate camera. The interview terminated at approximately 1533 hours.

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

References:

UTPD BWC Videos on Axon

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-04-02 / Off. Alex Puckett UTPD interview

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Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.