



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



2025-3709
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4175 Brush Creek Rd.,
 Manchester, OH 45144 (L)

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview
Involves: ██████████
Activity Date: 12/18/2025
Activity Location: Law Offices of McConn, Curell, Purdy & Mayes: 118 South Main Street, Georgetown, Ohio 45121
Authoring Agent: SA Joshua Welty #173

Narrative:

On Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 1002 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) and SA Josh Welty (SA Welty) interviewed West Union Police Department (WUPD) ██████████ ██████████ who was accompanied by his attorney, Thomas Mayes, from the Law Offices of McConn, Curell, Purdy & Mayes, and WUPD Chief of Police Larry Anderson. The interview took place at 118 South Main Street, Georgetown, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

██████████ read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. SA Holcomb made it clear this interview was voluntary and not a Garrity interview despite having Chief Anderson in attendance.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: ██████████	Rank: ██████████
Badge Number: ██████	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: ██████
Radio Call Sign: ██████	Immediate Supervisor: Chief Larry

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	Anderson
Radio Channel Utilized: N/A	Mobile Data Terminal: Not Present
Cruiser Description: Dark blue – marked with West Union Police Department, American flag, and a bald eagle.	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: N/A
Assignment: Patrol	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Various	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: N/A	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: Contact Lenses
Uniform Worn: Black pants, shirt, plate carrier, duty belt	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Not Present
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: No
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: N/A	OPOTC Certification: Southern Ohio Police Academy – [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: [REDACTED]	Use-of-Force Training: 2025
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: N/A

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

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Make: Sig Sauer	Model: P320
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Duty Belt
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 52	Number of Rounds Fired: Not discharged
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Personally Owned
Last Qualification Date: 9/16/2025	Type of Holster, if any: Retention Holster

Weapon #2

Make: DDM4 (Upper) / Areo Precision (Lower)	Model: V9 Freedom (Upper)
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Sling
Magazine Capacity: 20	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: 1	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 28
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 45	Number of Rounds Fired: 1
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Personally Owned
Last Qualification Date: 9/16/2025	Type of Holster, if any: Sling

Narrative:

[REDACTED] stated he first became involved in the incident after receiving a call relative to an "armed individual" (later to be identified as Christopher Lindner) harassing his brother. [REDACTED] responded to assist the Adams County Sheriff's deputy responding to the call.

Once arriving at the call location, it was learned Lindner had fled. [REDACTED] and other officers devised a plan to locate the vehicle. While searching, [REDACTED] passed the vehicle relating to the call, described as a dark colored SUV, possibly a

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Range Rover. He then turned and began following the vehicle. ██████████ stated he did not activate his overhead lights at the request of the Adams County Sheriff's Office, "... because he [Lindner] was probably armed and dangerous." While following the vehicle, he lost sight due to the speed.

SA Holcomb ask ██████████ to describe Lindner's speed and driving. He explained Lindner's driving was normal until Mineral Springs, then Lindner began travelling at a high rate of speed. ██████████ explained he would have wrecked his cruiser if he had attempted to keep up with Lindner.

██████████ continued to monitor radio traffic while other officers were pursuing the vehicle. He later learned an attempt was made to utilize stop-sticks but was unsuccessful. ██████████ then became aware of the address for Lindner's residence and started towards the house.

Upon arriving at his (Lindner) residence on Brush Creek Road, ██████████ heard Lindner was armed and went inside the residence, describing it as a barricade. He retrieved his rifle from his patrol vehicle and accompanied the Chief of Peebles Police Department to the south side of the residence (notated by a red 'X' on attachment 3), where a deputy later joined them.

Once at their location, ██████████ observed movement in a south side window (first floor), described as a "pane window" but could not get 'PID' (positive identification). He then saw Lindner exit the residence on the second floor. ██████████ at this point had a 'keyhole' (sight picture - full body with no obstruction) and attempted to relay information to other officers by radio but was unsuccessful. Specifically, he tried to radio Lindner had a weapon.

██████████ saw Lindner discharge his firearm. He explained it was "in the direction of other officers", and "... to prevent loss of life of anybody else" he ██████████ discharged his firearm, firing one round. After discharging his firearm, ██████████ regained sight of Lindner and noticed he was laying down. He did not see any movement but continued to cover the exit while the other officers made their approach.

SA Holcomb asked ██████████ to describe his aim point. He stated he was aiming center-mass. He was also asked why he only fired one round. ██████████ stated he only fired one round because he did not have PID, and once he had PID, Lindner was laying on the ground.

SA Holcomb presented an overview map of the residence and asked ██████████ to draw a line in the general direction Lindner was pointing his rifle. He further stated

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Lindner made a statement when he shouldered his rifle. The statement: "this is the lords land, and you have no right to be here." [REDACTED] estimated Lindner was on the balcony for 15-20 seconds before being shot. He also described Lindner as casual, not rushing, methodical, and knew what he was doing.



(Diagram penned during interview. Straight line denotes general direction of Lindner's rifle, and the 'X' was [REDACTED] location)

[REDACTED] was asked by SA Holcomb to describe Lindner's firearm. He described the gun as having a wood stock, black barrel, scoped, long gun. He also noted based on his experience the sound of the firearm told him the weapon was a high-powered rifle, upwards of .308 - 30-06 caliber.

After other officers declared Lindner had unsurvivable injuries, [REDACTED] secured his rifle and fired casing. He then remained on scene until travelling to the Georgetown Ohio State Highway Patrol post where he met with BCI. His weapon was collected as evidence and photographs taken of his uniform.

SA Holcomb asked additional follow up questions. [REDACTED] was asked how far he was away from the balcony. He estimated the distance to be 70 yards. He described his line of sight as seeing Lindner's full body with no obstructions.

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██████████ was asked by SA Holcomb if his rifle had an optic. He stated yes. He used the optic during the incident, and the optic had magnification and was set at four (4) when discharged.

██████████ was asked by SA Holcomb if he feared for his life, or life of others on the scene when he discharged his rifle. He stated yes. He further shared his experienced, coupled with the sound of the firearm told him it would either kill or extremely damage other people. ██████████ stated his plates (body armor) may not have stopped a round of that size.

██████████ stated he followed all West Union Police Department policies and procedures during the incident.

██████████ was asked if he had any prior contacts with Christopher Lindner (personal or professional), and he stated no.

The interview concluded at approximately 1024 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 1: CIN - ██████████

Attachment # 2: 2025-12-18 - ██████████ interview (2025-3709)

Attachment # 3: ██████████ Diagram

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Criminal Investigation Notification

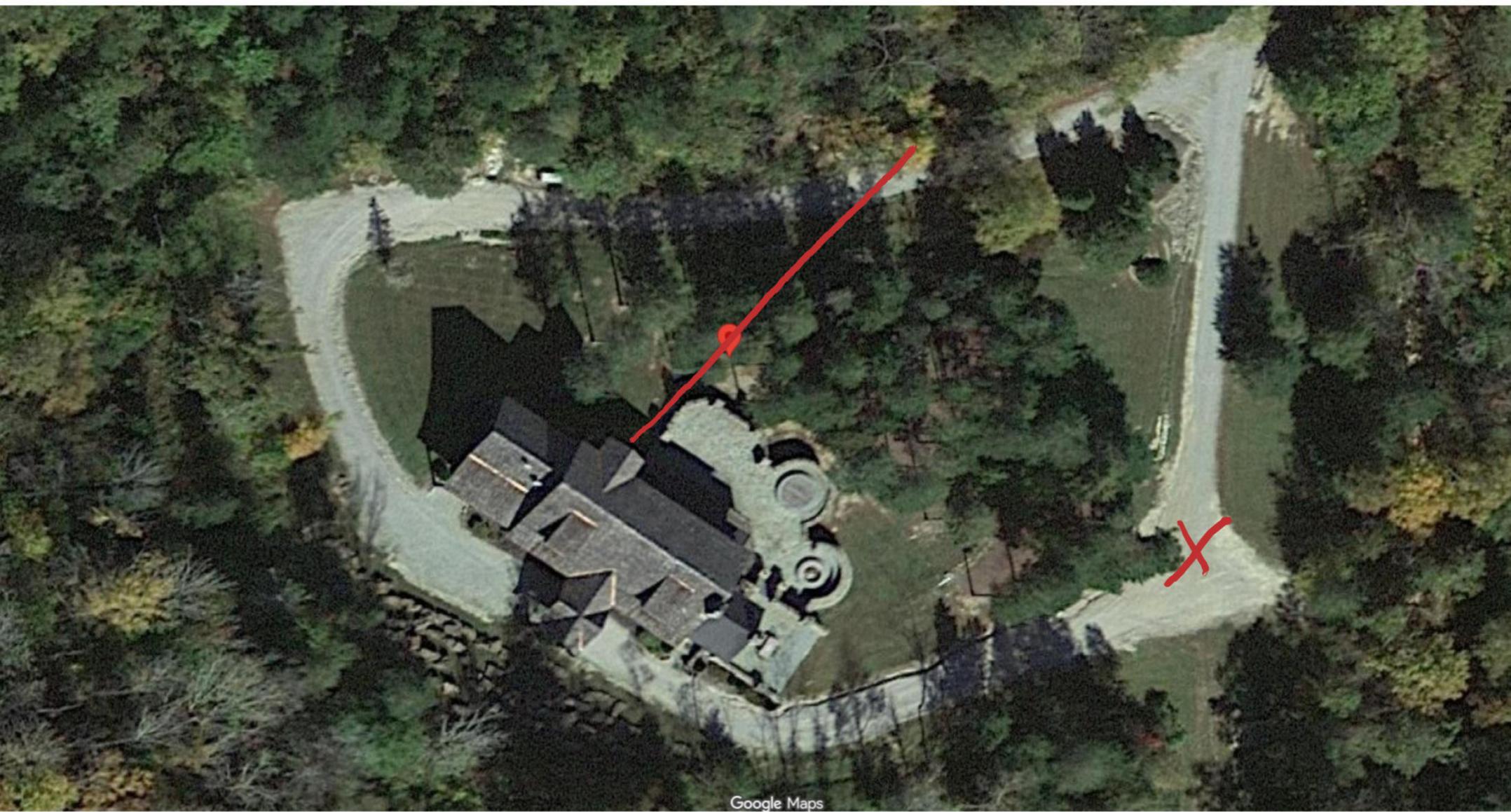
1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. 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 **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).



18 DEC 2025 10:01 am
Date / Time

SA Josh Welty #173
BCI Agent (Printed)

SA J Welty
BCI Agent (Signature)



Google Maps