



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



2024-2727

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Unknown, Maureen
Stopperich (V)

Investigative Activity: Crime Scene Processing
Involves: Youngstown Police Department
Activity Date: 09/10/2024
Activity Location: 1370 Belmont Ave, Youngstown, OH 44504
Authoring Agent: S/A Chad Doran #177

Narrative:

On 09/10/2024 at approximately 1800 hrs, BCI Crime Scene Special Agents (S/A) Larry Hootman and Chad Doran were contacted by BCI Special Agent Supervisor (S/A/S) Edward Lulla regarding a request for assistance from the Youngstown Police Department (YPD). BCI Crime Scene Unit was tasked with processing the scene of an officer-involved critical incident at a Dollar General store located at 1370 Belmont Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44504. The incident would be investigated by the BCI Special Investigations Unit.



Fig. 1: The scene exterior front. [REDACTED] unmarked white Ford Explorer police cruiser is seen in front of the entrance, and the victim/ suspect's tan Buick Lacrosse can be seen at the left edge of the frame.

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S/A Doran arrived on scene at approximately 1900 hrs. S/A Hootman and S/A/S Lulla arrived a short time later. Agents contacted YPD Detective Sergeant (D/S) Chad Zubal, D/S Sharon Cole, and YPD Crime Lab Officer (Ofc.) Greg Miller. Details of the incident were provided as follows:

YPD officers responded to the Dollar General store at 1370 Belmont Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44504 for reports of a male suspect who stabbed a female before stabbing himself. The first officer on scene, YPD [REDACTED] entered the store and confronted the suspect, later identified as suspect Shane Linderman. The encounter resulted in an officer-involved shooting incident. EMS responded to the scene. The female, later identified as Maureen Stopperich, was transported to the hospital by ambulance, and Linderman was pronounced deceased at the scene. [REDACTED] was reported to be the only officer to discharge his firearm. He was transported to the hospital for evaluation prior to BCI arrival.

The scene was a single-story department store on the West side of Belmont Avenue, with the front of the structure facing East. There was a tan Buick Lacrosse four-door sedan bearing Pennsylvania registration KJD9280 parked in the Southwest corner of the front parking lot. YPD personnel advised this vehicle was associated with the victim and suspect. S/A Doran obtained photographs of the store exterior front, as well as overall exterior photographs of the Buick Lacrosse.

Upon entering the business through the front entry door, there was an open foyer area with the checkout counters to the immediate right. The aisles on the North side of the store were positioned to flow from the back of the store to the front checkout area. The aisles on the South side of the store ran perpendicular to the aisles on the North side.

Ofc. Miller placed evidence placards in the scene prior to BCI arrival. S/A Doran photographed the scene as it was found. S/A Hootman deployed the Leica BLK360 scanner and scanned the store interior as it was found.

Three fired Hornady 9mm Luger +P cartridge casings were located. The first (item 1, fig. 2) was found in the front foyer area, to the South of the checkout area. The other fired cartridge casings (items 2 and 3, fig. 3) were in the checkout area, near the suspect's body. The suspect was a white male wearing a white tank top shirt, tan cargo shorts, and work boots. The suspect was in the checkout area near the East end of aisle 11 and was handcuffed behind his back.

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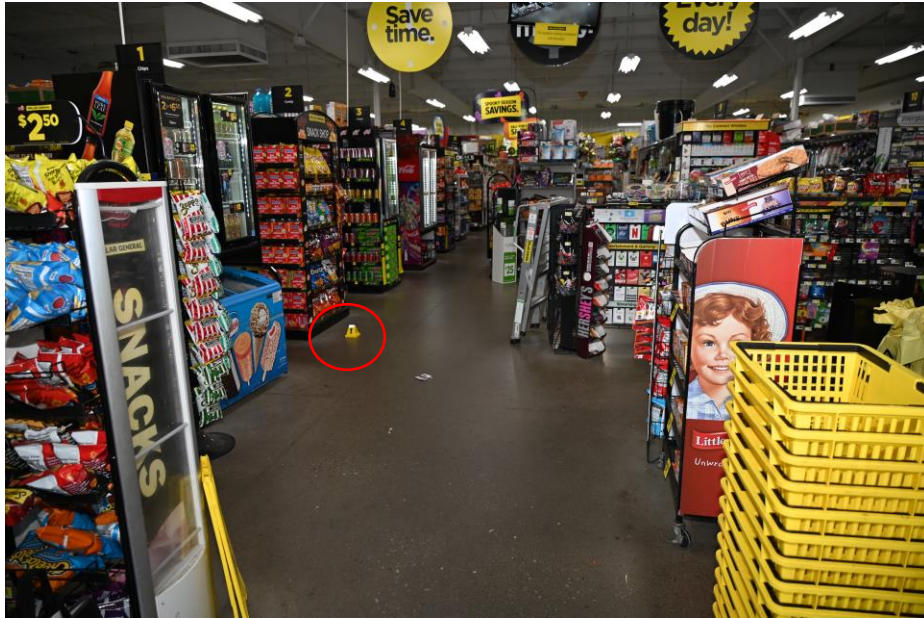


Fig. 2: A view of the foyer from the store's front entrance, facing West. A fired Hornady 9mm Luger +P cartridge casing on the floor is marked with placard 1.



Fig. 3: A view of the checkout area, facing North. Aisle 11 is designated by the [arrow](#) at left.

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Aisle 11 led toward the rear of the store and intersected with a North-South aisle. It then continued to the rear of the store but was now designated as aisle 20 (fig. 4).

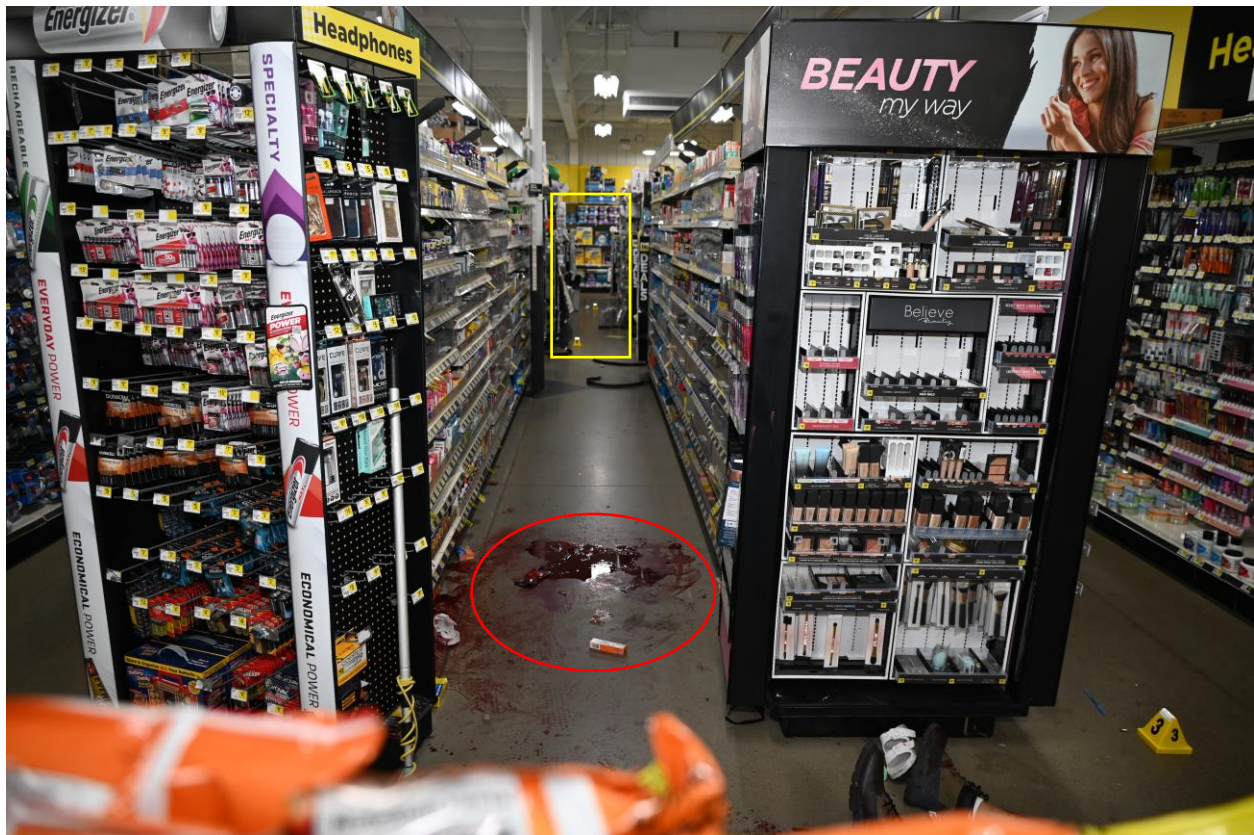


Fig. 4: A view of aisle 11, facing West. The yellow box above shows the area West of the intersection that was designated aisle 20. Stain "C" is circled in red.

Three distinct areas of reddish-brown stains, separate from the suspect's body, were identified. Stain "A" (fig. 5) was located along the floor of aisle 20. Stain "B" (fig. 6) was in the middle of aisle 11. Stain "C" was near the East end of aisle 11 (fig. 4). S/A/S Lulla used sterile cotton-tipped applicators and obtained a swab of each stain. The swabs were packaged into paper envelopes.

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Fig. 5: Stain "A" in aisle 20 (view facing West)

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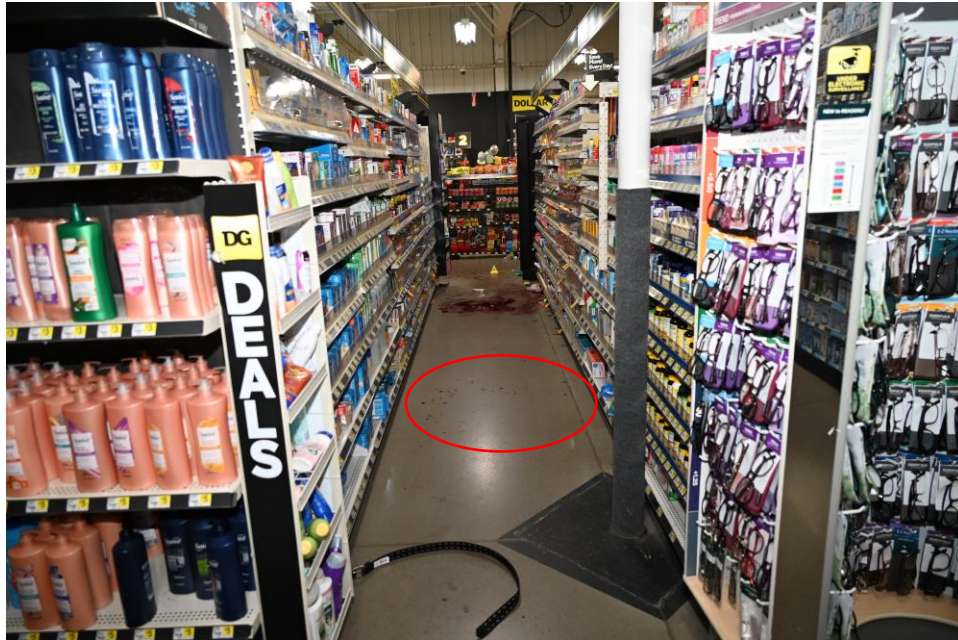


Fig. 6: Stain "B" in aisle 11 (view facing East).

On the floor near the East end of aisle 20, a "Goodcook" brand kitchen knife with a black handle was observed with reddish stains on the blade (item 4, fig. 7). The knife was photographed, with and without scale, and it was packaged in a cardboard knife box. On a shelf on the North side of aisle 20, a "Goodcook" brand 3-pack knife set had been opened, and only two knives were inside the package. S/A/S Lulla processed the package exterior for latent fingerprints and developed two latent lifts. The lifts were fixed to a clear acetate sheet, which was packaged in a paper envelope as item 7. The knife set was then collected into a cardboard box (item 5, fig. 8). A pair of "Essentials" brand reading glasses was on the floor of aisle 20, and it was collected into a paper bag (item 6).

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Fig. 7: "Goodcook" brand kitchen knife with reddish stains on the blade, located on the floor of aisle 20.



Fig. 8: "Goodcook" brand 3-pack of kitchen knives located on a North side shelf of aisle 20.

On the floor of aisle 11, near stain "C," there was a stack of US currency (item 11) with two identification cards and a Citizens Bank Mastercard (item 12) belonging to the victim

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(fig. 9). S/A/S Lulla counted the currency which totaled \$700.00 USD. The count was witnessed by S/A Doran.



Fig. 9: \$700.00 USD with identification cards and a Mastercard belonging to Maureen Stopperich.

A pair of white sandals found at the end of aisle 11, near the suspect's body, was initially marked as evidence item 13 in the CSU photographs. However, the sandals were collected by YPD (along with the victim's clothing) and were not collected by BCI.

The Mahoning County Coroner's Office removed the suspect's body from the scene. At this time, a blue Motorola touchscreen phone was found in the suspect's rear pants pocket. It was photographed and collected into a plastic bag as item 13 (fig. 10).

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Fig. 10: Motorola touchscreen phone found in the suspect's pants pocket.

S/A Doran and BCI SIU S/A Jack Shea met with Ofc. Miller and took custody of [REDACTED] equipment. S/A Shea completed a "round count." [REDACTED] service weapon, a Sig Sauer P320 9mm semiautomatic pistol S/N [REDACTED], was loaded with one unfired cartridge in the chamber, and 17 unfired cartridges in the magazine. The weapon was photographed and packaged into a cardboard gun box (item 8, fig. 11). [REDACTED] Safariland handgun holster (item 9) and his ballistic vest carrier with equipment (item 10) were packaged in paper bags.

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Fig. 11: [REDACTED] Sig Sauer P320 9mm pistol S/N [REDACTED] magazine, and unfired cartridge from the chamber.

The packaging for all evidence recovered was sealed with clear tape and initialed. S/A Hootman and S/A John Tingley both signed the evidence receipt, and all items seized were turned over to S/A Tingley to be secured into BCI evidence. All photographs were uploaded to Matrix. The scan data was prepared for viewing using the Cyclone Register360 software. The scan data was stored in the "BCI Scanner" folder on the shared directory.

References: None

Attachments: None

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