



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



2026-1239
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 31000 Block U.S. Route
250, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, Harrison County

Investigative Activity: Radio Traffic Review - OSHP
Involves: Ohio State Highway Patrol (O)
Activity Date: 04/16/2026
Activity Location: US 22 near Miller Station Road, Hopedale, OH 43976
Authoring Agent: SA David Hammond #120

Narrative:

On Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent David Hammond (SA Hammond) reviewed the audio recordings received from the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP). The audio recordings were recorded during the officer involved critical incident (OICI) which occurred on March 30, 2026, on US 22 near Miller Station Road, Hopedale, OH¹.

Title	Uploaded Date	File Type	Size	Duration
OSHP Radio Traffic.wma	10 April 2025 11:41	Audio	45.8mb	2:11:31

On Monday, March 30, 2026, at approximately 1140 hours, Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Units were advised that Harrison County Sheriff's Office had reported shots fired and that a subject had been struck. A blue Dodge SUV, later identified as a 2014 Dodge registered to a female in Steubenville, was reported fleeing eastbound on State Route 250. Multiple units responded as the vehicle traveled at high speeds, at times approaching 90 mph, and attempts to deploy spike strips were unsuccessful.

The subject vehicle continued in Harrison County heading toward Jefferson County, where it struck at least one patrol cruiser. Shots were fired during this phase of the pursuit, and the subject fled on foot into a wooded area north of the roadway. Units established a perimeter, shut down highways including SR 22 and SR 151, and requested aviation support, drones, and SRT teams.

Initial information suggested the subject was a white male approximately 50 years old wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt. BCI responded, and additional agencies from surrounding jurisdictions assisted with perimeter containment and traffic control.

¹ The summary was generated with the assistance of AI. While the summary was reviewed for accuracy, refer to the original recording for further detail.

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Search teams pushed into the woods with drone and helicopter overwatch. The subject's possible movements were repeatedly reported by witnesses, including sightings near Sinfield Road, Braddock Road, and Cadiz Junction Road. A silver Dodge 1500 pickup was believed to have been stolen by the subject, but after multiple checks the vehicle was determined not to be stolen. Instead, a neighbor had mistakenly believed the subject took it while the vehicle's owner was sighting a turkey gun on the property.

Teams returned to Jacobi Road and reestablished a containment perimeter. Coordination between SRT, drone operators, aviation, and patrol units continued as searches progressed through thick woods, ravines, and power-line cuts.

At approximately 1320 hours, new information indicated the subject had entered a small cabin on Black Road, shaved his beard, obtained a green winter coat and black sweatpants. He reportedly displayed a black-and-silver semi-automatic handgun with a reflex sight to the occupants. The subject fled east from that location shortly before units arrived.

At approximately 1330 hours, Air Support located the subject in a wooded area west of Sinfield Road near Mine Road. He was observed hiding behind trees and moving intermittently as officers and SRT units attempted to tighten the perimeter. Ground units, drones, and aviation coordinated movement, while attempting to contain him. The subject continued moving through wooded terrain between Mine Road, Black Road, and the nearby data-center property.

The search concluded with officers maintaining containment, coordinating approach routes, and preparing for apprehension, while the helicopter maintained aerial surveillance and provided directional guidance.

While listening to the audio recording, the following portions of the radio traffic were deemed the most relevant to the investigation:

- At the 00:00:00 mark, OSHP Dispatch notified units that Harrison County Sheriff's Office had shots fired. [REDACTED] was dispatched to the area. Subject vehicle description was reported as a blue SUV driving east bound. Unit 1725 advised that he was responding.
- At the 00:01:13 mark, Subject vehicle description given as John Sam Charles 4504 (JSC-4504). Unit [REDACTED] located the vehicle traveling east bound. Vehicle speeds were reported at 90 to 100 mph.

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- At the 00:02:40 mark, Cadiz Police attempted to slow the vehicle with spike-strips at the county home.
- At the 00:03:23 mark, OSHP Dispatch advised that the plate came back to a 2014 Dodge registered to Karen Delaney of Steubenville. Unit 41 requested dispatch to contact Steubenville PD and advised that the pursuit may be heading their way.
- At the 00:04:12 mark, there was an unsuccessful spike strip attempt by unit 19.
- At the 00:04:33 mark, Trooper advised that they were coming up on County Road 13.
- At the 00:04:55 mark, Unit 31 advised, "spikes are good. Spikes are good. Shots fired. Shots fired."
- At the 00:05:13 mark, 1720 advised, "He is in the woods. In the woods north of the scene here."
- At the 00:06:19 mark, Unit 41 advised that Unit [REDACTED] fired his weapon and that a cruiser was struck.
- At the 00:06:33 mark, Unit [REDACTED] described the subject as "a white male around 50 years old."
- At the 00:08:00 mark, OSHP dispatch advised that Special Response and Tactics Team (SRT) and Aviation (Plane 11) were enroute.
- Between the 00:10:51 and 00:16:15 marks, OSHP Troopers were monitoring the woods north of the scene with a drone. They believed the subject was lying down near a creek bed (00:13:57 mark). Units advised that the subject being monitored by the drone was a deer, not the subject.
- At the 00:20:01 mark, Unit 20 advised that a truck driver witnessed the subject traveling north towards the power lines. He observed him running. He advised that a house was in the area.
- At the 00:30:19 mark, an unknown unit advised that the "last ping was at 1245. Verizon just called back and it was showing about a mile off 22 in between 22 and Jacobi."
- At the 00:45:42 mark, an unknown unit advised that a white male wearing a white tee shirt, blue jeans and black baseball hat was observed in the area of 46067 Cadiz Junction Road. The male subject, "had a 40 in his hand."
- Between the 00:45:42 and 01:15:00 mark, several investigators searched the area for a silver or blue truck that may have been stolen. Residents in the area reported hearing shots fired in the area. The vehicle was located in Jefferson

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County, and the driver was not the subject. Investigators confirmed that no vehicle was stolen from the area.

- Between 01:35:30 and 01:41:01 mark, a 911 caller reported a subject near 86505 Black Rd. The property has several cabins/campers. The on-scene teams confirmed fresh beard shaving, clippers, and facial hair was found. Occupants reported the subject was present 15 minutes prior, but fled east from that site, wearing black sweatpants and a winter coat, carrying a black/silver semi auto pistol with reflex sight.
- At the 01:43:02 mark, Air Support advised, "Looks like we got him located. He's at the end of Mine Rd."
- At the 01:47:05 mark, Air Support advised, "Just be advised, he does have a gun. Got in his right hand now. He's got a pistol."
- At the 01:48:57 mark, Units requested that Emergency Medical Service respond to the area and stage in a safe location.
- At the 01:54:55 mark, the Air Support advised that the subject continued to move into the woods. "Pistol still in his right hand."
- At the 01:55:36 mark, "While we have the helicopter, let's go ahead and start moving in before the helicopter leaves." A second unit advised, "We're working on giving him announcements to surrender."
- At the 01:57:22 mark, Air Support reported that the subject was mobile, stating, "He's back up moving... picked another smaller tree... pistol is in his right hand still."
- At the 01:57:224 mark, "SRT is working on a plan".
- At the 01:58:27 mark, Air Support notified ground units that the subject continued to move short distances, explaining, "He's working southbound now... only about five yards." Units discussed clearing lanes for EMS and staging locations on Mine Road.
- At the 01:59:32 mark, Air Support identified IR strobes from ground personnel and relayed that the subject was positioned "straight off your furthest west member." They also confirmed the subject appeared not to be wearing tactical headgear.
- At the 02:00:43 mark, Air Support requested ground teams activate IR beacons for tracking and noted, "He does not appear that he has anything that's going to see anything IR... your IR beacon should be good."
- At the 02:01:30 mark, Air Support guided a team of approximately 12 officers, advising that the subject was positioned on the far-left side of their formation.

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They directed, "Walk that skirmish line straight into the woods... he's furthest to the far left." A ground spotlight was ordered off due to backlighting concerns.

- At the 02:02:27 mark, an SRT team began to move into the woods with assistance from Air Support. Officers were instructed to travel approximately 250 yards north along an open cut line and prepare to cross a creek. When asked about approach preference, Air Support offered two options, and the ground leader replied, "Shortest distance." Air Support kept noise elevated to conceal officer movement.
- At the 02:03:50 mark, Air Support estimated the officers were near the subject, advising, "He's about 30 feet ahead of you... he's orbiting around the tree." Ground units were told to veer left toward the subject's 11 o'clock position.
- At the 02:05:04 mark, Air Support confirmed the subject's precise location: "Directly in front of you... about 150 feet... he is standing upright." Ground units requested the helicopter lower for cover noise.
- At the 02:05:51 mark, Air Support advised, "It looks like he might have the gun in his right hand. He's posted up behind the tree. You were about 75 feet. Danger close. 50 feet from contact, directly behind the tree posted up. Danger close."
- At the 02:06:16 mark, Unknown Unit advised, "Are we good for bean bag? I have a good shot." A second Unit stated, "Chris, go ahead with the less lethal."
- At the 02:06:30 mark, Unknown Unit advised, "Canines deployed. He's reaching for the gun guys. Watch him, by his left hand. The gun's down by his left hand."
- At the 02:06:30 mark, Unknown Unit advised, "We're making contact with him. Get that squad lined up as close as you can get it to us. We got one shot fired, one shot fired from the blue."
- At the 02:07:05 mark, Unknown Unit advised, "Get a wrap up here for Sergeant Wood. We have a headshot one on the subject. Headshot wound on the subject."
- At the 02:07:13 mark, Investigators were doing first aid and coordinating his movement to a clearing so that he could be treated by EMS.

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References:

Reference Item G – OSHP Radio Traffic – stored in Axon Justice

Attachments:

None

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