



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



2025-0883
Officer Involved Critical Incident – I-75 NB / Mile Marker 14,
Ewendale, Ohio (Hamilton County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Date of Activity: 03/21/2025
Activity Location: Hamilton County Sheriff's Office – 11021 Hamilton Road,
Cincinnati, OH 45231
Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

Narrative:

On March 25, 2025, at approximately 1401 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Dave Hornyak and Steve Seitzman interviewed Lockland Police [REDACTED], relative to the officer-involved critical incident that occurred on March 19, 2025, in the jurisdiction of Ewendale, Ohio. Also present for the interview was Stew Matthews, legal counsel for [REDACTED]. The interview took place at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in Cincinnati, Ohio. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this individual.

Just prior to the interview, agents provided Mr. Matthews with a copy of the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form and requested that he review the form with his client. Mr. Matthews and [REDACTED] then returned the form to the agents bearing [REDACTED] signature.

As the interview commenced, [REDACTED] verified that he had reviewed and signed the form and was aware this was a criminal investigation that required voluntary participation. [REDACTED] verbally verified that he understood the nature of the interview and then provided the following information:

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: Click here to enter text.
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: [REDACTED]
Radio Channel Utilized: LE Central-	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized

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Switched to Area wide 4	
Cruiser Description: Believed [REDACTED] – Chevrolet Tahoe with Lockland Police decals	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: No
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: [REDACTED]
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 8–9 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: Police officer: [REDACTED] a Hamilton County Special Deputy; full-time Lockland police officer since [REDACTED]. Also worked as a corrections officer for approximately six years.	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): n/a	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Department-issued navy-blue uniform, Lockland Police shoulder patches, badge, duty belt with Glock 17, load bearing external ballistic vest with “Police” lettering on the back	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: TASER 7
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present; Not Used
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: No
Injuries: No	Equipment Damage: No
Training or Areas of Specialty: 40-hour CIT course, Interpersonal Communication Skills (Corrections Academy)	OPOTC Certification: [REDACTED] Butler Tech Police Officer Training Academy
Military Experience/Training: [REDACTED]	Use-of-Force Training: Annual training; review use of force policies during annual training. Policy updates are sent via Lexipol.
Prior Shooting Incidents: No	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: No
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? Yes. Not impaired.	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Unknown but said it had been a while.

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Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi Automatic	Method of Carry: Duty belt holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17+1
Extra Magazines: 3	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Believed 12 rounds.	Number of Rounds Fired: Does not recall.
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Choose an item.	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: September or October 2024	Type of Holster, if any: Safariland Level III holster

Directly regarding the incident, [REDACTED] stated that on March 19, 2025, he was at the Hamilton County Justice Center when he heard on the radio when that the West Chester Police Department was pursuing a vehicle. [REDACTED] left the justice center and, while traveling north on I-75, observed a subject walking along the interstate. After verifying that some subjects from the pursuit were still at large, [REDACTED] parked his cruiser and made contact with the individual.

On foot, he yelled to the subject asking what was going on and how he could help. The subject did not respond but continued walking. [REDACTED] could see that the subject was carrying something. Regarding the object, [REDACTED] stated that he did not know "...if it's a metal pipe, if it's a machete, if it's a rifle, I don't know." [REDACTED] said that, due to the uncertainty, "I pulled out my service pistol." [REDACTED] stated that he then put the individual at gunpoint and yelled at the subject to stop walking towards him. He also ordered the subject to drop what was in his hands, and to "...get on the ground. Get on the ground. Get on the ground." [REDACTED] said he repeated the instruction over and over and was just "...screaming, screaming..." for the subject to comply. At this point in the interview [REDACTED] became very emotional stating tearfully, "I gave him every chance that I could." [REDACTED] said the subject continued to advance at him. Regarding the subject's demeanor, [REDACTED] descriptively stated, "...and this dude's eyes man...he just stared at me with this black...he had no emotion."

[REDACTED] said that, wanting to give the subject "the benefit of the doubt," he holstered his pistol, pulled out his Taser and again gave commands for the subject to stop. As the subject continued moving forward, [REDACTED] deployed his Taser. [REDACTED] stated that the Taser had no effect except that it seemed to only anger the subject who then began to run at the officer. [REDACTED] said he then unholstered his pistol and pointed it at the subject who at first stopped moving forward momentarily before "...moving at me. Lunging. Running at me. And that's when I fired my weapon."

[REDACTED] said that the subject fell to the ground and was still clinging to what [REDACTED]

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was then able to identify as "...a big, black metal pipe" in his right arm. ██████████ said he grabbed and tossed away the pipe and put the subject in handcuffs. ██████████ said at that point he "...just lost it..." and broke down emotionally as other officers arrived and took over the scene.

In response to questions from the interviewing BCI agents, ██████████ clarified that at the beginning of the encounter, the subject had been walking north on the northbound berm of I-75. The subject never said anything to ██████████ during the entire encounter. ██████████ verified again that the light bar on his cruise was activated during the entire encounter, that he was clearly identifiable as a police officer, and that his vehicle was parked directly near to where he first encountered the subject.

██████████ said that he only fired his pistol after the Taser had no effect, and when the subject continued to advance towards him with an unknown object placing him in fear for his life. ██████████ stated that his actions during the encounter, including the firing of his weapon, were consistent with his training and Ohio law. ██████████ said that at the time of the incident he did not know how many times he had fired and does not recall hearing his gunshots. ██████████ said he stopped firing after seeing that the subject "...was down on the ground and the threat was gone." ██████████ said he could not be certain of the distance between him and the subject when he fired, but stated he felt strongly that it was within 10 feet.

██████████ said that directly after the shooting incident he rode with LPD ██████████ back to the police station. ██████████ stated that the only thing he recalled telling ██████████ was, "You should have seen the look in this dude's eyes." ██████████ emphasized to the interviewing BCI agents that he gave the subject multiple repeated commands, which continued to be ignored, before finding it necessary to fire his pistol. ██████████ said that he is "...not one to ask for help, screaming for help, but I screamed for fucking help on that radio." ██████████ added that he was "backpedaling" the entire time he was dealing with the subject, often did not know what was behind him, and that he had no where to take cover. Finally, ██████████ clarified that the subject's arm that was holding the foreign object was coming up as if to strike the officer when ██████████ fired.

The interview terminated at approximately 1444 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:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-03-21 / ██████████ interview

Attachment # 02: 2025-03-21 / Crim Inv Notification form – Waters

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Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2



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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).

[Redacted Name]

Printed Name of interviewee

3-21-2025 1400hrs

Date / Time

[Redacted Signature]

SA DAVID HORMAN #112
BCI Agent (Printed)

David Horman
BCI Agent (Signature)