



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



2023-2210  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - [REDACTED] Howland  
Township, OH 44484 Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Agents Respond  
Activity Date: August 23, 2023  
Activity Location: [REDACTED] Howland Township, Ohio 44484  
Authoring Agent: SA Andrew J. Harasimchuk #170

**Narrative:**

On Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 0713 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Andrew Harasimchuk (Harasimchuk) was notified via the Who's Responding application by BCI Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Jonathan Lieber (Lieber) to respond to [REDACTED] Howland Township, Trumbull County, Ohio 44484 in reference to an officer-involved critical incident.

SA Harasimchuk arrived at the above-mentioned location on August 23, 2023, at approximately 0825 hours. After arriving on scene, SA Harasimchuk was briefed by Chief Nick Roberts (Chief Roberts) and Assistant Chief Jeff Urso (Assistant Chief Urso), of the Howland Township Police Department. Chief Roberts and Assistant Chief Urso explained to SA Harasimchuk that Howland Township officers responded to [REDACTED] on August 22, 2023, at approximately 2015 hours, for a domestic violence call. Chief Roberts and Assistant Chief Urso explained that after officers arrived, officers observed a male, Randall Fife (Fife), with a shotgun inside of the residence. Fife then barricaded himself [Fife] inside of the residence. Officers learned that Fife's mother, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) and Fife's brother, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), were also inside of the residence. Additionally, officers learned that [REDACTED]'s girlfriend [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) was also inside of the residence and that Fife was holding his [Fife's] mother, brother, and [REDACTED] hostage. Chief Roberts and Assistant Chief Urso said that the Mahoning Valley Crisis Response Team was notified and responded to the scene. The Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team is a multi-agency special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team that serves Mahoning and Trumbull Counties. Chief Roberts and Assistant Chief Urso advised SA Harasimchuk that once the Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team arrived on scene that the Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team became the lead agency for the barricade/hostage situation.

Chief Roberts and Assistant Chief Urso then directed SA Harasimchuk to Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team Commander John Elberty (Commander Elberty) for additional information. Commander Elberty advised SA Harasimchuk that the following four members of the Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team were struck by gunfire during the encounter with Fife:

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- Sergeant [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of the Youngstown Police Department. Sergeant [REDACTED]'s holster was struck by gunfire
- Officer [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of the Warren Police Department. Officer [REDACTED]'s leg was struck by gunfire.
- Officer [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of the Youngstown Police Department. Officer [REDACTED]'s forearm was struck by gunfire.
- Officer [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of the Boardman Police Department. Officer [REDACTED]'s leg was struck by gunfire.

Additionally, Commander Elberty advised SA Harasimchuk that the following three members of the Mahoning Valley Crises Response Team fired their weapons after the above-mentioned officers had been struck by gunfire:

- Sergeant [REDACTED] fired a rifle.
- Officer [REDACTED] of the Youngstown Police Department fired a pistol.
- Officer [REDACTED] fired a pistol.

On August 23, 2023 at approximately 0850 hours, SAS Lieber arrived on scene. After arriving on scene SAS Lieber spoke with Chief Roberts, Assistant Chief Urso and Commander Elberty. SAS Lieber also spoke with representatives from the Warren and Youngstown Police Departments.

On August 23, 2023, at approximately 0900 hours, SA Joseph Goudy (Goudy) arrived on scene. SA Goudy was briefed by SAS Lieber and SA Harasimchuk. After SA Goudy was briefed it was determined that SA Goudy would respond to the Howland Township Police Department to interview [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Refer to SA Goudy's reports titled, **Interview of [REDACTED]**, **Interview of [REDACTED]** and **Interview of [REDACTED]** for further information. SA Harasimchuk remained on scene and conducted a neighborhood canvass. Refer to SA Harasimchuk's report titled, **Neighborhood Canvass** for further details.

During the neighborhood canvas surveillance cameras were located at 3650 Highlawn Avenue Southeast. SAS Lieber requested for a BCI Cyber Crimes agent to respond to the scene. SA William Conn (Conn) responded to the scene and obtained the video surveillance footage from the surveillance cameras.

On August 23, 2023, at approximately 1024 hours, SA Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) arrived on scene. SA Momchilov was briefed by SAS Lieber and SA Harasimchuk. SA Momchilov was assigned as the lead agent for this case and began conducting his [SA Momchilov's] investigation.

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BCI's Crime Scene Unit was also requested and the following personnel responded to and processed the scene; SAS Edward Lulla, SA Ed Staley, SA Larry Hootman and Crime Scene Technician Michael Rostocil. Refer to the crime scene report for further details.