



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



2024-1584  
Officer Involved Critical Incident, 27695 Tracy Road, Walbridge,  
OH 43465, (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Body Camera Review  
**Involves:** Tyler Gearig (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 05/30/2024  
**Author:** SA Joshua S. Rammel, #175

**Narrative:**

On May 30, 2024, Special Agent (SA) Josh Rammel (Rammel) reviewed the body camera footage of Perrysburg Township Police Officer Tyler Gearig (Gearig) regarding the Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which took place on May 23, 2024, at 27695 Tracy Road, Walbridge, Ohio.

The body camera footage was identified as "GearigTyler\_20240523\_2257\_BWC2-064549\_24dce2c" and is 32 Minutes and 39 second in length. The footage begins on May 23, 2024, at 22:57:36.

The footage begins as Gearig is in the passenger seat of a cruiser being driven by another Perrysburg Township Police Officer. No audio is heard at this time.

At the 26 second mark Gearig exits the passenger side of the vehicle after the vehicle comes to a stop.

The audio begins at the 30 second mark.

Gearig and the other officer approach an area with several mobile homes.

Gearig and the other officer investigate the area and at the 1 minute 16 second mark an officer is heard saying "I hear him screaming".

Gearig and the other officer make contact with two additional Perrysburg Township Officers as they continue investigating the mobile home park. The other officers are identified as Ross Wheatley (Wheatley), Hunter Johnson (Johnson), and James Brazeau (Brazeau).

At the 1 minute 28 second mark five (5) gunshots are heard in the distance as the command is given to "back up, back up". All four officers take cover around the corner of a mobile home with their guns drawn down the patch of a ditch behind the same mobile home.

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At the 1 minute 40 second mark the decision is made by an officer to "get a rifle". Johnson and Wheatley head back to the cruisers to gather rifles.

At the 1 minute 52 second mark screaming is heard in the distance. The screaming continues off and on for the next few minutes. The screaming is illegible.

At the 1 minute 10 second mark dispatch is alerted to contact additional units, traffic on Tracy Road needs to be blocked, and that the individual is in a ditch by the road.

At the 2 minute 30 second mark an additional gunshot (6) is heard followed by another gunshot (7) at 2 minutes 35 seconds.

At the 2 minute 40 second mark additional commands are given to dispatch for Lake Township Police to stop traffic both directions on Tracy Road.

At the 2 minute 55 second mark dispatch is alerted that the individual is shooting at officers from the ditch.

At the 3 minute 4 second mark a possible additional gunshot (8) is heard.

All four police officers continue to hold cover around the mobile home and a large tree near the ditch as the individual continued to yell in the distance.

At the 4 minute 51 second mark officers advised that they could see the individual at the bottom of the ditch and that he may have a flashlight with him as well.

At the 5 minute 15 second mark four additional gun shots (12) are heard, with additional gunshots (14) at the 5 minute 19 second mark and the 5 minute 22 second mark.

At the 5 minute 31 second mark dispatch is again alerted to shots being fired.

At the 5 minute 51 second mark dispatch is alerted to place medics on standby.

At the 6 minute 12 second mark an officer is heard saying "I see him" with a confirmation that the individual is moving at the 6 minute 15 second mark.

At the 6 minute and 43 second mark an additional comment is made "I see him".

At the 6 minute 46 second mark a gunshot is heard (15) and appears to come from the officer with a rifle next to Gearig.

At the 6 minute 56 second mark another gunshot is heard (16).

At the 7 minute 18 second mark the officer next to Gearig advised that he "does not see movement" when looking down the ditch towards the individual. This is confirmed by Johnson at the 7 minute 28 second mark.

At the 7 minute 31 second mark Johnson stated, " I see no movement, and his lights in the ditch". This is spoken again by Johnson and Gearig to inform the other officers.

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At the 9 minute 15 second mark dispatch is alerted that the subject may no longer be in the ditch in an unknown direction.

At the 9 minute 25 second mark a resident exits his mobile home to see what the shooting was about before being commanded back into his residence.

At the 9 minute 50 second mark Gearig takes position by the rear of the mobile home with his gun pointed towards the individual in the ditch as the area is secured and Wheatley brings a cruiser around the ditch to provide additional light.

At the 11 minute 8 second mark Wheatley is seen stopping his cruiser on the other side of the ditch with the cruiser's spotlight directed into the ditch.

At the 12 minute 58 second mark Wheatley returned with his cruiser and parked it near the officers but on the other side of the ditch providing light in the ditch. All four officer proceed down the course of the ditch searching for the individual.

At the 13 minute 59 second mark it is stated that the individual still has the weapon in his hand.

Wheatley approached the individual and at the 14 minute 26 second mark commented that the individual is not breathing.

At the 14 minute 35 second mark Wheatley inquired if other officers were "running" and indicated that he forgot to "turn his on".

At the 14 minute 51 second mark Wheatley indicated that he was going to perform a safety check on the individual and proceeded to head further down the ditch towards the individual's body as Gearig provided cover with his firearm.

At the 15 minute 21 second mark Wheatley advised that he "was not getting anything".

At the 15 minute 34 second mark Wheatley secured the firearm away from the individual.

At the 15 minute 56 mark Wheatley informed dispatch that the individual was down and called for the medics to head towards the scene.

At the 16 minute 19 second mark Gearig indicated that the individual "has a bullet hole in his head".

At the 16 minute 57 mark Wheatley again advised that he was "not feeling anything" when checking for pulse and breath of the individual.

At the 17 minute 5 second mark Wheatley makes the determination to keep the individual where he currently is until the medic arrive.

At the 17 minute 26 second mark Johnson commented that he could hear and feel the individual's shots passing by his head as he held cover behind the tree. Johnson also commented about how he received fire from the individual as he initially began to exit cover.

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At the 18 minute 53 second mark Wheatley alerted dispatch to inform supervisor that it is an OICI and also to contact the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

At the 19 minute 5 second mark an additional officer inquired who all was involved and requested that Wheatley come with him.

At the 19 minute 37 second mark medics arrived on scene as Brazeau provided information to the medics including commenting that "we returned fire". Medics proceeded to provide aid to the individual in the ditch.

At the 20 minute 51 second mark Gearig asked Johnson if he fired to which Johnson indicated that he had not.

At the 21 minute mark Johnson stated he was shot at, and then informed Gearig that he left his body camera at the Perrysburg Township Police Department.

At the 21 minute 21 second mark Gearig informs other officers where they were during the time when shots fired and confirmed how large of an area needed to be secured.

Gearig continued to assist the medic until the 26 minute 56 second mark.

At the 27 minute 5 second mark Gearig informed another officer that the only officer who shot was Wheatley. Gearig was informed that all four of the involved officers need to remain separate as to not converse.

At the 28 minute 50 second mark Gearig is informed by another officer off camera that at least one round struck the tree that Johnson was utilizing for cover.

At the 29 minute 33 second mark Gearig and Johnson meet at the rear of their cruiser and Gearig secured Johnson's rifle back in its storage position in the cruiser.

At the 30 minute 50 second mark Gearig informed Johnson not to talk about the OICI and to just "hang out" for the time being.

At the 31 minute 7 second mark Gearig talks with other law enforcement regarding as to where potential bullet holes may be in the mobile home park.

The remainder of the recording is Gearig helping to calm down Johnson and make sure that Johnson was okay.

At the 32 minute 36 second mark the decision to turn off the body cameras was made by both Gearig and Brazeau.

The recording ceased at 23:30:15.

The complete body camera footage was burnt to a USB drive and labeled "Exhibit 1". The USB drive was placed in an external case file attached to this investigation.

The information contained in this report is only the information deemed important to the OICI

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investigation. See Exhibit 1 for the complete footage.

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