



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



2022-1564  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1132 Ashwood Drive, South  
Charleston, OH (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Det. Kyle Sullivan (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 08/25/2022  
**Activity Location:** Sullivan, Det. Kyle – Business – 130 N Fountain Ave, Springfield,  
OH 45502, Clark County  
**Author:** SA Kenneth J. Smith, #53

**Narrative:**

On July 24, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, Clark County. During the OICI, Deputy Matthew Yates was shot and killed by the involved subject, Cole White. This occurred after White had killed his mother, Jodie Arbuckle. Multiple agencies and SWAT teams responded and attempted multiple rescue efforts of Deputy Yates. During the standoff the mobile home caught fire and White was killed in the fire.

On August 25, 2022 at 1359 hours, BCI Special Agents Richard Ward (SA Ward) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Springfield Police Detective and SWAT team member Kyle Sullivan (Det. Sullivan) regarding his involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the Springfield Police Department. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Det. Sullivan has been employed with the Springfield Police Department for six years. He has been a Detective for two years and on the SWAT team for four years. His role on the team was that of operator, and tech specialist (drone, robot, etc). He has previous employment with the South Vienna PD (2009–2015) and the Wittenberg University PD.

On July 24, 2022, he was off duty and golfing when he received an alert on his phone. He called Sgt. James Byron and received information that Dep. Yates was shot and not responding to his

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radio. Det. Sullivan went home, retrieved his equipment and responded to the SWAT facility. There he met up with Ofc. Chenowith and they responded to the scene in an equipment truck with Sgt. Cody McFall, Sgt. Jacob Eggers, and another officer.

At the scene they spoke with Capt. Michael Kranz and unloaded shields and other equipment and carried it to the staging area near 1132 Ashwood. There they met up with other team members who were formulating a plan to extract Dep. Yates. Det. Sullivan was assigned to the MRAP at the rear of the trailer for distraction while the other part of the team attempted to get to Dep. Yates from the front door. Prior to the extraction attempt, Det. Sullivan did operate the team drone and utilized the clear lens and the thermal lens. The drone did detect a thermal signature inside the trailer with the signature identified as the location of Dep. Yates. The drone was unable to locate the subject. This information was relayed to Capt. Kranz.

The MRAP driver, Lt. Beau Collins, was given direction to bump the trailer and the entry team attempted to extract Dep. Yates and came under fire from the subject. The MRAP was also fired upon by the subject (Det. Sullivan learned this later after watching video from the MRAP). The rear MRAP was asked to remain in position and assist with distraction for a second attempt by Springfield SWAT. The trailer appeared to have shifted on its foundation, so bumping it again was not an option. Det. Sullivan was given three distraction devices; two (Safariland) and one from OSHP (unknown make), and deployed them from behind a shield and with lethal cover. He described deploying them towards the corner of the trailer in 30 second intervals and was not attempting to get them into the trailer. The call came out "good guy out" and they pulled back. The call also came out that there was a fire inside. Det. Sullivan could not see the fire until the smoke really started rolling out. Det. Sullivan and other members from the rear MRAP held perimeter and covered the rear door of the trailer and the hole in the back of the trailer. Rounds could be heard cooking off inside the trailer. Det. Sullivan then provided lethal cover to firefighters attempting to control the fire until he was relieved.

Det. Sullivan did not fire his weapon and deployed three hand thrown distraction devices. There is no video footage of the drone deployment.

The interview was concluded at 1413 hours.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-08-25 / Det. Kyle Sullivan audio interview

# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**