



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



2025-2909

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Stanhope-Kellogsville
Rd. and Anderson Rd., Denmark Township, OH 44032,
Ashtabula County

Investigative Activity: Witness Deputy Interview – Sergeant Brian Sterrick
Involves: Brian Sterrick (W)
Activity Date: 09/22/2025
Activity Location: Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office – 25 West Jefferson
Street, Jefferson, OH 44047
Authoring Agent: **SA Joseph Lamping #184**

Narrative:

On Monday, September 22, 2025, at 0937 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joe Lamping (SA Lamping) and SA Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) interviewed Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Sergeant (Sgt.) Brian Sterrick (Sterrick), who was accompanied by his attorneys, Mike Piotrowski and Kevin Burns, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at the ACSO. The interview was audio recorded. Any times referenced in this report refer to the elapsed interview time of the Axon Capture recording of the interview, and not the time of day.

Sgt. Sterrick was provided with, and signed, the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

Sgt. Sterrick was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the September 8, 2025 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of Stanhope-Kellogsville Road and Anderson Road, Denmark Township, Ohio. Reportedly, Sgt. Sterrick did not discharge a firearm during the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer.

Sgt. Sterrick stated his radio call sign on September 8, 2025, was 4-12. He has been employed by the ACSO for about 11 years. He has been a police officer for a total of 25 years. During the incident, Sgt. Sterrick wore his standard police uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove ACSO unit #4-12, a Dodge Durango, marked with ACSO emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated that he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI.

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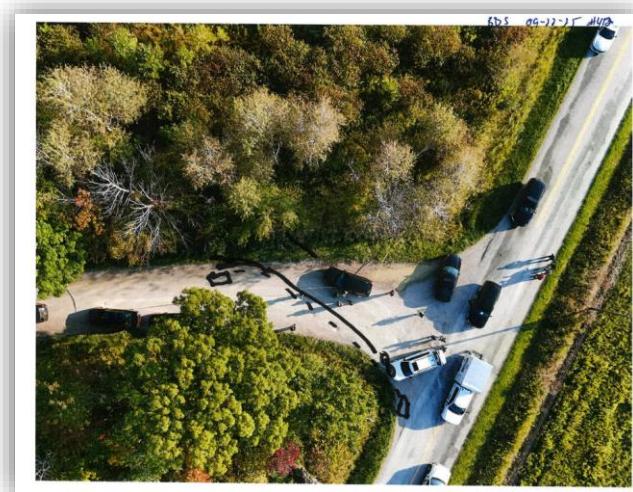
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Sgt. Sterrick recalled that his involvement with the incident began when he heard Deputy Michael Chicarell (Deputy Chicarell) attempt to stop a motorcycle in the city of Ashtabula. When the motorcycle didn't stop, Sgt. Sterrick asked Deputy Chicarell for the reason for the stop. Deputy Chicarell advised that the stop was for no visible registration. Sgt. Sterrick described some aspects of the pursuit as follows:

I had allowed it to continue based on, um, the speeds never got, um, what I would call too crazy to use just basic language. Um, uh, we allowed it to continue. Um, I remember him mentioning about the rider of the motorcycle discarding what looked like packaged controlled substances, um, baggies is the way, is how he described it. (4:06)

Sgt. Sterrick said that Deputy Chicarell provided all the radio updates in regard to the pursuit until [REDACTED] arrived. Once [REDACTED] was the second unit, he took over the radio transmission. Sgt. Sterrick reported that he had attempted to catch up to the pursuit. He estimated that he caught up to Deputy Chicarell within five to ten minutes of the pursuit ending.

SA Lamping asked Sgt. Sterrick to describe what he encountered at the termination of the pursuit. He was provided with an overhead drone photo of the intersection and a marker to describe his location and actions on scene. The image below is of the diagram completed by Sgt. Sterrick:



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Sgt. Sterrick stated that he had become the lead car in the pursuit when it neared Stanhope-Kellogsville Road and Anderson Road. He described what occurred at the intersection as follows:

So, as we were traveling south on, um, Stanhope-Kellogsville, as we started to come in this corner, he started to take it tight, closer to the left side of the roadway. And I don't know if his, if he was having mechanical trouble or if he was slowing down or if he was contemplating stop, I don't know. I could tell you that his speed dipped down almost to the point where he came to a stop. I had actually broadcasted, I believe, on the radio at that point that I believe we were stopping at Anderson. And, um, Stanhope somehow some way, he got enough gas going or kicked in or something happened to where he ended up going diagonal across the roadway and, uh, getting into the ditch on the opposite side of the roadway. And that's when he, that's when he fell over on the motorcycle. (7:12)

Sgt. Sterrick used the diagram to explain his position in relation to Pegram's at the termination point of the pursuit. He said that he parked his patrol vehicle next to Pegram's motorcycle. Sgt. Sterrick said that Pegram had maneuvered out from the crashed motorcycle and ran into the woods. He stated that he did not initially chase Pegram because he did not want to become a target for [REDACTED] in the event that he was deployed by [REDACTED].

Sgt. Sterrick recalled that after Pegram fled into the woods and was being chased by deputies, the motorcycle he had abandoned was still running with the rear wheel spinning. Sgt. Sterrick remembered going over to the motorcycle, attempting to hit the kill switch, and the bike erupting in flames. After the motorcycle caught fire, Sgt. Sterrick moved his patrol vehicle away from the motorcycle. When Sgt. Sterrick started to walk back to the motorcycle, he stated that he heard gunshots from the woods. When asked to describe the cadence of the shots Sgt. Sterrick said:

The best way to describe it is if you were to take a pack of firecrackers right now and just toss 'em light, light the fuse and toss 'em, that, that sound, I couldn't tell you how many (11:53)

Sgt. Sterrick reported that he could not observe the incident from his location on the roadway, and that he had no idea who the first person was to fire. Sgt. Sterrick recalled first aide being administered to Pegram as well as EMS being called to the scene.

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Sgt. Sterrick also provided consent for the investigators to listen to any of his body-worn camera footage that captured conversations with his supervisors.

The interview concluded at approximately 0958 hours.

The interview was audio-recorded. The audio-recordings were stored on Axon Justice as part of reference item D – Witness Officer Interviews where they can be reviewed in their entirety. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form was attached to this report along with the diagram completed by Sgt. Sterrick where they can be reviewed in their entirety.

References:

Reference Item D – Witness Officer Interviews: Subfolder – Sgt. Brian Sterrick Interview; stored on Axon Justice

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification – Sterrick
2. Diagram – Sterrick

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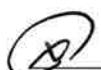


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Criminal Investigation Notification

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).

 BRIAN STERNICK

Printed Name of Interviewee

 9/22/25 0939

Date / Time

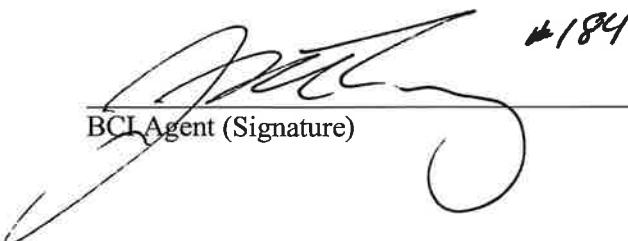


Signature of Interviewee

JOE WAMPATKA

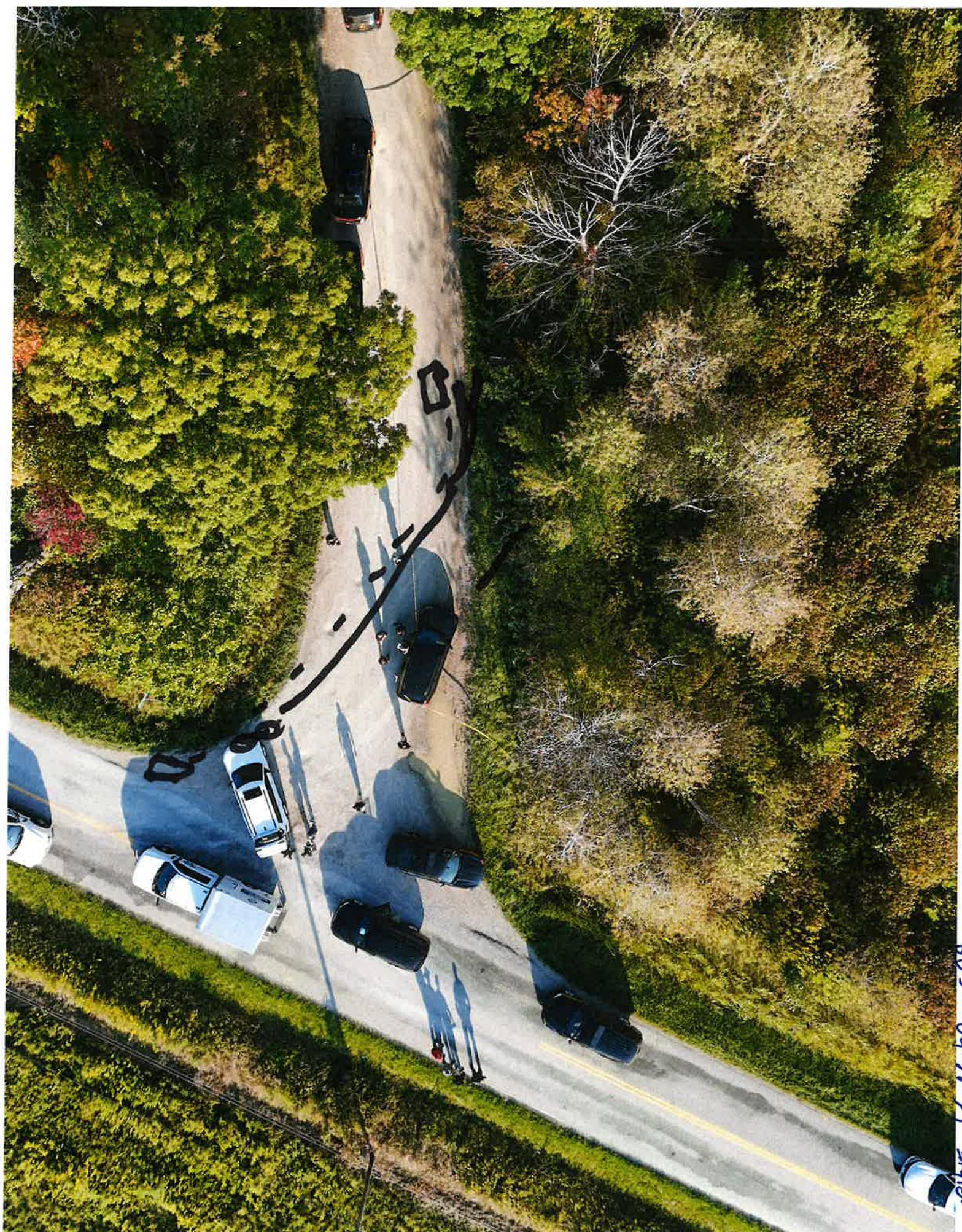
BCI Agent (Printed)

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BCI Agent (Signature)

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