



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



2025-3290
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 3810 Louise Ct., Grove City, OH 43123 (L)

Investigative Activity: Involved officer interview
Involves: ██████████ (S)
Activity Date: 10/24/2025
Activity Location: 4444 Broadway, Grove City, OH 43123
Authoring Agent: SA James H Gore

Narrative:

On Friday, October 24, 2025, at approximately 1239 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents James Gore and Richard Ward (SA Gore and SA Ward) interviewed ██████████ at the Grove City Police Annex, 4444 Broadway, Grove City. Also present from the Fraternal Order of Police as ██████████ legal counsel was Attorney Nicole Wannemacher. ██████████ was identified as one of the officers who discharged his firearm during a lethal encounter with Dominique Byrdsong on the evening of October 8, 2025.

This report summarizes the information deemed by the author to be the most pertinent to the investigation, and it does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. It is suggested that the recording and/or statement be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

At the onset of the interview, SA Gore read and presented a BCI "Criminal Investigation Notification" form to ██████████. The form advised ██████████ of his rights, informed him that the investigation was not administrative in nature, and affirmed that his interview was voluntary. ██████████ acknowledged his rights and signed the form.

Attorney Wannemacher presented a printed statement from ██████████ which summarized his involvement in the events. ██████████ was asked to read his statement out loud to refresh his memory. After reading, ██████████ signed his statement, and he agreed to answer follow-up questions.

██████████ said he began his employment with Grove City in ██████████. He stated that prior to working at Grove City, he ██████████. ██████████ explained that his normal assignment is ██████████.

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██████████ and he is also a member of the department's Strategic Response Team (SRT).
██████████ said his badge number is ██████████, which is also his radio call sign.

██████████ mentioned that on October 8, 2025, he worked overtime duties prior to his normal shift, beginning at ██████████. He said he was wearing the standard patrol uniform, driving cruiser ██████████, which was a standard, marked Grove City Police vehicle. ██████████ stated that he was equipped with his departmental Glock pistol and Daniel Defense AR-15 rifle. He said he did not fire his pistol during the incident.

According to ██████████ the initial call to 3810 Louise Court was a burglary in progress involving an armed suspect.

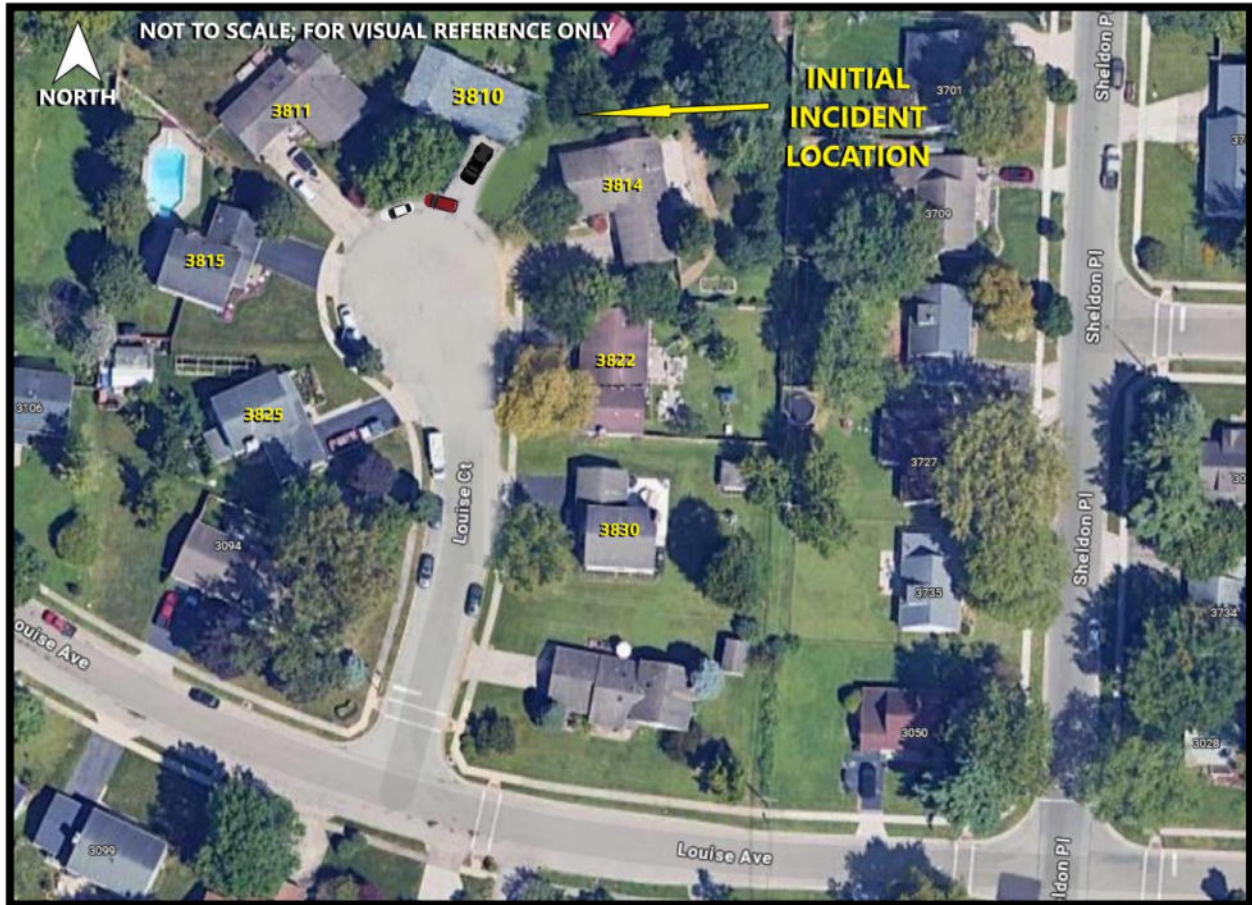


Figure 1: Reference map

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██████████ stated that when he arrived in the area, he parked on Louise Avenue, then he walked into the cul-de-sac, where he took up a position on the south side of 3814 Louise Court. ██████████ said he met with other officers and his patrol supervisor, Sergeant Hennessy. ██████████ stated that given the circumstances, the SRT would be activated. He said he went back to his vehicle and retrieved his rifle, then returned to his position at 3814 Louise Court.

██████████ recalled that Ofc. McCune began to make announcements over a megaphone for the suspect to come out of 3810 Louise Court. He said that Ofc. Reber used a shield so that they (Ofc. Reber, Ofc. McCune, ██████████) could advance onto the driveway of 3810, where they took cover behind a large utility truck. He said they returned to 3814 after repeated loudspeaker commands yielded no response from the suspect. ██████████ said that after another thirty to forty minutes, the suspect walked out the front of the house briefly, then went back inside after yelling something about wanting to see the officers' badges.

According to ██████████ he received the SRT activation alert at approximately 1910 hours. He said he went to get the rest of his SRT gear, then he returned to the scene with other team members. He said a little after 2030 hours, the team deployed gas canisters into the house to force the suspect out. He stated that shortly after the second canister was deployed, ██████████ who was overlooking the rear of the house, reported that the suspect was running in the back yard.

██████████ wrote in his statement:

I ran north through the yards. I believe ██████████ was airing the direction of travel of the suspect. I climbed over the fence and ran north towards Barbee Street. I believe I ran through the yard that separates 3075 and 3065 Barbee Avenue. Just as I was emerging from the corner of 3065 Barbee Avenue, I heard rounds being fired and I saw a muzzle flash.

As I was looking east down Barbee Avenue, I heard rounds being fired and I saw an officer down in the yard at the corner of Barbee Avenue and Sheldon Place. I saw the suspect on the ground and he appeared to be in a crouching position, looking towards the officer who was down on the ground. I immediately discharged my rifle at the suspect. I believe other rounds were also being fired. The suspect went completely down and was no longer moving. I advanced east down Barbee Avenue. The suspect was down on the south side of 3667 Sheldon Place. The TEMS (tactical EMS) were called in as they are always activated with SRT. Other officers were accessing the suspect's injuries and rendering aid. I

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realized that I did not see [REDACTED] around us and went looking for him. It was then that I learned he had been shot during the incident.

[REDACTED] stated that he was approximately one hundred-fifty feet to the west down Barbee Avenue when he fired at the suspect. He said he fired three rounds in about two seconds. [REDACTED] said he was wearing his gas mask at the time that he fired. Although it was dark outside, he added, he utilized the weapon-mounted light on his rifle, and the suspect was also illuminated by an exterior light at 3667 Sheldon Place, which was where the suspect was located.



Figure 2: Reference map

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██████████ explained that after the shooting ceased, he rendered aid to ██████████, and he rode in the back of the ambulance with him to Grant Hospital. ██████████ mentioned that he handed off his rifle to Sgt. Hennessy prior to going to the hospital. He said he retrieved the rifle from Sgt. Hennessy once he returned to the Police Annex, where he then met with BCI agents.

██████████ concluded that the time he discharged his weapon, there was no reasonable alternative to protect himself or the other officers from the threat of death or imminent bodily harm.

It was determined that ██████████ did have an active body-worn-camera during the incident; however, its lens was obscured by a protective cover or pouch.

Area maps were provided to ██████████ to assist in his recall of the event. ██████████ drew his approximate route on one of the maps, from where he was initially staged in front of 3810 Louise Court, to where he ended up at 3667 Sheldon Place.



Figure 3: ██████████ route of travel

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An audio copy of [REDACTED] interview is available for review as an attachment to this report. Copies of [REDACTED] Criminal Investigation Notification, printed statement, and map are also attached.

References:

No references

Attachments:

1. 2025-10-24 [REDACTED] audio interview SA Gore, SA Ward
2. [REDACTED] CIN, Statement, Diagram Map

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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] _____
Printed Name of Interviewee

10/24/25 AT 124/1009
Date / Time

[Redacted] _____

JAMES GOIZE #168
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] BADGE NUMBER [REDACTED]

This statement is regarding my involvement in an incident that occurred on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, between 5:20 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in Grove City, Ohio. I am voluntarily giving this statement as part of the criminal investigation into this matter conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

My date of hire as a police officer with the Grove City Police Department is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I attended the Columbus Police Training Academy and I received my Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) certification on [REDACTED] I [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have an associate's degree in criminal justice from Columbus State Community College. I do not have any prior law enforcement experience. I do not currently have any uses of force that have been found outside of policy.

At the time of this incident, I was assigned to [REDACTED] My regularly scheduled duty hours are [REDACTED] My regular days off are [REDACTED] I am also a member of the Strategic Response Team (SRT). I have been a member of SRT for approximately a year and half to two years. On Wednesday, October 8, 2025, I was working my regular [REDACTED] shift [REDACTED] assignment.

Initially I was dressed in the standard patrol uniform which consisted of navy-blue uniform pants and a navy-blue collared shirt with police insignia on the shoulders and my division issued hat. I also had my badge on my chest that identified me as a Grove City Police Officer. However, once this incident became a SRT call-out, I put on my external body armor/rifle plates, which also identified me as POLICE in white letters along the front and back, as well as my ballistic helmet. At all times, I was clearly identifiable as a law enforcement officer. My body worn camera was in

a pouch attached to my ballistic helmet, with a feed that attached to the front. I had my body worn camera activated during this incident.

I was armed with my division approved Daniel Defense 5.56 AR-15 rifle which is equipped with a Holoson red dot. That is the firearm I used during this incident. I carry my rifle with 28 rounds in the magazine. It was loaded with TAP (tactical ammunition for police) rounds. I was also carrying my department-issued Glock 45 9mm with standard department-issued ammunition. I did not discharge my handgun during this incident. I am current in my range qualifications with both firearms. I am right hand dominant. I am a certified rifle operator. I am also an OPOTA certified firearms instructor for pistol and rifle. I have completed basic Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) training.

I was in good health at the time of this incident. I do not wear glasses or contacts and my vision is good. My hearing is good. I do not suffer from any disabilities that would impact the performance of my law enforcement duties. I did not take any medication, prescription or over the counter, that would impair my duties as a law enforcement officer. I did not consume any alcohol in the 24 hours prior to this incident. On the day of this incident, I worked overtime at [REDACTED] and then I switched to patrol overtime once [REDACTED]. I had arrived at the start of my shift well-rested.

I was assigned to Cruiser [REDACTED], which is marked with the Grove City Police insignia with red and blue lights consistent with police vehicles. It is equipped with a mobile data terminal (MDT). However, there was a software update that day and all of the information was not coming through computer aided dispatch (CAD). Initially I was not working with a partner; however, once it became a SRT call out, I was working with the SRT members. My regular patrol supervisor is Sgt.

Hennessy. My SRT supervisors are Sgt Smith and Sgt. Wilhelm. My badge number is also my call sign.

On Wednesday, October 8, I was finishing a call for service with [REDACTED] when dispatched aired that there was a 10-8 (burglary in progress) at 3810 Louise Court in Grove City. [REDACTED] and I both marked on the run and got into our individual cruiser to respond to the call. I drove lights and sirens to the area. Dispatch relayed that a caller reported a man inside his home at 3810 Louise Court who refused to leave and displayed a firearm. The caller was now at a neighbor's house and stated he could see the suspect looking out the front window.

I parked my cruiser on Louise Avenue, which is south of Louise Court. 3810 Louise Court is at the north end of a cul-de-sac. I believe [REDACTED] went to Barbee Avenue to take a position in the back of the property. I approached on foot through the yards on the east side of the cul-de-sac so that the suspect would not see me. 3810 Louise Court was a split-level house with a two-car garage on the east side. There was a large, black utility truck backed into the driveway with a big piece of machinery in it. I took a position on the south side of 3814 Louise Court, which is directly to the right (east) of the target location.

Officers Nelson, Reber and McCune were also with me. Grove City Sergeant Hennessy came to speak with us. She had spoken with the caller who owns the house and is in the process of remodeling it. The caller confirmed that the suspect was armed. She also stated that in checking the ring camera the truck had been in the driveway since the day before and that the caller seemed credible. Due to the location of the house at the north end of the cul-de-sac, it provided a full sight line of the only real means of ingress/egress, to the armed suspect. Therefore, there was discussion and I believe ultimately a decision was made to activate SRT. I walked from my location with Sergeant Hennessy to go retrieve my rifle from my cruiser.

I took my rifle from my cruiser and then I walked back through the yards. I returned to the south side of 3814 Lousie Court and joined the other officers there. Sergeant Hennessey brought a megaphone over to us to give commands. Officer McCune began making announcements for the person inside 3810 Lousie Court to come out with their hands up. Officer Reber had the shield and he, Officer McCune and I used it to advance to the side of the black utility truck. There Officer McCune started making announcements for the suspect to come out with his hands up. There was no response. After several minutes, we returned to the south side of 3814 Lousie Court. We held this position for approximately another 30-40 minutes when radio aired contact at the front and the suspect suddenly came out the front door. We yelled at him to show us his hands. He yelled something at us about showing him our badges or something. Radio aired that he had something in his hand. The suspect then went back inside the house.

A little before 7 p.m., Sergeant Hennessey drove a cruiser up and parked on the west side of the cul-de-sac. She began making announcements over the cruiser speaker that it was Grove City Police and for 3810 Louise Court to come out with their hands up. The K9 cruiser also pulled up and parked on the east side of the cul-de-sac, in front of the driveway of 3814 Louise Court. There was no response from the suspect.

At approximately 7:10 p.m., the SRT notification was sent via Everbridge (which is the notification system). I left the scene to get my SRT tactical kit. I went to the SRT command post which was staged at the which was at the intersection of Louise Avenue and Sheldon place. I walked back to the scene and took a position behind the K9 cruiser with [REDACTED] and Nelson. I believe the other SRT team members— [REDACTED] Roach, Coleman, Hall, Cole, and Chandler walked up to the scene shortly after me. Someone drove the Command Post up into the cul-de-sac. We stacked up behind on the east side of the black utility truck parked in the driveway.

██████████ had the shield and I was directly behind him with lethal cover. ██████████ was behind me. I believe Officer Chandler was behind him and Officers Cole, Coleman and ██████████ were also there.

A little after 8:30 p.m., the decision was made to fire gas canisters into the house to try and force the suspect out. I put my gas mask on under my ballistic helmet. The gas announcement was made over the air so that officers would know the “pop” sound was the gas being deployed and not gunfire. Two canisters of gas were fired into the top front windows, then several minutes later, an additional two canisters of gas were fired into the bottom front windows. A couple seconds after the second round of gas was deployed, ██████████ aired that the suspect was running out the back of the house to the 3/4 side (the front of the house is the 1 side, then it goes clockwise with the next side being the 2 side, the back being the 3 side and the other side being the 4 side) through the yard containment. I ran north through the yards. I believe ██████████ was airing the direction of travel of the suspect. I climbed over the fence and ran north towards Barbee Street. I believe I ran through the yard that separates 3075 and 3065 Barbee Avenue. Just as I was emerging from the corner of 3065 Barbee Avenue, I heard rounds being fired and I saw a muzzle flash.

As I was looking east down Barbee Avenue, I heard rounds being fired and I saw an officer down in the yard at the corner of Barbee Avenue and Sheldon Place. I saw the suspect on the ground and he appeared to be in a crouching position, looking towards the officer who was down on the ground. I immediately discharged my rifle at the suspect. I believe other rounds were also being fired. The suspect went completely down and was no longer moving. I advanced east down Barbee Avenue. The suspect was down on the south side of 3667 Sheldon Place. The TEMS (tactical EMS) were called in as they are always activated with SRT. Other officers were accessing

the suspect's injuries and rendering aid. I realized that I did not see [REDACTED] around us and went looking for him. It was then that I learned he had been shot during the incident.

I went to the hospital to see [REDACTED]. Then I was eventually transported back to the Grove City Police Annex where I waited for BCI Agents to collect my weapon. This ended my involvement in this matter.

I fired a total of three (3) rounds in this incident. I fired from a standing position on Barbee Avenue, approximately 150 feet west of the suspect. I had my rifle in a sling over my shoulder. I had my right hand on the pistol grip and my left hand on the barrel. I believe I utilized my sights when I fired although visibility was somewhat obstructed because I had my gas mask on. I fired my rounds in a controlled, rapid succession. I would estimate that I fired all of my shots in less than 2 seconds. My target was the suspect's right side. It was very dark outside but there was a light on the outside of 3667 Sheldon Place that was illuminating the suspect. I also had my rifle light on. My backdrop was the ground and the foundation blocks of the 3667 Sheldon Place, as the suspect was crouched down. The direction of my shots was east to northeast. I did not have any cover or concealment when I fired. I stopped firing because the suspect went completely down on the ground.

In the hours proceeding this incident, the suspect had been given multiple opportunities to come out of the house peacefully. He refused to comply with any orders. Instead, he barricaded himself into the house for approximately 3 hours. Numerous announcements were made over the loud speaker for him to come out with nothing in his hands. There were even announcements made that gas was going to be utilized to give him a chance to come out. Instead of surrendering, he chose to run out of the back of the house with a firearm. Immediately before I discharged my rifle, I heard rounds being fired and I saw an officer down on the side of the house who I believed had

been shot by the suspect. I saw the suspect in a crouched position approximately 12-15 feet from the downed officer. I discharged my weapon to protect the life of the officer on the ground who I believed had already been shot and was at risk for additional serious physical harm or death. I do not know if the suspect fired additional rounds when I fired at him. At the time, I did not know if the muzzle flash I saw was the suspect's or [REDACTED]. However, after reviewing the BWC videos and seeing the position of the suspect and [REDACTED] I believe the muzzle flash was from the suspect's firearm.

At the times I fired my weapon, I do not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect the officer on the ground near the suspect or the other officers in the area. I believe all of my actions were consistent with my training and experience as a law enforcement officer as well as GCPD policies. I believe all of my actions were consistent with the laws of Ohio and the United States.

I did have a taser on me at the time of this incident. However, use of a taser requires time, distance, barrier, lethal force backup and reasonableness. I was too far from the suspect to utilize my taser and it would not have been reasonable to utilize a taser when I believed the suspect was shooting at officers.

I now know that the suspect's name was Dominique Byrdsong. I do not recall previously having any interactions with him, personally or professionally.

I have now reviewed video of the incident. Upon review of my bwc footage, it appears my camera was recording the inside of my pouch and that there was a connection error on the feed. I did not know this during the incident. I did review the footage of [REDACTED]. Prior to reviewing that bwc video, I believed that it was [REDACTED]. I saw go down in the yard. However,

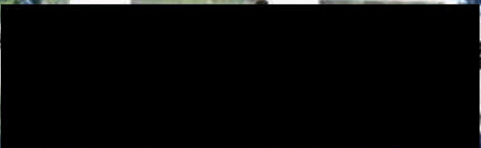
I now realize that it was [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] had ran to the other side of the house. Other than that, the video does not materially alter my recollection of events

This concludes my statement.

[REDACTED]



2015-3290



Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Sheldon Pl

Barbee Ave

Louise Ct

Barbee Ave

Barbee Ave

3008

3018

3654

3651

3667

3056

3066

3076

3086

3096

3104

3007

3017

3029

3006

3012

3020

3706

3701

3709

3727

3003

3011

3019

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3815

3095

3103

3106



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



[Handwritten signatures]

Preliminary and Demographic Information Worksheet:

Name: Age:	Rank: <i>Patrolman</i>
Badge Number: <i>502</i> [Redacted]	Radio Call Sign: <i>REX</i>
Immediate Supervisor: <i>[Signature]</i>	Mobile Data Terminal: (Present & Utilized, Present & Not Utilized, Not Present)
Radio Channel Utilized: <i>LAW 5</i>	Cruiser/vehicle Number: <i>324</i>
Cruiser Description: <i>[Signature]</i>	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: <i>[Signature]</i>
Assignment:	Normal Shift:
In-Car Camera: (Present & Utilized, Present & Not Utilized, Not Present)	Spotlight: (Present & Utilized, Present & Not Utilized, Not Present)
Emergency Lights: (Present & Utilized, Present & Not Utilized, Not Present) <i>[Signature]</i>	Siren: (Present & Utilized, Present & Not Utilized, Not Present) <i>REX</i>
Shift Day of Incident:	Duty Status:
Days Off:	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours:
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident:	Consider Self Well Rested?:
Total Length as Officer: <i>[Signature]</i>	Length at Current Agency: <i>[Signature]</i> Other Agencies: <i>COLESE</i>