



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



2022-1472

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 2793 Waterpark Drive, Mason,  
OH (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Thomas Henry Cromwell (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 07/13/2022  
**Activity Location:** Warren County Sheriff's Office – Business – 822 Memorial Drive ,  
Lebanon, OH 45036, Warren County  
**Author:** SA Steven Seitzman

**Narrative:**

On July 12, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at the Baymont hotel, located at 2793 Waterpark Drive in the city of Mason. During the OICI, an operator with the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team mortally wounded a suspect and recent River City Correctional Center escapee, Thomas Cromwell (Cromwell), during a hostage rescue situation.

On July 13, 2022, at 1515 hours, BCI Special Agents Richard Ward (SA Ward) and Steven Seitzman (SA Seitzman) interviewed Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. operator Riley Hensley (Officer Hensley) regarding his involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the Warren County Sheriff's Office. Officer Hensley was represented by Fraternal Order of Police Attorney Stephen Lazarus. 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.

Officer Hensley advised that he is a police officer for the Franklin Police Department. He has been employed for three years. He is assigned as a patrol officer. He is also assigned to the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team. He was assigned to the S.W.A.T. team in or around May 2022.

Regarding the OICI, Officer Hensley advised BCI agents of the following information:

On July 11, 2022, at a little after 1600 hours, Officer Hensley received a S.W.A.T. call-out. The call-out was for a hostage situation at the Baymont hotel in the city of Mason. He said he was

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off-duty at the time and responded to the scene.

Officer Hensley met with the S.W.A.T. commander, Lebanon Police Sergeant Nathan Trout (Sgt. Trout). Sgt. Trout initially assigned Officer Hensley to assist Springboro Police Officer Antwaun Scott (Officer Scott), an explosive breacher. He was later assigned to cover Mason Police Officer Eric Wallace (Officer Wallace), who was the assigned S.W.A.T. sniper.

Officer Hensley advised the suspect, later identified as Thomas Cromwell (Cromwell), appeared in the window several times throughout the afternoon. He said Cromwell "flipped off" law enforcement officers outside the hotel. He also said Cromwell opened and closed the curtains multiple times. He observed Cromwell on the phone several times when he opened the curtains. Officer Hensley recalled that Officer Wallace said he could see Cromwell with a knife, though Officer Hensley did not personally observe that.

Officer Wallace said the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team was relieved by the Hamilton County S.W.A.T. team sometime after 2300 hours. On July 12, 2022, at approximately 0200 hours, the Warren County Regional S.W.A.T. team responded back to the scene due to Cromwell posting a Facebook Live video. The Facebook Live video showed Cromwell holding a knife to the female hostage's neck.

Officer Wallace responded to the third floor of the hotel. He was in the room across from 308. He was joined by Warren County Sheriff's Office Sergeant James Doddy. Once the team was in position, the breach protocol was initiated. After the breach, he saw officers enter room 310, which was the room Cromwell and the hostage were in. He recalled hearing a single suppressed gunshot. He did not hear any yelling from the S.W.A.T. operators or Cromwell prior to the gunshot. He said he may not have heard anything due to his position in the hallway.

After the gunshot, Officer Wallace heard operators giving commands for the female hostage to exit the room. She eventually left, along with a dog. She was assisted by other S.W.A.T. members.

The interview was concluded at 1521 hours. The audio recording is attached below.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-07-13/ Franklin Police Officer Riley Hensley

# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**