

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



2023-1626 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 439 E Mulberry Street, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Officer Greg Stallard (O)

**Date of Activity:** 06/20/2023

Activity Location: Lebanon Police Department – Business – 25 West Silver Street,

Lebanon, OH 45036

Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

## Narrative:

On June 20, 2023 at approximately 1329 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Dave Hornyak and Ken Smith interviewed Lebanon Police Officer Greg Stallard in regard to an Officer-Involved Critical Incident that occurred the evening of June 17, 2023. Also present was Officer Stallard's attorney, Steve Lazarus. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device. This report is a summary only. The entire interview can be reviewed on the recording.

Officer Stallard verbally acknowledged that he was attending the interview voluntarily. The officer then read from a prepared written statement, which is attached in-full to this report. Some of the information Officer Stallard provided was as follows:

On June 17, 2023, the Lebanon Police Department (LPD) received a call stating that Dione Kellum was outside of a home making threats to shoot the residents if they did not come out. Upon arriving at the home, Ofc. Stallard encountered known subject Kellum hiding behind garbage cans next to the house. Kellum raised a pistol to his own head and refused to drop the weapon. As additional officers arrived on-scene Kellum also produced a shotgun. Kellum ultimately walked toward the back of the residence and onto Chillicothe Avenue where he stopped at a shed and made statements about wanting to die.

At one point, Kellum fired one pistol shot into the ground beneath him. Kellum then raised his shotgun and fired a single shot in what appeared to be the direction where other officers were stationed. Sgt. and Dep. Warren County Sheriff's Office) each fired upon Kellum who fell to the ground, raised his pistol, and fired a shot into his own head. Officers approached, secured his firearms, and turned over Kellum's care to EMS responders.

After reading his prepared statement, Ofc. Stallard verified to agents the that the round from

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Kellum's shotgun struck the roadway and that no officers were injured. Ofc. Stallard also clarified that he did not know in real time that Sgt. and Dep. are red during the incident, but learned those details after. Ofc. Stallard stated he was behind a privacy fence during the shooting and did not have a clear shot himself.

Ofc. Stallard did not see or hear of any officers or deputies doing anything improper or illegal during the incident. Ofc. Stallard added that the responders essentially begged Kellum to put his guns down before Kellum ultimately fired his weapons.

The interview concluded at approximately 1341 hours.

## Attachments:

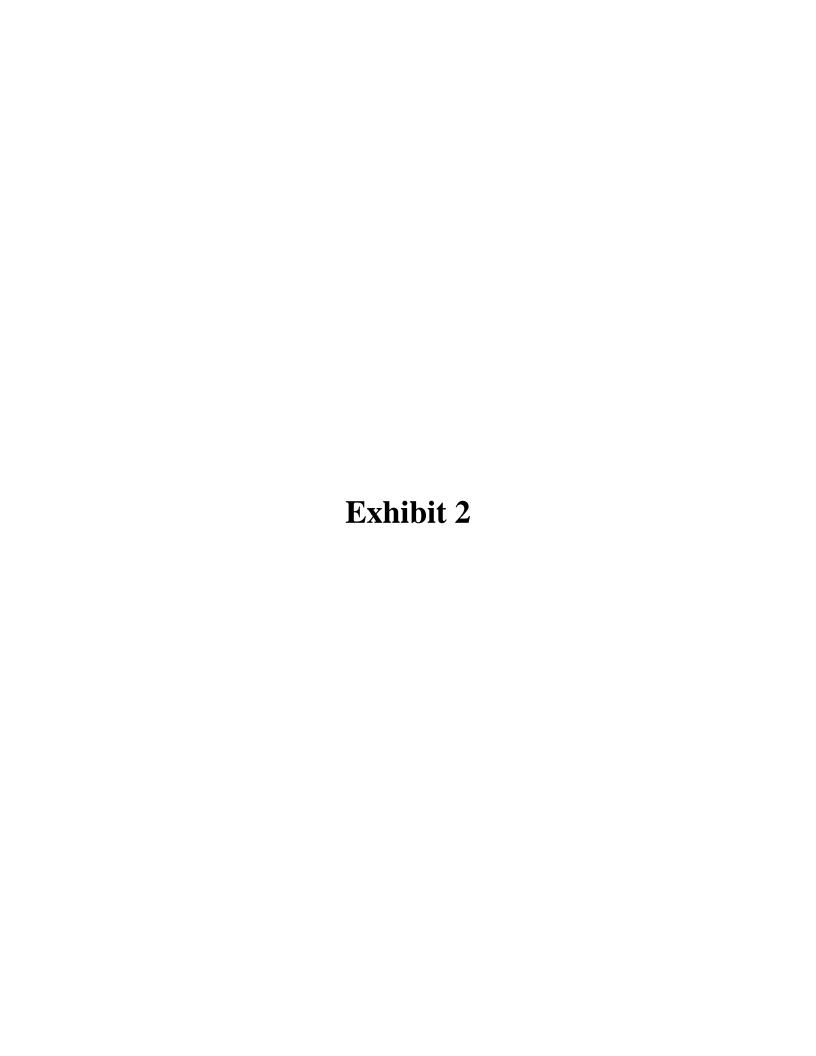
Attachment # 01: 2023-06-20 / Off. Greg Stallard interview

Attachment # 02: Off. Greg Stallard statement

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## Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.



On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at approximately 2329 hours, I responded to 439 E. Mulberry St. for a report of threats being made to the residents inside. The caller, identified as Shayla Simmons, stated that Dione Kellum was outside and was threatening to shoot them if they did not come outside of the house. Ms. Simmons stated that her mother in law, identified as Jane Ruffner, had a protection order in place against Mr. Kellum.

Upon my arrival, I did not see Mr. Kellum on the East side of the house or in front of the house. I then made my way toward the West side of the house and heard a noise. I began to walk into the side yard (between 439 E. Mulberry and 437 E. Mulberry) when I saw a subject hiding behind a residential garbage can and some shrubs.

I immediately recognized the subject as Mr. Kellum and asked him to come out. He did not move. I continued to tell Mr. Kellum to come out and he refused. He appeared to be grabbing something with his right hand and continued to refuse to comply. I then saw a small handgun in his right hand as he brought it up and held it to his head. I pulled my service pistol and aimed it at Mr. Kellum's chest and continued to plead with him to drop the weapon. He stood up and continued to defy commands to drop the weapon.

Sgt. and I continuously asked Mr. Kellum to put the gun down and he refused. This went on for several minutes as additional officers and deputies arrived on scene. As time passed, Mr. Kellum reached down and produced a shotgun. After several minutes, he did comply with putting down the shotgun. He made several comments about wanting to die during the incident. I made a request for EMS to be on standby.

He then started walking toward the back yard of the residence. He refused to comply with orders to not move. I made a request for SWAT to be paged due to the potential of an armed subject escaping a residential area that was only partially contained by a law enforcement perimeter.

Mr. Kellum then walked through the back yard and walked onto Chillicothe Avenue. At this time Mr. Kellum was mostly contained by the perimeter that we had set up. There were units to his East and West on Chillicothe and Sgt. Haller and I were in the back yard of 439 E. Mulberry to restrict his movement back toward the house.

Mr. Kellum stopped at a shed located on the side of Chillicothe (behind the residence) Ave. He continued to hold the pistol to his head. He continued to make statements about wanting to die. He became agitated over flashlights being aimed at him and started aiming his flashlight at other officers and I. As he became increasingly agitated, he aimed his pistol directly at the ground beneath him and fired one shot. He then grabbed his shotgun and started to bring it up as if he was going to fire. It appeared from my vantage point that he was aiming toward the general area where officers were located. I was behind a tall privacy fence but could see Mr. Kellum's movements. As he was bringing up the shotgun he fired a single shot. Deputy and Sergeant then returned fire. Mr. Kellum fell to the ground and placed his pistol to his head. He then fired a single shot.

Sgt. and I (and all of the units on scene) approached Mr. Kellum and secured the firearms. I then requested that EMS respond to our location to provide life-saving measures. Mr. Kellum was the transported to the Atrium Medical Center.

I remained on location and taped off the crime scene, before eventually clearing.

This incident occurred in the City of Lebanon, within the County limits of Warren.

Respectfully Submitted,

Officer G. Stallard #113