



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



2025-3739

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4272 Cider Mill Drive,
Cincinnati, OH 45245 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: [REDACTED] (W)

Date of Activity: 11/25/2025

Activity Location: Union Township Police Department – Business – 4312 Glen Este-
Withamsville Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Author: SA Lauren Frazier, #129

Narrative:

On Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 0931 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Lauren Frazier (SA Frazier) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Union Township Police Department (UTPD) [REDACTED] (_____), who was accompanied by his attorney, Steve Lazarus. The interview took place at the Union Township Police Department, located at 4312 Glen-Este Withamsville Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245. The interview was audio recorded.

The following summary of the recorded interview highlights the key points the author deemed most relevant, although it does not provide a verbatim account. Additionally, this report was placed in a chronology to enhance the reader's understanding of the information obtained during the interview. However, it is important to note that this may not reflect the actual order of the questions posed. Therefore, it is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

[REDACTED] was identified as being an officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the officer-involved critical incident that occurred on November 17, 2025, in Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio. [REDACTED] did not discharge his firearm during this incident. The primary objective of the interview was to gather all pertinent information known or observed by him. He confirmed that he was providing his statement voluntarily.

[REDACTED] has been a police officer at the Union Township Police Department for approximately [REDACTED]. He previously served at the Golf Manor Police Department, Hamilton County Park District, and Hamilton County Correction Center. He is currently assigned as a [REDACTED]. He was wearing his road patrol uniform, which consisted of dark blue pants, a dark blue shirt, badge, and an outer vest carrier, clearly marked police. [REDACTED] was assigned to cruiser [REDACTED] and was wearing a body worn camera (BWC), which was activated and recording during the incident.

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On November 17, 2025, [REDACTED] stated that dispatch came over the radio stating there was a 911 hang-up call on Cider Mill Drive. He stated that he was in the area and arrived within a few minutes. [REDACTED] was the first to arrive on scene and said that he parked up the street, just north of the house, and waited for backup officers to arrive.

[REDACTED] said that he was parked and sitting in his cruiser, when he received an update that the subject came outside and could see an officer. [REDACTED] said that he was the only one there at that time. [REDACTED] observed the subject come outside with the phone up to his ear, before running back inside. Dispatch advised that the subject stated that he was going back inside to grab his gun. [REDACTED] said that the subject was possibly wearing a robe and boxer shorts.

[REDACTED] exited his cruiser and unholstered his gun, taking a position behind his cruiser. He said that he heard on the radio that additional officers were arriving on scene. [REDACTED] observed officers arriving from the south side of the house. He said that [REDACTED] was attempting to locate the subject's house and [REDACTED] told him that it was the house with a basketball hoop and gray SUV in the driveway.

A car drove by [REDACTED], so he repositioned his cruiser to block the road. He said that the front of his cruiser was now facing right towards the house. [REDACTED] turned on his spotlight and shined it directly on the front door area. He said that he could not see the entire front door from his location because it receded back between the house and garage.

[REDACTED] got on to the radio and asked dispatch to forward the subject to his phone, so that he could talk to him directly. [REDACTED] said that he was behind his driver's door for cover and was focused on the front door. He said that dispatch advised via radio that the subject was making suicide by cop statements. [REDACTED] advised that the subject was going to let a female come out, but [REDACTED] didn't see anyone come out. He described that several officers were just south of his position, to include [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Sgt. Shaw was heard via radio asking for SRT (Special Response Team) to respond.

At one point, a small dog came out of the front door and walked down the driveway. [REDACTED] said to keep an eye on the front door. [REDACTED] observed the male subject come outside, dressed the same as he saw him the first time. [REDACTED] said that the subject walked out to the middle of the lawn and had a black handgun in his right hand. He said that the subject pointed the gun directly across the street where [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were at. [REDACTED] heard officers yelling "put it down, put it down, put the gun down."

[REDACTED] observed the subject point the gun at him and then begin running right towards him. He said that he took cover behind his cruiser and heard gunshots. He said that he was moving behind his cruiser to get better cover and flank the subject. [REDACTED] believed that the subject was running towards the spotlight. He said that if the subject was going to shoot, he was probably going to shoot the spotlight, which is right where he was positioned.

[REDACTED] heard that the subject was down. He observed the subject lying on his stomach on the ground near the neighbor's driveway. [REDACTED], Sgt. Shaw, and [REDACTED] ran towards the subject. [REDACTED] stated that the male was lifeless and unresponsive. [REDACTED]

██████████ rolled the subject onto his side to assess the subject's injuries. ██████████ said that they saw one wound to the subject's back. ██████████ told ██████████ to secure the firearm that the subject had dropped. ██████████ grabbed the gun, walked over to the passenger side of his cruiser, put the gun on the floorboard, and locked his cruiser. ██████████ was then asked to move several cruisers to make room for medics to respond.

██████████ was asked if he felt like his life or the lives of other officers were in danger and he stated absolutely. He was asked if he had the ability to shoot the subject and ██████████ stated that he had the ability but felt that he was too far away with the firearm that he had. He also said that he was not sure if there could have been someone behind the subject, that he accidentally could have hit. ██████████ said that he felt that the other officers on scene may have had a better position than he did. He also said that the subject was coming straight towards him. He said that if officers were going to shoot at the subject, he didn't want to be close to where the subject was running and possibly get shot by other officers.

██████████ estimated that he heard 5–6 shots fired. He stated that when the subject went down, he was right across the street from him in very close proximity. ██████████ was asked if he felt as though the actions of the other officers potentially saved his life and their lives and he stated absolutely.

The interview concluded at 0949 hours. A copy of the audio recorded interview is attached to this report. ██████████ used a printed diagram of the incident location to reference and explain his position on scene. A copy of the reference diagram utilized by ██████████ has been attached.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-11-25 Reference Diagram (██████████)

Attachment # 02: 2025-11-25 ██████████ Audio Interview

BCI Case# 2025-3739

Type: Reference diagram

Description: Google Maps Arial photograph

Location: 4272 Cider Mill Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Date: 11/25/25

Officer Name: [REDACTED]

Officer Signature: [REDACTED]

