



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



2024-3258

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1273 Rosedale Drive, Dayton,  
OH (Montgomery Co.) (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Taylor Coleman Anthony Cotton (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 10/19/2024  
**Activity Location:** Dayton Police Department – Business – 335 W. Third Street,  
Dayton, OH 45402  
**Author:** SA Richard Ward, #55

**Narrative:**

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, the Dayton Police Department requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation in investigating the facts and circumstances surrounding an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on the same date on Access Road near Rosedale Drive in the city of Dayton.

On Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 1200 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations Special Agent Richard Ward met with Montgomery County Sheriff's Sergeant Joshua Walters (Walters) at the Dayton Safety Building located at 335 West Third Street, Dayton, Ohio, for the purpose of an interview. Walters was working on this day and present during the incident.

The details below summarize what the author believed to be 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.

On this day, Walters was dressed in the uniform of the day; standard deputy sheriff's uniform and operated a marked sheriff's patrol vehicle. Walters has been employed with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for 20 years, and a sergeant for the last three years. Walters supervises the narcotics and human trafficking units of the sheriff's officer, but today worked an overtime shift, 0715-1545 hours. Today, Walters supervised the west (D-7) and Washington Township (D-15) districts.

While performing his duties, the Dayton Police Department issued a "Signal 99" and officers needed assistance on Rosedale Drive located within the city of Dayton. While in route, Walters read the CAD screen, which indicted a reported suicidal male with a gun. Dayton Police were

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also requesting less lethal assets. When he arrived in the area of Rosedale and Access Road, there were multiple law enforcement officers on scene. Walters observed a tan Buick with a Black male, possibly in his mid thirties, sitting inside the driver's seat of the Buick with one foot outside of the vehicle (later identified as Taylor Cotton). Walters described Cotton holding a shotgun with one hand with the butt stock resting on his leg. Several officers had their weapons drawn, pointed at the Cotton. Walter deployed a less lethal bean bag shotgun and positioned himself at a Dayton Police Patrol vehicle, second closet to Cotton.

Walters asked Dayton Police Lt. David Matthews (Matthews) who had arrived on scene, if he wanted him to utilize the beanbag shotgun. Matthews believed the use of the less lethal option would aggravate Cotton. Agent Ward asked Walters if officers were communicating with Cotton, and Walters stated Sergeant Jeff Spires was speaking with Cotton. Also, Cotton's brother was telling officers not to shoot his brother that he was crazy. Cotton's brother also yelled to his brother that was he (Cotton) was thinking was not true. Cotton looked at his brother, but does not respond verbally. A female emerged from a nearby house and yelled for the police to "shoot that nigger...shoot that mother-fucker." Cotton's brother began to yell at the female to shut up. Walters believed Cotton's mother, who was also nearby, was speaking with Cotton via cell phone. Cotton's mother had her cell phone on speaker and Cotton may have had a cell phone in the vehicle. Cotton's mother was telling Cotton to put the gun down and exit the vehicle.

According to Walters, Cotton's brother who drove a black Chevy Impala, left the scene and returned moments later, urging the police again not to shoot his brother. Dayton Police requested an armored vehicle, which ETA was 20 minutes. Sergeant Spires, a member of the hostage negotiation team, communicate with Cotton, but Walters didn't know if Cotton communicated back. Walters stated [REDACTED] and a Dayton officer were behind the trunk of a Dayton Police vehicle closest to Cotton. Walters stated Cotton stood up from the vehicle, lowered and "leveled" the shotgun toward the officers and officers began to shoot. Walters observed [REDACTED] fire his rifle and other officers also fired at Cotton. When Cotton fell to the ground, officers approached and cleared the vehicle. Once the vehicle was cleared, officers began life saving efforts on Cotton.

Agent Ward asked Walters if he observed the gun possessed by Cotton and he had. When he approached, the shotgun was located in a grassy area near Cotton's vehicle. Once the shots were fired, Walters heard the family members screaming from a distance away. Walters secured [REDACTED] patrol rifle until [REDACTED] was in the transport and seized his body-worn camera.

Agent Ward concluded the audio recorded interview (attached below) at 1218 hours. Walters also provided a supplemental report sometime after this interview, which is also attached.

#### References:

No references.

#### Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-10-19 / Sgt. Joshua Walters's audio recorded interview

Attachment # 02: Sergeant Walters's Supplement report

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# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**

## **Exhibit 2**

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

345 W. Second Street, Dayton, Ohio 45422-2427 www.mcohiosheriff.org (937) 225-HELP (4357)



## Officer Narrative

### INCIDENT INFORMATION

**CASE NUMBER:** [REDACTED]

**OFFICER NARRATIVE NUMBER:** [REDACTED]-010

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

**REPORT MANAGEMENT:** Special Investigations

**OFFICER:** 203 - WALTERS, JOSHUA L

**ENTERED ON:** 10/28/2024 4:11:00 PM

### NARRATIVE

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, I was dressed in the uniform of the day and operating a fully marked Sheriff's Office cruiser assigned as the supervisor covering Jefferson and Washington Township, OH.

At approximately 0842 hours, the Dayton Police Department requested assistance in the area of 1273 Rosedale Drive regarding a male with a gun. The caller was uncooperative and reported that the male was threatening to kill her and had previously engaged in violent behavior by throwing a brick through her window and attempting to set her house on fire two days prior. Additionally, officers on the scene requested the presence of an officer equipped with a less lethal gun.

Equipped with a less lethal gun, I responded to the scene. Upon arrival, I exited my patrol vehicle, retrieved my department-issued less lethal weapon, and approached the suspect's vehicle, a gold older model Buick Lesabre at the intersection of Rosedale Dr. and Access Rd. The vehicle was occupied by a single black male who had a shotgun in hand. Uniformed officers were on the scene attempting to convince the suspect to drop the firearm and surrender peacefully. At this time, I noticed the vehicle was still running and the suspect was behind the steering wheel so a less lethal gun was not an option.

As the situation unfolded, the suspect's family arrived at the scene, including his brother and mother, who tried to persuade him to cooperate with law enforcement and drop the weapon. After approximately 20 minutes of negotiation, the suspect suddenly exited the vehicle and aimed the shotgun at officers, resulting in officers discharging their weapons, causing the suspect to drop the firearm.

Following the incident, other officers and I cleared the suspect's vehicle for additional threats while the Dayton Police Department administered life-saving measures. All Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Deputies in the vicinity were unharmed.

[REDACTED] discharged his AR-15 during the incident and his firearm and body cam were temporarily secured in my marked patrol vehicle before being handed over to the investigators along with mine for further analysis.

Later that day, I participated in a formal interview with Agent Rick Ward from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations at the Dayton Safety Building.

Sergeant J. Walters # 203

### NARRATIVE