



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



2023-0052  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1785 Rt. 28, Lot 419, Goshen  
Township, OH 45122 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Det. [REDACTED] (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 01/17/2023  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
45122, Clermont County  
**Author:** SA Douglas Eveslage, #66

**Narrative:**

On January 6, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) was called by the Goshen Township Police Department in Clermont County, Ohio, to assist with an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred at 1785 State Route 28, Lot 419 AA, Goshen Township, Ohio, between the Goshen Township Police Department and subject, Thomas Dewald Jr. (Dewald).

On January 17, 2023, Special Agents Lauren Frazier and Douglas Eveslage interviewed Detective [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at the Goshen Township Police Department, located at 6757 Goshen Road, Goshen, Ohio. Also present for the interview was Attorney Steve Lazarus. The interview began at 1002 hours with SA Eveslage reading the BCI Criminal Notification form to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been a police officer for approximately 7 years and is currently employed by the Goshen Township Police Department as a detective with badge number [REDACTED] [REDACTED] wears a jacket or polo shirt with a Goshen Township police badge on the left breast area with writing identifying himself as a police officer and also wears an external police bulletproof vest also with a badge on it. [REDACTED] advised that he did not have a body worn camera due to detectives not being assigned a camera to wear on their person.

[REDACTED] advised that during the "shift pass along" he read that Dewald had active felony warrants due to threatening to burn his wife and also for a physical altercation that occurred. [REDACTED] said that he was "familiar with Thomas" (Dewald) from previous calls for service and that Dewald "presented" as if he had mental health issues and was "prone to violence."

[REDACTED] was the first officer to arrive at 1785 State Route 28, Lot 419 and asked Dewald's wife, Donna Dewald, if he had any "firearms" and Donna advised that he did not and that

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Dewald was in the back bedroom. ██████ made entry into the residence and talked to Brian ██████ bedroom closest to the kitchen.

█████ enters the bedroom with his taser already in hand and locates Dewald standing by the bed with a "box cutter in his right hand and a butcher knife in his left hand." ██████ draws a diagram of the bedroom where Dewald was located to include furniture. ██████ said that Dewald was standing by the shoe rack facing ██████ and ██████ told Dewald and Dewald answered, "No, you are going to have to kill me." ██████ responded, "No, I'm compliance" but Dewald was telling him to shoot him," and when Dewald starting walking around the bed closing the distance between them, while not complying with ██████ orders, ██████ deployed the taser only one time. As Dewald was being tasered with the knives still in his hands, Dewald reached across his neck with his right hand and made a "large" cut the left side of his own neck with the box cutter. ██████ described seeing blood "squirt" from his neck so he knew that Dewald had "hit something." The taser only made Dewald "brace" against the bed with his knees, while Dewald continued to cut both sides of his neck and was making loud grunting noises.

█████ said that he transitioned from the taser to his firearm after the taser only put Dewald on his knees for a few seconds. Dewald started to stand up again, but fell to the ground

knives as ██████ was getting medic gloves on and started applying pressure to both sides of Dewald's neck with a shirt in an attempt to stop the bleeding. ██████ said that Dewald was breathing for approximately two or three minutes, but when he stopped they placed the automated external defibrillator (AED) on Dewald until medical personnel arrived to assist.

This report was concluded at 1019 hours and only includes the pertinent portions of the interview. Please refer to the audio recording for additional information.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment # 01: 2023-01-17 ██████ BCI Notification
- Attachment # 02: 2023-01-17 ██████ diagram
- Attachment # 03: 2023-01-17 Det. ██████ Interview

# **Exhibit 1**



# Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

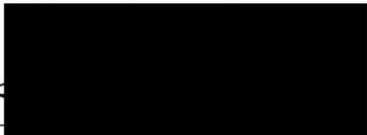


## Criminal Investigation Notification

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).

  
 Printed Name of Interviewee

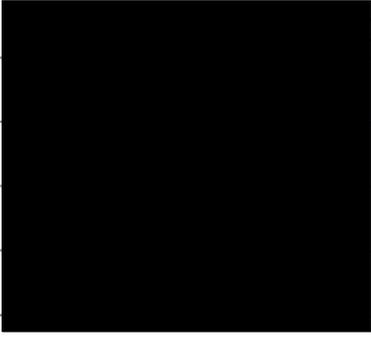
4/17/23  
 Date / Time

  
 Signature of Interviewee

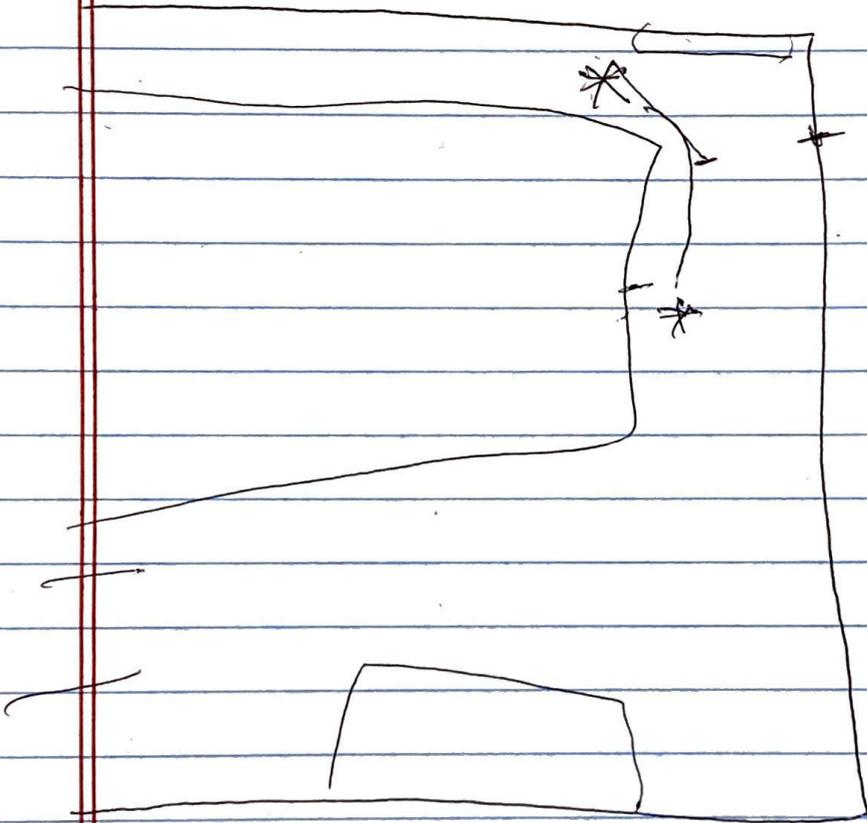
DONV EVELLAGE  
 BCI Agent (Printed)

 #66  
 BCI Agent (Signature)

## **Exhibit 2**



1/17/23



# **Exhibit 3**

**Included as a separate file.**