



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr. Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County (L)

To: Kaitlin Wilkin and Erik Spitzer , Special Prosecutor
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Jesse Bynum, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: April 13, 2026
Involves: [REDACTED] (S), John Johnson (S)
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr. Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County (L)
BCI Case Numbers: Force Investigations (FIU): 2026-0255
Crime Scene (CSU): 2026-0255
Cyber Crime (CCU): 2026-0255
BCI Laboratory: 26-30920

Investigative Request

On Wednesday, January 21, 2026, Lt. Chuck Fioritto of the North Olmsted Police Department (NOPD) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an Elyria Police Department (EPD) officer-involved shooting incident. The incident reportedly occurred on January 21, 2026, in the area of 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F, North Olmsted, Ohio and resulted in the death of John Johnson.

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the January 21, 2026, officer-involved shooting in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

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Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum) was assigned as the lead FIU case agent. SA Bynum received assistance in the investigation from SA Joe Goudy (SA Goudy), SA John Saraya (SA Saraya), SA Joe Lamping (SA Lamping), and SA Jared Prill (SA Prill). BCI Special Agent Lurna McClintock (SA McClintock) and Crime Scene Technician Michael Rostocil (CST Rostocil) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview of the one officer who discharged his weapon
- Recorded interview of one officer who was involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Interviews of eight civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance to postmortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, including criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available dash cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident

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- Review of all available surveillance videos which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
 3. DNA
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered
- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident

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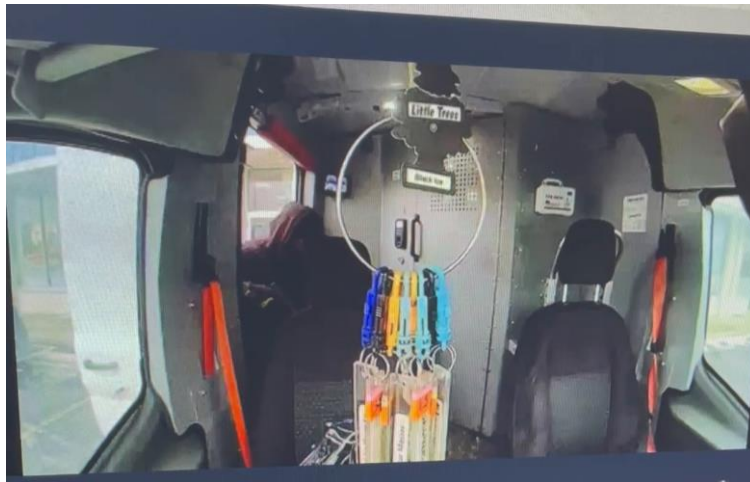
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Incident Summary/Overview

On Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at approximately 1503 hours, EPD broadcast a BOLO indicating that a Brinks truck had been robbed at gunpoint by a black male wearing all black, armed with a handgun, fleeing in a black Hyundai (KPM5569). The Brinks truck had video of the robbery where Johnson was observed with a black object that was approximately the size and shape of a semi-automatic pistol in his right hand, as shown in image 1. After the Brinks employee told Johnson that the bags were behind a door, he was heard telling the employee "Open it, open it now or I'll shoot you".



(Image 1)

Flock camera hits provided direction of travel as the subject, later identified as John P. Johnson (Johnson), fled westbound.

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Lorain Police Department (LPD) and Lorain County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) units located Johnson and initiated a pursuit. LPD CAD logs noted the vehicle swerving at officers and LPD terminated its lead involvement at 1549 hours, at which point EPD assumed primary pursuit responsibility. LCSO CAD likewise reflects that the subject was wanted for Aggravated Robbery with a gun and kidnapping. Below is a list of officers involved in the pursuit.

Elyria Police

Ptl. Mike Taylor
Ptl. Gage Hume
Ptl. Louis Lems
[REDACTED]
Ptl. Demetri Petsas
Ptl. Colty Hersh
Ptl. Brandon Bargaheiser
Ptl. Justin Campana
Sgt. Dustin Thacker
Sgt. Ben Harris
Ptl. Mike House

Lorain Police

Ptl. Tyler Rospert
Ptl. Jacob Lieb
Ptl. Marcus Rivera
Ptl. Jose Gracia
Ptl. Colton Jonavoski

Lorain County Sheriff

Dep. Jacob Csizmadia
Dep. Brandon Strinka
Dep. Aaron Frazier
Dep. Kyle Wilson
Dep. Craig Ali
Sgt. Damian Rodreguiz
Dep. Villalongo Reyes
Dep. Tania Czack

At Brookpark Rd. & Columbia Rd., Johnson's vehicle struck another car, after which Johnson exited holding a pistol in his right hand and fled on foot toward the Clareshire Drive apartment complex as shown in image 2.



(Image 2)

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Exterior surveillance footage corroborated Johnson's route toward 24496 Clareshire, Apt. F as shown in images 3 and 4.

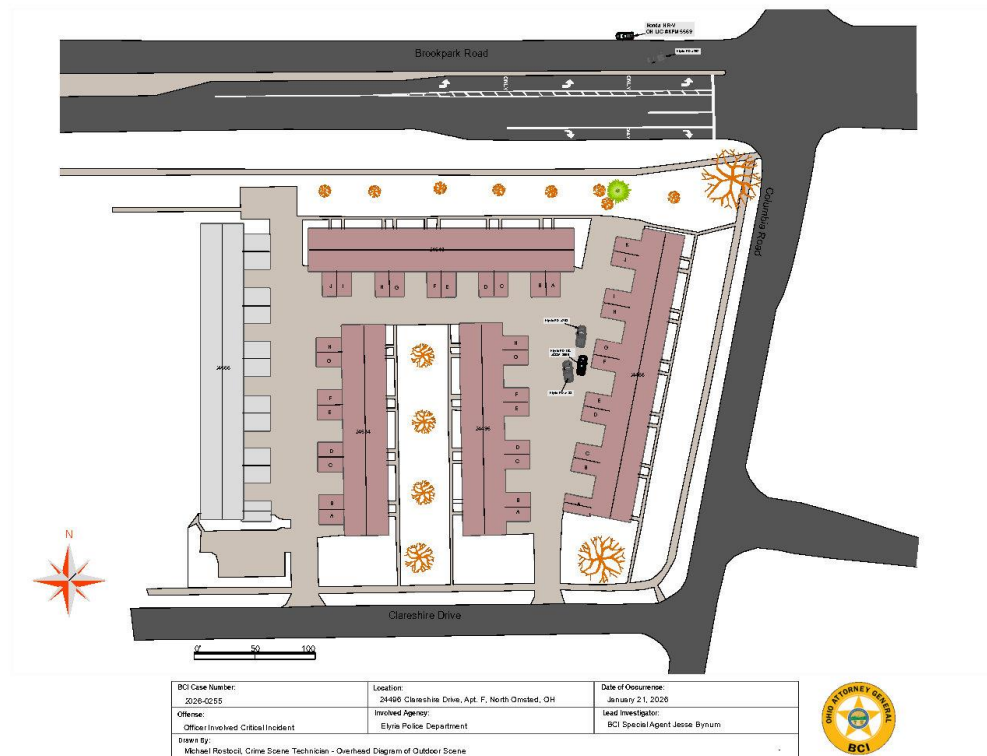


(Image 3)



(Image 4)

The scene is depicted in image 5 below.



(Image 5)

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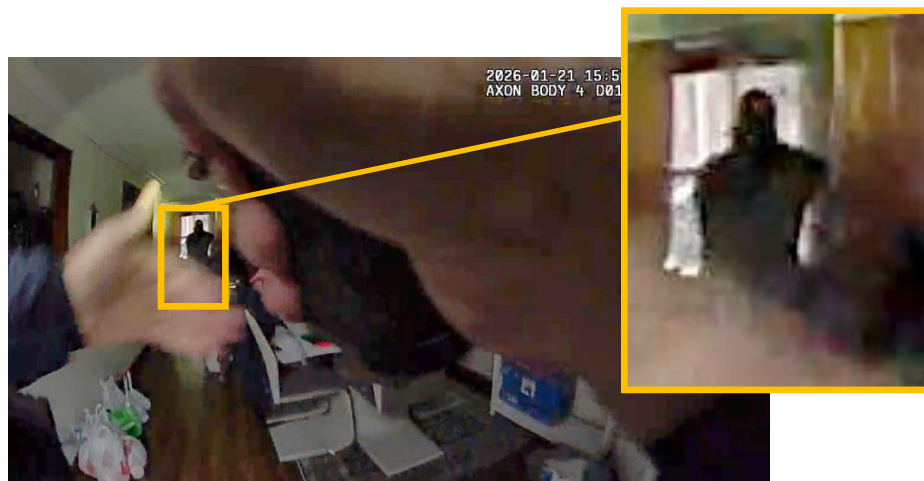
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Ring doorbell video from the residence shows Johnson pushing the resident, Alia Aboalodos (Aboalodos) back inside, while armed with a handgun equipped with an extended magazine as shown in image 6.



(Image 6)

██████████ arrived while Johnson was entering the residence, saw two young children in immediate proximity to the door, moved them to safety, and then kicked the door open. Upon breaching the doorway, ██████████ stated he saw the barrel of a handgun oriented toward him. The image 7 below was lightened shows Johnson in what appears to be a weaver style stance.



(Image 7)

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██████████ fired rapidly, as shown by the BWC footage. Based on the data gathered from OOCIC's video production, the approximate amount of time elapsed between significant events was calculated:

- Approximately 0.749 seconds elapsed from the first significant event (frame #50648, TC 00:27:16:53) of ██████████ kicking the door of the residence to when the first gunshot occurred (TC 00:27:17:43).
- Approximately 3.85 seconds elapsed from when the door was kicked in to the fifteenth gunshot (frame # 050761, TC 00:27:20:39).

The table below depicts the approximate time that elapsed between the significant events:

Row 2 contains an Image # and a Frame #. Each IMAGE # in Row 2 corresponds to the images within the report and the frame # depicted in that image.

The numbers separated by colons within each cell correspond to a Frame #. They do not indicate time.

Method for Time Calculation

The video/audio production indicated the video contained 60 frames per second. Time was calculated by dividing 1 second by 60 frames. The result was each frame represents 0.01666666 seconds. Using this calculation, the amount of time that transpired between instances can be approximately calculated by multiplying the number of frames captured between instances by the amount of time each frame represented (0.01666666). The product is the approximate amount of elapsed time. For this review, SA Bynum rounded the product to the nearest hundredth place decimal (example 0.46666662 was rounded to 0.47 seconds).

Event	Gunshot #1	Gunshot #2	Gunshot #3	Gunshot #4	Gunshot #5	Gunshot #6	Gunshot #7	Gunshot #8	Gunshot #9	Gunshot #10	Gunshot #11	Gunshot #12	Gunshot #13	Gunshot #14	Gunshot #15
Frame	00:27:17:43	00:27:17:55	00:27:18:11	00:27:18:27	00:27:18:40	00:27:18:56	00:27:19:06	00:27:19:16	00:27:19:27	00:27:19:39	00:27:19:54	00:27:20:06	00:27:20:20	00:27:20:34	00:27:20:49
Time	0.75 Seconds	0.20 Seconds	0.27 Seconds	0.27 Seconds	0.22 Seconds	0.27 Seconds	0.17 Seconds	0.17 Seconds	0.18 Seconds	0.20 Seconds	0.25 Seconds	0.20 Seconds	0.23 Seconds	0.23 Seconds	0.25 Seconds
Total Time Elapse															
3.85 Seconds															

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Officer Michael Taylor (Taylor), who had been clearing the rear of the building, returned to the front after hearing gunfire and entered the residence, where he recovered a pistol from under Johnson's right hip area (Image 8), placed it on the couch (Image 9), rendered it safe, and helped provide medical assistance. EMS arrived and transported Johnson to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.



(Image 8)



(Image 9)

Decedent

John P. Johnson was the subject involved in the January 21, 2026, Officer-Involved Critical Incident at 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F in North Olmsted. According to the Subject Workup and other investigative reports, Johnson had a documented history of violent felony behavior, weapons violations, and prior interactions with multiple law-enforcement agencies. His background included both juvenile and adult criminal conduct.

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Johnson has a documented [REDACTED]

Investigators also identified several historical law enforcement contacts involving Johnson. In 2011, he was linked to an armed robbery at a Dollar Store, where a masked male brandished a firearm, demanded access to the safe, and stole \$397. Johnson was identified as the suspect and later arrested. Additionally, in 2020, Lorain Police Department officers conducted an assault investigation in which a caller claimed "John Johnson" was involved. However, the caller was uncooperative, and officers were unable to confirm Johnson's identity.

In 2024, Johnson was involved in two separate criminal cases. On May 5, 2024, the Elyria Police Department found him passed out behind the wheel of a vehicle and discovered he was in possession of a firearm, a large amount of U.S. currency, and an assortment of narcotics. He was arrested for multiple offenses, including Possession of a Controlled Substance (ORC 2925.11), Trafficking in Drugs (ORC 2925.03), Improper Handling of a Firearm in a Vehicle (ORC 2923.16), Having Weapons Under Disability (ORC 2923.13), and Carrying a Concealed Weapon (ORC 2923.12). He was later convicted and sentenced to three years of probation. On November 26, 2024, the Lorain County Sheriff's Office again arrested Johnson, this time for Improperly Discharging a Firearm and other related offenses. He was convicted and once again received a three-year probation sentence.

Autopsy Report

On January 22, 2026, the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner conducted a post-mortem examination, documenting [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The wound distribution aligns tightly with projectile trajectories documented in the apartment and ballistic impacts on Johnson's clothing as shown in images 10, 11, and 12.

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(Image 10)



(Image 11)



(Image 12)

As of this writing, the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner has not completed and provided an autopsy report.

Physical Evidence

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting in order to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

The scene of the incident spanned multiple locations with the vehicle and the residence as shown in images 13 and 14.



(Image 13)



(Image 14)

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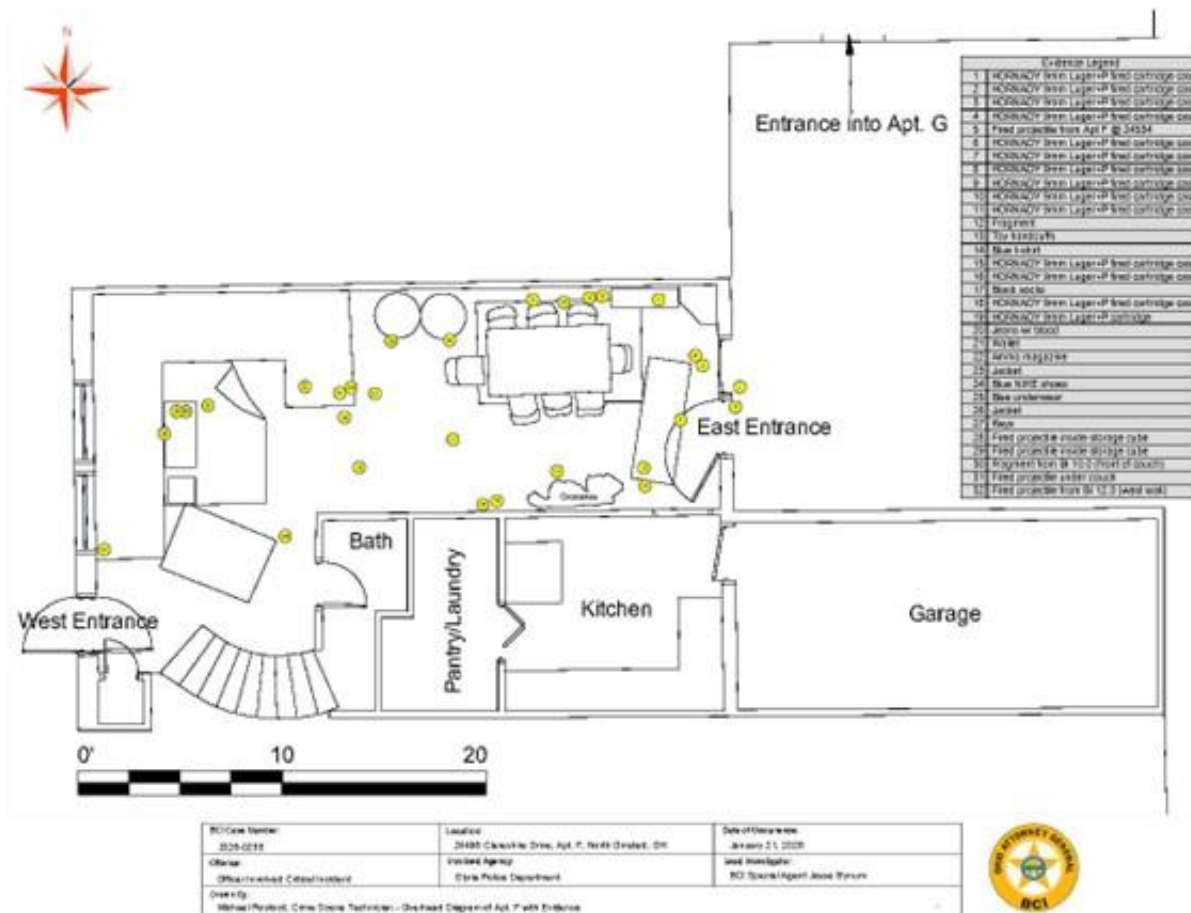


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Crime Scene Technician Rostocil identified thirteen (13) fired 9mm +P cartridge cases throughout the entrance and interior of the apartment, multiple embedded or fragmented projectiles, and physical evidence showing east-to-west ballistic trajectories across the living and dining areas as shown in image 15.



(Image 15)

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One projectile (Item #5) exited the apartment window (Image 16), crossed the courtyard, penetrated a neighbor's entry door and bathroom wall, and was recovered.



(Image 16)

Johnson's jeans also contained a holster, consistent with possession of a handgun at the time of incident. All evidence items (#1-33) were secured, packaged, and transported to BCI Richfield for storage.

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BCI Lab Results

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearm, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon, identifications were able to be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. [REDACTED] firearm is shown in image 18 and Johnson's firearm is shown in image 17.



(Image 17)



(Image 18)

Thirty-three evidence items were submitted on February 3, 2026, under lab case 26-30920. Firearms analysis confirmed that [REDACTED] Glock 45 MOS (9mm) was operable and fired all 13 casings and multiple bullets recovered inside the apartment and during Johnson's autopsy.

Johnson's Glock 36 (.45 Auto) was also operable but not fired .45-caliber evidence was located in the residence. The ATF eTrace report provided details about the Glock, 45 caliber semi-automatic, model 36, serial number RUP233, including that it was [REDACTED]. NIBIN analysis of Johnson's pistol produced no investigative leads, indicating no known linkage to other shootings. DNA analysis revealed that the keys found in Johnson's jeans had a mixture with Johnson as the major contributor, while Johnson's pistol contained a DNA mixture with an unknown male as the major contributor—consistent with Witness Officer Taylor's ungloved handling, recorded on BWC. Taylor's elimination DNA sample was not a major contributor.

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Witnesses

Witness canvassing identified multiple residents who heard the pursuit, crash, and sequential gunfire. One resident observed Johnson running toward a female victim and believed he was attempting to barricade himself inside her apartment. Another provided exterior surveillance footage capturing Johnson's path and the approach of responding officers. The resident of Apt. F, Alia Aboalodos, was home alone with her four children: 8-year-old Roaa Ali (Roaa), 7-year-old Amir Ali (Amir), 5-year-old Tuqaa Ali (Tuqaa), and 9-month-old Muhammad Ali (Muhammad). Aboalodos stated Johnson ran towards her with a firearm and pushed her back into her house. When Aboalodos was pushed into the house, her two oldest children, Roaa and Amir, were locked outside. Aboalodos recalled that Johnson pointed the gun at her, directed her further into the residence, and that her son Tuqaa ran and hid under a table, while Muhammad was confined to an infant carrier. Aboalodos was certain that Johnson fired his weapon towards the officer that was attempting to make entry to the residence. Once the shooting started, Aboalodos dove to the floor, gathered her children, and attempted to get out of the house.

Officer Interviews

The following paragraphs are extremely abbreviated versions of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and/or discharging their weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

Involved Officer

██████████, the involved officer, described receiving the alert, joining the pursuit, and observing Johnson as he entered the apartment. Upon seeing Johnson force the female resident inside, with children present, ██████████ forced entry. He reported that, as the door opened, he saw the barrel of Johnson's handgun pointed toward him and believed Johnson was about to shoot him or take the female hostage. He fired in response to this perceived immediate threat. He described the rapidity of the situation, stating that there was no opportunity to issue verbal commands. During his interview ██████████ stated:

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I was looking for him in the snapshot of an open shot, if it was required at that point in time, believing that if he wasn't running through the house, I was entering a hostage situation. So, I'm looking for my clear window and the moment the door opened enough for me to get a view, I just saw a barrel in my direction, him reaching out towards the victim, unsure of what he intended to do with her and the firearm is oriented on me. I engaged. [31:53]

Witness Officer

Officer Michael Taylor, who did not fire his weapon, stated he observed Johnson flee from the crashed vehicle with a handgun, pursued on foot, then heard rapid gunfire while repositioning. Upon entering the residence, he recovered Johnson's handgun from Johnson's right hip and assisted with medical aid.

Dispatch-Related Information

LPD and LCSO CAD logs independently documented the Brinks robbery BOLO, multiple Flock hits, pursuit speeds, swerving behavior, LPD's termination of lead, EPD's assumption of primary pursuit duties, spike strip deployments, the vehicle collision at Brookpark and Columbia Roads, Johnson's flight into the apartment complex, and confirmation of "shots fired." Below is the radio traffic from EPD on the day of the incident.

Time of Recording	Radio Traffic
00:01	EPD Dispatch set off the emergency tone and notified Officers of an armed robbery of a Brinks truck at gunpoint at the AT&T store on West River Road
00:15	Suspect vehicle was a black Hyundai Crossover with Ohio license plate KPM 5569, Vehicle is northbound on West River Road from the store.
00:30	Suspect described as a black male wearing all black clothing.
00:36	Officer directed EPD Dispatch to notify the Lorain Police Department (LPD) of the incident.
00:48	Unknown officer notified other units that suspect vehicle was last hit on

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	the Flock cameras at 1449 hours at State Route 57 and IR 90 traveling northbound
02:16	EPD Officer House gives further description of the suspect as 6'2 to 6'3, thin, light skin black male.
04:56	EPD [REDACTED] notified dispatch that he was with LPD units and that they were in pursuit of the suspect vehicle.
05:04	Pursuit southbound on Broadway Avenue.
05:15	EPD units directed to assist LPD with the pursuit with LPD as the lead in the pursuit.
06:32	EPD units notified that the suspect was wanted for Aggravated Robbery with a firearm and kidnapping.
15:40	Dispatch notified that the pursuit had entered North Olmsted.
16:17	EPD units notified that LPD terminating their lead in the pursuit and requesting that RPD take over as primary in the pursuit.
16:51	Dispatch notified units in the pursuit that a Lorain County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) unit was going to attempt a pit maneuver (did not occur).
18:20	Officer notified dispatch that the suspect's vehicle tires had been successfully "spiked"
18:42	Dispatch notified that the suspect's vehicle had struck another vehicle and that the suspect was fleeing on foot.
18:49	Officer gave suspect description as a black male wearing a gray hoodie and blue jeans.
18:56	Officer called "Shots fired".
19:45	Officer notified dispatch that LCSO radio traffic advised that shots were fired and the suspect was down. Gives the address as 24496 Clareshire Drive, North Olmsted.

Video Recordings

BWC footage from [REDACTED] captures the forced entry, Johnson's handgun and movement toward the resident, the rapid discharge sequence, entry geometry, reload, post-incident commands, and identification of Johnson's weapon. Additional BWCs (Taylor, Lewis, House) corroborate the children exiting the apartment, medical aid, subject firearm recovery, and evidence handling. Dash-camera footage confirms critical portions of the pursuit, spike deployment, crash location, and officer approach routes. Ring and exterior surveillance footage corroborate Johnson's forced entry into Apt. F and the timing of officers' arrival relative to the gunfire.

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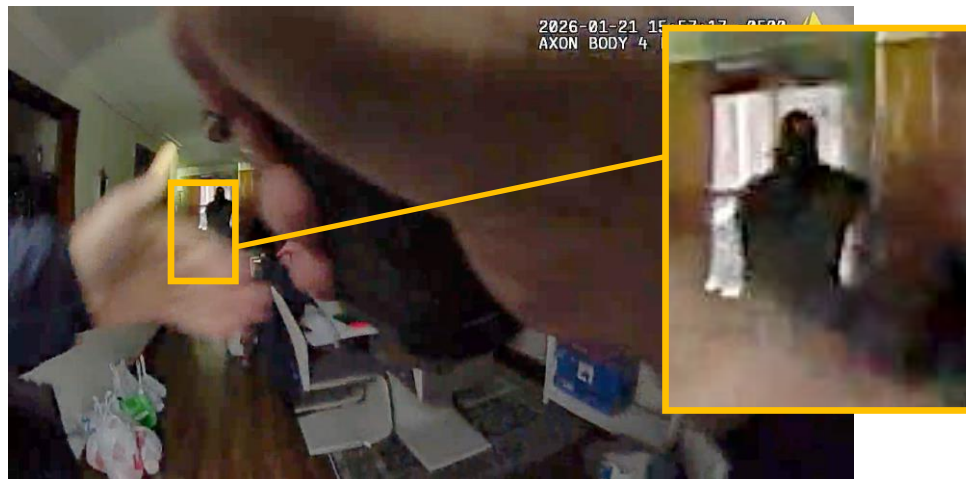
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BWC, Dash Camera, and surveillance footage was submitted to OOCIC to enhance dark portions of the video and to combine video footage into one screen to show a more complete view of the incident as shown in image 19 below.



(Image 19)

OOCIC was able to lighten the frame shown below providing more detail of how Johnson was standing upon [REDACTED] entering the residence as shown below in figure 20. In the lightened version, Johnson appeared to be in a “weaver style” stance.



(Image 20)

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Conclusion

Based on the totality of evidence—including officer statements, CAD logs, BWC and surveillance video, dash-camera footage, witness statements, physical evidence, scene reconstruction, clothing examination, firearms testing, DNA analysis, and autopsy findings—the investigative record demonstrates a consistent and corroborated timeline in which Johnson, armed with a .45-caliber handgun, fled an armed robbery, led officers on a pursuit, crashed, and forced entry into an occupied home with children present. [REDACTED], in fresh pursuit, encountered Johnson inside the apartment and fired rapidly in response to what he perceived as an immediate, lethal threat under conditions that afforded no time for verbal commands. No contradictory physical or digital evidence was identified.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved shooting incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Jesse Bynum. SA Bynum can be reached via email at Jesse.Bynum@OhioAGO.gov.

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