



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



2025-0559

Officer Involved Critical Incident – [REDACTED] Miami
Township, Ohio (Montgomery Co.) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED]
Date of Activity: 02/28/2025
Activity Location: Miami Twp. (Miamisburg) Police Department – Business – 2660
Lyons Road, Miamisburg, OH 45342
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On Friday, February 28, 2025, at approximately 1042 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agents Steven Seitzman and Richard Ward interviewed Miami Township Police [REDACTED] who was accompanied by her attorney, Steve Lazarus and union representative, Officer Kurtis Green. The interview took place in a conference room inside the Miami Township Police Department. The interview was audio recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Notification form. A copy of the form is attached to this investigative report.

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.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: [REDACTED]
Radio Channel Utilized: Miami Township Primary	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: White Ford Police Interceptor Utility with Miami Township police decals	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: n/a

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Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Went to sleep around 2130-2200 hrs	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): n/a	Corrective Lenses: Contact Lenses
Uniform Worn: Standard navy-blue department-issued uniform with an external load-bearing vest	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Collapsible baton, pepper spray, and TASER
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: No
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: CIT, FTO, evidence technician, bike patrol, detective course, SRO course	OPOTC Certification: Sinclair Law Enforcement Training Academy- [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Annual use of force refresher training and proficiency test. Power DMS policy acknowledgements.
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: No
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Night prior to the incident

Officer's Firearm(s):

Duty Weapon

Make: Glock	Model: 45
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: n/a
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Duty belt, holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17 +1 in the chamber
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 14 (13	Number of Rounds Fired: 3

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from the magazine, one from the chamber.) She was present for the round count and watched the agent downloading her pistol.	
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Within a year	Type of Holster, if any: Level III Safariland holster designed for weapon-mounted light and red dot optic

Regarding the incident at issue, [REDACTED] advised the following:

[REDACTED] was dispatched to the police department with Officer Crystal Rankins for a road rage complaint. While on that dispatch, a call of a domestic violence came in on [REDACTED]. She said the call involved a male subject threatening his family with a knife. Once she discovered that there was only one party involved in the road rage complaint, she activated her lights and sirens and responded to [REDACTED] to assist [REDACTED]. She stated that she did not know the male subject and was unaware of any history involving him.

Upon [REDACTED] arrival, she ran up to the front door of the residence and joined [REDACTED]. She recalled seeing female family members outside the residence. Shortly after her arrival, [REDACTED] arrived and came up to the door with a less-lethal shotgun. [REDACTED] looked through the door glass and relayed that he could see the involved subject, later identified as Jayden C. Stephenson, in the living room either standing or sitting with a knife in his hand. She stated that she provided lethal cover while [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had less-lethal options.

[REDACTED] advised that they opened the door. She was positioned behind [REDACTED] while [REDACTED] stood to [REDACTED] left. She recalled having an obstructed view inside the residence. She could see Jayden sitting in the living room near the kitchen. She was able to see that Jayden had the knife in his hand. At that point, she remembered [REDACTED] trying to de-escalate the situation by asking what was wrong and what the officers could do to calm him. She stated that she also tried to talk to Jayden and told him that the officers were not there to hurt him, but they were there to help him. She stated that Jayden expressed that he was upset about his car being impounded, and he wanted the officers to get his car. She said that [REDACTED] gave repeated commands for Jayden to drop the knife; however, Jayden responded by saying "no." She stated that as time went on, Jayden got more "ramped up" and responded by saying, "Fuck you!" She recalled [REDACTED] asking Jayden if he wanted to hurt himself or family members. She said Jayden answered by saying he did not want to hurt himself, but Jayden followed up by saying, "But one of you guys is gonna find out." She said she took that comment as a threat that Jayden wanted to hurt the officers.

[REDACTED] recalled the situation getting worse. She stated that the officers were approximately 20 to 25 feet away from Jayden at this point. She said Jayden eventually stood up and began walking, at which point [REDACTED] discharged a less-lethal round from his shotgun. She said [REDACTED] also discharged his TASER. She advised that neither less-lethal weapon had an effect on Jayden, as he was able to run up the stairs. She and the other officers gave chase as Jayden ran into the master bedroom and closed the door.

██████████ stated that the officers regrouped outside the closed door. She recalled maintaining lethal cover. She stated that ██████████ switched from the TASER to lethal cover, and ██████████ drew his TASER to provide a less-lethal option. She stated that ██████████ also maintained less-lethal coverage with the beanbag shotgun. She stated that ██████████ kicked the door open and ordered Jayden to drop the knife and exit the room. She stated that ██████████ verbalized that he could see Jayden on the ground. As she entered the room with the other officers, she could see Jayden's foot sticking out of a bathroom off to the left of the room. She stated that ██████████ approached the bathroom. She said her view was obstructed, but she heard ██████████ instruct ██████████ to discharge his TASER. She said ██████████ did as instructed, and immediately after, she heard ██████████ discharge the less-lethal shotgun.

██████████ next remembered Jayden getting off the ground with the knife still in his hand. She said he came toward the officers, at which point ██████████ began firing. He remembered ██████████ retreating backwards as Jayden was "sprinting" toward them with the knife. She stated that she also fired her weapon, aiming it at Jayden's "center mass." She estimated that Jayden got within two feet or less of ██████████ with the knife. She said she fired because she feared she was going to get stabbed. She stated that after Jayden was shot, the knife fell next to his body. She instructed one of the other officers to kick the knife away to prevent Jayden from having access to it. She said ██████████ then handcuffed Jayden and assessed for wounds. She described Jayden's right arm as "mangled" and opined that ██████████ rounds had caused that injury. She said she could see rounds near his "right lung side" of the chest. She said officers grabbed towels and applied pressure to Jayden's wounds. She said she could hear agonal breathing, and she requested officers remove the handcuffs to administer CPR. She advised that Officer Rankins began chest compressions, and at that time, ██████████ discovered gunshot wounds on the left side of Jayden's neck. She opined that the neck wound was caused by her gunshot based on her position at the time. She stated that she applied pressure to the neck wound while Officer Rankins continued with chest compressions. She said ██████████ and she also performed CPR after Officer Rankins had become exhausted. She stated that medics arrived and decided that further life-saving efforts would be futile.

██████████ stated that Assistant Chief James McCarty arrived and removed her from the room. Eventually, she exited the residence and sat in a police cruiser. She was photographed. She then got into a medic and was later transported to an emergency room to be evaluated.

SA Seitzman asked ██████████ if she could have retreated to a position of cover or concealment. She stated that the only cover would have been outside the bedroom, but there was not enough time due to Jayden's speed in coming toward them and his intent to harm the officers.

SA Ward asked ██████████ to describe Jayden's knife. She said it was a "folding rectangular blade" and said it was approximately six inches long and two and a half inches wide. When asked if she believed the knife was an instrument capable of causing serious bodily injury or death, she answered in the affirmative.

SA Seitzman asked ██████████ if she believed officers did everything within their

power to save Jayden's life. She answered in the affirmative.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] if anyone had informed her that Jayden was alone inside the house when she first arrived. She stated that [REDACTED] told her that. She stated that she asked the family if Jayden had mental illness diagnoses. She believed the "grandma" (Terry Bennett) told her that she did not know. She took Ms. Bennett's answer to mean Jayden had not been diagnosed with any mental health issues.

The interview concluded at 1114 hours. The audio recording is attached to this investigative report.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-02-28 Interview of [REDACTED]

Attachment # 02: Notice of Criminal Investigation- [REDACTED]

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2

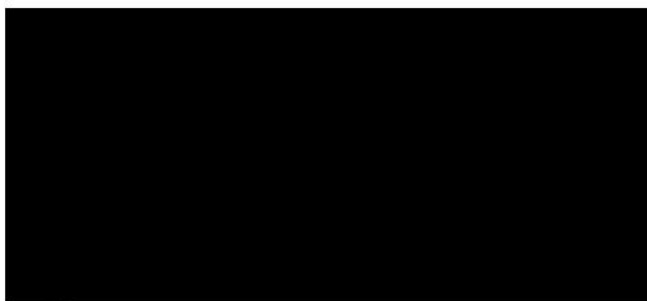


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Criminal Investigation Notification

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).



02-28-25 1044
Date / Time

STEVEN SEITZMAN
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)