



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



2022-1734  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 27724 Zuck Road, Howard,  
Ohio 43028

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Michael Collins (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 09/01/2022  
**Activity Location:** Collins, Michael – Business – 11540 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mount Vernon, OH 43050, Knox County  
**Author:** SA Eric Lehnhart, #84

On Thursday, September 01, 2022, at 1400 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Eric Lehnhart (Lehnhart) and SA John Tingley (Tingley) interviewed Knox County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Deputy Michael Collins (Collins), who was accompanied by his attorney, Doug Behringer, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at 1154 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050. The interview was audio recorded.

Deputy Collins read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

**Preliminary and Demographic Information:**

<b>Name:</b> Michael W. Collins	<b>Rank:</b> Deputy (Dep.)
<b>Badge Number:</b> 4362	<b>Cruiser/Vehicle Number:</b> 4227
<b>Radio Call Sign:</b> 4362	<b>Immediate Supervisor:</b> Jesse Ramsier
<b>Radio Channel Utilized:</b> SO 42	<b>Mobile Data Terminal:</b> Present; Not Used
<b>Cruiser Description:</b> Ford Explorer	<b>Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions:</b> One (1), Driver's Seat
<b>Assignment:</b> Patrol	<b>Normal Shift:</b> 4P – 12A
<b>In-Car Camera:</b> Not Present	<b>Spotlight:</b> Present; Not utilized
<b>Emergency Lights:</b> Present & Utilized	<b>Siren:</b> Present & Utilized

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Shift Day of Incident: 3rd Shift	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Thursday & Friday	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: Yes, Wilhelm OT
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Eight (8)	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: 6.5 years	Length at Current Agency: 4.5 years
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): No	Corrective Lenses: Contacts
Uniform Worn: Standard BSSA Uniform	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: OC Spray & Taser
Ballistic Vest: Concealed Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: No
Training or Areas of Specialty: OPOTA	OPOTC Certification: Current
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Yes
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? None	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: None

**Officer's Firearm(s):**

**Weapon #1**

Make: S&W Tactical	Model: AR-15 Tactical
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Vehicle Mount Vertical
Magazine Capacity: 30	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 29
Extra Magazines: Three (3) in vehicle	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 29
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Backup
Rounds Remaining After Incident: No Count	Number of Rounds Fired: One (1)
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Personally Owned
Last Qualification Date: 05-10-2022	Type of Holster, if any: None

**Weapon #2**

Make: Glock	Model: Model 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including

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	chamber): 17
Extra Magazines: Unknown	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 17	Number of Rounds Fired: Zero (0)
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 05-10-2022	Type of Holster, if any: Triple Retention

**Narrative:**

Deputy Collins, Unit #4362, is a four and one half (4.5) year veteran of the KCSO. He is currently assigned to the patrol division. He is OPOTA certified through the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission (OPOTC) and is current on all required training and qualifications.

On Monday, August 22, 2022, Deputy Collins was assigned as the "west" unit. At the time of the call, he was on-station at KCSO, on his meal break. According to Deputy Collins, a dispatched call went out over the SO42 frequency advising of a "12" or burglary. As the call location was not in his patrol area, he was not planning on responding to this particular call. However, a brief moment later, the dispatching center changed the call to a "12A" or burglary in progress. The change in the call status prompted Deputy Collins into responding from the sheriff's office.

While responding to the area, he recalled looking at his mobile data terminal (MDT) to see the name Elizabeth Delano (Delano). Deputy Collins recalled having responded to another incident about one year ago with Delano and her family. During that call for service, Deputy Collins remembered that Delano also had a firearm within reach. Deputy Collins relayed this knowledge onto the other responding officers.

On his arrival, Deputy Collins stated that Sergeant (Sgt.) Ramsier advised officers that Delano had broken out a window in the home and was in possession of a tactical shotgun. Delano was verbally defiant with Sgt. Ramsier's verbal commands to drop her weapon, by responding, "Fuck you."

While Deputy Collins positioned himself in a safe spot behind a wood beam near Deputy Scoles, he could hear Delano yelling, "Go get Collins," and, "Go get my ex-husband, I'll take care of that now." That was when he observed Delano appear in a window, "shouldered" the weapon and pointed it toward the front door. Deputy Collins recalls hearing the first gunshot and believed that Delano might have shot herself. Seconds later, Delano fired "one or two additional shots," which he believed were fired inside the residence also.

As Deputy Collins moved to a new position of cover, he heard two more gunshots. One of those shots appeared to have been fired in a western direction toward Deputy Scoles, who was positioned in the weeds behind Delano's home. That was when Deputy Collins realized that Delano was outside her residence. Delano then fired again; this time in the direction of Sgt. Ramsier and another officer, who were approximately 20 feet from her. According to Deputy Collins, the shots sounded similar to a rifle slug or double-aught (00) buck shot ammunition.

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Deputy Collins then gave Delano a command to drop her weapon. Delano turned toward him, while lifting the shotgun up in a threatening position. Deputy Collins fired one shot from his patrol rifle, striking Delano and knocking her to the ground.

Deputies were able to contain Delano; and while Deputy Williams and Sgt. Ramsier provided emergency aid to her, Deputy Collins stepped back and returned to the patrol vehicles near the roadway.

The interview concluded at approximately 1444 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-09-01 Collins, Michael Criminal Investigation Notification

Attachment # 02: 2022-09-01 Collins, Michael Interview (Audio)



**DAVE YOST**

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



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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).

*Michael W. Pollins*

Printed Name of Interviewee

*Sept. 1, 2022 @ 1400*

Date / Time

*Michael W. Pollins*

Signature of Interviewee

*Eric T. LEHMAN*

BCI Agent (Printed)

*Eric T. Lehman*

BCI Agent (Signature)