



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 200 Cline Avenue,
Mansfield, Ohio 44907

To: Jodie Schumacher, Richland County Prosecutor
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Andrew J. Harasimchuk, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: January 22, 2025
Involves: Sergeant Joseph Gladded (S)
Sergeant Michael Haines (S)
Officer Paul Webb (S)
Michael Oswald (S)
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 200 Cline Avenue, Mansfield,
Ohio 44907
BCI Case Numbers: Special Investigations (SIU): 2024-3257
Crime Scene (CSU): 2024-3257
Cyber Crime (CCU): 2024-3257
BCI Laboratory: 24-37567

Investigative Request

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, Lieutenant Robert Skropits of the Mansfield Police Department requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on October 19, 2024 at 200 Cline Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44907 and resulted in the death of Michael Oswald (Oswald).

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the October 19, 2024 officer-involved shooting in Richland 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

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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.

Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent Andrew Harasimchuk (SA Harasimchuk) was assigned as the lead SIU case agent. SA Harasimchuk received assistance in the investigation from SA Cory Momchilov (SA Momchilov), SA Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum), SA Nicholas Valente (SA Valente), SA Jonathan Lieber (SA Lieber), SA Kenneth Smith, (SA Smith), SA Matthew Armstrong (SA Armstrong) and SA Allison Fletcher (SA Fletcher). BCI Special Agents Larry Hootman (SA Hootman), SA Bernard Doran (SA Doran) and Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Lulla (SAS Lulla) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Special Agent William Conn of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an extraction and analysis of cell phone recovered from 200 Cline Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44907. The investigation was supervised by SAS 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(s) of the three (3) officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of four (4) officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Written statements from two (2) officers who were 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 Erin Brooks civilian victim to the incident
- Special agent attendance to post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- 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, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.

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- Review of all available dash cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available surveillance video which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Reviewed phone/text records obtained via search warrant from wireless service provider
- 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
- Obtained search warrants for the subject's phone and performed an analysis of the data present
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 - 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 - 2. Firearm operability testing
- Obtained search warrant to analyze electronic evidence, to include:
 - 1. Cellular phones
- Reviewed data obtained from aforementioned items of electronic evidence
- 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
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered

Incident Summary/Overview

On October 19, 2024, at approximately 0550 hours, BCI was requested by the Mansfield Police Department to conduct an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer involved shooting that occurred at 200 Cline

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Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio. BCI SIU SA Bynum, SA Valente, SA Momchilov and SA Armstrong responded to the scene. CSU SA Hootman, SA Doran, and SAS Lulla documented and collected pertinent evidence at the scene.

Responding agents learned that the Mansfield Police Department (MPD) responded to a domestic related call at 200 Cline Avenue in Mansfield. When MPD officers arrived on scene, the incident turned into a hostage situation involving two children (8-year-old Leia Miskelley and 6-year-old Revan Miskelley) and the children's mother (Erin Brooks). The children and their mother were being held against their will inside the residence by Michael Oswald (Oswald). The Allied Special Operations Response Team (ASORT) was dispatched and responded to the scene. ASORT attempted to negotiate with Oswald. However the negotiations broke down, and the subject reportedly charged SWAT officers with knives and was subsequently shot and died as a result of his injuries.

The shooting incident involved a subject, Oswald, and MPD Sergeant Joseph Gladden (Sergeant Gladden), Sergeant Michael Haines (Sergeant Haies), and Officer Paul Webb (Officer Webb). The incident resulted in Oswald being shot multiple times.

Decedent

Michael Shane Oswald

Date of Birth: 06/03/1983, Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

FBI# [REDACTED]

BCI# [REDACTED]

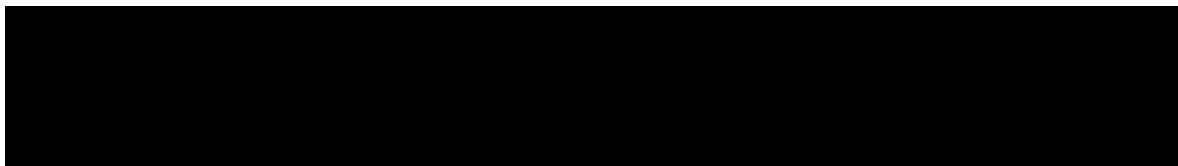
Residence: 200 Cline Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44907

Phone number: (567) 370-0415

Autopsy Report

The autopsy report was authored by Dr. Kristian Abernathy of the Montgomery County Coroner's Office. The cause and manner of death were determined by Dr. Dan Burwell of the Richland County Coroner's Office. The "CAUSE OF DEATH" for Oswald was listed as a "[REDACTED]." The "MANNER OF DEATH" was listed as "[REDACTED]"

A review of those documents revealed the following information:





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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 (Image #1), 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.



(Image #1)

After arriving on scene, agents initially observed seven cartridge casings on/near the back porch and a broken window to the left of the entrance door. CSU agents looked inside the door and observed a deceased male lying supine with a large volume stain of blood surrounding the body.

CSU agents noted that inside the front door was a living room area that was unremarkable. At the bottom of the stairs leading to the second floor was a pile of broken debris, including shelving, glass and home goods. The kitchen area where the deceased was found was cluttered with several items, including chairs on top of the dining table, debris on the kitchen floor and at the bottom of the stairs. There was a dining table chair sitting in front of the broken window that had a ballistic impact

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coming from outside in. There was a ballistic impact on the front of the stove, several cartridge casings comingled with the volume blood stain and a knife with an open blade near the deceased.

CSU agents determined the deceased was found approximately 2.5 feet inside the rear door; the open knife found on the floor was approximately 3.1 feet from the deceased right elbow (Image #2-3). The items found and seized, pursuant to the search warrant that was obtained by Mansfield Police Department, were ten (10) .556 NATO cartridge casings, two (2) open lock blade pocketknives, a Sig Sauer empty magazine on the kitchen table, two (2) projectiles, a kitchen knife found on the counter above the deceased and a 40mm projectile fired from the non-lethal weapon used by SWAT. The iPhone was reported to belong to the deceased and a sample of Item "A" bloodstain was found upstairs.



(Image #2)

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(Image #3)

After collecting the items listed above, it was learned that the neighbor provided a camera for Brooks to record what was going on inside the home due to the volatile situation that was transpiring throughout the day. The camera was reportedly placed discreetly in the master bedroom. The camera was located on a makeup table under other items (Images #4-5).

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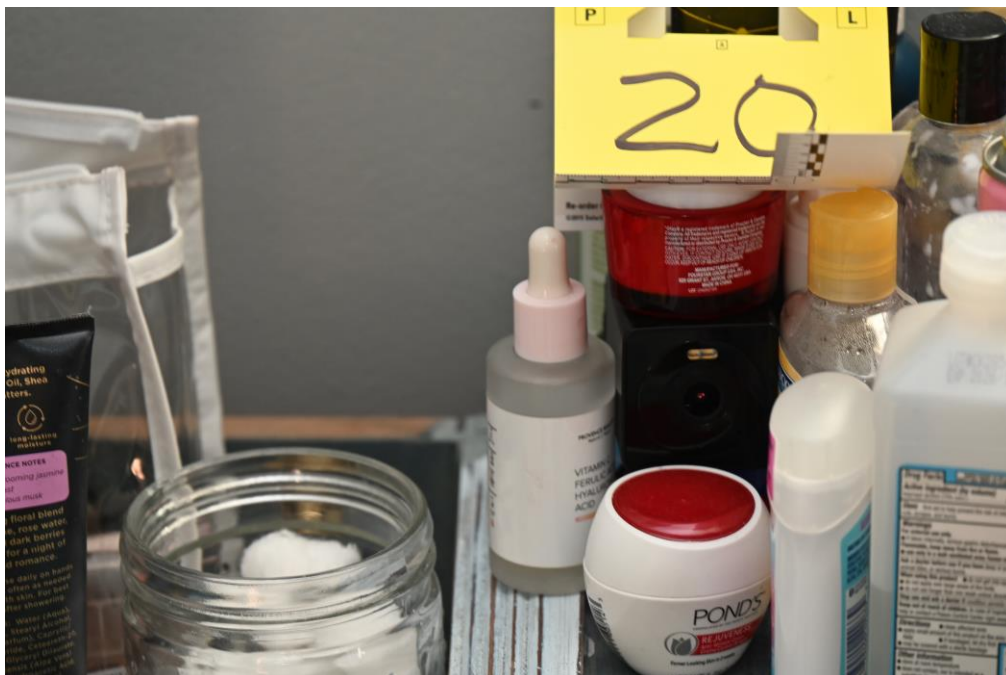
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(Image #4)



(Image #5)

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Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis.

A total of thirty-three items of evidence were collected during the course of this investigation. It should be noted that the thirty-three items of evidence do not include reference items. Of the items collected, the following fifteen pieces of evidence were submitted to the BCI Richfield laboratory and the BCI Cyber Crimes Unit (CCU) for analysis.

- BCI Lab #01/Matrix Item #01 – Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #02/Matrix Item #02 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #03/Matrix Item #03 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #04/Matrix Item #04 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #05/Matrix Item #05 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #06/Matrix Item #06 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI/Lab #07/Matrix Item #07 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI/Lab #08/Matrix Item #08 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #09/Matrix Item #09 - Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #12/Matrix Item #12- Hornady 556 NATO cartridge case - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #11/Matrix Item #23- Sgt. Michael Haines' Firearm - Rifle - Sig Sauer MCX Serial # [REDACTED] with one Hornady 5.56 cartridge from chamber and one magazine containing 22 cartridges - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #12/Matrix Item #24 - Officer Paul Webb's Firearm - Rifle - Sig Sauer MCX Serial # [REDACTED] with one Hornady 5.56 cartridge from chamber and two magazines-one containing 21 cartridges and one containing 24 cartridges - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #13/Matrix Item #25 - Sgt. Joseph Gladden's Firearm - Rifle - Sig Sauer MCX Serial # [REDACTED] with one Hornady 5.56 cartridge from chamber and one magazine containing 23 cartridges - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #14/Matrix Item #32 – bullets and fragments - **ballistics**
- BCI Lab #15/Matrix Item #33 – bullets and fragments - **ballistics**
- Matrix Item #18 – Apple iPhone - **CCU**

The following is a synopsis of the analysis of the previously mentioned items of evidence. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene 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

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from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

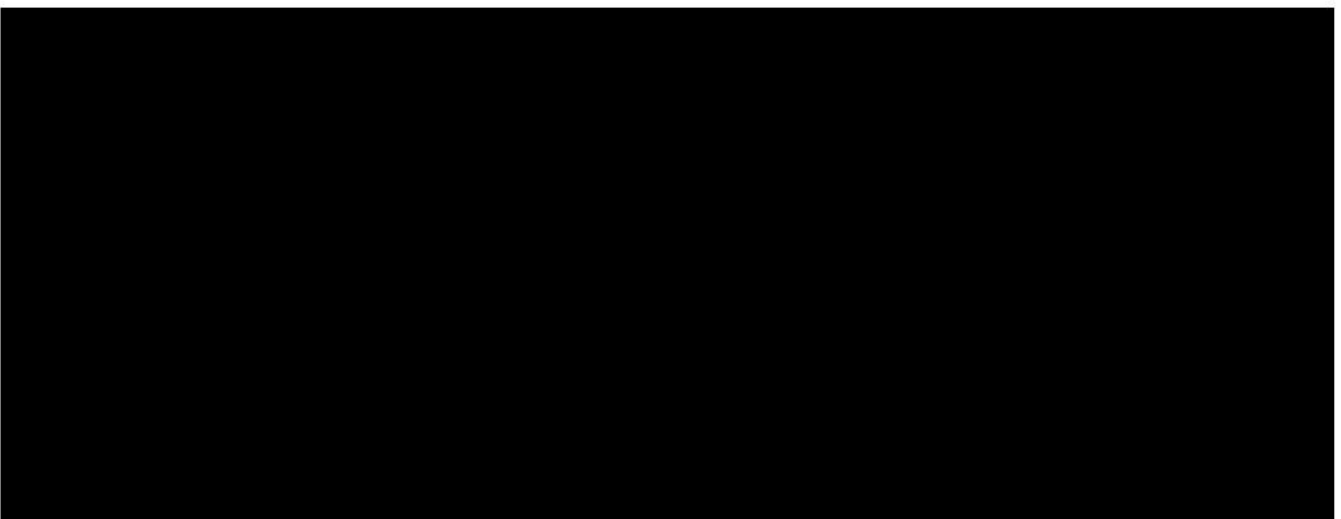
Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #11: One (1) Sig Sauer rifle (SN [REDACTED])	N/A	Operable
	Item #14: A total of four (4) fired bullets (14EC1 - 14EC4)	Source Identification
	Items #3, 6, 9 & 10: A total of four (4) fired 5.56x45mm cartridges	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #12: One (1) Sig Sauer rifle (SN [REDACTED])	N/A	Operable
	Item #15: A total of three (3) fired bullets (15EC1, 15EC3, 15EC4)	Source Identification
	Items #1, 2, 4 & 8: A total of four (4) fired 5.56x45mm cartridge cases	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #13: One (1) Sig Sauer rifle (SN [REDACTED])	N/A	Operable
	Item #15: One (1) fired bullet (15EB2)	Source Identification
	Items #5 & 7: A total of two (2) fired 5.56x45mm cartridge cases	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #14: Four (4) bullet fragments & Item #15: Two (2) bullet fragments	N/A	Unsuitable^

It should be noted that BCI Lab #14/Matrix Item #32 – bullets and fragments and BCI Lab #15/Matrix Item #33 – bullets and fragments were recovered during the autopsy of Oswald.



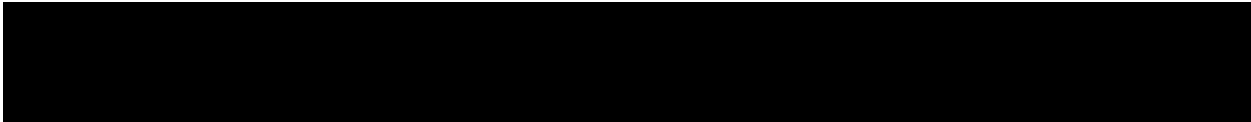
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Neighborhood Canvass Interviews

186 Cline Avenue

Agents interviewed Kimalee Walker (Walker) and Brian Brumbaugh (Brumbaugh). Walker advised agents that the MPD took her phone as evidence.

Brumbaugh said that he was friends and coworkers with Oswald and that recently Oswald appeared to be back using drugs, due to his behavior. Due to a prior incident where Oswald had held a knife to Brooks' neck, Walker and Brumbaugh lent Brooks a Wyze Wi-Fi camera that Brooks placed in an upstairs room. Walker and Brumbaugh were able to monitor the camera through an application on their phone and listened for a code word from Brooks to know if she was in danger. When Oswald arrived home, Walker and Brumbaugh began monitoring the camera to ensure the safety of Brooks. Walker and Brumbaugh heard Brooks say the code word, so Brumbaugh called 911 to report the situation to police.

Walker also advised agents that she would give consent for the SD card located in the camera that was in Brooks' bedroom.

Brumbaugh stated that the initial officers spoke at the front door and then Brooks went back inside and Oswald barricaded the house. Brumbaugh stated that they could then hear stuff being broken and being tossed around. Brumbaugh said during the time that Brooks and her children were being held hostage, Oswald called Brumbaugh from Brooks' phone asking who had called the police. Oswald said to Brumbaugh that whoever called 911 was responsible for what happened. Brumbaugh stated that approximately 10-15 minutes after the children were released, they heard gunshots. Walker and Brumbaugh stated they were not able to see anything due to their location inside their home in the living room.

195 Cline Avenue

Agents interviewed Danette Stevenson (Danette) and George Stevenson (George). Danette reported that in the recent past that she saw the subject getting his girlfriend's children off the bus, and he seemed to be okay. However, Brooks recently told her that the subject was using drugs and "seeing things." Around 0300 hours that morning, Danette woke up and went outside after noticing police lights coming from outside. Once outside, the police told Danette to go back inside, and she did. A couple of hours later she was looking out her door and heard two gunshots fired in quick

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succession. Danette could not see any police officers at the time. Danette next observed Brooks running away from the home as she was being escorted by police.

George reported he heard two quick “pops” but did not see or hear anything else relevant to this investigation.

Witnesses

Interview of Erin Brooks

Brooks has two children, 8-year-old Leia Miskelley (date of birth: 1-2-2016) and 6-year-old Revan Miskelley (date of birth: 11-14-2017). Brooks, her two children, and Oswalt all lived at 200 Cline Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44907. Oswalt is not the father of her children. Brooks' children were home during the event immediately preceding the officer-involved shooting.

Brooks met Oswalt through the Tinder cell phone dating application in September 2023. The two began a romantic relationship, became engaged and were to be married on October 31, 2024. Brooks described Oswalt as someone who struggled with an addiction to crack cocaine. Brooks described an event occurring in early August of this year when Oswalt became involved in a police pursuit culminating with Oswalt stopping on a bridge and throwing wrenches at police in what Brooks described as an attempt to get the police to shoot him as a means of committing (11:00) “suicide by cop.” After six hours Oswalt surrendered to police and was taken into custody.

After returning to Mansfield, Oswalt saw a therapist and began taking bipolar medication. In the past few days, Brooks believed Oswalt to have again started using/abusing crack cocaine and acting paranoid. Around that time, Oswalt received money from an insurance claim and purchased a car. The car was put in Brooks' name because Oswalt did not believe he could insure the car under his own name.

Over the past few days, Oswalt's behavior changes had become worse. Oswalt increasingly acted paranoid, left unexplainably for hours, turned his phone off without reason, etcetera. The night before the officer-involved shooting, Oswalt ran away from home on foot to try and find the car described above, which Brooks had lent to a friend of Oswalt. Brooks then drove around Mansfield looking for Oswalt in a second vehicle. When Brooks found Oswalt, he slashed the tire to her vehicle. Later that night, Oswalt returned home, removed the slashed tire, and put a spare on the car for Brooks.

Oswalt told Brooks he wanted the title to the car he had purchased in her name to be put in his name and the two argued over this point. Brooks ultimately told Oswalt he could no longer live in her home, due to his erratic behavior and drug use. The

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following morning, the couple remained on bad terms. Brooks requested Oswald take a home drug test; something she had asked him to do in the past. On this occasion, Oswald refused to take the test and left home. Later in the day, Brooks spoke with her neighbor about the situation and the two devised a plan to hide a security camera in Brooks' bedroom as a safety precaution in case something was to happen when Oswald returned. Brooks and her neighbor decided to set up a code phrase she would say if she felt in danger and wanted her neighbor to call the police. The code phrase was (25:45) "You're hurting my feelings."

Eventually, Oswald did return home, and an argument ensued. During that argument, Brooks said the code phrase and her neighbor, who was listening to the argument through the hidden camera, called the police.

The police arrived at her home about ten minutes after Brooks said the code phrase. When the police knocked on her door, Oswald armed himself with two knives. Brooks stepped outside to talk with the police and said, (26:45) "This man is armed, and he is high on crack." Oswald then walked to the open doorway, told the police they did not have permission to enter and shut the door. Against the request of the police, Brooks ran around to the back of the house and re-entered the home to be with her children.

Oswald then forced Brooks and her two children into the children's shared bedroom upstairs. Brooks, armed with the two knives, taunted the police, Brooks, and the two children. Brooks said, (27:25) "He was yelling at them (the police), 'Come up there shoot me. Come up there shoot me. Come up there, shoot me. If you don't come up here to shoot me, then I'm gonna start stabbing and I'm gonna start with LeeAnn. And then he looked at me, and he said, 'I'm gonna have to start stabbing you in a minute if they don't come up here to shoot me.'" Oswald told Brooks after stabbing her, he would next stab her children until the police killed him.

Over the next few hours, Oswald defecated down her stairs and threw miscellaneous property down the stairs of the home. At some point, Oswald took a razor from the bathroom and cut his foot or ankle in an apparent attempt to commit suicide. Oswald told Brooks he wanted her and the children to hold him while he died. During this same period of time, Oswald told the children the police were going to kill him, and he wanted them to watch. Brooks' son said something to Oswald that upset him. Oswald then threatened to kill the child. Oswald played music, tied the bedroom doors together so they couldn't be closed, and continued to tell the children the police were going to kill him. At one point, Oswald held one of the knives to her neck, and he called the neighbor and asked the neighbor if Brooks had her call the police. The neighbor said "no" and Oswald removed the knife from Brooks' neck.

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Brooks eventually talked Oswalt into allowing the kids to leave the home. Oswalt followed the kids downstairs and did allow them to leave. Once she and Oswalt were the only two people in the home, Brooks attempted to convince Oswalt she wanted to be there with him. At some point, Oswalt had to use the restroom. She promised Oswalt that she would not leave the home while he was in the bathroom. Brooks said, (31:45) "So the minute he sat down on the toilet, I ran down the stairs. And I jumped over what was at the bottom of my staircase. And I don't know what made me go this way, but all the cops were jerking and pulling at me, and I'm like, I'm sorry, I don't know what. Um, but he was chasing me. And I'm not sure how far he got. Um, all I know is I heard 'Drop it. Put it down.' And by the time I got between the kitchen window and the living room window on the side, I heard quite a few gunshots, and I don't know how many it was."

Brooks was then escorted to a police car parked in the roadway in front of her home.

When asked, Brooks stated she did not see any police officers fire their weapons.

When asked, Brooks stated she did not know when the police had entered the home, but when she got to the bottom of the stairs she attempted to hide behind an officer and that officer yelled at her to get out of the house.

When asked how many shots she estimated she heard the police fire, Brooks estimated it to be seven to ten shots, all fired in quick succession. Brooks described the knives Oswalt had as "nasty" and "pretty sharp."

Brooks said one of the knives belonged to her children's father and the other Oswalt recently purchased. Brooks described them as being about the size and similar in style to hunting knives.

Brooks stated that Oswalt sent messages to various friends and family from his phone during the time she was being held hostage. Brooks believed Oswalt sent a "pretty nasty" message to his mother and sent a list of songs he wanted to be played at his funeral to a couple of his friends.

In recalling the event, Brooks stated, (53:18), "His ultimate goal was to have them shoot him, just like that was his goal in Columbus. He wanted to go death by cop." Brooks stated that Oswalt yelled at the police throughout the event that he was going to start stabbing her and her children if the police did not shoot him.

Shortly after the conclusion of the interview, Brooks signed a consent to search form allowing BCI agents to copy her phone's contents for information relative to this investigation.

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Review of Cell Phone Analysis of Witnesses Cell Phones

A cell phone extraction was completed on Walker's and Brooks' cell phones. A review of the cell phone extraction was completed, and the following information was noted.

A review of Walker's Instant Messages from October 19, 2024, showed that Walker spoke with Brooks via SMS. Below is a chart showing those messages:

Date / Time	Brooks	Walker
10/19/2024 2:08:40AM(UTC-4)	He's holding us hostage	
10/19/2024 2:08:53AM(UTC-4)	There is a ladder in the garage	
10/19/2024 2:09:30AM(UTC-4)		Holy fuck I know I am listening. What do you want me to do with the ladder
10/19/2024 2:10:00AM(UTC-4)	Get the kids out	
10/19/2024 2:10:31AM(UTC-4)		He doesn't have a gun does he
10/19/2024 2:10:52AM(UTC-4)	I don't know	
10/19/2024 2:11:10AM(UTC-4)		Omg.

A review of the cell phone analysis of Brooks' cell phone confirmed that there were no other messages retained by her [Brooks] device that were not on Walker's cell phone. Brooks' cell phone also contained the above listed messages.

Witness Officer Interviews

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

Officer John Meyer

MPD Officer John Meyer (Officer Meyer) said that when he arrived, he heard Oswald repeatedly saying he's not going to come down, that he has a knife, and he wanted to be shot. Officer Meyer stated that it continued for approximately an hour. Oswald stopped talking and then started playing music. Officer Meyer stated that his car's camera and his body cam were on during the incident but would not show much due to his location in front of the residence. Officer Meyer further explained that the two juvenile children being released might be in view.

Officer Stanley Evans

MPD Officer Stanley Evans (Officer Evans) explained that he and Officer Matthew Davis (Officer Davis) arrived on scene at approximately the same time, and he took a position in front of 206 Cline Avenue. Officer Evans stayed in front with his rifle out, pointed at the second story window. Officer Evans observed two children being released and then

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heard yelling from the back of the residence and then four to five gunshots. Officer Evans stated that his car's camera and his body cam were on during the incident but would not show much due to his location in front of the residence.

Officer Matthew Davis

MPD Officer Davis went to the back door of the residence. Officer Davis said that he found out there was a male upstairs that had a knife. Officer Davis stayed in the rear of the residence until SWAT arrived and then he went to the command post which was located at Cline and Sturgis.

Sergeant Bradley Henderson

Richland County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) Sergeant Bradley Henderson (Henderson) responded to the scene and assisted Deputy Burt Skeen (Skeen) with attempting to negotiate with Oswald.

The offender was not responsive to the talking with us. The offender would make statements about "sucking his dick" and that he knew tactics, he had a knife and that officers would have to kill him, he was a repeat violent offender and he was going to prison for life and he was not going to give up. The offender would use "SIRI" to play a anti police rap song "Fuck the Police", "Bad Boys" from the COPS, and another rap song called "Fuck It".

It was learned and confirmed that the involved other and her two minor children were in the residence. The stairway to the upstairs had furniture(shelving units and other items) thrown at the bottom of the staircase to hinder any movement to the upstairs were the offender, involved other and children were at.

The offender was given cigarettes on two occasions during this incident. The offender was given positive encouragement that the incident could be ended safely for everyone. The offender continued to with the statements that he would not cooperate. Throughout the course of the incident made statements that this incident would play out in two ways. One of the ways the offender stated that officers would have to shoot him and kill him, by them coming into the house and coming up after him. The second option was that he would come down and stab officers and that vests are not knife proof and he was a butcher and knew where to cut and to get between ribs to kill and where to stab and cut. The other statements made by offender were that he was wearing ear plugs so flash bang grenades would not bother him too much and TASER usage would not work because he was wearing padding.



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Again negotiators attempted to tell the offender that this could end safely for everyone if he would give up. Negotiators made numerous attempts to get the offender to let the children go. The offender denied this action.

During one exchange for cigarettes the offender made threats to stab the involved other and the children if she talked to officers and I was able to get communication from the involved other that she was not free to leave and take her children. Earlier she had been able to be downstairs and walking around but the kids were upstairs.

A bullhorn was utilized to override the music the offender was playing and to attempt to get him to communicate with negotiations. The offender's reaction to this was he said he would let the children go. The offender would not listen to the instructions as the safest plan was to have the children exit to the rear, the offender wanted them to exit to the front of the residence. I went to the front and when the door opened a minor female child about 6 to 8 exited and she was told to come to me and a medic took her and then a minor male child exited about the same age exited

and the front door slammed. I took the minor child to a neighbors residence with the other child and conducted a brief interview about weapons seen and any other things they would say were unusual. I was advised that besides the items at the bottom of the stairs the offender had tied a rope to the doors as a make shift "booby trap" to hinder advancement if officers went up the stairs.

I went back to my spot with Deputy Skeen and SWAT team members at the rear of the residence. Negotiations continued with more negative results and limited contact from the offender.

A while later there was some noise and banging sounds like running or falling coming from upstairs or on the stairs to the upstairs. The involved other came around the corner from the stairway and through the kitchen to the rear of the residence where we were at. Deputy Skeen grabbed the involved other and was able to get her away from the residence. I was preparing to replace Deputy Skeen in negotiations but the offender followed behind the involved other by about 15 seconds and came around the corner from the stairway wearing a t-shirt and shorts. The offender was holding a knife in his left hand. The offender's arms were up at about shoulder height with his elbows bent. The offender walked towards SWAT team members not following commands to stop or drop the knife. There were multiple commands given to the offender. The offender was a clear and lethal threat to officers and did what he stated he would do. If the offender would have reached officers he would or could have caused serious physical harm or even death to one or even a second officer before that threat could have been stopped. The offender was stopped by utilizing deadly force.

First aid was provided to the offender once the threat was stopped and he was handcuffed. The offender was transported to the E.R. by Mansfield fire and EMS.



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Deputy Burt Skeen

RCSO Deputy Skeen reported that he was the first to arrive from the Hostage Negotiation Team (HTN).

I took over attempting to start a dialog with OF #1. I had already been advised that the original officers at the scene had tried to call him on the phone, and he shut it off. I had contacts with OF #1 earlier in my career at the Bellville Police Department, and tried to use this to build rapport. When I told OF #1 who I was he said "Fuck you Skeen & suck my dick." From time to time you could hear OF #1, and IO #1 talking to each other in the upstairs of the home. I was advised by officers OF #1 had thrown things from the upstairs to block the stairway. I made many repeated attempts to start a dialog with OF #1, but had minimal success. He would only reply with "Suck my dick or Fuck you!"

At one point OF #1 demanded cigarettes. Arrangements were made multiple times to get a few cigarettes delivered. The main focus of all officers on the scene was to get the children out of the home. I made this request using several tactics to include asking politely, demanding it, and playing on his ego that a decent person would let the children leave. At one point OF #1 demanded a whole pack of cigarettes, or he would either stab IO #1, or one of the children. Each time cigarettes were exchanged IO #1 was sent to the kitchen area to retrieve them from officers. I believe cigarettes were exchanged a total of (3) three times.

OF #1 told officers he was a HVO. One of the SWAT Team members knew what this was from prior employment in the prison system. I learned HVO stands for habitually violent offender. OF #1 stated since he was a HVO that he would go to prison for life, or for a very long time. He also thought law enforcement was called due to people not minding their business. He then mentioned something about "Aunt Kimmie." In the context I believed he thought she had called the police on him.

OF #1 was using his voice to control a Siri enable speaker to play different music. Some of the songs he played were "Fuck the Police", the theme from COPS, and a song called "Fuck it!" I also heard him tell Siri to send a message to his mother. He stated this was the last message she was going to get from him, and it was not her fault. Officers attempted to interrupt him to change his thought process while he was doing this.

At one point OF #1 went on a rant about how police were going to have to kill him. He spoke of qualified immunity for officers, and how he was not crazy, or sick. He next went into great detail about previously being a butcher, and how good he was with a knife. He even described how he knew our vests would not stop a knife. He boasted about being able to stab between ribs on the side of the vest. He further stated that he was "padded up", so a TASER would not work on him. He next stated he had ear buds in his ears, in the event a flash-bang was used it would not bother him much.

OF #1 told officers that we were going to have to use deadly force on him. He gave further details of having only two choices. One was come to the stairs and shoot him, and the other was try to take him down, but he would take at least one of us with him by stabbing us.

At one point I could hear two different phones ring inside the home. I soon learned it was other members of the HNT Team attempting to call him on his phone, and IO #1's phone. OF #1 at one point attempted to use his voice with Siri to put the phone into "do not disturb" mode, but I later heard the phone ring after he attempted this.

OF #1 stated numerous times during the situation that law enforcement was going to have to shoot him. I started to lose my voice from yelling into the home, so I requested the bullhorn to make negotiations easier. I also used the volume of the bullhorn to attempt to irritate OF #1 since there were little to no communications with him. When I couldn't get any communication with him I would attempt to get responses from IO #1. I heard several times OF #1 telling her not to talk to me. At points during negotiations I could hear IO #1 telling OF #1 "Don't do it!", and crying when speaking to him.

After a short period of no contact OF #1 called out that the kids were coming out. This surprised all of us. We wanted the children to come out the rear door where we were. OF #1 refused to allow the children go out the back door, and demanded they go out the front door. Officers were attempting to get IO #1 to escort them to the door, so she could be removed from the home as well, but OF #1 would not let her. The two children were rescued at the front of the residence and taken to a neighbors home.

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We attempted to get IO #1 to come to the kitchen to get more cigarettes, but OF #1 did not want to let her go. The plan was to extract her once she was out of OF 1#s sight. After more attempts were made to get her downstairs failed I heard a commotion from inside. I made sure I was out of the way of SWAT Team members. It should be noted we were all on a cement back porch with a railing, and about five (5) steps. To say the least the area was confined. I next heard IO #1 say "Get me the Fuck out of here." I could see she was coming towards the door. SWAT officers got her by them, and I grabbed her by the arm to get her to safety. I ran with her pulling on her left upper arm toward the front of the residence. While running I could hear yelling, and several shots fired. IO #1 screamed as I got her behind the rear of the Bearcat armored vehicle. I then took her to a marked Mansfield Police cruiser. I checked her for weapons and injuries. She was then placed in the rear of the cruiser. I assured her that the children were safe which she asked about many times. I then went to a neighbors home where the children were located. Both were seated on the floor eating snacks. I assured them their mother was safe because I knew they had heard the shots. Both children seemed very calm given the situation.

Sergeant Shane Gess

Reportedly, MPD Sergeant Shane Gess (Sergeant Gess) discharged a less-lethal rubber baton round during this incident. Sergeant Gess completed a typed statement in relation to his involvement in this officer-involved critical incident. The following is summary of that statement.

Sergeant Gess responded to 200 Cline Avenue as part of the ASORT Quick Reaction Force (QRF) along with Sergeant Haines, Sergeant Gladden, and Officer Webb. Sergeant Gess said that after arriving the QRF made their way to the rear of the residence where the Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) was talking to Oswalt along with a MPD officer through the open rear door.

Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb took positions in the door frame and I was behind them with the Less Lethal 40 MM launcher loaded with foam batons. Sgt. Haines began communicating with Mr. Oswalt, who was vulgar with his responses. Mr. Oswalt made several references that this was going to be his last night alive. Mr. Oswalt also sent a text message to someone via Siri stating he was going to die tonight. Mr. Oswalt then made a music playlist via Siri that was titled "Funeral Playlist."

At one point, when the female victim was retrieving cigarettes and water for Mr. Oswalt, he yelled what was taking so long and we could hear his footsteps move toward the door with the children. The female screamed don't hurt them and then ran upstairs. After approximately two (2) hours, Mr. Oswalt finally released the two (2) children and they ran out of the front door of the house.

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The female then ran down the steps screaming he was going to kill her and ran into the kitchen where we were in the door frame. Sgt. Haines pushed the female to the corner, shielding her as Mr. Oswalt was coming down the steps after her. The female ran behind Sgt. Haines to Ofc. Webb and then to me and I got her out of the house and handed her off to HNT.

Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb pulled back into the door frame of the house to the kitchen and we resumed our prior positioning as Mr. Oswalt made his way over the items he had thrown down the steps earlier. Mr. Oswalt had both hands held out above his shoulders with a knife in each hand. Mr. Oswalt was given multiple commands to drop the knives and get back. Mr. Oswalt was about six (6) feet away when I fired one (1) foam baton into him, which had no immediate effect.

Immediately following the less lethal shot, Sgt. Haines, Sgt. Gladden and Ofc. Webb opened fire with their rifles as Mr. Oswalt was only a few feet away from us. Mr. Oswalt immediately fell to the floor. Sgt. Haines entered and I followed. I secured Mr. Oswalt in handcuffs. Ofc. Webb yelled for medics. As I got Mr. Oswalt handcuffed, Tactical Emergency Medical Services ("TEMS")

Medic Smith arrived and I rolled Mr. Oswalt over for him to render aid. I gathered my 40mm at this time and left the scene and went to the command post.

I did not use lethal force in this incident. However, I believe the lethal force taken by other officers involved in this incident was consistent with my training and experience as a law enforcement officer, as Mr. Oswalt posed a direct and immediate threat to me and other officers and personnel at the scene by continuing to advance towards us with the two (2) knives raised above his head in an attack position.

After Sergeant Gess read his typed statement to SA Cory Momchilov (SA Momchilov), SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Gess the following follow-up questions.

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Sergeant Gess was asked to describe what the “attack” position was. Sergeant Gess stated, “His hands raised above his head, knife in each hand, walking at us (Figure 1) and as he got closer his hands went from here (Figure 2) to here (Figure 3) (Image 6), which allows you to come down with better force [6:47].



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

(Image #6)

SA Momchilov stated, “You were the less-lethal option in this.”

Sergeant Gess replied, “I was.”

SA Momchilov asked, “If, I guess if you had your rifle or firearm, would you have fired?”

Sergeant Gess stated, “Yes, I would have.”

Sergeant Gess further stated he did have his rifle slung across his chest but that the rifle was not in a raised position since he was using two hands to use the less-lethal launcher.

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Sergeant Gess advised that after he fired the less-lethal rubber baton at the individual, the individual never stopped moving toward officers. Officer Guess stated that he is unsure if the rubber baton struck the individual.

Involved Officer Interviews

The following paragraphs are extremely abbreviated versions of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and 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.

Officer Paul Webb

Reportedly, MPD Officer Webb discharged his firearm during this incident. Officer Webb completed a typed statement in relation to his involvement in this officer-involved critical incident. The following is summary of that statement.

Officer Webb stated that he was called out to a standoff involving Oswald, who had his girlfriend, and two children held hostage. Officer Webb responded to the scene as a QRF member. After arriving on scene Officer Webb responded to the back door of the residence.

The Hostage Negotiation Team ("HNT") was on scene attempting to communicate with Mr. Oswald. He was continually threatening officers, stating, among other things, that he would stab us in the throat. He further advised he had been a butcher, and he would cut between our vests and ribs to ensure he killed us. Mr. Oswald advised that we were going to have to kill him because he was going to prison. I had very little contact with Mr. Oswald.

Officers were pleading with Mr. Oswald to release the children. After about two (2) hours, he did. A short time after the children were released, I heard someone running down the stairs, who ended up being the female victim. As she ran down the stairs, she screamed that he was going to kill her and asked for help. At this time, Sgt. Haines and I entered just inside the threshold of the kitchen.



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The female made it down the stairs and over the barricade of several items and ran behind officers. At this time, Mr. Oswalt appeared at the bottom of the stairs with one (1) knife visible in each hand, both of which were raised above his head. Mr. Oswalt was ordered to stop and put the weapons down by myself and other officers. Mr. Oswalt disregarded these commands and continued to advance on us.

Sgt. Haines and I exited the kitchen with the female victim behind us. We stopped at the doorway and again ordered Mr. Oswalt to stop and put down the knives. Mr. Oswalt continued to advance toward us. Mr. Oswalt got around five (5) to six (6) feet away from us, at which time simultaneous gunfire took place. I fired between two (2) and three (3) rounds, striking Mr. Oswalt. I know that Sgt. Haines also fired when I did. At this time, Mr. Oswalt fell to the floor and I advanced on him. Sgt. Gess placed him in handcuffs, and I called for a Tactical Emergency Medical Services (“TEMS”) medic to come in and deliver immediate medical aid. At this time, I took Sgt. Haines and myself outside of the residence and let the rest of our SWAT team clear the residence and take control of the scene.

I used lethal force in this incident by discharging my firearm because I do not believe that there was any less lethal force that I could have used that would have been as effective in stopping the immediate and direct threat that Mr. Oswalt posed to myself, other officers and the female victim by continuing towards us with his knives raised in an attack position.

After Officer Webb read his typed statement to SA Momchilov, SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb the following follow-up questions.

Officer Webb used a diagram that Officer Webb had previously created to illustrate the layout of the residence as well as the positions of involved parties.

Officer Webb stated, “On the east side of the door, Sergeant Haines took position (A). I took position on the west side of the door (B). The stairs were to the southeast of our position (C). We couldn’t see up the stairs because there was this wall here (D) and it came down into a landing (E), the bottom of the landing, this was all barricaded with, there were at least several items thrown at the bottom (F). One was like a chair, that

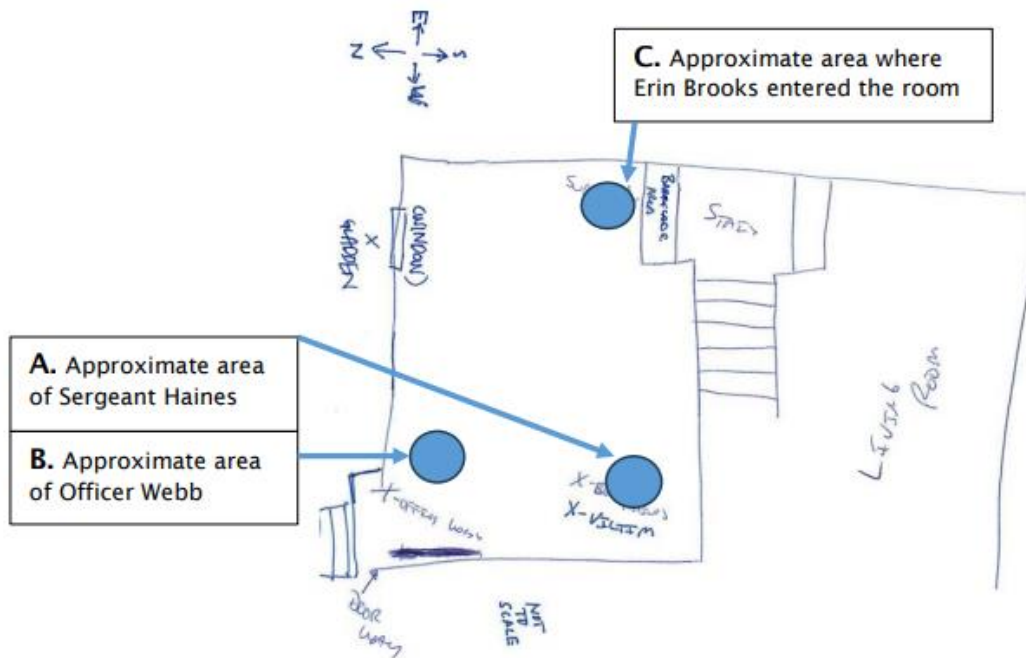
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(Image #8)

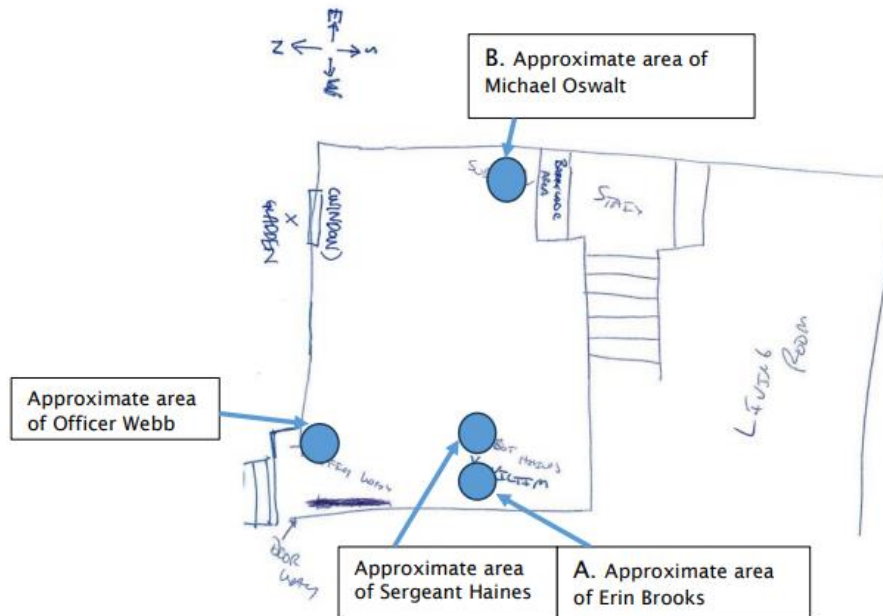
Officer Webb continued, “She ran behind Sergeant Haines to begin with (A), and that’s what time, at what time, the suspect, Mr. Oswald appeared (B). Once he appeared, we began to back out (Image #9).



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(Image #9)

Officer Webb continued, “I backed out then to the south side of the door, no, the east side of the door. Sergeant Haines was on the west side of the door, with the victim behind us and he began to approach us as I stood here (A). Sergeant Haines was on this side of the door (B) (Image #10).

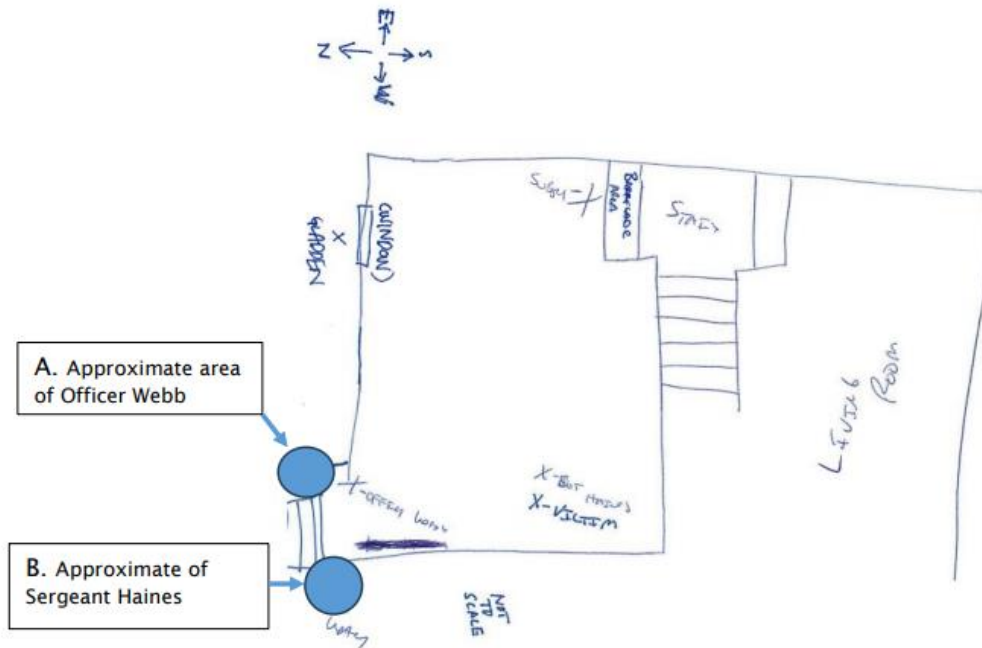
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(Image #10)

SA Momchilov stated, "So basically, when he approaches you, he continues to walk towards officers?"

Officer Webb replied, "Yes sir."

SA Momchilov stated, "And I think you mentioned at some point, he had the knives above his head."

Officer Webb replied, "The entire time."

SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb to describe what he means by that.

Officer Webb stated, "What I mean is they were in an attack position, is what we been referring to it as. They were up high like this (9:58) (Image #11), just above his head and continued to walk at us, continued until he was about 5 or 6 feet away."



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(Image #11)

SA Momchilov stated, “You said you heard simultaneous gunfire or simultaneous gunfire took place.”

Officer Webb replied, “Yes, sir.”

SA Momchilov then asked, “Was your decision to fire based on what you observed or was it based on the..”

Officer Webb replied, “It was based on what I observed.”

SA Momchilov stated, “So the other officers’ actions had no..”

Officer Webb replied, “No sir.”

SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb if he could hear what the individual (Oswalt) was saying during the incident. Officer Webb stated the individual was “threatening to kill us, making death playlists, if you will, texting, texting through Siri that it would be his last night to his mom type stuff.”

SA Momchilov asked, “Did at some point during the incident did he mention or did you overhear something about using the kids as human shield.”

Officer Webb replied, “Absolutely, yes sir.”

SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb if he could describe that.

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Officer Webb stated, “We could hear him talking about and it wasn’t, it wasn’t real clear but me and Sergeant Haines both heard of, you know, ‘you take one and I’ll take the other, we’ll go down,’ at that time we took that as that he’s talking about getting the children, using them as human shields. That’s when we started devising what we were going to do if in fact he presented himself with a, you know, a child hostage in that way or a knife to a child’s throat.”

Officer Webb explained that there was another time when, he (Oswalt) thought she (Brooks) spent too much time downstairs and Oswalt ran into the children’s room and Brooks “took off after.” Officer Webb stated that team members thought they were going to have to go up the stairs. Officer Webb further stated he interpreted those actions of Oswalt as he was going to go and hurt the children because Brooks was taking too long downstairs.

SA Lieber asked Officer Webb if Brooks climbed over the barricade when she came downstairs. Officer Webb explained that initially he felt that the barricade was going to be a big hinderance for team members to climb over if Oswalt began hurting the children upstairs. Officer Webb further explained that the barricade ended up being “helpful for us in the end.” When Brooks came down the stairs, motivated to get away from Oswalt, she was able to get through the barricade much easier then Oswalt. Officer Webb stated, “When he came down, he was coming after her but he got a little bit hung up on those items because he was a bigger guy and he had both hands above his head, so he struggled to get over those items, with the way he was. She got over them fairly easy compared to him.”

SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb if he has heard the term, “Suicide by cop.” Officer Webb stated that he had. SA Momchilov asked Officer Webb if he thought this was an instance of “suicide by cop.”

Officer Webb replied, “I don’t know. I mean, I don’t know. He stated several times he didn’t want to go, he wasn’t going back to prison. I think, I think he planned on dying but I also think he planned on hurting someone. I think he would of, he got any closer he was definitely at least take a swipe at us and try and take one of us with him. So, in a way yes, I mean, I think he thought he was going to die but I think he was going to attempt to injure someone and take them with him.”

Officer Webb advised that no one has asked him to lie or otherwise tried to influence his statement to investigators.

After the interview, Attorney Sauter, Attorney Hagar and Officer Webb walked into the hallway. Moments later, they re-entered the room and stated that they wished to clarify one matter.

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Officer Webb stated, "The only thing I want to clarify is when I stated, when he got close to us, if he was going to take one of us with us or injure us. He was definitely going to try to kill one of us. I don't want to say take one of us with, whatever you think that means. I just want to be obvious that he had stated he was going to stab us in the throat, he was going to cut between our vests. I have no doubt that was his goal when he got to us was to try and kill one of us."

Sergeant Joseph Gladden

Reportedly, MPD Sergeant Gladden discharged his firearm during this incident. Sergeant Gladden completed a typed statement in relation to his involvement in this officer-involved critical incident. The following is summary of that statement.

Sergeant Gladden stated that he received a SWAT call-out in reference to an armed barricaded subject, later identified as Oswald, with hostages, including a female and two children. Sergeant Gladden responded to the scene as a QRF member along with Officer Webb, Sergeant Haines, and Sergeant Gess.

Upon arrival, we were briefed by the SWAT Commander, Sgt. Jered Kingsborough, and given additional information. The situation started as a domestic incident between Mr. Oswald and the female victim, who was now being held hostage with her two (2) children, ages 6 and 8. We were told Mr. Oswald had a knife and was threatening suicide by cop. I also learned he was recently involved in a standoff with Columbus SWAT approximately one (1) month prior, during which he injured CPD officers. I also learned MPD third-shift patrol officers were positioned at the open back door and I was directed to relieve those units with the other QRF members and take over their position.

Upon arriving at the back door, we relieved the MPD third-shift patrol officers. There were two (2) members of the Hostage Negotiation Team ("HNT") present with the officers, Richland County Sheriff's Office Dep. Burt Skeen and Sgt. Brad Henderson, who remained with us. Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb took a position side by side at the threshold of the open back door. Sgt. Gess was directly behind them. Dep. Skeen was beside them on the porch and Sgt. Henderson was behind them on the stairs.

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We learned Mr. Oswald and his hostages were all upstairs. Mr. Oswald specifically was at the top of the stairs and had been intermittently communicating with officers by yelling back and forth. He had thrown/placed items at the bottom of the stairwell to barricade it and create an obstruction to the path up the stairs. Officers were unable to look up the stairs from the vantage point of the back door as it was perpendicular to the doorway. Due to the confined space, I took a position in the yard just to the left of the back porch, outside of a kitchen window, so I had a better vantage point of the situation. I advised Sgt. Haines to unscrew the light bulb to the porch light to conceal my position.

For the entirety of the incident, we all maintained these positions. Once the rest of the SWAT team arrived on scene, Tactical Emergency Medical Services (“TEMS”) medic Zach Smith, of the Mansfield Fire Department (“MFD”), joined us with a 40 mm launcher with foam baton rounds to provide us with a less lethal option. Firefighter Smith joined me near the window and handed me the 40 mm launcher. I then handed it to Sgt. Gess as he was in the best position for its use. I eventually requested that Firefighter Smith take a position at the detached garage behind us and to relay any activity he observed from the second story windows above us.

Communication between officers and Mr. Oswald was primarily done by Sgt. Haines; however, Dep. Skeen was also involved. I primarily maintained radio communication with the Command Post (“CP”). I could overhear some of what Mr. Oswald was saying when he was yelling down to the officers. At multiple points, he stated that he did not want the situation to end peacefully, he was going to die today, and we were going to have to kill him. He stated he knew our vests would not stop a knife and that he was going to stab us in the ribs and if that did not work, he would stab us in the neck and head where we were not protected. Throughout the incident, I heard Mr. Oswald asking “Siri” to play songs on his phone such as “Fuck the Police” and “Fuck It.” When Dep. Skeen asked him if he could call him on his phone so they did not have to yell back and forth, the suspect told “Siri” to put his phone on “Do Not Disturb.”

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At several points, it became clear Mr. Oswald was familiar with our tactics and was anticipating what we would do. He knew we would not make entry with the hostages present, unless we believed they were in imminent danger. He asked for cigarettes on multiple occasions and would allow the female victim to come downstairs to retrieve them. However, each time she came down he would yell at her to hurry up and not speak with officers. He also demanded more cigarettes each time, stating he knew we had more and were “rationing” them. Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb attempted to obtain information quickly and covertly from the female victim when she retrieved the cigarettes, but were limited due to Mr. Oswald yelling at her. She did manage to inform officers that the children were located in the bedroom with windows directly above our position.

At one point, Mr. Oswald said the female victim was taking too long and he threatened to go to the children. We heard footsteps that sounded like he was going to them, which caused her to scramble back up the steps, screaming in fear for him to stop and that she was coming. It was obvious she was truly being held against her will and was in genuine fear of what he would do if she disobeyed him. I discussed options with the CP via the radio in reference to the possibility of positioning a sniper on the second floor in the adjacent building to get a line of sight on what was occurring upstairs or using a ladder to evacuate the children from a window.

At one point, I heard Mr. Oswald trying to convince the female victim to go downstairs with him and use the children as human shields. However, after approximately two (2) hours, he decided to allow the children to go free. They were released and directed to go out the front door to the team waiting for them there. Once the children were released, Mr. Oswald would not allow the female victim to come downstairs anymore to get cigarettes because he stated he knew with them gone, we would grab her and not allow her to return upstairs.



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Several minutes passed without much communication from Mr. Oswalt. Then suddenly there was a commotion and the female victim could be heard yelling, "Help me! He's going to kill me! Get me the fuck out of here!" At that point, believing we were going to make entry, I repositioned myself to the back of the stack. The female victim then appeared from the stairs running away from Mr. Oswalt toward officers. She was moved between officers to the doorway and I pushed her behind me to someone. I saw Mr. Oswalt at the bottom of the stairs and he was in pursuit of the female victim, holding two knives above his head in an "attack" position.

I was again unable to be useful or have a clear shot at the back of the stack, so I returned to my position outside of the window. I heard Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb yelling orders for Mr. Oswalt to "stop" and "drop the knife," but he continued walking directly toward them. I waited until he was close enough to them that I not only would have lost my line of sight from the window, but until he was within a few feet from them and I was concerned he would follow through with his threats to stab officers. At the last possible moment, when he was just outside of striking distance with the knives and still continuing to move toward them with the knives held above his head, I

fired two (2) shots through the window toward him with my assigned duty rifle. Sgt. Haines and Ofc. Webb also fired their rifles, all three (3) of us did so simultaneously.

Mr. Oswalt immediately dropped to the floor and I could no longer see him. I then rejoined at the back of the stack and we all made entry. I was aware that someone placed Mr. Oswalt in handcuffs. Ofc. Webb called for Firefighter Smith to enter and begin life saving measures on Mr. Oswalt. I advised via the radio that shots had been fired, Mr. Oswalt was down, secured and receiving medical aid, and that all officers were fine. The other team from the front of the house who had been positioned in the bearcat had moved in by this time and we were advised to return to the CP and that that team would clear the residence. We immediately did so and waited in the CP for further instructions.

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I used lethal force in this incident by discharging my firearm because I do not believe that there was any less lethal force that I could have used that would have been as effective in stopping the immediate and direct threat that Mr. Oswald posed to the other officers by continuing towards them with his knives raised in an attack position.

After Sergeant Gladden read his typed statement to SA Momchilov, SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Gladden the following follow-up questions.

SA Momchilov stated that Sergeant Gladden mentioned in his statement that the individual (Michael Oswald) had placed or thrown items down the stairs to create an obstacle to the path upstairs. Sergeant Gladden responded, "Correct." SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Gladden why an individual would do that in a tactical situation. Sergeant Gladden believed the individual placed those items in that position to delay officers' response to the upstairs area, if entry was made.

SA Momchilov stated, "You said at one point the female was taking too long and he threatened to go up, to the children. Did you hear that statement?" Sergeant Gladden stated he did hear the statement and Oswald yelled it down the stairs. Sergeant Gladden stated, "It sounded like he thought she was down there talking to us, giving us information so he was trying to get her to hurry up and come back upstairs."

SA Momchilov asked, "Would it be fair to say that he was kind of like, threatening the children." Sergeant Gladden replied, "That was definitely what we all interpreted."

SA Momchilov stated, "You also said at one point, 'Mr. Oswald he tried to convince the female victim to go downstairs with him to use the children as human shields.'" Sergeant Gladden responded "correct." SA Momchilov then asked, "Have you seen anything like that before?" Sergeant Gladden explained that he had never been involved in a hostage situation where there was a human shield.

SA Momchilov stated, "You said you positioned yourself in the back of the stack. Who else was in the stack with you?" Sergeant Gladden replied, "So it was everyone else who was involved up on the porch and stairs. It would have been Officer Webb and Haines at the threshold of the door, Gess was behind them. Burt Skeen was still up on the porch at this time and Brad Henerson was still on the stairs.

SA Momchilov stated, "You said, Mr. Oswald at the bottom of the stairs, was pursuing the female victim holding two knives in the attack position. Can you demonstrate that?"

Sergeant Gladden replied, "He kind of held them, just like this (Image #12) (15:31). Maybe head level, shoulder level but he had his arms in the air and knives up like this."

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(Image #12)

SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Gladden what his interpretation was of that position. Sergeant Gladden responded, "To be honest, my interpretation at that moment was that he was trying to get us to shoot him. Once the female victim was out, my initial thought was he was chasing her. That's why she got scared, ran, that was the commotion, he was trying to get to her. Maybe, that's how he was going to end it, was going to kill her and either have us kill him or whatever, but she was able to get out. So, I think, I mean there was still a moment when he was at the bottom of the stairs that I thought he would give up but then it became clear as he just continued to walk towards the officers at the doorway that he definitely was not going to allow that to happen. He was going to either stab somebody to make us shoot him or he was just going to keep coming until we shot him."

SA Momchilov stated, "I guess this is an opinion question. Do you think his intention was suicide by cop?"

Sergeant Gladden replied, "I do think that was his intention, but I also thought he would do whatever he had to do to make sure that happened."

SA Momchilov responded, "When you mean, do what he had to do, does that mean stabbing other officers, stabbing the female victim?"

Sergeant Gladden replied, "Correct, yeah, there was no doubt in my mind that he was not above stabbing one of us to make sure that we would shoot him, if he got all the way to one of the officers at the door."

SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Gladden, "When you fired through the window, could you tell if you hit him at all?"

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Sergeant Gladden replied, "I mean, I couldn't tell just because I could tell that the other officers were firing, I mean, I wasn't that far away, it was maybe 15 or 20 feet and so I knew I had lined up my shot, I wasn't just firing blindly. I knew that I had looked, my dot was on him when I fired. He fell as soon as I fired but I also knew the other officers were firing, so, no I can't say for certain if my bullet was the one that hit him, I had no idea."

SA Momchilov stated, "You said your dot was on him. Could you tell what portion of his body it was on?"

Sergeant Gladden explained that he had a clear, unobstructed view of the individual from the waist up and was aiming at center mass. Sergeant Gladden further explained he was looking at the individual at "a side angle."

Sergeant Gladden advised that no one has asked him to lie or otherwise try to influence his statement to investigators.

Sergeant Michael Haines

Reportedly, MPD Sergeant Haines discharged his firearm during this incident. Sergeant Haines completed a typed statement in relation to his involvement in this officer-involved critical incident. The following is summary of that statement.

Sergeant Haines stated that he received a SWAT call-out in relation to his role on ASORT. Sergeant Haines stated that the call was related to a hostage situation that involved a barricaded male that threatening "suicide by cop" and was holding children and a female hostage.

I responded to the Mansfield Police Station and was given more information. I was advised that the male was out on bond for pretrial release. I was told he recently got into a standoff with Columbus Police and during that he injured two (2) officers. I was also advised that the male had his wife (who turned out to be a girlfriend) and their two (2) young children hostage. I was told he was armed with a knife. I was also advised he was high on drugs and/or alcohol.



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I was assigned to be a Quick Reaction Force ("QRF") member with three (3) other officers (Sgt. Gess, Sgt. Gladden, and Ofc. Webb) to respond directly to the scene via the S2 cruiser before the main team was ready. I drove the cruiser. When we arrived, Sgt. Kingsborough, ASORT commander, advised us that patrol and Hostage Negotiation Team ("HNT") officers were communicating with the suspect through a back door. We were ordered to relieve patrol at the door. The four (4) of us made our way to the rear of the house.

I was the most senior SWAT operator, so I took the number one position in the doorway. I told the patrol officers they were relieved. Once at the doorway, there were two (2) HNT officers. They stated the suspect was being uncooperative, telling us mostly to "suck his dick." They said his name was Shane Oswald. One (1) HNT officer, Burt Skeen, was primarily attempting to speak with Mr. Oswald and the other HNT officer, Brad Henderson, was communicating with Ofc. Skeen and reporting back to the Command Post ("CP").

HNT was having little effect with yelling over us to Mr. Oswald. We were at the back door to the kitchen. Mr. Oswald was upstairs. There was a staircase on the opposite side of the kitchen leading to where Mr. Oswald and the hostages were. The adult female, known to us as Erin, came down to

retrieve cigarettes. HNT told me she was not free to leave because if she did not take the cigarettes back upstairs to Mr. Oswald, he would kill the children.



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Since HNT was not having much success communicating with Mr. Oswald, I asked if I was able to attempt to communicate with him since I was in the best position to do so. I began to yell and make contact with him. He told me he was not going to give up. He stated the only way the situation would be resolved was if we came to the bottom of the staircase and shot him. He said he would either start killing the children or kill one (1) of us. He told me he worked as a butcher and was very skilled with knives. He told me that he knew I was wearing body armor. He stated he would stab me in the neck or stab me in the side of my vest, where the plates did not protect me, stabbing me in the ribs. I told him, multiple times, that I wanted everyone to exit the house safely. I asked multiple times for him to release the children. We wanted all hostages out of the house, but the children were our immediate concern.

During the encounter, Mr. Oswald stated he had a 161 IQ and was smarter than all of us. He stated he knew our tricks and would not fall for any of them. He attempted to taunt us and continued to threaten both us and the hostages numerous times. He played "Fuck the Police" and "Fuck It" via Siri numerous times on a speaker. I heard him making text messages to people stating this was his final night alive. He also titled the playlist of songs he was playing his "funeral playlist." At one point, Ofc. Webb and I heard him attempt to coerce his girlfriend into helping him shut the back door that we were standing at. He was trying to convince her to have each of them grab one (1) of the children and use them as human shields. I checked with Ofc. Webb that I heard that correctly and he advised the same thing. We stated under no circumstances was this allowable.

There was lots of back and forth between Mr. Oswald and me. He stated he knew he was going to go to prison for the rest of his life. I told him nothing was certain and attempted to connect with him as I used to be a former Corrections Officer at the Mansfield Correctional Institution. He responded by making a crass joke. This went on for what felt like hours. Mr. Oswald then demanded more cigarettes. HNT allowed us to pass two (2) or three (3) cigarettes to the female. When she came down to get them, he shut the music off so he could hear us and told her not to speak with us. I threw the cigarettes on the floor. He also told her to bring water back.

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HNT attempted to speak with her when she was next to us at the kitchen sink. She motioned that she couldn't talk. I whispered to her just to nod "yes" or "no." HNT asked her if she was "free to leave" and she shook her head "no." Mr. Oswalt then started yelling that she wasn't to communicate with us, and he started to make loud noises upstairs. She then ran back upstairs as one of the children screamed "I didn't do anything." Ofc. Webb and I almost ran upstairs thinking he was killing the children. I screamed to Erin asking if the children were "okay." She stated they were. So, we continued to hold at the door.

After approximately two (2) hours, Mr. Oswalt stated he was going to release the children. He sent them down the staircase by themselves, which was quasi-barricaded with items at the bottom, and he told them to go to the front door. We attempted to have the children come to us as we could not see the other side of the house. When he told them to go to the front, we radioed what was happening and other SWAT members safely retrieved the children. We were advised they were safe on the radio.

At the back door, we attempted to have the female come back downstairs to collect more cigarettes. We tried to use our previous "good will" of letting her return to show we would do it again. That was not our intent. If she were to come downstairs without him, we were going to grab her and remove her from the home. I assigned myself and Ofc. Webb as lethal cover to protect her. Sgt. Gess, who was assigned a less lethal 40mm launcher with foam baton rounds, was the "hands" officer who would take custody of her and safely get her from the home. There was a chair in the middle of the kitchen. I stepped inside with Ofc. Webb to remove the chair so there would be no obstructions should an opportunity present itself to save the last hostage. However, Mr. Oswalt did not release the female.

What seemed like shortly after that, the female began to run down the stairs heading to us screaming something like "HELP ME, HE'S TRYING [or going] TO KILL ME!" She ran down the stairs and came into the kitchen. I stepped into the kitchen and pulled her behind me. I heard Mr. Oswalt running or coming down the stairs after her. She was scared and began to hide behind



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me. As I heard him coming, I pushed her away from me to the other officers near the door to get her out of the kitchen. I yelled something to the effect of “get her out of here.”

What seemed like immediately after that, Mr. Oswalt came around the corner from the barricade and stairs with two (2) knives, one (1) in each hand, held up at shoulder/head height. I yelled orders to stop and to drop the knives. He said he wasn't going to stop. I retreated several feet from my spot in the kitchen back to the doorway. Once there, I could not move back anymore. I believed the female hostage was still on the porch behind us. My impression was that Mr. Oswalt was coming after her. The porch was small. One side had the wall from the kitchen, my left side was blocked by a railing and behind me was also blocked by a railing. Only my right side was open, which caused us to get caught up together. I ordered Mr. Oswalt to stop and to drop the weapons again several times. He continued to come towards me.

I waited until he was what seemed like four (4) or five (5) feet from me. He still kept advancing with both knives raised in an attack position. At that point, I was in immediate fear for my life and those around me. He already stated he was going to kill me. I then fired what I believe were three (3) rounds from my department-issued rifle, which struck Mr. Oswalt. As I fired, I believed Ofc. Webb also fired his weapon, but my attention was completely focused on Mr. Oswalt. Once struck, he immediately stopped, turned around, and fell face down on the floor.

I stepped into the room, stepping across Mr. Oswalt and using my foot to move a knife away that was next to his hand on his left side. I then yelled for the SWAT Medic that was at the rear of the house to come inside to start immediate medical attention. The medic came in as Sgt. Gess was handcuffing Mr. Oswalt. Immediately after that, other SWAT members showed up. I was told to exit the house. I then left the house and responded to the CP.



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I used lethal force in this incident by discharging my firearm because I do not believe that there was any less lethal force that I could have used that would have been as effective in stopping the immediate and direct threat that Mr. Oswald posed to myself, the other officers and the female hostage (who I believed was still with us) by continuing towards us with his knives raised in an attack position.

After Sergeant Haines read his typed statement to SA Momchilov, SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Haines the following follow-up questions.

SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Haines if Oswald was acting "different" compared to other SWAT call outs. Sergeant Haines replied, "Different?" SA Momchilov responded, "More erratic?"

Sergeant Haines stated, "He was definitely erratic. It's ahh, I don't know how to put it. Normally, un, normally SWAT's not in communication, you know, with somebody. This instance was unique since there was hostages involved and HNT was already at the door so, that was a little different. Usually we're just waiting, you know, but since we were essentially there to ensure that if he started killing the hostages, that's the point in the QRF was to respond immediately but also we were there to protect HNT who was communicating with him should he run down the stairs and try and kill them."

SA Momchilov stated, "You made a statement that he (Oswald) was trying to convince her (Brooks) to grab the kids and use them as a human shield." Sergeant Haines responded, "Yes." SA Momchilov asked, "Your experience as a law enforcement officer, is that? Have you seen anything like that before?"

Sergeant Haines replied, "That's not normal, never."

SA Momchilov stated, "You said he (Oswald) was in an attack position? Sergeant Haines replied, "Yes." SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Haines what he meant by attack position. Sergeant Haines stated, "He had the knives raised up like this (Image #13) (14:53) by his head, like shoulder/head height like when he was walking towards us, so, they weren't down by his side, you know, they were up so as soon as he got close enough, he could just come straight down at us."



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(Image #13)

SA Momchilov stated, “And you said that you estimated 4 to 5 feet away from you when you fired?”

Sergeant Haines replied, “If that, yeah, he was really close.”

SA Momchilov asked Sergeant Haines if at the time he fired, he felt that he had any other options. Sergeant Haines replied, “No.”

SA Lieber stated, “You said in your statement, I heard him making text messages.” SA Lieber asked Sergeant Haines if he could explain how he “heard him.”

Sergeant Haines stated, “He was talking to Siri on his phone, so we could hear everything he was doing. So, when he was playing those songs, he was saying, ‘Siri, play fuck the police by the N.O.W.’ I forget the band. Siri, text, I don’t remember who the family member was, and he was transcribing to the phone, through his voice, so we could hear everything he was saying to his phone. At one point in time, he put his phone on do not disturb, he was like, ‘Siri, put my phone on do not disturb’ so he wasn’t doing anything that sounded like, with direct input, he was talking to his phone the whole time. That’s how we were able to hear.”

Dispatch-Related Information

The 911 call was reportedly received on October 19, 2024, at 01:56:30 hours. The following is a summary of the 911 call:

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A female dispatcher answered the call stating “911 do you have a police, fire, or medical emergency?” A male responded “police” and provided the address of 200 Cline Avenue. The male continued stating his female neighbor’s fiancé was a “violent offender” and was at the residence next door “causing a lot of issues and she is in fear for her life.” The male caller provided the names of Michael Shane Oswalt (Oswalt) and Erin Leeann Brooks (Brooks). The male caller stated he could hear them fighting and Oswalt was suspected to be on drugs. The male caller stated he did not want to receive a call back or be involved. The call ended.

The call was dispatched on October 19, 2024, at 01:59:11 hours.

The first unit arrived on scene on October 19, 2024, at 02:01:37 hours.

The following is a summary of the primary radio traffic:

Timestamp	Officer/Badge #
0:12	Dispatch
Signal 20, 200 Cline Avenue, neighbor can hear a male and female arguing.	
2:00	Unknown
15 he's trying to come out the back.	
2:05	Unknown
15 he's in the kitchen back here.	
2:42	11
Be advised that the male half is not letting the female half come out from upstairs.	
3:28	43
he's apparently answered the door [Unintelligible] 11.	
3:44	Unknown

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43, he says he's got a gun.	
3:55	Unknown
[Unintelligible] what's his name?	
4:02	Dispatch
Michael Oswald.	
4:17	43
[Unintelligible]...if you could try and find a public service for someone in that house and call it.	
4:36	11
He said he wants to end his life, whether it's suicide by cop or he's going to take us with him.	
4:43	43
Alright, make sure you got cover. Are you in contact with him?	
4:48	11
Ya, he's at the top of the steps, but he's got his female half upstairs with the kids.	
4:55	43
Alright, just do your best to talk him down.	
5:00	11
Alright, he's throwing some furniture down the steps.	
6:21	Unknown
43 we got the female screaming.	
6:29	Unknown
43, she's screaming for help. Do you want us to enter back here?	

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6:39	Unknown
43 [Unintelligible] he's threatening to stab her.	
9:38	Unknown
He's acknowledged this is going to be a drawn-out process and he's ready for the long haul. He has no intention on coming out on his own terms.	

The following is a summary of the radio traffic related to shots being fired:

Timestamp	Officer/Badge #
1:08	Unknown
I copy, the kids are supposed to be coming down now.	
1:17	Unknown
[Unintelligible]... he's telling her to go out the front.	
2:01	Unknown
I copy, they're coming to the front.	
2:07	Unknown
We got one female out and one child out.	
3:07	Unknown
You have shots fired?	
3:11	Dispatch
Copy, shots fired at 0456.	
3:34	Unknown
[Unintelligible], all law enforcement is okay.	

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3:40	Unknown
Alright, get the medics going.	
3:47	Dispatch
[Unintelligible]....them en route there at 0457	

Video Recordings

It should be noted that none of the law enforcement personnel that had BWC and/or dash cameras were involved in the officer-involved critical incident. Additionally, none of the BWC and/or dash cameras captured any portion of the officer-involved critical incident.

The following is a brief summary of the images and audio that were captured on the officers BWC and dash cameras that are believed to be most relevant to this investigation.

10/18/2024 23:46:23 through 10/19/2024 00:09:34 Hidden Camera	Brooks was talking on the phone to a female named "Kim." Brooks could be heard discussing with the person on the phone what they can see through the camera as Brooks works on positioning the camera. Brooks could also be seen placing various objects around the camera.
10/19/2024 00:36:36 Hidden Camera	A female voice, believed to be Brooks, could be heard saying the following: "But remember the code phrase is you're hurting my feelings."
10/19/2024 01:55:11 Hidden Camera	A female voice believed to be Brooks stated in a loud voice "You're hurting my feelings, Shane."
10/19/2024 02:03:14 Officer Dylan Stephenson (Stephenson) BWC	A female, presumably Erin Brooks, answered the door and stated that a male in the background, presumably Michael Oswalt, was armed. A male voice can then be heard saying, "yes I am."
10/19/2024 02:03:29 Stephenson BWC	The male told officers that he has his hand on his knife (Images #14-15).

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(Image #14)



(Image #15)

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10/19/2024 02:03:54 Stephenson BWC	The officer asked the male to take his hand off the knife multiple times. The male did not appear to be complying and closed the door.
10/19/2024 02:04:25 Stephenson BWC	The female advised officers that her kids were upstairs.
10/19/2024 02:04:47 Stephenson BWC	The officer and the female made their way around the residence to the back door. An individual could be seen standing inside of the back door and the female went back into the residence while the officer could be heard telling her not to enter the home.
10/19/2024 02:05:02 through 02:05:30 Hidden Camera	A male voice, believed to be Michael Oswald (Oswald), could be heard talking about someone having to shoot him in front of "her children." In this same video file, beginning at the approximate time stamp of 02:05:30 hours, what is believed to be Oswald could now be heard talking to what was believed to be law enforcement officers.
10/19/2024 02:06:05 Stephenson BWC	A male could be heard saying that I have a knife, and I will use it. The officer remained in this general position of the back door for the majority of the video file.
10/19/2024 02:07:58 Stephenson BWC	A male voice could be heard telling officers to make this quick and easy and that the male knew officers were going to shoot him.
10/19/2024 02:08:43 Hidden Camera	What is believed to be Oswald could be heard saying "I have a gun as well."
10/19/2024 02:08:47 Stephenson BWC	The male advised officers that he had a gun as well as two knives. The male then told officers to turn the corner and shoot him.
10/19/2024 02:10:33 Stephenson BWC	The male told officers that he was going to end his life tonight by "suicide by cop." The male then stated that he might even take a "a couple of you mother fuckers with me." Then what is believed to be the sound of things being broken could be heard in the background.

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10/19/2024 02:10:48 Stephenson BWC	What is believed to be some type of loudspeaker could be heard in the background calling for Michael to come out.
10/19/2024 02:08:52 Hidden Camera	Various loud noises could be heard along with what is believed to be the sound of breaking glass.
10/19/2024 02:13:42 Stephenson BWC	An unknown noise could be heard in the background and the officer stated that the female is screaming.
10/19/2024 02:14:26 Stephenson BWC	A female's voice could be heard saying that he is threatening to stab me.
10/19/2024 02:15:27 Stephenson BWC	The male repeatedly told the officers to come in and shoot him and then the male could be heard saying that it is your fault that I am going to die in front of "your kids."
10/19/2024 02:17:26 Stephenson BWC	A male's voice could be heard saying that I am okay with dying.
10/19/2024 02:18:00 Stephenson BWC	A male's voice could be heard saying that the longer you take to come up here and shoot me, the longer I will have to stab them.
10/19/2024 02:19:28 Stephenson BWC	A male's voice could be heard saying that you have two options. Option one, you turn and shoot me while I am in the hallway. Option two, you try to rush me, and I run in and stab everybody. The male then said that he was okay with dying.
10/19/2024 02:23:17 Stephenson BWC	A male's voice could be heard in the background talking to a female. The male said that I am not going to hurt you guys, I just want them to kill me in front of you.
10/19/2024 02:25:29 Stephenson BWC	The male's voice could be heard asking the officers to bring him cigarettes, waters and a Monster

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10/19/2024 02:27:44 Stephenson BWC	What is believed to be another police officers voice could be heard talking to the male inside of the house. The male inside the house said that the officers have about a minute and a half left before he stabs everyone. The male inside of the house continued to negotiate with the officers for the items that he requested.
10/19/2024 02:30:51 Stephenson BWC	The officers were talking to the female telling her that she could come down the stairs to get the items that the male has been requesting and that the officers will let her go back upstairs because they didn't want the children to be hurt.
10/19/2024 02:30:04 Stephenson BWC	The female showed officers her hands before coming downstairs.
10/19/2024 02:33:06 Hidden Camera	A male, believed to be Oswald began to open the bedroom door.
10/19/2024 02:33:13 Hidden Camera	Oswald entered the bedroom. Beginning at approximately this frame a male voice, believed to be Oswald's, could be heard saying, "If they shoot me, they shoot me."
10/19/2024 02:33:16 Hidden Camera	A female, believed to be Brooks, could be seen in the doorway area to the bedroom.
10/19/2024 02:33:17 Hidden Camera	Brooks was now inside of the bedroom.
10/19/2024 02:33:19 -02:33:20 Hidden Camera	Oswald appeared to be holding an object in his left hand (Image #16).

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(Image #16)

10/19/2024 02:33:21 Hidden Camera	Brooks appeared to be holding onto or possibly hugging Oswald.
10/19/2024 02:33:22 Hidden Camera	Beginning at approximately this frame, a male voice, believed to be Oswald's, could be heard saying, "I wanted to die in my shoes."
10/19/2024 02:33:39 Hidden Camera	Oswald exited the bedroom and Brooks remained in the bedroom for the remainder of the video file.
10/19/2024 02:36:42 Stephenson BWC	The officers asked the female if the male has a gun before the female goes back upstairs. Unable to determine what the female's response was to the officer's question.
10/19/2024 02:39:31 Stephenson BWC	It appeared that objects are being thrown down the stairs.

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10/19/2024 02:40:26 Stephenson BWC	The officers could be heard stating that the male acknowledged that this was going to be a long-drawn-out process.
10/19/2024 02:45:36 Stephenson BWC	The male could be heard saying to use 35 bullets when he was shot so that they are sure he is dead. The officer then said that the male doesn't have to die. The male responds by saying that I am going too.
10/19/2024 02:48:43 Stephenson BWC	A discussion could be heard in the background about who called "the cops."
10/19/2024 02:54:43 Stephenson BWC	The female showed officers her hands before coming downstairs and having a conversation with the officers. The female asked the officers if there is any possibility that the officers would leave.
10/19/2024 02:56:59 Stephenson BWC	The female could be heard saying that the male wants a cup of coffee. The officers asked if the male is willing to give the officers the kids and just keep the female. The male could then be heard saying that he is not giving up anyone.
10/19/2024 02:58:50 Stephenson BWC	The female went back upstairs with the coffee.
10/19/2024 03:31:14 Stephenson BWC	During this portion of the BWC footage the female could repeatedly be heard telling the male "no."
10/19/2024 04:05:44 Hidden Camera	Brooks could then be heard asking Oswalt if he wanted the green ones. Brooks could then be seen holding an object in her left hand and handing Oswalt what appeared to be a roll of toilet paper with her right hand
10/19/2024 04:14:28 Hidden Camera	What is believed to be law enforcement personnel could be heard asking Shane to let the kids go.
10/19/2024 04:55:44 Hidden Camera	A female voice, believed to be Brooks could be heard saying "Get me the fuck out."

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10/19/2024 04:56:00 through 04:56:01 Hidden Camera	Loud percussive sounds could be heard.
10/19/2024 04:57:41 Hidden Camera	Law enforcement personnel could be seen entering the room
No Time Stamp Multiple Dash Cams	An individual could now be standing by the front corner of the residence closest to the driveway. The law enforcement personnel near the SWAT vehicle moved to the side of the SWAT vehicle.
No Time Stamp Multiple Dash Cams	Two individuals were observed walking towards the individual standing by the front corner of the residence closest to the driveway. These individuals then appeared to be taken to a neighboring residence.
No Time Stamp Multiple Dash Cams	What was believed to be a law enforcement officer could be seen going back up the driveway and then went out of view of the camera along the side of the residence. Then, what is believed to be a law enforcement officer, and an individual could be seen heading down the driveway towards the SWAT vehicle.

Conclusion

This officer-involved shooting incident involved ASORT Sergeant Michael Haines, Sergeant Joseph Gladden and Officer Paul Webb. Based upon the physical evidence, video and audio recordings, statements from law enforcement officers, statements from witnesses and the totality of the investigation, it was concluded that MPD officers were dispatched to 200 Cline Avenue for a domestic situation after a neighbor called the police.

Brooks had formulated a plan with the neighbor earlier in the evening to hide a camera in her bedroom. Brooks had provided a code phrase to the neighbor who was going to be monitoring the camera and call the police if the code phrase was used. Brooks used the code phrase, and the neighbor called the police.

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After arriving on scene, first responding officers spoke with Brooks, who was standing just outside the threshold of the front door of the residence. As officers were speaking with Brooks, Oswald began engaging with officers from inside of the residence. Both Oswald and Brooks advised officers that Oswald was armed. Oswald told officers that they don't have permission to enter the residence and closed the front door. Brooks then went around to the back door of the residence and went back inside of the residence despite the officer's requests for Brooks not to reenter the residence. Brooks advised officers that her children were inside of the residence.

After Brooks went back inside of the residence Oswald made threats to the officers by saying that he has a knife and will use it. Oswald continued to threaten officers and said that he was going to end his life tonight by "suicide by cop" and that he might even take a "a couple of you mother fuckers with me."

Officers attempted to negotiate with Oswald and ASORT was requested to respond to the scene. After arriving on scene, members of the HNT and ASORT continued to try and negotiate with Oswald. Eventually Oswald released the children. Shortly after Oswald released the children, Brooks ran downstairs screaming for help and said that Oswald was trying to kill her. ASORT was able to remove Brooks safely from the residence. As this was occurring, Oswald came downstairs holding a knife in each hand with his arms raised up in what officers described to be an "attack position." Oswald kept his arms in the "attack position" and continued to move towards officers. Officers told Oswald to stop and drop the knives, but Oswald did not comply and continued to move towards officers.

When Oswald was approximately 5-6 feet away from officers, a less lethal foam round was fired at Oswald, which reportedly had no immediate effect on Oswald. Sergeant Haines, Sergeant Gladden and Officer Webb then fired their rifles at Oswald. Oswald was struck multiple times. Oswald died as a result of these gunshot wounds.

A total of ten (10) 5.56x45mm cartridge cases were collected at the scene. A forensic examination of the cartridge cases determined the following:

- Sergeant Haines fired his weapon four (4) times.
- Officer Webb fired his weapon four (4) times.
- Sergeant Gladden fired his weapon two (2) times.

Multiple bullets were recovered from Oswald's body (torso, neck, and right upper extremity) during his autopsy. A forensic examination of the bullets determined the following:

- Four (4) of the recovered bullets were fired by Sergeant Haines' firearm.

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- Three (3) of the recovered bullets were fired by Officer Webb's firearm.
- One (1) of the recovered bullets was fired by Sergeant Gladden's firearm.

This conclusion was based on the totality of the investigation. Throughout the investigative process, investigators continually evaluated the physical evidence, in conjunction with audio and video recordings, forensic findings, witness statements, involved officer statements and other information to ensure all relevant facts and circumstances surrounding this incident were obtained.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical 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 Andrew Harasimchuk. SA Harasimchuk can be reached via email at Andrew.harasimchuk@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at (614) 202-5537.