



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



2025-3711

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1363 State Route 534
NW, Braceville Township, OH 44470, Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview - [REDACTED]
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 12/01/2025
Activity Location: Trumbull County Sheriff's Office - 150 High Street
Northwest, Warren, OH 44481
Authoring Agent: SA Joseph Lamping #184

Narrative:

On Monday, December 01, 2025, at 1201 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joe Lamping (SA Lamping) and SA Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) interviewed Trumbull County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Danielle Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the TCSO. The interview was audio and video recorded.

SA Lamping read the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form aloud to [REDACTED] who subsequently signed the form and participated in the interview voluntarily.

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

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Joe Jones
Radio Channel Utilized: Main	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: TCSO marked Explorer	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: Driver; [REDACTED]
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within

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	Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 5-6	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Green BDU pants, canine hoodie, outer carrier	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Firearm, handcuffs, spare magazines, taser
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Not Present
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: SWAT, canine handler training	OPOTC Certification: Certified
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Yearly in-service
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? None	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: None

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Springfield	Model: Echelon
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: Unknown at time of interview
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster
Magazine Capacity: 20	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 21
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 20 per magazine
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Unknown	Number of Rounds Fired: Unknown
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Personally Owned

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Last Qualification Date: Unknown	Type of Holster, if any: Safariland
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Narrative:

██████████ recounted the incident on November 14, 2025, from the time that he received a call for service in reference to a male with a gun threatening to kill himself. He recalled that he arrived on scene at approximately the same time as ██████████. ██████████ and ██████████. ██████████ described what he observed at the scene when he first arrived:

As we get there, we all pull up pretty much the same time. The guy's sitting, when we got there, he's sitting in the parking lot of Doll Lumber out by the road, sitting with the gun to his head as we pulled up. There's a fire vehicle there. I think it was the chief. He was already there talking to this guy and there was another female there. So, we get out, we're trying to talk to him. We're not behind cover, obviously. Um, has a gun to his head. We're trying to tell him to put it down. He wouldn't put it down. (09:32)

██████████ went on to explain that he tried for some time to get the male, John Adams (Adams), to put the firearm down. At one point in time Adams was reported to have put the gun down, but ██████████ said that the barrel of the gun was directed towards the law enforcement officers at that point. Once the gun was pointed at the law enforcement officers on scene they retreated to cover. ██████████ recalled that ██████████ guided ██████████ of the Braceville Police Department and Todd Garland (Garland) behind cover. ██████████ described how Adams pointed the firearm at his head and began to walk around:

The guy gets up, walks over, got the gun to his head, just talking nonsense. Um, said he would only talk to Todd. He was the fire chief. Um, ██████████ pulled him [Garland] back. He said, if you take him away from you, take him away from the scene, I'm gonna shoot myself, I'm gonna do it. So, he sits there and was like, we're not gonna go. ██████████ told him to back up. (10:31)

After ██████████ told Adams to back up, Adams turned his back towards the law enforcement officers. ██████████ recalled what happened when Adams turned:

██████████ come out behind him with his taser, tasered him. He looked like he was about ready to fall. So, I come from behind cover, I'm walking

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over. As I'm walking up, he grabs the gun or he raises the gun. He turns, when he turns. I started shooting, um, don't know how many times I shot. Then he walked maybe 50 feet or so... (10:57)

After Adams had been shot, [REDACTED] recalled that an altercation occurred with the fire chief (Garland). He described the incident as follows:

... at that time, we started fighting with the fire chief, tell him to stay back 'cause the scene wasn't secure. He steady, just irate out of control. So, we told him to stay back, let us secure the scene and he wouldn't. I was like, dude, stay back. We trying to walk up. He comes running out, we grab him, take him back. You have to stay back. I said, you don't stay back I'm gonna put you in cuffs. He says, good luck trying balls his fist up and was ready to fight. So, we secured him. It was all, took all three of us to get him secured behind the car. (11:28)

[REDACTED] stated that, after Garland was secured, he went up to Adams along with [REDACTED]. Around the same time, the medics were reported to have arrived and began rendering aide to Adams.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] to describe what Adams did with the firearm when he was reported to have put it down. [REDACTED] stated:

... he had it sitting in his lap. Just set. He was sitting like in with his legs crossed. He had hands still on it, but he had it sitting in his lap. So, he didn't have it at his head. He had it sitting in his lap (12:41)

[REDACTED] carried on explaining that while the firearm was in Adams' lap the barrel was directed towards the law enforcement officers, which is why they moved behind cover. [REDACTED] advised that, while the law enforcement officers were on scene, Adams did not fire the gun at any point.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] if he perceived Adams to be a threat when he began to turn towards the law enforcement officers with the firearm after being tased. [REDACTED] said that he did perceive Adams as a threat during that time. SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] what he was thinking when Adams was turning towards him with the firearm. [REDACTED] said:

That he was gonna shoot one of us or shoot [REDACTED] 'cause [REDACTED] was the closest. (13:31)

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SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] if Adams had pointed the gun at any specific officer. He said:

I seen it pointed at me first and he got all the way back around. But I think I took my first shot as he was pointing at me. But he made it all the way back around to [REDACTED] (13:38)

[REDACTED] stated that he did not feel that he had any other options when the firearm was pointed at him. He went on to detail that the law enforcement officers were not behind cover and why they had moved away from it:

We had the vehicles, but we were out from the cover because we thought he was falling from being tased. So, we kind of was rushing towards him then the gun come out. (14:01)

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] to provide further details about the altercation that occurred with Garland. [REDACTED] stated:

He was, from what I was told, uh, he, that was his friend. So, he was very irate at what transpired. Um, non... no rational thinking whatsoever he's yelling, screaming, cussing, fighting us. Um, at one point after we got him security called me a called me an asshole and a murderer. So, he was not in the right state of mind to provide medical care to anybody. (14:47)

[REDACTED] went on to explain that Garland did not calm down during the incident, that it took three deputies to move him to a secure location, and that Garland's behavior was unlike anything he had exhibited in the past while working with law enforcement officers.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] if he was under the impression that Garland was at the scene in a personal capacity or a professional capacity. [REDACTED] said that he thought that Garland was there in a personal capacity.

SA Boerner asked [REDACTED] if other medical staff were in the area while they were dealing with Garland. [REDACTED] stated that other medical personnel arrived on scene while the Deputies were dealing with Garland.

SA Boerner asked [REDACTED] if he rendered any medical aid to Adams. [REDACTED] explained that he called for a chest seal, and one of the medics went to get one.

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SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] if he knew the location of Adams' firearm when the medical personnel were rendering aid. [REDACTED] said that the firearm ended up a few feet away from Adams. He did not believe that anyone on scene moved the firearm away from Adams.

SA Lamping asked [REDACTED] to describe where the other officers were standing during the shooting, and if Adams had pointed the firearm at anyone specific. [REDACTED] said that he was positioned to the left of everyone, and that it appeared that Adams had pointed the firearm directly at [REDACTED].

The interview concluded at approximately 1220 hours.

The interview was audio and video recorded. The recordings were uploaded to Axon Justice and stored as part of Reference Item E -Officer Interviews. The times referenced in this report correspond to the elapsed time from the video recording and not the time of day. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form was attached to this report.

References:

Reference Item E - Officer Interviews: Subfolder - 2025-12-01 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; 2025-12-01: Interview of [REDACTED]; stored on Axon Justice.

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification Form - [REDACTED]



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Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

[Redacted]
Printed Name of Interviewee

12-1-25 12:02
Date / Time

[Redacted]
Signature of Interviewee

S.A. J.M. LAMPTAGE
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #184
BCI Agent (Signature)