



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



2025-3488  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 371 SR 180, Chillicothe,  
OH 45601 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Civilian Witness Interview  
**Involves:** Anthony Arthurs  
**Activity Date:** 10/26/2025  
**Activity Location:** 371 SR 180, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Amanda North

**Narrative:**

On Sunday, October 26, 2025, at 1902 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Amanda North (SA North) and Ross County Sheriff's Office Detective Sergeant Kevin Pierce (Det. Sgt Pierce) interviewed Anthony Arthurs (Arthurs), relative to the officer-involved critical incident which took place on Sunday, October 26, 2025. The interview took place at 371 SR 180, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this individual.

Arthurs' father owns A&S Towing. Arthurs was at his father's business helping with a tow truck when two other vehicles pulled into the neighbor's driveway. The occupants exited the vehicles and were retrieving items from a white Hyundai when two females came out of the residence to which the driveway belonged and began yelling about moving the vehicles.

Arthurs stated that the occupants, including a lady driving a black SUV, agreed to move the vehicles and had gotten back into their vehicles when a male (now known as Bryan Rothe, "Bryan") came down the driveway on a tractor, really fast, saying, "move the fucking cars or I'll move them for you." Arthurs stated that there was also a male in a gray sweatshirt nearby. Arthurs stated that the male (Bryan) then pulled up and raised the bucket as if he were going to hit the car or smash the hood. Arthurs stated that at that point, Arthurs got his phone out and started to record the interaction.

Arthurs indicated that the young gentleman came down and said something to the effect of "don't be threatening my mom with that tractor" to Bryan, and the two continued to exchange words. Arthurs stated that Bryan then got off of the tractor and approached the young man, who was looking down, and punched him and then continued swinging at him. Arthurs said that he needed to stop the altercation, so he pushed Bryan off of the young man which prompted a fight in which three people attacked Arthurs. Arthurs stated that the young boy attacked him and the two had

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fallen to the ground, and Arthurs believed, based on what he had been told, that Bryan put Arthurs in a choke hold and the others punched him in the face and kicked him.

Det. Sgt. Pierce clarified that the young male in the grey sweatshirt (Wesley Rothe, "Wesley") was "going toe to toe" with the guy that came to retrieve property, identified as Christopher Lemaster (Lemaster). Bryan then got involved because his son, Wesley, was the one in the argument.

Arthurs stated that he had the male on the ground on his back, while others were on Arthurs' back, and Arthurs got up, turned around and pinned Bryan against the tree before all agreed that they were done with the altercation. Arthurs stated that things seemed to be calming down, and that Wesley was helping Arthurs look for his glasses on the ground.

Arthurs stated that Bryan then moved the tractor to the end of the driveway to block it and went back to his residence. Arthurs wasn't sure of the route that Bryan took to get back to his residence but indicated that Arthurs' girlfriend had a video.

Arthurs stated that he then began hearing gunshots and stated that it was Bryan that was shooting. Arthurs stated that the deputies took off running, and everyone was getting down on the ground, and that then Arthurs then heard the deputies shooting. Arthurs grabbed his girlfriend and took her down the road to safety and put her in an unknown female's vehicle that was traveling on the road, toward 159.

Arthurs stated that there were no deputies at Bryan's residence when the shooting started.

SA North asked Arthurs whether Bryan was already back in his residence when the deputies arrived on scene. Arthurs agreed that he was.

SA North then asked Arthurs how many deputies he knew to have been on scene. Arthurs stated that two deputies were at the initial scene where the altercation took place, and were still taking statements, when the shooting started and the deputies went toward the gunfire.

Arthurs clarified that once he heard the second round of gunfire, which he believed to be those fired by deputies, because they sounded different than the first round(s), that is when he grabbed his girlfriend and took her away.

SA North asked Arthurs how he knew the difference in the gunshots. Arthurs stated that the sound of the gun and the volume were different.

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The interview concluded at approximately 1920 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The recording is attached to this report. Please see the attachment for further details.

**References:**

None

**Attachments:**

Anthony Arthurs interview

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