



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



2025-1603  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4482 Hampton Woods  
Ct., Columbus, Ohio 43230 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Witness Interview  
**Involves:** Mary Beth Bright  
**Activity Date:** 05/20/2025  
**Activity Location:** Mount Carmel East Hospital, Emergency Room #37  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Chad Holcomb, #61

**Narrative:**

On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 0305 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chad Holcomb (SA Holcomb) and Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Detective Art Hughes (Det. Hughes) interviewed Mary Beth Bright (Bright), relative to the officer-involved critical incident which took place on Monday, May 19, 2025. The interview took place at Mount Carmel East Hospital Emergency Room #37. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this individual.

SA Holcomb introduced himself and Det. Hughes to Bright and asked if she would be willing to speak to investigators; she agreed. Bright said that Smith has put his hands on her in the past but, "... tonight was bad."

Bright has known her boyfriend, Jerry Smith (Smith), for around a month. They met on Facebook. Smith had been living with Bright for about two weeks.

Bright said that everything started around 1650 hours when Smith picked her up from work. Smith was irritated because he had a job interview with Two Men and a Truck, and the interview did not go well. Since the interview did not go well, Smith went home and began drinking Corona beers. He then picked Bright up from work about twenty minutes late.

Nothing was said in the car but when they got home, Bright could tell that Smith had been drinking. She told him that he needed to leave for the night because he was drunk and she didn't want a confrontation. Smith told her that if she gave him \$450, he would get out of her life. She drove him to the ATM and got out the \$450; however, he did not accept it.

They returned to the residence; Smith broke the key from the ignition of the Jeep Compass car. He then began to ransack and destroy the inside of her home. He then

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grabbed her gun, a 9mm Stoeger, and began waving it around. The gun was located on the counter in the kitchen. Bright continued to say, "He just started beating me up. He hit me with the handle of the gun, just throwing me down, and it just got worse."

Smith continued to "rough me up" and yell at her saying "... You're a dirty bitch, you're a whore." He then grabbed her motorcycle keys, and she informed him not to take her keys as he was drunk. Smith proceeded to leave, riding the motorcycle.

Bright then called her co-worker, Tammy Wallace (Wallace), and told her what was occurring. Wallace told her to call the police, but she stated that she was scared. Wallace then called 911. Smith returned about seven minutes later and confronted Bright about who she was talking to on the phone. He grabbed her phone and "... it just escalated from there." Bright told Smith that she called a tow truck to try and move her disabled car to get the key fixed. Smith did not believe it and told her that whoever she called, she needed to call them back and tell them not to call the police. She then told Smith that she called Wallace because she needed ride to work in the morning since her car wouldn't start. Smith then began to hit Bright again and threw items in the house.

Wallace then called back and talked to Smith. She told him that she would pick Bright up for work tomorrow, but he needed to be gone. During that phone call, police showed up. Smith then turned off all the lights and then had her at gunpoint walking around the house. Bright continued to ask for him to give over the gun; he stated no. Bright did not see how many police officers showed up as he had the lights off, blinds closed, and door locked.

At some point CPD Sergeant Jason [Ayers] (Sgt. Ayers) called her phone. They picked up the phone and Ofc. Ayers tried to calm him down, but he continued to hang up. Smith then broke the glass and then "... shot the gun several times out there." SA Holcomb asked how many times Smith shot the gun. Bright believed it was three (3) times. Twice out the door and once in the bedroom.

SA Holcomb asked about the communication between Smith and CPD. She stated that Smith would make her open the door and yell at the cops to back up. She could hear the CPD officers outside saying things, but they were mostly talking to the officer on the phone. Bright was not able to see any of the officers outside because of all the lights shining at the house. When Smith was talking to Sgt. Ayers, he told him that he needed help. He said that he wanted a better job and the ability to provide.

SA Holcomb then asked about Smith getting shot. She replied that it all happened "... in a whirlwind." Bright told Smith that he needed to give her the gun and walk out. He

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stated that he was scared, and she told him that there was nothing to fear if he just walked out. Eventually Smith told the officer on the phone that he was going to let Bright go and that he was going to walk out after. At this point, the glass on the storm door had been completely broken. Smith then opened the door and "... had the gun in his hand and he put it, he put it up, but the glass was broken up. And he put his hand, with the gun, outside of the door and he dropped the clip and that's when he got shot. He fell over on me." Bright saw a large gunshot on his left chest. She didn't even hear any gunshots. Smith then stated that he was shot and fell to the ground. He told Bright to go out the door and get him help. Bright then walked out.

SWAT officers then yelled at her to exit the residence. She walked out and told the officers that Smith was shot and down near the front door.

SA Holcomb asked where Bright's phone was located at. She stated that she had it with her currently and confirmed that her phone was what was used to speak with officers. SA Holcomb informed Bright that he would need to take her phone as evidence. SA Holcomb asked if it was ok if he took the phone. She said she just needed Wallace's phone number. SA Holcomb informed her that he would attempt to return her phone to her the same day. She agreed to sign a consent to search for her phone and provided her passcode.

Bright was asked how many times Smith had put his hands on her and hurt her. She replied around eight times. She proceeded to show investigators an old bruise on her left arm. Smith has also threatened her life prior.

SA Holcomb asked Bright throughout the whole event if she ever feared for her life. She replied, "yes." Smith told her, "If I'm gonna die, you're going with me."

The interview concluded at approximately 0323 hours.

The interview was audio and video recorded and has been uploaded to Evidence.com. The recording is attached to this report along with the signed consent to search form. Please see the attachments for further details.

**References:**

A: 2025-05-20: Mary Beth Bright Interview (Evidence.com)

**Attachments:**

Attachment #01: Consent to Search

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CONSENT TO SEARCH



Date & Time May 20, 2025 @ 0328  
Location Mt Carmel East

I, Mary Beth Bright, having been informed of the constitutional right not to have a search made of the premises, property, or items hereinafter mentioned without a search warrant (and of my right to refuse to consent to such a search), hereby authorize

SA C. Holcomb + ch. BCI

to conduct a complete search of my

premises, and all curtilage

any vehicles

personal property, to wit: clothing

computer, cellular telephone, or electronic device, (including data acquisition, copying, and analysis), to wit: cell phone [redacted]

located at

on person at hospital

These above-named officers/agents are authorized by me to take from my premises, curtilage, vehicles, property, computer, cellular telephone, or electronic device (as specified above) any letters, papers, materials, data, or other property which they desire. I state that I am a person who is authorized to give consent for the search of the above mentioned property.

This written permission is being given by me to the above-named officers/agents voluntarily, of my own free will, without threats or promises of any kind, I am not under the influence of drugs or alcohol that prevent me from understand this document, and I understand this document and the English language.

Mary Beth Bright 5/20/25 @ 0330  
Signature Date/Time

Printed Name