



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

To: Bill Walton II, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Nicholas Valente, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: January 8, 2025
Involves: Christina Tyson Thomas, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121
Case Numbers: BCI Special Investigations Unit: 2024-2614
BCI Crime Scene Unit: 2024-2614
BCI Cyber Crime Unit: 2024-2614
BCI Laboratory: 24-36634
Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory: 2024-
006468-005
Cleveland Heights Police Department: [REDACTED]

Investigative Request

On Thursday, August 29, 2024, the Cleveland Heights Police Department (CHPD) requested the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) conduct an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. On Friday, August 30, 2024, CHPD Chief Christopher Britton signed a letter memorializing the request for BCI to investigate the matter. The incident occurred on August 29, 2024, in the area of 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and resulted in the death of Christian Alexander Tyson Thomas (Christian).

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the August 29, 2024 officer-involved shooting in Cuyahoga 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 are not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for all the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased 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 Nick Valente (SA Valente) was assigned as the lead SIU case agent. SA Valente received assistance in the investigation from SA Allison Fletcher, SA Jon Lieber, SA Andrew Harasimchuk, and SA Matthew Armstrong. BCI SA Daniel Boerner and SA Laurina McClintock of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Computer Forensic Specialist (CFS) Natasha Branam of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an extraction and analysis of a cellular telephone recovered from the subject's home. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Chuck 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 officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of six additional 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
- Attempted/requested interviews of family members of the decedent who were present at the time of the officer-involved shooting
- Special agent attendance of post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed drug lab chemistry reports of narcotics seized from subject's home
- 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 subject, including criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available dash cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available body worn cameras involved in the incident
- Attempted retrieval of potential recall “ghost” body worn camera recordings
- 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 / model of incident area
- 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
- Review of Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident
- Issued preservation letters and [REDACTED] for potential video recordings of the incident
- Review of the department's reports, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
 3. Chemistry (drug identification)
 4. DNA
- 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
- Enhancement and review of audio/video recordings through the use of Amped Replay video analysis software

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered
- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

Incident Summary/Overview

On August 29, 2024, Genisis Tyson Thomas (Genisis), sister of the subject, Christian, called 911 and reported that Christian was actively involved in a verbal altercation with their father, Ferrel Thomas (Ferrel). Further, Christian had fired a gun inside the home, was currently holding the gun with his finger on the trigger and refusing to put the weapon down. Genisis repeatedly asked the dispatcher to please hurry and send police officers to her home. Based on this 911 call, Cleveland Heights police officers were dispatched and responded to the Thomas family home, 1309 Yellowstone Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Cleveland Heights Police [REDACTED] was the first to arrive on scene. As [REDACTED] arrived on scene and exited his patrol car, he was greeted by the subject's sisters, Jacquelyn Fortson (Jacquelyn) and Genisis (who placed the 911 call).



[REDACTED] BWC perspective as he arrived on scene, exited his patrol car, and was greeted by the subject's sisters.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Jacquelyn and Genisis spoke with [REDACTED] as he approached the front door of the home. [REDACTED] learned the subject, Christian, and his father, Ferrel, were still somewhere inside the home and the subject was still armed. One of the subject's sisters told [REDACTED], "I don't know if you want to go in there right now. I'm not gonna lie."

[REDACTED] chose not to enter the home. Instead, [REDACTED] requested additional officers respond to the scene and relayed the information that he had gathered from the subject's sisters to other officers over his police radio.

Cleveland Heights Police [REDACTED] was the second officer to arrive on scene. [REDACTED] met [REDACTED], Jacquelyn, and Genisis in the front yard of the home. [REDACTED] also questioned the two young women and attempted to gather additional background on the subject and what was transpiring inside the home.

Genisis told the officers she was alone in her bedroom getting ready to go to sleep when she heard a gunshot. Genisis told the officers she observed her sister coming down from the attic looking like she was about to cry. She next observed her father and brother arguing as her brother held and refused to put down a gun. Genisis told the officers she did not know what led to the shooting and argument between her father and brother.

As the two officers and the subject's two sisters spoke in front of the family home, [REDACTED] suggested that the group move away from the front door and they did. The group walked to the sidewalk and stood near the edge of the front yard near the northwest corner of the property. As [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] gathered additional background from the subject's sisters, additional Cleveland Heights police officers began to arrive on scene and took up positions surrounding the subject's home.

By 22:10:08 hours, Cleveland Heights Police Officer/Investigator Ondercin (Investigator Ondercin) arrived on scene. Investigator Ondercin served as the ranking officer/de facto supervisor on scene at the time of the shooting. Investigator Ondercin joined the group near the northwest corner of the front yard and spoke with Genisis and Jacquelyn.

Cleveland Heights Police Officer Dallas Guyton (Officer Guyton) arrived moments after Investigator Ondercin and remained near the front of the subject's home in or near the roadway leading up to and during the shooting.

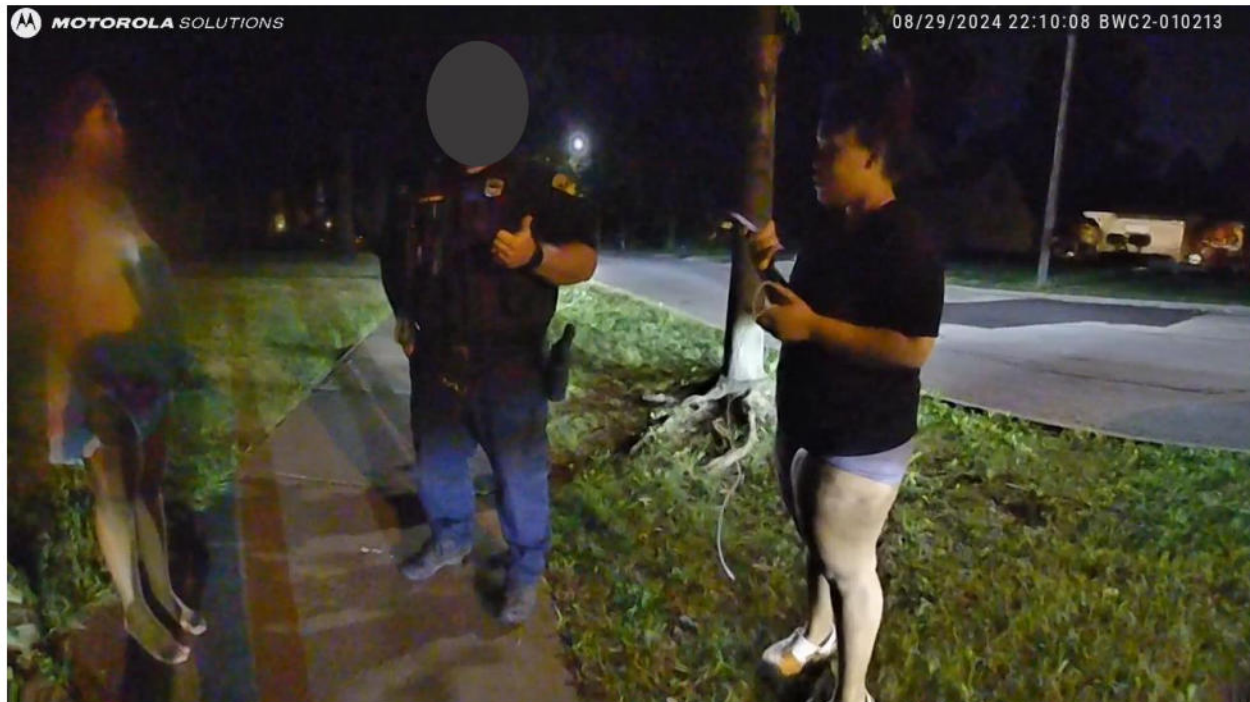
This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



██████████ BWC perspective as he and Inv. Undercin spoke with Jacquelyn and Genisis at the northwest/ front corner of the subject's yard.

Jacquelyn informed officers that her father and brother had been arguing earlier in the day. Further, before the shooting occurred, the subject had been coming up and down the stairs to the attic and "pulsing." ██████████ walked away from the conversation as Investigator Undercin spoke further with the subject's sisters. ██████████ took a position near the northwest corner of the subject's home, near the property line with the neighboring property.

Officers requested Genisis to attempt to reach her father through her cell phone. Genisis then called her father and ██████████ attempted to speak with Ferrel via telephone. The audio quality of the brief phone call was poor. The men appeared to have a hard time understanding each other. ██████████ reported it sounded like Ferrel's phone was on speaker and stated that it sounded like he heard screaming coming from the phone. ██████████ further reported that it sounded like Ferrel said, "Take your finger off the trigger" and "Drop the gun." Moments later the phone was hung up from Ferrel's end.

██████████ then retrieved his patrol rifle from his vehicle and returned to the position near the northwest corner of the subject's home. While standing in this position, Ferrel could be heard yelling at the subject to come downstairs.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Ferrel came to the front door and told the officers he would not leave his son alone in the home as the officers pleaded with him to exit the home. Genesis joined the officers in trying to convince Ferrel to come outside. Ferrel could then be heard pleading with his son to put the gun down and telling the subject that no one else was in the house.

Around 22:11:42 hours, [REDACTED] moved from standing in the front yard of the subject residence to standing near and behind a large tree to the south of the subject residence, between the driveways to the subject residence and the neighboring home.



[REDACTED] BWC perspective as he then stood near a large tree at the southern edge of the subject's front yard.

[REDACTED] BWC captured further audio of arguing coming from inside the home. An unknown person screamed "Oh my god [unintelligible]", Genesis responded, "Dad, come outside. You're upsetting him." Ferrel then yelled, "Christian [unintelligible] out from up there! Get down here! Get down here right now! Now! Get down here! [Unintelligible] Get the fuck down here! You gonna [unintelligible] right now. A voice responded, "You gonna kill me? [Further unintelligible yelling] Ferrel continued, "Get the fuck down here!"

Ferrel appeared next in the front doorway to the home and officers asked him to come out. Ferrel responded, "I'm not gonna leave my son in here." Officers repeated their

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

request for Ferrel to come outside and Ferrel responded two more times stating he would not leave his son in the home. Genesis also asked her father to come outside.

As the officers continued to further plead with Ferrel to come outside, he returned to the home, leaving the front door open.

Ferrel could then be heard on [REDACTED] BWC yelling "Please. Please, Christian. Please. No god! Put it down! Put it down. Put it down man, please. Please man. [Unintelligible] There's nobody in here but me. [Unintelligible.]

Around this same time, CHPD Officers Michael Dugan (Officer Dugan), Elizabeth Perez (Officer Perez), and Abrianna Franklin (Officer Franklin) were positioned at the rear of the subject's home, standing just outside an open garage door that opened to the back of the subject's home.



Cropped image of the back of the subject's home showing the open garage. A screened in three-season room is to the right of the garage.

While providing cover at the back of the home near the open garage door, someone, presumably the subject, opened the man door leading from the garage to the home and stated, "Whoa, whoa, whoa" immediately after the door was opened. Officer Dugan yelled out, "Hey, come out with your hands, come out with your hands up." Officer Dugan next stated, "He went back inside when he saw officers." Officer Dugan then continued to provide watch on the back of the home from the corner of the garage. From that position, Officer Dugan yelled into the home, "Christian, can you come out with your hands up?" The subject, who seemed likely to have seen and been aware that police were now surrounding both the front and back of his home, failed to comply

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



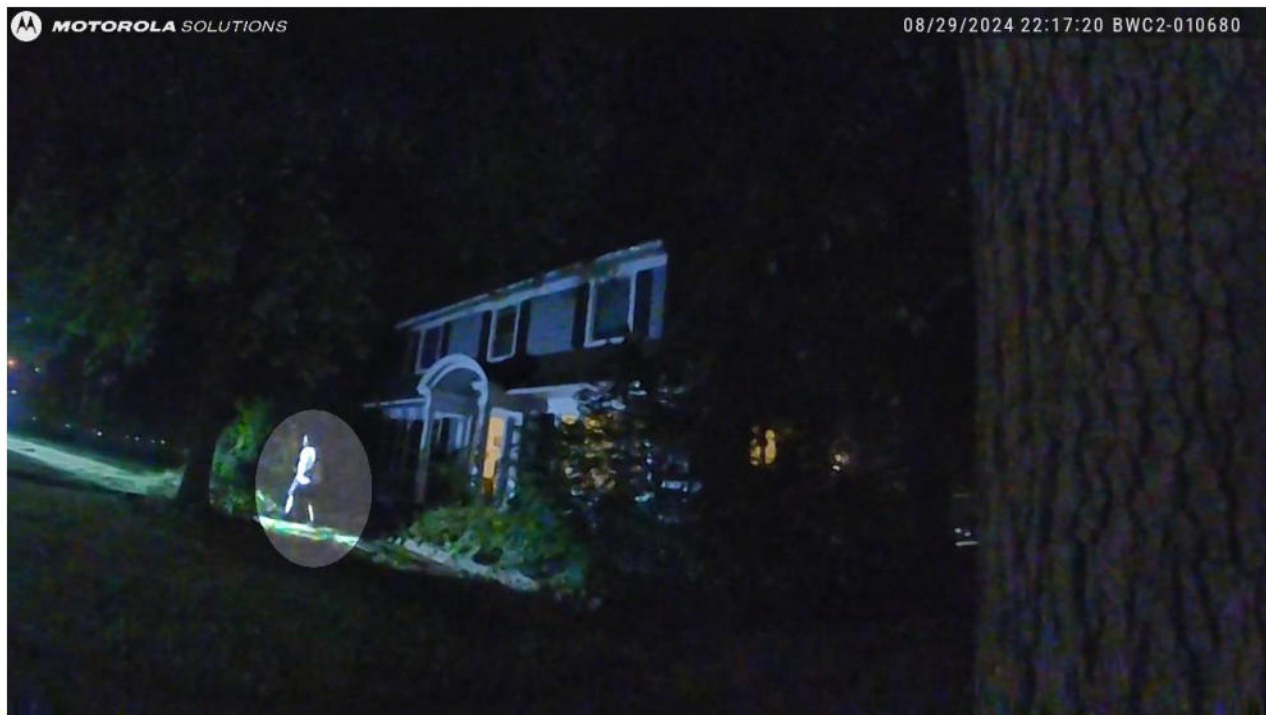
Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

with the orders to exit the home with his hands up. Officer Dugan's BWC captured muffled audio of Ferrel and his son continuing to argue inside the home, including, at one point, Ferrel saying, "Don't shoot me. You want to shoot me? You want to shoot your daddy?"

At approximately 22:17:10 [REDACTED] asked the dispatcher over the police radio if a hostage negotiator was available. Officers and dispatchers then discussed having EMS stage near the scene. While the above conversation was taking place over the police radio, at approximately 22:17:20, Ferrel exited the home, through the front door. As Ferrel exited the home he could be heard saying, "He got a [unintelligible] loaded weapon. He got a loaded weapon."



[REDACTED] BWC perspective as he stood behind a large tree near the southern edge of the subject's front yard as his BWC captured Ferrel exiting the house. A spotlight annotation was placed over Ferrel's person.

Moments later, at approximately 22:17:51, a voice can be heard yelling "No! No!" on multiple police BWCs. The front door of the home was then shut from the inside. Just after the door was shut, [REDACTED] relayed over his police radio, "All right, yeah, he's got the gun in his hand at the front door."

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ approached the subject residence on foot after having just parked on Yellowstone Road while ██████████ relayed over his police radio, "All right, yeah, he's got the gun in his hand at the front door." At the end of this transmission ██████████ turned around and began to walk back towards his cruiser.

██████████ returned to his patrol vehicle and removed his patrol rifle from the vehicle while telling Officer El Biri, ██████████, said, "Hey, keep cover behind the cruiser." As ██████████ opened the passenger door to his cruiser to retrieve the patrol rifle, he deactivated his body-worn camera (BWC). Note the deactivation of ██████████ BWC at this time appeared to be unintentional and ██████████ reported he did not realize he deactivated his BWC at the time.

At approximately 22:18:10, Investigator Ondercin requested the local area "EDGE" SWAT team be notified/called out.

The subject had now likely seen police stationed around his home from both the front and back entryway doors, had shut both doors, and was alone inside the home. At approximately 22:18:59, ██████████, who had joined ██████████, near a large tree at the south edge of the subject's property, asked, "Where's he at?" ██████████ replied, "He was just at the front door. He was holding the gun like this. [██████████ appeared to briefly raise his gun up and down with his right hand]. So, he [unintelligible] has the gun."

Investigator Ondercin then relayed over the police radio, "Possibly under the influence of psychedelics" after having just received this information from Ferrel.

██████████ asked ██████████, "Where's, where's fucking (Officer) El Biri? El Biri, El Biri, what you doin?"

██████████ then made the comment "I need to go get my rifle?" ██████████ responded, "You want to go get it?" ██████████ replied "Nah, I don't want to leave. Just have him go grab it, but I don't really need it."

██████████ asked, "Where, I, like, is he at the back of the house?" ██████████ replied, "I don't know." ██████████ again quickly questioned, "Is he at the back?"

██████████ asked, "Who is he talking to?" ██████████ replied, "I don't know."

Investigator Ondercin can then be heard in the background saying, "Second floor [unintelligible] window." ██████████ then said, "I'm gonna get to cover." ██████████ replied, "Hey, give him (Officer El Biri), hey come here. Tell him (Officer El Biri) to get my rifle." ██████████ asked, "What, what's your cruiser?" ██████████ replied, "The second one over there." After pointing out the location of his patrol

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

vehicle, [REDACTED] said, "So, drive his, your cruiser over there and then just back it up."

[REDACTED] then walked away from the subject residence to locate Officer El Biri and direct him to retrieve [REDACTED] patrol rifle from [REDACTED] vehicle and bring it to [REDACTED] then began to make his way back towards his patrol vehicle parked to the south of the subject residence.

While [REDACTED] walked away from the subject residence to direct Officer El Biri to locate and retrieve [REDACTED] rifle for [REDACTED] himself remained at or near the large tree along the southern edge of the subject's front yard.



Cropped image showing the subject's residence (blue home) on the left. [REDACTED] was positioned near the large tree in the center of the image.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.

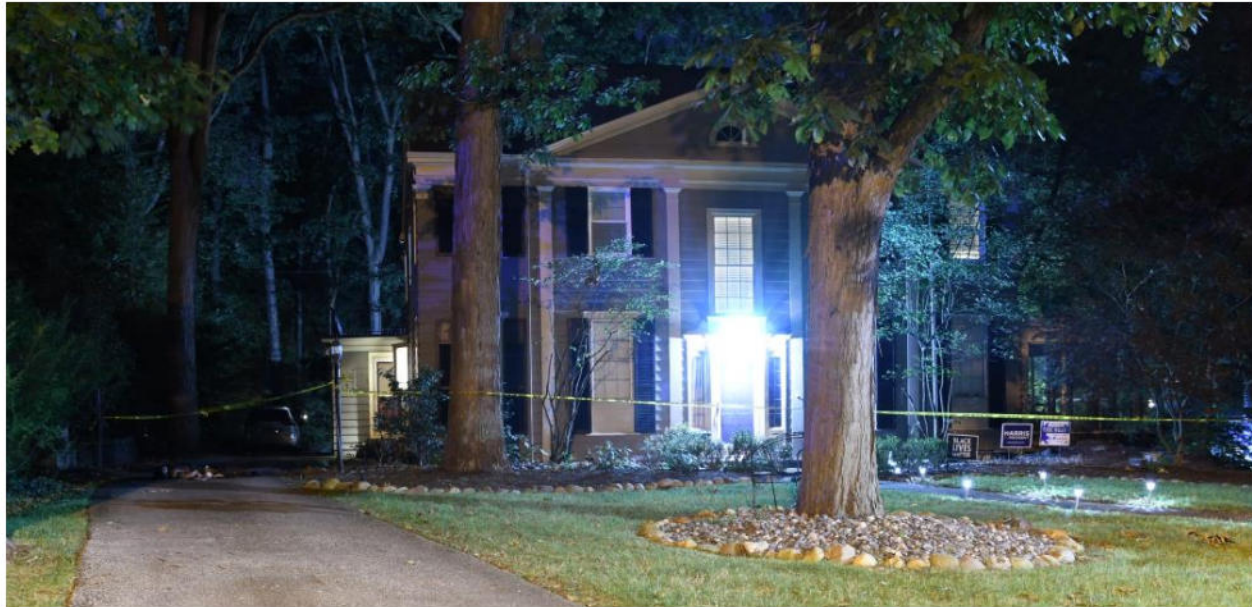


**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

At this same time, [REDACTED] was still holding a cover position near the north edge of the subject's front yard near or in the southern edge of the northern neighbor's front garden bed just right of the yard signs in the image below.



Cropped image showing the home directly north of the subject's home. [REDACTED] would have been stationed at the extreme right of the image or just out of view on the right side of the image at the time he fired.

The three officers were in the above-described approximate locations when a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot followed by a loud crashing noise was heard coming from the back of the home. Approximately two seconds later the officers were in the same general positions when a second loud percussive sound was audible on multiple BWC recordings of the officers surrounding the subject's home. This second loud percussive sound was also consistent with a gunshot.

To reiterate, Officers Dugan, Perez, and Franklin were at the rear of the subject's home, standing near the corner of the open garage door. Investigator Ondercin was standing near the northwest corner of the front yard at or near the sidewalk and believed to be in close proximity to Ferrell, Jacquelyn, and Genesis. Officer Guyton was close to Investigator Ondercin near the front of the subject's property/roadway. [REDACTED] was stationed near the northwest corner of the subject's home, standing in the front flowerbed of the neighbor's front yard watching the front (west) of the subject's home and the north (side) of the subject's home. [REDACTED] was standing behind or near a large tree close to the south end of the subject's front yard and the

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

neighboring property. [REDACTED] was in the front yard of 1321 Yellowstone Road, two houses south of the subject's home, when an apparent gunshot is reportedly heard by all involved officers.

Just prior to the sound of a second apparent gunshot, Officer Perez reported she saw the subject running through the three-seasons room at the rear of the home. There is no indication that any of the officers had fired their weapons at this point.

Upon seeing the subject running across the three-seasons room from south to north, towards a wall of screened windows on the north side of the home, Officer Perez exclaimed "Show me your hands!" As Officer Perez finished giving this order, the second loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot was captured on multiple BWC recordings.

After running through the three-seasons room of the home, the subject jumped out/through the screened in window/wall on the north side of the home, landing below the wall of screened windows in an unlit side yard behind a small shrub like tree surrounded by other vegetation.



Cropped image showing the damaged screen hanging from the window the subject jumped out/through.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Cropped image showing the side yard of the subject's home looking from the front/west to the back/east. Note the teal-colored object in the yellow circle is the pistol discarded by the subject.

Officer Perez's BWC captured the sound of the apparent second gunshot fired by the subject at frame 11,719 of her BWC recording. Officer Perez's BWC recording captured the sound of additional loud percussive noises consistent with gunshots again beginning around frame 11,806 of her BWC recording, approximately 5.803 seconds later. [REDACTED] reported during an interview with BCI agents that he was the first officer to fire his weapon. Immediately following the third loud percussive sound (the first shot fired by police), further loud percussive sounds quickly followed. The following loud percussive sounds are believed to be the sound of gunshots fired by [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. The final loud percussive sound, consistent with a gunshot, began at/near frame 11,969 of Officer Perez's BWC recording, approximately 10.739 seconds after the first shot was fired by [REDACTED].

A fired cartridge casing and teal-colored pistol were found discarded along the north side yard of the subject's home to the west of the window the subject jumped through.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The subject himself ran through the side yard west towards the front of the home and towards [REDACTED]. Upon reaching the front of the home, the subject turned right and continued running northbound towards [REDACTED] through the neighbor's front flowerbed/tree lawn. The subject continued northbound across the neighbor's front yard near the front of the home until he collapsed in their driveway on the north side of the neighboring home. The subject fell face down on the neighboring driveway. Officers yelled commands at the subject to show the officers his hands. The subject did not comply with these orders. A group of officers then quickly approached the subject and began to render aid, including performing CPR, applying a tourniquet to the subject's right arm, and applying a chest seal to an open wound found on the subject's chest. Ultimately, the subject was pronounced deceased at the scene via telephone by a medical doctor after a brief examination by emergency medical personnel.



Image depicting the subject as he was found by BCI crime scene agents while processing the scene.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Decedent

Christian Alexander Tyson Thomas:

Christian was an 18-year-old male at the time of the incident.

Christian was previously arrested by Cleveland Heights Police on January 22, 2024, after being found walking in the middle of the roadway. During that incident, Christian fled from officers and refused to comply with orders to place his hands behind his back once caught. While a group of officers struggled to place Christian in handcuffs, a partially loaded 9mm Glock pistol magazine fell from his clothing. Christian was transported to the Cleveland Heights Police Station and later released into the custody of his brother.

Note that none of the officers involved in the incident on January 22, 2024, were involved in the officer-involved shooting and death of Christian, which is the subject of this investigation.

Though Christian's father, Ferrel, ultimately declined to respond to requests to participate in an interview with BCI agents, Ferrel did make statements to police immediately before and after the officer-involved shooting that may provide additional context to the subject's state of mind at that time.

Ferrel told police officers that in the moments immediately before and after the shooting, he had recently told the subject that he needed to move out of the home. Ferrel stated that although the subject may have been displeased with this news, Ferrel did not believe it was relevant to the subject's state of mind or actions during the incident. Rather, Ferrel reported he had found a large quantity of psychedelic mushrooms in the home that belonged to the subject, and Ferrel believed the subject was under the influence of these psychedelic mushrooms. Further, due to the effects of the psychedelic mushrooms, the subject mistakenly believed someone had killed his sister and that is what led to the subject firing the gun in the home in the moments before the police were called.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Autopsy Report

The autopsy report for the decedent was obtained from the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

The cause of death for Christian was determined to be [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The manner of death was ruled

[REDACTED] The toxicology report noted the subject [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Christian also [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] were detailed in the "Anatomic Diagnosis" section of the report. The [REDACTED] The report indicated the following list of [REDACTED] was not listed in a particular order as to indicate sequence, but rather for descriptive purposes.

[REDACTED]



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



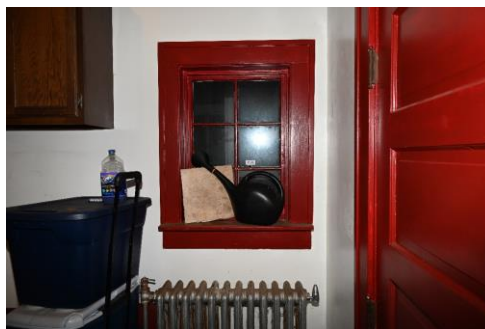
Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Physical Evidence

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, 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.

Two cartridge casings were found and matched to the pistol discarded by the subject. The first cartridge casing matched to the subject's pistol was located inside the home just inside the man door leading to the garage. A glass window in the wall leading into the three seasons room from the hallway where this cartridge casing was found had a hole piercing through the glass consistent with a bullet traveling through the window.

A bullet was found lodged in the back wall of the three seasons room that appeared consistent with having been shot from the general area of where this first cartridge casing was found. This cartridge casing and bullet are believed to be the first shot fired by the subject while officers were on scene and surrounding the home. The following three pictures depict this cartridge casing as it was found, the damage to the internal window, and the bullet recovered from inside the three-seasons room.



*Left Image – cartridge casing matched to subject's gun found inside back of home at doorway leading to garage
Center Image – Window in wall between the three seasons room and hallway at the back doorway leading to garage
Right Image– Bullet recovered from wall/ windowsill on inside of three seasons room*

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The second cartridge casing recovered from the scene, that was scientifically matched to the pistol discarded by the subject, was recovered outside the home along the northern side yard in close proximity to where the pistol itself was found. Both the pistol and this second fired cartridge casing were found west of the window the subject jumped through. Both of these items were recovered from the ground between the basement window and the outside of the fireplace as depicted in the image below.



Image depicting the pistol discarded by the subject (yellow placard #1) and the second fired cartridge case matched to the gun (yellow placard #2).

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Image depicting the pistol discarded by the subject as it was found. Note no magazine was inserted into the weapon.



Image depicting the pistol discarded by the subject after being removed from the crime scene. Note the apparent damage to the weapon.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The following image depicts the north side of the subject's residence, including the window the subject jumped out/through and the location where his discarded pistol was found. The left terminus of the white line added to the image notes the bottom center of the windowpane the subject jumped out/through. The right terminus of the white line added to the image depicts the location of the placard noting the location of the subject's discarded pistol.

The textbox added to the image notes various distances relative to the image. The distance between the bottom center of the windowpane the subject jumped out/through, and the ground directly below is approximately 5.465 feet, noted as "DZ" in the text box added to the image. The distance between the bottom center of the windowpane the subject jumped out/through and the placard noting the discarded pistol is approximately 13.385 feet. This measurement is noted as "Distance" in the text box added to the image and depicted by the white line added to the image. Lastly, the distance between the ground directly below the center of the windowpane the subject jumped out/through to the placard noting where the discarded pistol was recovered was approximately 12.219 feet, noted as "Distance XY" in the textbox added to the image. More simply put, the subject's discarded pistol was recovered approximately 12.219 feet away from the ground directly below the window he jumped out/through.



nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Crime Scene agents also collected the firearms fired during the incident by [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] discharged his duty pistol during the incident. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] both discharged their patrol rifles during the incident. Additional cartridge casings were also collected from the general locations these three officers were in at the time they fired their weapons. The following diagram illustrates the positioning of the cartridge casings recovered outside in relation to 1309 Yellowstone Road, the subject's home, located in the center of the image.



[REDACTED]
recovered cartridge casings

[REDACTED]
Subject's recovered firearm
and cartridge casing

[REDACTED]
recovered cartridge casings

[REDACTED]
recovered cartridge casings

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The BCI DNA laboratory compared swabs taken from the teal and black pistol found outside the northern side of the subject's home to known DNA standards of the subject and scientifically matched DNA found on the pistol to the subject.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, and autopsy (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 from the firearms in some cases. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

Recovered Firearm (Glock Slide-SN: KNP943) – Pistol discarded by the subject

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #1: Unknown manufacturer frame and Glock 19 slide	N/A	Rendered Operable**
	Item #28: One (1) fired bullet	Inconclusive***
	Items #2 and 27: Two (2) fired 9mm Luger cartridge cases	Source Identification

██████████ (Colt M4 rifle-SN: ██████████)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #29: Colt M4 rifle (S/N ██████████)	N/A	Operable
	Items #7-22: Sixteen (16) fired 5.56x45mm cartridge cases	Source Identification

A total of 16 5.56x45mm fired cartridge cases recovered from the scene returned to ██████████ firearm. All the recovered fired cartridge casings were located at the southwest corner of 1305 Yellowstone Road, in a flower bed.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The following two photographs demonstrate the location of the 16 cartridge casings scientifically matched to [REDACTED] rifle.



Crime Scene #7-12



Crime Scene #13-22

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ (Glock 17-SN ██████████)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #30: Glock 17 Gen 5 pistol	N/A	Operable
	Item #28: One (1) fired bullet	Source Exclusion
	Items #3-6: Four (4) fired 9mm Luger cartridge cases	Source Identification

A total of four 9mm fired cartridge casings recovered from the scene returned to
██████████ firearm. All of these fired cartridge casings were located in the front
yard of 1309 Yellowstone Road.



Crime Scene #3-6

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ (Colt M4 rifle-SN: ██████████)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #31: Colt M4 rifle (S/N ██████████)	N/A	Operable
	Items #23-26: Four (4) fired 5.56x45mm cartridge cases	Source Identification

A total of four 5.56x45mm fired cartridge casings recovered from the scene returned to ██████████ firearm. All the fired cartridge casings were located near the front yard property lines of 1315 and 1321 Yellowstone Road.



Crime Scene #24-27

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The projectiles and projectile fragments that were recovered from the subject's body were submitted to the Ohio BCI laboratory for analysis. All of the projectiles and fragments were determined to be unsuitable for identification purposes or inconclusive except for a single projectile, Matrix Item #48, which was recovered from the left lateral 8th ICS of the subject. This projectile was identified as being fired from [REDACTED] rifle.

Based on the location of the officers' cartridge casings, information provided by the officers themselves in interviews, review of the BWC video recordings of the officers' actions, and crime scene processing it is most likely that the bullets that struck the front of the subject's home were fired by [REDACTED]. The following image depicts ballistic impacts to the front of the subject home.



Image depicting the front right of the subject's residence with red arrow annotations noting the location of three ballistic impacts.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The following two images note the location of ballistic impacts to the north side of the subject's home in close proximity to where the subject's pistol was recovered. These ballistic impacts are believed to be the result of bullets fired by [REDACTED] based on the location of the officers' cartridge casings, information provided by the officers themselves in interviews, review of BWC video recordings of the officers' actions, and crime scene processing.



Image depicting the north side of the subject's residence with a red circle annotation noting the location of ballistic impacts.



Image depicting the north side of the subject's residence with a red circle annotation noting the location of ballistic impacts, the damaged screen the subject jumped out/through, and the firearms and spent shell casing (bottom right).

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

The Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory also performed chemistry testing on a variety of illegal drugs recovered from the basement of the subject's residence. This collection of drugs was found near the subject's driver's license. These drugs were reportedly owned by the subject and found by his father earlier that day, based on statements Ferrel made to police moments before the shooting. The lab report noted this collection of drugs included over 895 grams of psilocyn (psychedelic mushrooms), 500 doses of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD), 37 pressed pills or tablets containing 4-ANPP, and Fentanyl, 6.8 grams of Ketamine, 0.37 grams of cocaine, 1.6 grams of MDMA, and a scale with MDMA and cocaine residue.



Cropped image depicting some of the illegal drugs recovered from the subject's basement.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Witnesses

No non-law enforcement witnesses to the event were located. However, Jennifer Woda (Woda), who lives next door to the subject, did report hearing what she later believed may have been gunshots earlier in the day coming from the subject's home. Woda was questioned by police after the shooting, signed/authored a written statement, and participated in a phone interview with a BCI agent after the incident noting the above. Refer to the written statement and audio recorded interview of Woda for additional information on what she reported.

The Cleveland Heights Police Officers who were on scene but did not fire their weapons were interviewed by BCI agents. None of these witnessing police officers reported seeing any actions by the involved officers they felt were criminal in nature. Refer to the video recorded interviews and narratives written detailing these interviews for additional information on what these witness police officers reported.

Involved Officer Interviews

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

██████████

██████████ had not previously interacted with the subject prior to this incident. Likewise, ██████████ had not previously responded to the subject's home prior to this incident.

██████████ recalled the radio traffic given by dispatchers at the time he was dispatched involved "a verbal argument between father and son and a family member had a firearm." While responding to the scene of this call, ██████████ received additional radio traffic, which he believed included something to the effect of "they could hear a lot of screaming and someone say to take your finger off the trigger."

██████████ approached the front door of the home and asked the two females if the subject was still armed with the handgun. The females told him yes, the subject was still holding a handgun. ██████████ then chose not to enter the home and spoke further with the females, attempting to gather more information. ██████████ asked the females to provide him with additional background on what led up to the incident. One of the females told ██████████ that she was not entirely sure, but she awoke to a lot of screaming and the sound of a gun firing. When asked, the female

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

confirmed Christian had fired the gun. [REDACTED] relayed this information to the other responding officers and escorted the two women away from the house.

[REDACTED] had Genesis call Ferrel on the telephone. [REDACTED] heard Christian screaming and belching on the phone. [REDACTED] heard Thomas's father telling him to get the firearm out of his hand and to take his finger off the trigger. Shortly after that, the phone went dead. [REDACTED] relayed this information to the other officers on scene and asked the female to attempt to call her father back.

[REDACTED] then went to his police cruiser and retrieved his patrol rifle. [REDACTED] then returned to his position outside the front right of the subject's home.

Other officers attempted to get the subject's father to leave the home. Though the subject's father did come outside momentarily, he quickly went back inside. Once Ferrel was back inside the home, [REDACTED] heard the subject's father continue to yell at the subject to take his finger off the trigger of the gun. Briefly thereafter, the subject's father did comply with officers' requests to exit the home. Once outside the home, the subject's father began screaming "He's high. He's high. He's high as fuck in my house. Um, he's got a weapon. He's got a loaded weapon."

An officer stationed at the front of the home next reported he observed the subject come to the front door of the home while still holding the gun in his hand. The subject then shut the front door and retreated into the house.

[REDACTED] could hear the subject screaming again from inside the home. [REDACTED] heard noise coming from the home indicating the subject was at the rear of the home. [REDACTED] then heard an officer at the rear of the home scream "Show me your hands." [REDACTED] then heard the subject say something to the effect of get away from me. The subject then ran through what [REDACTED] believed at the time it was a door or low hanging window.

[REDACTED] stated, "I hear him running towards that window and then break through to where he's now outside and um, fires off a round." [REDACTED] noted he was then in very close proximity to the subject and reiterated, "I know that he's under the influence of, they previously, previously the dad told, uh, Officer Ondercin he was under, uh, he was high on psychedelics. Uh, I knew he was armed. I knew he had already fired off a round prior to our arrival. Refusing to drop the gun. In a manic state. He's now out of the house and fired. And, um, I returned fire on him at that point."

[REDACTED] stated he could see the subject at the time he fired the gun outside the home but could not tell where the subject was aiming. When asked, [REDACTED] stated he was confident the sound he heard was the subject firing a gun. Once the

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

subject fired, [REDACTED] took a step to the left, crouched, and could see the subject's silhouette from the amber light coming from the house. [REDACTED] then fired what he believed to be "probably about six shots in his direction."

[REDACTED] then saw the subject fall, the bushes shuffled, and the subject began to run straight towards [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] later in the interview, added he did observe the subject crawling in the bushes momentarily before standing up and beginning to run towards him. [REDACTED] continued to train his rifle on the subject as the subject ran towards him. As the subject reached his position, [REDACTED] felt he could not continue to fire due to the known location of other officers and the subject's family that would then have been in his backdrop. Once the subject was within approximately 5 to 10 feet of [REDACTED], he turned to his right and began running through the neighbor's front yard along the front of their home. [REDACTED] could then see the subject under the streetlight.

[REDACTED] described what he observed of the subject as he ran past him, stating "There's streetlight behind him. I could see that he has the, his shirt off. However, its uh, there's something foreign in his arm, it appeared to me. Um, it was unnatural, like unhuman. Um, I believed he was still armed at that point. He turns towards the front yard that I'm in, and um, I train my rifle on him as he's running away, but there's a house in the background. And um, I fired again, probably an additional, maybe uh, six to eight rounds. Um, and that's a guess or approximate guess, I don't know. Um, he fell down. He fell face first onto the, onto the driveway." [REDACTED] later added that when he fired this second group of shots, he still believed the subject to be armed and noted an unnatural "dangling" of the subject's right arm.

[REDACTED] and the other officers began to converge on the subject as he lay in the neighbor's driveway. Officers, including [REDACTED], took cover behind a nearby tree and gave the subject commands. [REDACTED] and other officers then approached the subject and attempted to place him in handcuffs. Upon seeing the extent of the subject's injuries, they quickly abandoned the idea of attempting to handcuff the subject and began to render medical aid.

Immediately after the shooting, [REDACTED] heard the subject's father yelling profanities at the subject and "basically saying that he came out and fired."

While officers were rendering aid to the subject, [REDACTED] ran back to his patrol vehicle and retrieved his medical kit. [REDACTED] returned to the subject with the medical kit. [REDACTED] put on gloves, gave other officers a tourniquet, and prepared to place chest seals on the subject as EMS arrived on scene.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

When asked about the weather and lighting conditions at the time, [REDACTED] stated the weather was fine, but there was “definitely poor lighting on the side of the house.” [REDACTED] stated there were no exterior lights on the side of the subject’s home where the incident occurred. The only lighting of the area was provided by ambient light coming from inside the home itself.

When asked if he feared for the safety of himself, other officers, or the subject’s family outside at the time of the shooting, [REDACTED] stated, “Every one of it, yeah, I feared for officer’s safety, um the family’s safety, I mean, the whole house was um, there was officers on perimeter of the whole house. Um, the last thing I heard was someone ‘show me your hands,’ then a gunshot, then nothing else. I feared for my officers’ safety. I feared for the, uh, family’s safety, especially as he’s running back towards them in that direction. And then, um, obviously, the safety of myself.”

When asked, [REDACTED] stated that he believed the subject was firing at officers when he fired his gun. [REDACTED] did not believe he was being shot at himself as he did not think the subject saw him at the time he fired. [REDACTED] recalled the subject being aware of officers’ presence outside the home and making statements indicative of wanting them to leave just prior to his crashing through the window and firing the gun.

When asked what he thought the subject was trying to do at the time he started crawling towards him, [REDACTED] stated, “I still perceived him as an imminent threat. Um, I fully believed he still had the firearm, and he wanted to use it, and he was running towards officers and his family.”

When asked how he felt when the subject unexpectedly came out of the house through the window and fired his gun, [REDACTED] stated, “Um, like you’re in danger, a lot of danger. I knew he was armed. His father said that. I knew that he was, um, under the influence of psychedelics. Um, I knew that he previously shot and when he came out and shot again, I feared for officers’ safety, my safety and the family’s safety.”

When asked if he felt there were any other options available to him at the time he fired other than the use of deadly force [REDACTED] shook his head no and stated, “I couldn’t have. I couldn’t see anything else that deemed fit.”

When asked where he believed his rounds hit, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated he was aiming for center mass when he fired.

When asked if he felt he had the opportunity to give the subject a warning at any point prior to firing, [REDACTED] stated, “No.”

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ reported he was the first Officer to return fire after the subject fired his weapon outside the home.

██████████ stated he believed his actions were consistent with his training. Likewise, ██████████ stated he did not believe any actions taken by the other officers involved were inappropriate or criminal.

██████████

While working his normal patrol duties, ██████████ was dispatched to 1309 Yellowstone Road for what he recalled was dispatched as a disturbance where two males were arguing, and one of the males had a firearm. ██████████ did not recall receiving any additional updates from dispatch.

When ██████████ arrived at 1309 Yellowstone Road he observed ██████████ was standing on the front porch speaking to two females. The two females were later identified as Christian's sisters. One of the sisters notified officers that her father, Ferrel, was in the house with her brother, Christian, who had a firearm. She also stated Christian had fired the gun inside the home prior to officers arriving at the residence.

██████████ and ██████████ moved the two sisters away from the residence and into the roadway (Yellowstone Road). Ofc Perez and Officer Franklin arrived at the residence and took a position at the rear of the residence to begin setting up a perimeter. ██████████ remained in the roadway with the sisters (Genesis and Jacquelyn) and ██████████ took a position behind a large tree in the front yard between 1309 Yellowstone Road and 1315 Yellowstone Road.

Additional officers began arriving on scene, including Investigator Ondercin, Officer Dugan, ██████████ and Officer El Biri.

██████████ made contact with Ferrel on the phone and heard Ferrel yell "get your finger off the trigger." This information was relayed to other officers on scene over the radio. During that time, ██████████ heard Ferrel and Christian yelling and arguing inside the home.

Officers at the rear perimeter notified other officers on scene over the radio that they had observed Christian at the back door.

██████████ remained at his location behind the large tree. Ferrel opened the front door, motioned for officers to enter, and then walked away leaving the door open. No officers entered the residence.

██████████ requested a negotiator to respond to the location and a squad was

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

requested by another officer to stage at a nearby location. As the incident progressed, a SWAT team response was also requested.

Ferrel finally exited the residence, leaving the front door open. While exiting, Ferrel made statements to officers about Christian taking psychedelics.

Christian then stood at the open front door. Christian had the firearm in his hand, finger on the trigger, and waved the gun above his head in a manic way. Christian yelled indiscernible statements until he shut the door.

After a few minutes, [REDACTED] heard a loud crash/breaking sound coming from the north side of the residence between 1309 Yellowstone Road and 1305 Yellowstone Road. He also heard Officer Perez yell something to the effect of “show me your hands” or “stop.”

[REDACTED] heard one gunshot. He was unsure who had fired and began walking north towards the side yard between 1309 Yellowstone Road and 1305 Yellowstone Road. [REDACTED] then heard “a volley of gunfire”, causing him to return to cover behind the large tree in the front yard. He was unable to observe anything and only heard the gunfire. [REDACTED] was able to discern the gunfire as rifle rounds due to the louder percussive sound.

The gunfire stopped for “one second.” [REDACTED] then saw Christian running from the side yard between 1309 Yellowstone Road and 1305 Yellowstone Road. He described Christian as a figure with dreads and no shirt. Christian began running towards the roadway, then made a sharp right turn and began running towards the driveway of 1305 Yellowstone Road. [REDACTED] said, “I knew he had a gun and was possibly armed and a threat. That’s when I began to go northbound, and I discharged my weapon.” [REDACTED] believed he fired his gun approximately 5-6 times and believed he was approximately 20 yards from Christian.

While firing his weapon, [REDACTED] heard rifle rounds being fired. He could not recall hearing his own gunfire. The additional gunfire from the rifle stopped when [REDACTED] stopped firing. He then observed [REDACTED] exit the side yard.

Christian continued to run towards the driveway of 1305 Yellowstone Road. He eventually fell to the ground in the driveway on his left side. Officers were unable to observe his hands and began giving Christian commands to show his hands. Christian did not respond. Officers then approached and began rendering aid to Christian.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

During the incident, [REDACTED] did not provide any commands to Christian, nor did he believe there was an opportunity to give commands. Christian made no direct statements during the incident.

[REDACTED] stated that he fired his gun because Christian “was an imminent threat. He already, uh, fired the weapon before we arrived from what the females outside told us... he’s clearly not in the right state of mind, his father said he was on psychedelics... possibly going through some other mental health issues.” [REDACTED] was also unsure if the gunfire prior to him firing his weapon was Christian firing a gun, or officers. All he knew was that Christian was armed and that he was a threat.

[REDACTED] feared for his safety, the safety of other officers on scene, and for the safety of the family members on scene. [REDACTED] believed Christian was “not in the right state of mind” and he was “clearly a danger to everybody there.”

[REDACTED] believed his actions were consistent with his training and he did not believe he had any other options available to him other than using deadly force.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was not specifically dispatched to respond to the call for service on Yellowstone Road. However, he heard the radio traffic for the call while in the jail completing an unrelated assignment. [REDACTED] chose to respond voluntarily. [REDACTED] recalled the radio traffic for the call involved information to the effect of an argument between a father and son and the father possessed a gun while the two were involved in some sort of domestic dispute.

[REDACTED] was working as [REDACTED] Officer El Biri at the time of this incident. Officer El Biri drove himself and [REDACTED] to the scene from the jail. While traveling to the scene [REDACTED] heard additional radio traffic relative to the incident. [REDACTED] recalled hearing on the police radio that officers set up a perimeter around the house. It was the son who possessed the gun, and both the son and father were still inside the house. [REDACTED] also stated that around the time of his arrival, other CHPD officers had requested a negotiator and SWAT respond to the scene.

[REDACTED] had previously interacted with the subject prior to this incident. [REDACTED] relayed he had previously responded to an overdose call placed by the subject. On that occasion, the subject reported that his friend had overdosed on drugs. The individual who overdosed was given Narcan and recovered. [REDACTED] drove the subject home to his residence on Yellowstone Road at the conclusion of that incident.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ also previously responded to the subject's home to locate the subject after the subject was reported by South Euclid Police to have been seen on surveillance video walking out of a Planet Fitness gym in South Euclid with a phone (that was apparently stolen). ██████████ spoke with the subject's father at the home. The subject's father advised ██████████ the subject was not home.

At the time ██████████ responded to the call for service on August 29, 2024. He was aware that the subject of this most recent call was the same individual described above he previously interacted with on the overdose call and attempted to locate on the theft complaint. ██████████ could not recall having ever responded to the home or interacted with the subject's father or sisters outside the previously described incidents.

██████████ believed CHPD Officers ██████████, Ondercin, Guyton, Dugan, and Franklin were already on scene upon his arrival.

When ██████████ and Officer El Biri arrived, they parked to the south of the subject residence on Yellowstone Road. Upon exiting his patrol vehicle, ██████████ removed the patrol rifle from the vehicle and chambered a cartridge into the weapon. ██████████ approached ██████████, who was standing behind a tree near and to the south of the front door of the subject residence. ██████████ advised ██████████ that the subject was observed with a gun in his hand. Later in the interview, ██████████ added that he was told the subject had his finger on the trigger at the time ██████████ saw the subject at the front door. ██████████ believed he also overheard radio traffic, around this time that the subject was walking around inside the house. ██████████ asked ██████████ to retrieve his patrol rifle from his vehicle for him. ██████████ went back towards his patrol vehicle with Officer El Biri to retrieve ██████████ rifle for him. While doing so, ██████████ realized ██████████ car was positioned too far forward or towards the subject residence to safely do so. ██████████ then began to return towards ██████████ position. At some point around this time, ██████████ heard the subject's father tell officers the subject "might be on psychedelics."

In describing his actions immediately preceding and during the shooting, ██████████ stated, "Um, as I'm half covered behind the tree, I believe Officer El Biri stayed back here (pointed to location on diagram south of subject residence). Um, I heard a, I heard one single, what I believed to be a gunshot. It was a pop. It was a smaller, smaller calib, caliber round. Um, and there was kind of a moment of pause. And I started thinking in myself, did he just, did he just shoot himself? Um, and again at some point, I can't recall if it was after that one or the second pop I heard, I believe I radioed 'Shots fired. Shots fired.' And again, it's, it's very, it was after I heard the pop. I

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

heard the second pop, and it appeared to have come from the front door area here [REDACTED] marked an overheard diagram at / near the front door of the subject residence with a marker). The subject's last known location that [REDACTED] was aware of. [REDACTED] also mentioned it has, he's in the front door with the gun. So, the sounds came from this area [REDACTED] again marked the area of the center front of the subject home). Now I don't know, and I can't recall if I heard a louder, um, a louder gunshot, um, but I, again I didn't know if he was firing from this front door. It was very dark in this front door area.

Um, we had all these guys out here (motions over diagram in the area of the subject's front yard on diagram) so when I heard the pop, pop, I can't recall if the louder noise came before or after I fired. So, seeing [REDACTED] here, he only had a handgun, very low visibility, I may have been on this side of the tree, and I fired two to three rounds into his last known position. Given that two officers and his family were standing out front and this is the last known location given by [REDACTED], I believe it was over the radio. Um, so I fired twice, or two to three times in this direction (motions to front door area on diagram).

At that point, again, I don't know if I called shots fired again. Um, I see someone running from this direction here. The front of the house which I believe to be, uh, at that point I saw him continue to run this was through bushes and as he's running away, he is, I saw him like this, run sideways (demonstrated awkward posture/ body positioning with body leaning left and right arm extended out and up to the side with right hand turned downward and back). Again, pretty far distance, looked like, he was running like this (repeated demonstration of the subject's arm/body positioning). [REDACTED] began to run this way. I pointed my rifle in that direction 'cause again it sounded like more shots were going off. Um, I didn't have a clear shot 'cause [REDACTED] running in front of me. Because' he's running away with his hand like this, (again demonstrated awkward hand/body posture of subject) um, more fire, more shots were heard, and I believe I got over the radio. I don't know if I went through and you could hear me, I said 'Watch your crossfire.' 'cause I knew that the house was surrounded. I just didn't know who was on this back end here. So, as he's running, he finally came to a rest in this driveway."

Officers approached and then began to render aid to the subject. [REDACTED] himself attempted to hold back one of the subject's sisters, who was distraught. Around that time, [REDACTED] realized his BWC was not on, and he activated the camera.

[REDACTED] and other officers then began to search the area for a firearm discarded by the subject. [REDACTED] marked the map where he believed the

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

subject's firearm was located and stated "I'm unaware of exactly where he shot. I believed him to be shooting from this direction."

After helping to contain the subject's family members from approaching the subject in the moments immediately following the shooting [REDACTED] returned to the police station.

[REDACTED] described the lighting at the time of the incident as "very dark."

[REDACTED] shared with investigators that he believed the subject's family stated the subject had fired a gun inside the home prior to the arrival of police, while he was on scene.

When asked if he himself saw the subject at the front of the house with the gun at the same time, [REDACTED] reported he had seen the subject at that location with the gun in his hand and finger on the trigger, [REDACTED] reported he had a slightly different angle than [REDACTED] and could not see the subject at that time.

[REDACTED] explained that he was not sure exactly where the gunfire he heard, prior to the police shooting, was coming from, but believed it was in the general vicinity of the front of the home as that was the subject's last known location. [REDACTED] stated "I was attempting to, you know, believed him to have a handgun, the first pop, second pop, fired rounds into the front door, um, in order to give covering fire for [REDACTED] here and the other officers, and um, Officer Guyton, and the family here, he was in the front door." [REDACTED] stated his point of aim was the front door, but it was partially obstructed by "some type of structure" due to the angle he was standing at in relation to the front door.

When asked what his decision to fire was based on, [REDACTED] stated, "Based on his last known location. Where [REDACTED] was. Um, and the other officers out here."

When asked, [REDACTED] said he did believe the subject was firing his weapon at the time [REDACTED] fired. [REDACTED] believed the first and second popping sounds he heard was the subject firing his weapon.

When asked where he first saw the subject, [REDACTED] stated, "So I, I did not have visual on the subject." [REDACTED] then clarified, "So, after, after I fired, he, again he, I was a little further back. He comes running out. I don't know if there's a front yard. I don't, I'm not. I can't tell you exactly where, but I did see him running from this general direction and running away, this way (motioned/marked the diagram in the direction of the neighboring property to the north).

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ did not see the subject when he fired his rifle towards the front door of the home. When asked, ██████████ stated he stopped firing before he saw the subject. ██████████ explained that once he did observe the subject, he followed the subject through the front yards into the neighboring yard to the north. ██████████ saw the subject come to a rest in the neighboring driveway. ██████████ then briefly directed his rifle at the subject, believing he may still be armed and may attempt to reengage officers in gunfire.

When asked further about the odd posturing of the subject's right hand and arm that he observed, ██████████ stated at the time he observed the subject running away with this odd posture he was not sure if the subject was still armed and thought it was possible at that moment the subject was still armed and may have been firing behind himself towards officers and that could have explained the subject's awkward hand/arm positioning at the time. ██████████ explained that he did not clearly see the subject as he ran, noting it was dark, and the subject was a significant distance away from him at the time. ██████████ could not tell at that moment what the subject was actually doing beyond running away from his direction. ██████████ stated he did not reengage the subject with additional gunfire, due to his positioning, having previously noted ██████████ was between him and the subject and concerned about crossfire and the possibility of unintentionally striking an officer if he were to fire.

When asked if he feared for his own safety or that of the other officers or the subject's family outside at the time of the shooting, ██████████ said "yes." When asked to describe what lead to his fear for his and others safety, ██████████ said, "Um, his last known position. Hearing two, uh, gunshots, small caliber rounds, which he, believed him to have. Um, and the positioning of the other officers as well."

When asked if he perceived any other options available to him other than the use of deadly force at the moment he fired towards the front door of the home, ██████████ stated, "I did not."

When asked if he felt he ever had an opportunity to give any type of warning to the subject prior to firing, ██████████ said "No."

██████████ did not hear the subject make any verbal statements before or after the shooting.

██████████ observed other CHPD officers render aid to the subject immediately after the shooting and believed he saw some of these officers specifically doing chest compressions on the subject.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

When asked if he felt his actions were consistent with his training, [REDACTED] stated "Yes."

When asked if he observed any actions by the other involved officers that could have been considered inappropriate or criminal in nature, [REDACTED] said "No."

[REDACTED] told agents he believed he activated his BWC at the beginning of the incident and believed it was on and recording throughout the entirety of the incident until after the shooting occurred. [REDACTED] noticed the indicator light on his BWC was green (indicative of not recording) while he was attempting to keep the subject's family away from the subject just after the shooting occurred. Upon noticing the green light on his BWC, [REDACTED] hit the button on the device to begin recording. [REDACTED] was unaware he had stopped his BWC from recording while on scene, just prior to the shooting taking place. When told his BWC recorded both before and after he fired, but not during the actual time he fired, [REDACTED] told agents that based on this information he must have inadvertently turned his BWC off. [REDACTED] explained to agents that his BWC is turned on and off with a single short push of the recording button. [REDACTED] believed he inadvertently and unknowingly must have bumped the button to turn off the recording just prior to him firing his weapon.

Dispatch-Related Information

The 911 call requesting police respond to the subject's residence was placed by his sister, Genisis. An additional 13 calls were placed to police reporting the shooting by nearby residents who heard gunfire. After the shooting occurred, Genisis again called 911 and requested an ambulance respond to the scene.

The original 911 call placed by Genisis preceding the shooting was 3 minutes and 54 seconds long. A female dispatcher answered and said, "911 what's the location of your emergency?" Genisis responded and provided the address of 1309 Yellowstone Road and requested police response to the single-family residence for a verbal altercation between her father and brother. Genisis also said a firearm was involved and that someone was crying. Yelling between multiple subjects could be heard in the background.

At 00:38, Genisis stated that her brother had the gun in his hand and his finger on the trigger. Genisis was unable to provide what type of gun her brother was holding. Yelling from multiple subjects could be heard in the background.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

At 01:00, the name "Christian" could be heard in the background and someone asked, "what's wrong?", and "what is going on?". Most of the yelling and background conversation was unintelligible.

At 01:05, a second female could be heard in the background yelling the name "Christian." They were also yelling at him to either "calm down" or "come down" (background noise prevented a clear distinction). The second female continued to yell louder and became more panicked. The yelling continued as mostly unintelligible.

At 01:20, Genesis yelled, "Christian put the gun down." Someone else in the background could be heard saying "no." More yelling and unintelligible loud conversation continued. Someone in the background asked, "are you crazy?" and the yelling continued.

At 01:25, a male could be heard yelling in the background and Genesis said "dad, I'm already on the phone with them."

At 01:35, Genesis said, "stop chasing him around when he got a gun."

At 01:40, Genesis pleaded with her dad to "get away from him."

The dispatcher then began speaking again and requested Genesis get herself to a "safe place." Yelling and crying could be heard in the background.

At 02:25, Genesis said there were four people at the residence; she listed the people present as her father, brother, sister, and herself. As she was speaking, Genesis was exiting the residence with the second female (her sister).

At 02:27, Genesis confirmed her brother's name was Christian Tyson Thomas, an 18-year-old male, born on June 11.

At 03:08, the dispatcher asked the caller why her brother had a gun in his hand. Genesis responded by saying "I have no idea ma'am." Genesis continued by stating she was about to go to sleep when she heard yelling, so she got up to find out what the issue was. She then observed her sister "in tears" and she heard "a gun pop." Genesis was unsure where the bullet went when the gun was fired.

The police arrived on scene and the call ended.

After the shooting occurred, when Genesis again called 911 and requested an ambulance she could be heard asking "who the fuck shot him?" A male believed to be Ferrel responded by stating, "he fucking came out here, fucking fired the fucking thing" [00:20].



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Genesis continued to plead on the phone for the ambulance and for someone to help her brother who was lying on the ground “bleeding out.”

Multiple people can be heard yelling in the background, most of the statements were unintelligible.

Video Recordings

The subject's home had a Yeskamo branded Wi-Fi camera affixed above and near the front door of the home. The subject's home also had a Ring doorbell camera next to the front door of the home. A second Ring doorbell camera was located inside the home on the south wall of the three seasons room. This camera's field of view likely would capture activity inside the three seasons room if it were functional and recording at the time of the incident.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Neither company reported they were in possession of nor turned over any relevant video recordings. The subject's home had additional security cameras that were not located in areas that would have captured any part of the shooting.

Ferrel's cellular phone was collected from the scene. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Calvin Lewis, who lives at 1315 Yellowstone Road, directly south of the subject's home, had home surveillance cameras that recorded limited short video clips before and after the shooting. Nothing located on these surveillance video recordings is not better documented or noted elsewhere. These video recordings did not provide any additional value to this investigation.

A search of the surrounding area located additional homes with surveillance/ doorbell cameras. However, none of these surrounding cameras recorded any video relevant to this investigation.

All three involved officers had BWC devices that were utilized during the incident. Note [REDACTED] BWC was turned off moments before he fired his weapon and was turned back on moments after the shooting ended. As noted earlier, [REDACTED] stopping his BWC just prior to the shooting was reported by [REDACTED] to have been both accidental and unknown to him at the time. A review of the video/incident

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

found no evidence to the contrary. Most of the witness officers also had BWCs and recorded the incident.

At no point on any of the involved or witness officer's BWC recordings is the subject clearly visible.

Refer to the investigative reports written detailing the review of the BWC recordings of the involved and witnessing officers for a more thorough review of those recordings.

The following tables note some of the more significant frames, times, and/or actions of the three involved officers as captured on their BWC recordings:

██████████ BWC:

Frame	13,289
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:39
Activity/Notes	A loud percussive sound (possible gunshot) began.

Frame	13,342
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:43
Activity/Notes	Officer Perez can be heard exclaiming "Show me your hands!"

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	13,361
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:44
Activity/Notes	<p>Just as Officer Perez finished the exclamation, "Show me your hands!" another loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began.</p> <p>This frame was included above as it is indicative of the poor quality/obstructed view of the BWC, presumably due to poor/ low light conditions and [REDACTED] rifle, hands, and arms blocking the camera's view from anything beyond them.</p>

Frame	13, 427
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:48
Activity/Notes	A loud percussive sound consistent with

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

	a gunshot is heard. Based on other evidence and interviews, this is believed to be the sound of the first cartridge being fired at the subject by [REDACTED]. The video itself is nearly completely black at the moment. Only a small portion of the frame contains any color, and it is not clear from the video what was happening.
--	---

Frame	13,432
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:49
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,436
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:49
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,440
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:49
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,449
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:50

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.
----------------	--

Frame	13,456
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:50
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,461
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:51
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,471
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:51
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it is not clear what was happening based on the video.

Frame	13,507
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:54
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was partially black/obscured but appeared to show the garden bed of the neighboring property with small rocks visible as a barrier between the yard and garden bed in the lower right portion of the video.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Frame	13,538
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:56
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The video was nearly all black and it was not clear from the video what was occurring.

Frame	13,543
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:56
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. A shape that appeared to be [REDACTED] right arm/elbow took up most of the frame. On the left portion of the frame and bottom of the frame, the garden bed of the neighboring property appeared to be visible, indicative of [REDACTED] then standing in the neighbor's garden bed.

Frame	13,547
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:56
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. Most of the frame was black and the camera appeared to mostly be obscured from further view by [REDACTED] right arm.

Frame	13,551
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:57
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Frame	13,555
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:57
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,561
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:57
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,566
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:58
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,569
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:58
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,575
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:58
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,578
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:58
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

	The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.
--	--

Frame	13,585
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:59
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,589
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:59
Activity/Notes	Another loud percussive sound began. The frame was again mostly black and did not clearly depict the scene.

Frame	13,637
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:21:02
Activity/Notes	The sound of presumed gunfire ended prior to this frame. Ferrel's voice had just stopped yelling "Christian." [REDACTED] BWC appeared to be pointed in the general direction of the subject's neighbor's driveway as a Black Lives Matter yard sign was visible in the lower center of the frame that was otherwise mostly black. A yellow arrow annotation was added to the frame to show location of the yard sign in the Amped Replay production made from this video.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ BWC:



Frame	12,396
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:39
Activity/Notes	A loud percussion sound, consistent with a gunshot is picked up on ██████████ BWC.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	12,450
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:342
Activity/Notes	A second loud percussion sound, consistent with a gunshot is picked up on [REDACTED] BWC.

Frame	12,501
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:46
Activity/Notes	A voice consistent with that of the subject's father yelled out, "Christian!" [REDACTED] began to step out from behind the tree and began to run towards the north side of the subject's home with his pistol in his right hand.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	12,535
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:48
Activity/Notes	The first of a group of tightly spaced percussive sounds consistent with gunfire began.

Frame	12,555
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:49
Activity/Notes	[REDACTED] BWC is indicative of him being on the driveway of the neighboring property and facing the roadway and away from the subject's home in this frame. [REDACTED], after having initially run toward the north side of the subject's residence, was now in the process of turning around and running back to the large tree in the neighbor's yard.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Frame	12,581
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:51
Activity/Notes	██████████ appeared to now be positioned behind the large tree, using it as cover momentarily.



Frame	12,646
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:55
Activity/Notes	Beginning around this frame, ██████████ left his position behind the tree (cover) and began to run towards the north side of the subject's home.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	12,684
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:58
Activity/Notes	<p>██████████ continued to advance towards the north side of the subject's home. ██████████ shadow is visible in this frame being projected onto a tree in the front yard of the subject's home near the center of the yard. ██████████ shadow is indicative of him then having his arms extended out in front of him pointing his pistol in the direction he was then running. A spotlight annotation was placed over ██████████ shadow on this frame.</p>

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	12,697
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:20:59
Activity/Notes	The last percussive sound consistent with gunfire began.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	12,738
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:21:01
Activity/Notes	<p>██████████ continued running northbound. He was now near the edge of the subject's property and the home to the north. ██████████ and Investigator Ondercin were now visible on ██████████ BWC. Both ██████████ and Investigator Ondercin appeared to be converging on the suspect (who was not noticeably visible in the video. Spotlight annotations were added over Investigator Ondercin and ██████████. Text boxes were added below the two officers, and green arrows were also added over the frame to indicate their direction of travel.</p>

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

██████████ BWC:



Frame	59
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:17:57
Activity/Notes	As ██████████ walked across the driveways of 1321 and 1331 Yellowstone, which share a common/connected driveway apron, a fellow officer can be heard on ██████████ police radio state, "Alright, yeah he has the gun in his hand at the front door." At the end of this transmission ██████████ ██████████ immediately turned around and began to walk towards his cruiser.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121



Frame	123
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:18:01
Activity/Notes	██████████ shadow is present as he was now turned away from the subject residence and began to return to his police cruiser.

Frame	185
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024
Activity/Notes	██████████ began unlocking the front passenger door of his patrol vehicle. While doing so, an officer can be heard saying on the police radio "He walked back into the house." At the same time, ██████████ stated to someone not visible on the video, "Hey, keep cover behind the cruiser." and the recording ended.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Note – [REDACTED] second BWC video began approximately 3 minutes and 20 seconds after the following BWC video ended. The officer-involved shooting occurred during the time the last BWC video ended and this BWC video began. As this BWC video began, [REDACTED] was now standing to the right (south) of the front door of the home located at 1305 Yellowstone Road. [REDACTED] rifle was pointed towards the driveway of 1305 Yellowstone.



Frame	8
Video-Embedded Timestamp	08/29/2024 22:21:30
Activity/Notes	The subject, Christian, is visible in the upper left corner of the frame. Christian appeared to be lying on his stomach facing away from the direction of approaching officers. Christian's hands and feet are not clearly discernable at this point in the video. [REDACTED] rifle is pointed in the general direction of Christian.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Conclusion

On the evening of Thursday, August 29, 2024, Genisis called 911 and reported that her brother, Christian, had fired a gun inside the family home moments ago. Genisis, who sounded frantic and scared during the call, told the dispatcher her brother still had the gun in his hand and had a finger on the trigger. Genisis told the dispatcher her father was arguing with her brother. Genisis repeatedly asked for the police to hurry in responding to their home. Multiple Cleveland Heights police officers responded to the scene. Later, additional police officers from neighboring jurisdictions also responded to help control the scene.

██████████ was the first officer to arrive on scene. ██████████ was the second to arrive on scene. ██████████ and ██████████ spoke with Genisis and Jacquelyn, sisters of the subject, outside the family home upon their arrival. These two officers continued to gather additional information regarding what had and was currently transpiring inside the home as more police officers began to arrive and take up positions surrounding the family home. In the ensuing minutes, officers learned the subject and his father were still inside the home arguing and the subject was believed to still be armed.

The subject and his father could be heard yelling and arguing inside the home by the multiple officers who had stationed themselves around the home. Someone, presumably the subject, opened the back door of the home which led into the garage and exclaimed “whoa, whoa, whoa” as if surprised to see police stationed there. The man door was quickly shut without anyone exiting. The subject refused requests that were yelled to him from an officer at the rear of the home to put down his gun and come outside with his hands up.

Officers attempted to convince the subject's father to exit the home. After initially refusing to exit the home, the subject's father did eventually exit the home through the front door. The subject's father left the door open behind him.

Once outside, the subject's father, Ferrel, told the officers his son was still inside the home and cautioned the officers that the subject had a loaded gun. Ferrel further told the officers the subject was likely under the influence of psychedelic mushrooms and not grounded in reality.

The subject himself came to the open front door and was seen holding and waving a gun in his hand by ██████████, who was stationed near a large tree on the south side of the subject's front yard. ██████████ reported this information over his police radio to the other officers on scene. The subject then shut the front door to the home.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Moments after closing the front door to the home, the subject went upstairs briefly before coming back downstairs and to the back of the home.

Within these first 12 minutes and 15 seconds of the first officer arriving on scene, the group of officers had collectively obtained additional background on the subject and his state of mind from the subject's sisters and father, safely escorted the two sisters away from the front door of the home, convinced the subject's father to exit the home, set up a perimeter around the home, confirmed they would like EMS/ paramedics to stage nearby the scene in case they may become needed, requested a hostage negotiator respond, and further requested the SWAT team be notified and called out to assist in peacefully resolving the situation.

Approximately 16 minutes and 44 seconds after the first officer arrived on scene a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot could be heard coming from the rear of the home. Evidence later located inside the home appeared consistent with this sound equating to the subject having fired a cartridge from behind the man door to the garage, northbound through a glass window into the three-seasons room, before becoming lodged in an internal beam inside the three-seasons room.

At the moment this presumptive gunshot was fired by the subject, [REDACTED] was stationed near the northwest corner of the home in the neighbor's front flower bed. [REDACTED] was stationed near a large tree at the south end of the front yard near the driveway and close to the front of the home. [REDACTED] was stationed near or in the front yard of 1321 Yellowstone, two houses south of the subject's home.

Officer Perez, who was stationed at the back of the home. observed the subject run across the three-seasons room almost immediately before a second loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot occurred. Officer Perez loudly exclaimed "Show me your hands!" Just as Officer Perez finished the exclamation, "Show me your hands!" the second loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began.

The subject, after having run across the three-seasons room of his house from south to north, jumped out/through a wall made of screened windows. The subject landed below the window and began to crawl and then run westbound towards the front of his home along the side of the unlit home under the cover of darkness and shrubbery filling the dark unlit side yard. The second loud percussive sound heard by the officers appeared consistent with a second bullet being fired by the subject after he jumped out/through the window. Approximately four seconds later, [REDACTED] began to fire at the subject from his position at the southwest corner of the home just north of the subject. The pistol fired by the subject was later recovered from this side yard approximately 12.219 feet away from the ground directly below the window, the

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

subject jumped out/through moments before. A spent cartridge casing matched to the subject's pistol was also recovered just west of the gun itself. The subject's pistol, which did not contain a magazine, had damage indicative of having been shot, rendering it incapable of further functioning.

██████████ was the first officer to fire at the subject and began to do so approximately 4 seconds after the subject fired his second shot once outside the home. Based on the location of cartridge casings matched to ██████████ rifle, his reporting of events, and the review of BWC recordings, ██████████ is believed to have fired six shots at the subject between the time the subject fired his second shot once outside the window and the point where the subject reached ██████████ general position and began to turn to his right, northbound. Once, the subject turned northbound and ran past ██████████ is believed to have fired 10 additional rounds at the subject.

██████████, upon hearing what was likely the second shot fired by the subject, began to run towards the north side of the subject's home towards the sound of that gunshot. Once ██████████ began to fire, ██████████ quickly turned around and began to run back towards the large tree at the south end of the subject's front yard for cover. ██████████ remained at the tree momentarily before running towards the northwest corner of the subject's home along the side yard where the subject was running from. ██████████ is believed to have fired four rounds as he ran across the subject's front yard from south the north.

██████████ fired 5 rounds from the south side of the front yard of 1315 Yellowstone/the north side of the front yard of 1321 Yellowstone towards the front door of the subject's home, having heard the sound of gunfire being exchanged and believing the subject was still in that location, as he was told the subject was seen there just moments earlier.

The subject himself, after reaching the front edge of his home and having turned to his right, continued to run northbound across the front yard of 1305 Yellowstone Road near the front of the home. All officers had stopped firing by the time the subject reached the driveway of 1305 Yellowstone Road. Once the subject reached the neighbor's driveway, he fell or collapsed, landing face down on the driveway with his head to the west and feet to the east.

All three officers who discharged their weapons believed the subject to be armed and an imminent threat of serious bodily harm or death to his family, other officers and/or themselves when they fired.

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

All three of the officers had stopped firing within approximately 11 seconds of the first shot being fired by [REDACTED]

Officers quickly grouped together and tactically approached the subject using a tree as partial cover while giving the subject orders to show the officers his hands. The subject did not comply with the officers' orders. The officers then quickly approached the subject. Officers attempted to place the subject in handcuffs, noted the extent of injuries, quickly abandoned this idea, and began rendering medical aid to the subject. The officers began rendering aid to the subject just over 2 minutes after the last gunshot was heard. Ultimately, the subject succumbed to his wounds and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

In the moments after the shooting concluded, Ferrel, Jacquelyn, and Genisis made statements to law enforcement while officers attempted to keep them away from the subject and move them out of the scene. During this time, Genisis complained that the subject was not being loaded into an ambulance and removed from the scene. Ferrell complained that he should not have listened to the officers' requests to leave the house and should have remained inside the house with the subject. Ferrel also complained that no one would tell him if his son was alive or dead.

Officers from neighboring jurisdictions responded to the scene immediately after the shooting occurred to help provide scene security and control of the scene. South Euclid Police Corporal Shauna McCann (Corporal McCann) was one of the officers who responded to the scene immediately after the shooting. Corporal McCann spoke with Ferrel in the moments after the shooting. During their conversation, Ferrel stated, "I know he (the subject) fucked up. I know he fucked up. But y'all told me to bring him, to leave him in the house by himself. I should have stayed in there with him." While he continued to explain to Corporal McCann what transpired, Ferrel again shared that he did not believe he should have listened to the police and exited the house. Ferrel then stated "But he (the subject) did it, he, motherfucker, know what the fuck he did to himself, goddamn it. Mother fucker."

Moments later Ferrel stated, "This is my fault. This aint y'all fault. It's not y'all fault. Y'all doing y'all job. He came out opening fire."

Ferrel complained to Corporal McCann that he had been waiting an excessive amount of time to be told where his son was and if he was alive. While expressing these frustrations, Ferrel explained that waiting even five minutes in an ambulance before leaving for a hospital was a long time. Ferrel continued, "Five minutes is an eternity for somebody who just got shot. And I know y'all had to shoot him because he already came out the house firing a fucking weapon. I should have fucking stayed in there. He

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency.



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



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

would have never come out there doin' that. If he would have shot anybody, it would have been me. It would have been all right."

Ferrel made similar comments about the subject being responsible for his death to a woman who appeared to be Ferrel's mother upon her arrival at the scene. Jacquelyn and Genisis were transported to the police station after the scene was secured. At the police station, Jacquelyn and Genisis declined to participate in interviews with Cleveland Heights Police. Eventually, Ferrel and the remaining family left the scene for the night. The subject's father and adult sister, who were present at the time of this incident, did not respond to requests to participate in interviews with BCI agents after having obtained legal counsel.

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 Nick Valente. SA Valente can be reached via email at nicholas.valente@OhioAGO.gov.