



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



2024-2718

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 248 E. 11th Avenue,  
Columbus, OH 43201 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** [REDACTED] (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 10/14/2024  
**Activity Location:** Law Offices of Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton and Lipperman –  
Business – 4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220  
**Author:** SA James H Gore, #168

**Narrative:**

On the morning of September 10, 2024 at approximately 0130 hours, Lamine Mahmoudi (Mahmoudi), of 235 Chittenden Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, was killed during a confrontation with officers from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD). Mahmoudi was armed with a meat cleaver and butcher knife, and the incident took place in the rear parking lot of the CPD Precinct 4 substation. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by CPD to handle the Officer-Involved Critical Incident investigation. The six involved officers were identified as:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

On the afternoon October 14, 2024, BCI Special Agents (SA) James Gore and Kyle Douglass interviewed [REDACTED] at the Law Offices of Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman. The purpose of the interview was to obtain an account of the incident from [REDACTED] perspective. Also present with [REDACTED] was her legal counsel from the Fraternal Order of Police, attorney Nicole Wannemacher.

Prior to beginning the interview, SA Gore read and presented a "Criminal Investigation Notification" form to [REDACTED]. The form was an advice of [REDACTED] rights, and it also specified that the investigation was not administrative. [REDACTED] acknowledged her rights and signed the form.

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Ms. Wannemacher provided a printed statement from [REDACTED] which summarized her involvement in the incident and the events leading up to it. [REDACTED] was asked to read her statement aloud to refresh her memory. After reading, [REDACTED] concurred that it was an accurate account of her memory of the event, and she signed her statement.

[REDACTED] wrote in her statement:

*"On the day of this incident, we were informed during roll call that there had been an incident with an individual named Lamine Mahmoudi who resides in a duplex behind the substation (I believe it was 235 Chittenden Avenue). Officers working B company (2nd shift) had been called there because he had threatened to harm himself and/or others with a 33A (knife) and was likely having some sort of mental disturbance. The MCR (Mobile Crisis Response) Unit had responded. MCR are specially trained police officers and mental health professionals who are called out to handle calls for service for individuals in a mental health crisis. Due to the fact that no one else was in the residence and he was refusing help, there was no arrest or transport made and the officers left the residence. We were shown his photo, he appeared to be a male white and was bald with a beard. Sgt. Van Dusen told us to be on alert given the fact that his residence was in close proximity to the substation."*

[REDACTED] further described responding to Lamine Mahmoudi's home:

*"Almost immediately following roll call, there was a call of a person with a knife making threats at 235 Chittenden Avenue. The suspect was Lamine Mahmoudi. The MCR (Mobile Crisis Response) also responded, as well as some evening midwatch officers. I responded to the scene which was approximately 50 yards west and north of the alley from the substation. I took a position in the rear of the duplex which faces the alley. I was there for 5-10 minutes when the suspect opened the backdoor and I yelled at him to show his hands as I believe I saw a knife in his hand. He did not come outside and quickly closed the door. A social worker with MCR was making announcements on the LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device) for him to come out and talk. He did not open the door again. After approximately 30-45 minutes, we learned that there was no one else in the residence with the suspect. Since the suspect was not willing to come out or receive help and was not a threat to anyone but himself, we were instructed by Lt. Ingles and Sgt. Van Dusen to disengage. I backed out from behind the duplex and I walked from the location to the substation parking lot."*

[REDACTED] stated that from the substation parking lot, she observed Mahmoudi leave his building several times. She also saw him leave in a red car at least twice. [REDACTED] said she believed Mahmoudi may have changed his clothing each time, but she could not tell if he was armed with the knives when she saw him leave.

[REDACTED] statement continued:

*"Just before this incident, I was sitting in my cruiser in the substation parking lot eating dinner. I had my cruiser backed into a parking spot with the rear of my cruiser towards the substation and the front of my cruiser looking north. I had the window to my cruiser partially down and I heard [REDACTED] stated he's back and got a knife in his hand or*

words to that effect. I believe she also aired that he was back with a 33A, which is the ten code for knife. I quickly got out and walked around the back of my cruiser while drawing my firearm. I saw the suspect in the alley just north of the substation. Since it was approximately 1:30 in the morning, it was dark out but the substation parking lot has lights and I could see the suspect walking east. He had a knife in each hand (one appeared to be a large butcher knife and the other a meat cleaver). [REDACTED] was yelling at the suspect that we did not want to hurt him. I had my firearm in a "low-ready" position while watching the suspect.

There were multiple officers there and we essentially formed a half circle in the parking lot. [REDACTED] was at the most northern position, closest to the alley. [REDACTED] and I were closer to the substation and more to the west. [REDACTED] were also there. There were multiple commands being given to the suspect to put the knives down and that we wanted to help him. The CPD PTV (prison transport vehicle) was parked in the northwest corner of the parking lot. For a second, the suspect was behind it. Once he appeared from behind the PVT, I raised my firearm up to the "high-ready" position and the light from my weapon was on. He continued walking east and was getting close to [REDACTED]. I yelled at [REDACTED] to back up and he walked backwards (southeast) in the substation parking lot."

[REDACTED] explained that the "low-ready" and "high-ready" terms that she mentioned were positions of carry for an un-holstered handgun. Low-ready, she said, is where the muzzle is pointed toward the ground. With the high-ready position, she explained, the muzzle is pointed more toward the threat or target.

[REDACTED] expressed in her statement that Mahmoudi continued to ignore the commands and pleas of the officers:

"The suspect continued to walk east and we continued giving verbal commands. I repeatedly told the suspect that we wanted to help him. He stopped in the alley just steps north of the parking lot, he was approximately 5 or 6 parking spaces east of where the police PTV was parked. He looked directly at me. I tried to de-escalate the situation by telling him that we just wanted to get him help. [REDACTED] was to my right (east) and I told him to tase him if he got close enough. We were repeatedly telling him to drop the knife. He was approximately 15-20 feet to my north. He drew back his right arm (which was fully extended) straight back behind him and quickly swung his arm forward, like he was going to throw the knife or charge at us. Multiple officers yelled at him "don't do it" or words to that effect.

A few seconds later, the suspect seemed to direct his attention towards [REDACTED] who was the closest officer to him (probably within 15 feet). He turned and his body was bladed with his right side towards me. We yelled at him not to do it. He shrugged his shoulders (as if to signal he was not going to follow our commands) and started advancing toward [REDACTED]. He stepped into the parking lot of the substation, still with a knife in each hand, and I thought he was going to charge at [REDACTED] to stab him or throw his knives at him. Either way, I thought he would seriously injure or kill him. I immediately discharged my firearm at the suspect and I heard other officers firing at him. The suspect went down to the ground and dropped the knives. I stopped firing

*my weapon. I believe the other officers also stopped firing, as I did not hear any additional rounds being fired."*

██████████ reported that after they discharged their weapons, the officers approached Mahmoudi, secured him, and began rendering aid. ██████████ stated she held pressure on a wound while ██████████ performed chest compressions. ██████████ said after she was relieved by other officers and medics, she reported to the Columbus Police Training Academy.

While at the academy, ██████████ said she met with agents from BCI who photographed her and collected her firearm. From a round count that was conducted, ██████████ said she learned that she fired four rounds. ██████████ estimated that she was approximately fifteen to twenty feet from Mahmoudi when she fired.

██████████ concluded that her reaction to the lethal threat that she and the other officers faced was consistent with her training.

Copies of the Criminal Investigation Notification form, ██████████ statement, and audio-recorded interview are available for further review as attachments to this report.

#### References:

No references

#### Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: Criminal Investigation Notification CPD ██████████ 10-14-2024
- Attachment # 02: CPD ██████████ written statement 10-14-2024
- Attachment # 03: 10-14-2024 CPD ██████████ Interview – SA Gore, SA Douglass



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**Criminal Investigation Notification**

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

[Redacted]  
Printed Name of Interviewee

10/14/24 2:30  
Date / Time

[Redacted]  
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]  
BCI Agent (Signature)

[Signature]

**STATEMENT OF OFFICER [REDACTED], BADGE NO. [REDACTED]**

This statement is regarding my involvement in an incident that occurred on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, between approximately 1:30 a.m. and 1:35 a.m. in Columbus, Ohio. I am voluntarily providing this statement as part of the investigation being conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) into this matter.

My date of hire with the Columbus Division of Police (CPD or the Division) is [REDACTED]. My regular assignment is [REDACTED]. My regular duty hours are [REDACTED]. My regular days off are [REDACTED]. I was in the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I do not have any prior law enforcement experience but I was [REDACTED] while in the [REDACTED]. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology from The Ohio State University. I do not currently have any uses of force that have been found outside of policy.

I was wearing the CPD patrol uniform consisting of navy pants and short sleeved shirt that displayed my badge and has CPD patches on both shoulders. I was also wearing an external ballistic vest. I had my body worn camera (BWC) mounted on the outside of my vest and it was activated during this incident. I was carrying my division-issued Smith & Wesson 2.0 9mm service weapon which was loaded with division-issued ammunition. I am current in my range qualifications with this weapon. I was not carrying a backup firearm. I was not working with a partner. I was marked in as cruiser [REDACTED].

I do not wear glasses or contacts and my vision is good. I do not wear hearing aids and my hearing is good. I do not suffer from any disabilities. I was not taking any medication, prescription or over the counter, which could affect the performance of my duties. I was not under the influence of any alcohol. I did not work any overtime or special duty in the twenty-four (24) hours prior to my shift and I arrived at the start of my shift well-rested.

On the day of this incident, we were informed during roll call that there had been an incident with an individual named Lamine Mahmoudi who resides in a duplex behind the substation (I believe it was 235 Chittenden Avenue). Officers working B company (2<sup>nd</sup> shift) had been called there because he had threatened to harm himself and/or others with a 33A (knife) and was likely having some sort of mental disturbance. The MCR (Mobile Crisis Response) Unit had responded. MCR are specially trained police officers and mental health professionals who are called out to handle calls for service for individuals in a mental health crisis. Due to the fact that no one else was in the residence and he was refusing help, there was no arrest or transport made and the officers left the residence. We were shown his photo, he appeared to be a male white and was bald with a beard. Sgt. Van Dusen told us to be on alert given the fact that his residence was in close proximity to the substation.

Almost immediately following roll call, there was a call of a person with a knife making threats at 235 Chittenden Avenue. The suspect was Lamine Mahmoudi. The MCR (Mobile Crisis Response) also responded, as well as some evening midwatch officers. I responded to the scene which was approximately 50 yards west and north of the alley from the substation. I took a position in the rear of the duplex which faces the alley. I was there for 5-10 minutes when the suspect opened the backdoor and I yelled at him to show his hands as I believe I saw a knife in his hand. He did not come outside and quickly closed the door. A social worker with MCR was making announcements on the LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device) for him to come out and talk. He did not open the door again. After approximately 30-45 minutes, we learned that there was no one else in the residence with the suspect. Since the suspect was not willing to come out or receive help and was not a threat to anyone but himself, we were instructed by Lt. Ingles and

Sgt. Van Dusen to disengage. I backed out from behind the duplex and I walked from the location to the substation parking lot.

From the substation parking lot, I could see the suspect's residence. After we disengaged and were back at the substation, I saw the suspect multiple times. He came outside and I saw him over his fence. He also got into a red car and drove around. It seemed as if he was seeking our attention. It was also strange because each time I saw him, he had changed his clothes.

Just before this incident, I was sitting in my cruiser in the substation parking lot eating dinner. I had my cruiser backed into a parking spot with the rear of my cruiser towards the substation and the front of my cruiser looking north. I had the window to my cruiser partially down and I heard [REDACTED] stated he's back and got a knife in his hand or words to that effect. I believe she also aired that he was back with a 33A, which is the ten code for knife. I quickly got out and walked around the back of my cruiser while drawing my firearm. I saw the suspect in the alley just north of the substation. Since it was approximately 1:30 in the morning, it was dark out but the substation parking lot has lights and I could see the suspect walking east. He had a knife in each hand (one appeared to be a large butcher knife and the other a meat cleaver). [REDACTED] was yelling at the suspect that we did not want to hurt him. I had my firearm in a "low-ready" position while watching the suspect.

There were multiple officers there and we essentially formed a half circle in the parking lot. [REDACTED] was at the most northern position, closest to the alley. [REDACTED] and I were closer to the substation and more to the west. [REDACTED] were also there. There were multiple commands being given to the suspect to put the knives down and that we wanted to help him. The CPD PTV (prison transport vehicle) was parked in the northwest corner of the parking lot. For a second, the suspect was behind it. Once he



appeared from behind the PVT, I raised my firearm up to the "high-ready" position and the light from my weapon was on. He continued walking east and was getting close to [REDACTED] I yelled at [REDACTED] to back up and he walked backwards (southeast) in the substation parking lot.

The suspect continued to walk east and we continued giving verbal commands. I repeatedly told the suspect that we wanted to help him. He stopped in the alley just steps north of the parking lot, he was approximately 5 or 6 parking spaces east of where the police PTV was parked. He looked directly at me. I tried to de-escalate the situation by telling him that we just wanted to get him help. [REDACTED] was to my right (east) and I told him to tase him if he got close enough. We were repeatedly telling him to drop the knife. He was approximately 15-20 feet to my north. He drew back his right arm (which was fully extended) straight back behind him and quickly swung his arm forward, like he was going to throw the knife or charge at us. Multiple officers yelled at him "don't do it" or words to that effect.

A few seconds later, the suspect seemed to direct his attention towards [REDACTED] who was the closest officer to him (probably within 15 feet). He turned and his body was bladed with his right side towards me. We yelled at him not to do it. He shrugged his shoulders (as if to signal he was not going to follow our commands) and started advancing toward [REDACTED]. He stepped into the parking lot of the substation, still with a knife in each hand, and I thought he was going to charge at [REDACTED] to stab him or throw his knives at him. Either way, I thought he would seriously injure or kill him. I immediately discharged my firearm at the suspect and I heard other officers firing at him. The suspect went down to the ground and dropped the knives. I stopped firing my weapon. I believe the other officers also stopped firing, as I did not hear any additional rounds being fired.

We approached the suspect and other officers secured him. I aired for a medic. He was on the ground with his feet towards the alley and his head pointing towards the substation. Officers began rendering aid and I put on gloves to assist. [REDACTED] was performing chest compressions and I held pressure on the wounds to try and stop the bleeding. I remained with the suspect until I was relieved by other officers and medics had arrived on scene. I left the scene and went to the Columbus Police Training Academy. I waited there for BCI Agents to arrive. There they photographed me and collected my weapon. This ended my involvement in this incident.

I believe I fired four rounds at the suspect. This is based off the round count, as I had 14 rounds remaining. I believe I fired all four shots in rapid succession. I believe I was approximately 15-20 feet from the suspect at the time I fired. I fired from a standing position with a two-handed grip. I do not believe I used my sights. I did not have any cover or concealment when I first fired at the suspect. My backdrop was the parked cars behind the suspect. The direction of my shots was north. I knew no one was in the cars as I had been in the substation parking lot with my cruiser parked facing them for some time. My target was center mass. I stopped firing because the suspect fell to the ground and was no longer an immediate and active threat.

Prior to my encounter with the suspect, there had been at least two calls for service at his residence and he had refused to engage with officers or receive help. On both prior incidents, officers had disengaged. Instead of remaining in his residence, the suspect came into the alley behind the substation and ultimately into the substation parking lot, armed with a knife in each hand. He refused multiple offers of help and repeated commands to put the knives down. Instead, he advanced towards [REDACTED] armed with two knives and it appeared that he was

either going to charge at or throw his knife or knives at [REDACTED] At the time I discharged my weapon, I was in immediate fear for the life of [REDACTED] I do not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect the life of [REDACTED] as well as my own life and the lives of other officers in the substation parking lot.

I did have a taser on me at the time of this incident. However, the use of a taser requires time, distance, barrier, lethal force back up and reasonableness. [REDACTED] had his taser out and it is not reasonable to only have less lethal when the suspect has a deadly weapon.

I have now had an opportunity to review the body worn camera and cruiser camera footage of this incident. After reviewing it, I realized that when we repeatedly told the suspect to drop the knives, he responded that he wasn't dropping nothing. During the incident I did not hear him say anything. I also realized that he still had one knife in his hand when we approached to rendered aid, however, during the incident, I thought he had dropped them both.

I know that the name of the suspect is Lamine Mahmoudi. However, I did not recognize him and do not believe I have ever had any prior encounters, personal or professional, with him.

This concludes my statement, and I will now answer any additional questions you may have at this time.

