



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



2026-2005
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 Brady Ave.,
Steubenville, OH 43952, Jefferson County (L)

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 06/18/2026
Activity Location: Steubenville Police Department
Authoring Agent: SA Joseph Goudy

Narrative:

On Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 1101 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joseph Goudy (SA Goudy) interviewed Steubenville Police Department (SPD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Max Martin, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at 123 South 3rd Street, Steubenville, Ohio . The interview was video recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not intend to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Barrett
Radio Channel Utilized: SPD 1	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: 2025 Ford Explorer with Standard SPD markings	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: None
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty

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Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 8-10 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Standard issued SPD uniform with SPD patches and badge	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser / OC Spray
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: ALERT Training / CQB / Patrol oriented	OPOTC Certification: Yes - Buckeye Career Center
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Annual Departmental training in 2025
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: Unknown
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right Hip - Fully loaded
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17+1
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17 in each magazine
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: All	Number of Rounds Fired: None
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Fall of 2025	Type of Holster, if any: Black Hawk -

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	Level III
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Weapon #2

Make: Troy Industries	Model: AR-15
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56 mm	Serial: Unknown
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Cruiser carry - Center Rifle Rack
Magazine Capacity: 30	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): Unknown
Extra Magazines: Unknown	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: Unknown
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Backup
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Unknown	Number of Rounds Fired: 2 rounds
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Early Spring - 2026	Type of Holster, if any: Cruiser carry - Center rack

Narrative:

At the start of the interview, [REDACTED] was provided with a criminal investigation notification form which he discussed previously with his FOP attorney, Max Martin, and then signed. After asking the preliminary and demographic information, [REDACTED] was asked if he had reviewed any sort of video footage of the incident, to which he replied that he did not.

[REDACTED] was not dispatched directly but heard the call for service from the dispatch radio. [REDACTED] believed it was car 10 and car 50 from the Hilltop zone that were originally dispatched. [REDACTED] responded also to assist. The information [REDACTED] received from dispatch indicated that multiple callers reported a male near the Team Ford dealership who was armed with a handgun and brandishing it at passersby. Dispatch also reported additional calls from witnesses saying that the male had a gun and was stashing more guns and ammunition inside a new vehicle on the car lot. When asked whether he had any training relevant to responding to this type of situation, [REDACTED] stated that he relied on his Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Training (ALERT), which addresses active shooter scenarios. Based on the nature of the calls coming into dispatch, he believed that this training was applicable to the incident.

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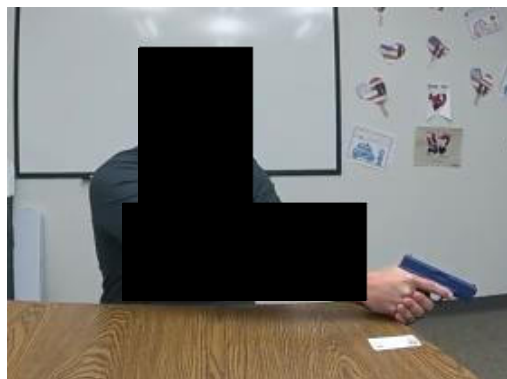
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██████████ was asked if he had any prior dealings with the subject, later identified as Matthew Metzger (Metzger). The day prior, ██████████ responded to the Walmart parking lot to take a complaint involving Metzger. He explained that it stemmed from a road rage incident during which Metzger told the female complainant that he was going to have OSP arrest her. It was also reported that Metzger brandished a black handgun in the high-ready position in front of the complainant before he drove off. That encounter was video recorded on the complainant's cell phone. When he arrived on scene, ██████████ recognized Metzger from that previous complaint.

As ██████████ was responding to the area, he stated:

"I made the decision that I would deploy a rifle due to the level of threat that he potentially had, which is the rifle or shotgun. And, um, I told my supervisor what I was doing. I asked other responding units since I was coming in from the south side of Brady, University Boulevard comes and makes a swooping turn. I wanted that area to be cornered off as well. So, I asked for a unit to come up east and shut down the road." (23:22).

When ██████████ exited his cruiser; he observed Metzger run up a small embankment behind another vehicle. During that time, ██████████ stated he was at the "high-ready" with his patrol rifle and asked Metzger to show him his hands. When ██████████ first began giving commands to Metzger, Metzger was positioned with his handgun pointed in ██████████ direction as he leaned across the hood of the vehicle next to him, near the A-pillar. ██████████ demonstrated how Metzger was standing by using a blue training handgun.



(Image #1: Demonstration of how Metzger was standing and pointing his handgun)

██████████ stated that Metzger told him that he was the king of Dartmouth and that was consistent to what he said the previous day during the road rage video at Walmart.

██████████ stated that he did not feel comfortable discharging his rifle at that

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moment because Metzger presented only a small target and there was a school building directly behind him. He then moved to cover. When [REDACTED] arrived, [REDACTED] repositioned himself to prevent any potential crossfire based on [REDACTED] location. As [REDACTED] took cover behind another vehicle; he heard gunshots being fired. He did not know if [REDACTED] fired first or if it was Metzger. [REDACTED] stated:

"I didn't know if it was [REDACTED] firing first. I didn't know if the suspect was firing first, but due to the prior information of him already being armed with a, with a handgun and ex uh, possibly having access to more weapons in a dealership lot with all this cover and vehicles, I made the determination when I turned around and I seen him running still, that I was gonna neutralize the threat at that time. And I fired two shots." (26:03).

[REDACTED] did not know how many rounds [REDACTED] discharged. After Metzger was down, [REDACTED] stated that no more rounds were discharged. [REDACTED] checked Metzger's vehicle while he [REDACTED] covered Metzger. Once additional officers arrived on scene, emergency medical assistance was provided to Metzger. When Sgt. Barrett arrived, [REDACTED] secured his rifle and was removed from the scene.

[REDACTED] was asked to clarify the moment he decided to discharge his patrol rifle:

"When after I heard the volley of shots go off, I had to turn and, and try to get a sight picture. So, it took me a, a second and I seen him still running and he was running in the direction of the dealership lot where they were advising that he had other weapons stashed. So, I mean, you know, that's, that's the point, that's the determination that I made myself, that if there's shots being fired from either [REDACTED] or the suspect and he's running to a position to gain access to more weapons, potentially more deadly weapons that could cause mass casualties that I was gonna neutralize the threat at that time." (30:43).

[REDACTED] continued by describing his sight picture:

"I fired two rounds and he fell to the ground immediately. I seen the handgun, I can't remember exactly where it was at, but I know it was in the immediate vicinity. He, he roll over and grab it and I know that I called that out to [REDACTED] and I think he might have moved it out of the way initially, but it was there, the handgun that I was seen was pointed at me, was laying right on the sidewalk area right next to him. (32:13).

[REDACTED] stated that he feared for his safety and the safety of others and believed that no other use-of-force option was available under the circumstances. [REDACTED] explained that throughout the incident he remained aware of his surroundings,

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including [REDACTED] position, which helped him determine when it was safe to discharge his firearm. At the end of the interview, [REDACTED] reviewed his body-worn camera and dash camera footage and reported no additions or changes to his statement.

The interview concluded at approximately 1140 hours.

For further information, please refer to the involved officer interview which could be found in Axon Justice labeled as Reference Item K - Involved Officer Interviews / [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is attached to this report.

References:

Reference Item K - Involved Officer Interviews / [REDACTED]

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification Form

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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).

Printed Name of Interviewee

06/18/20 1102
Date / Time

Signature of Interviewee

Max Martin
Max Martin

S/A Soc Gandy
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)