



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



2022-1564  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1132 Ashwood Drive, South  
Charleston, OH (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** William Sanders (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 08/10/2022  
**Activity Location:** Sanders, William – Business – 130 N Fountain Ave, Springfield, OH  
45502, Clark County  
**Author:** SA Kenneth J. Smith, #53

**Narrative:**

On July 24, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that took place at 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, Clark County. During the OICI, Deputy Matthew Yates was shot and killed by subject Cole White. This occurred after White had killed his mother, Jodie Arbuckle. Multiple agencies and SWAT Teams responded and attempted multiple rescue attempts of Deputy Yates. During the standoff the mobile home caught fire and White was killed in the fire.

On August 10, 2022 at 1056 hours, BCI Special Agents Richard Ward (SA Ward) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Springfield detective and SWAT team member William Sanders (Det. Sanders) regarding his involvement in the OICI. The interview was conducted at the off site SWAT Training Facility in Springfield. The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device.

The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a 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 audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Det. Sanders has been with the Springfield PD for approximately five and a half years. He has been on the SWAT team for approximately 4 years. His role on SWAT was typically that of shield man or breacher.

On July 24, 2022, Det. Sanders got an alert on his phone and immediately responded to the SWAT facility and got his gear on. Sgt. James Byron, Det. Justin Allender, and Ofc. Massie were already at the facility. Ofc. Massie and Det. Sanders got in one of the armored MRAPs and

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headed to the scene. They met with Capt. Michael Kranz who explained the situation, got an overview, and began planning to extract Dep. Yates.

The initial plan was to have a team in one of the MRAPs go to the north side of the trailer to attempt a rescue. Once there, P.O. Eric Fleming, Det. Kevin Miller, Det. Ronnie Terry, Dep. Justin Nawman and Det. Sanders and Ofcs. Aaron Hayes and Joseph Lewis made their approach to the door. Det. Sanders and Dep. Nawman were to get hands on Dep. Yates while Ofc. Fleming and Det. Miller provided cover with shields. Ofc. Fleming and Det. Miller made it inside and set up with the shields. Dep. Nawman and Det. Sanders then entered the trailer when the shots were fired inside the trailer. Det. Sanders recalls Dep. Nawman falling into him and believed that Nawman had been shot. Det. Sanders began to drag Nawman from the trailer, at which point they both fell off the porch. Det. Sanders then dragged Nawman back to the cover of the MRAP.

Det. Sanders then took up a position further north while maintaining visual on the front door as another plan was being developed.

The second plan included dispensing gas and flashbangs from the sides of the trailer with Greene County's team on one side and Springfield's on another. At that time the same entry team with the addition of Det. Calvin Burch, made it inside and got hands on Dep. Yates and were able to bring Dep. Yates out of the trailer. Det. Sanders, who had to remain outside because he didn't have a gas mask, provided lethal cover and assisted in getting Dep. Yates to the cover of the MRAP. Clark County then extracted Dep. Yates. The trailer caught fire. Det. Sanders did not fire his weapon or deploy any gas or flashbangs during the incident.

The Interview was concluded at 1105 hours.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2022-08-10 / Det. William Sanders interview

# **Exhibit 1**

**Included as a separate file.**