



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Investigative Activity: Interview Witness Officer
Involves: Officer Michael Taylor (W), [REDACTED] (S), John Johnson (S)
Activity Date: 02/24/2026
Activity Location: 10147 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH
Authoring Agent: SA Jesse Bynum #179

Narrative:

On Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 1112 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum) and SA Doug Burke (SA Burke) interviewed Elyria Police Department (EPD) Officer (Ofc.) Michael Taylor (Taylor), who was accompanied by his attorney, Dan Leffler, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at 10147 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH. The interview was audio and video recorded.

Officer Taylor read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. Officer Taylor was also given a copy of the victims' rights information and asked to fill out the request form to indicate if he wished to invoke those rights. The form is attached to this report.

Officer Taylor was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the January 21, 2026 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 24496 Clareshire Dr. Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Ohio. Reportedly, Officer Taylor did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer.

Officer Taylor stated his radio call sign on January 21, 2026, was 292. He has been employed by the Elyria Police Department for about three years. He has been a police officer for a total of ten and a half years. During the incident, Officer Taylor wore a green SWAT hoodie, blue pants, and a green knit hat with an Elyria SRT emblem. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. His duty belt included a Glock 45, two pistol magazines, a 20-round rifle magazine, and a tourniquet. He drove EPD unit #292, a marked cruiser with EPD emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated that he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or

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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

According to Officer Taylor, a department-wide tone was activated, indicating a critical incident. Radio traffic indicated a robbery at **"the AT&T store... the one on West River Road"** [11:16 AM / 04:24]. Officers were provided information that the suspect vehicle was a black Hyundai.

Taylor stated he was transporting a juvenile to the detention home at the time of the initial dispatch and did not respond until the booking process was completed.

Taylor reported that the vehicle was detected by the Flock camera system in Lorain. He traveled toward that area and positioned himself at Lake Avenue and Elyria Avenue to observe traffic. He stated that Lorain Police Department (LPD) officers located the vehicle and initiated a pursuit. He and other Elyria units shut down the intersection at Elyria Avenue and North Ridge before joining the pursuit as the fifth vehicle.

The pursuit began on Elyria Avenue. From there, the suspect vehicle traveled southbound on Lake Avenue. The pursuit continued onto West Avenue and then proceeded onto Oberlin-Elyria Road. Officers then followed the vehicle eastbound on Route 20 before continuing onto Route 10. The pursuit ultimately entered Interstate 480 East. During the pursuit, Officer Taylor reported speeds **"anywhere from 110 to 130 miles an hour,"** [11:20 AM / 08:27] lane changes, shoulder use, and evasive maneuvers by the vehicle. When the third Lorain unit terminated its involvement, Officer Taylor moved into the third position in the pursuit. After the remaining Lorain units terminated near the Great Northern Boulevard exit, Officer Taylor became the lead vehicle.

Officer Taylor stated the vehicle exited I-480 at Grayton Road and continued westbound on Brookpark Road. The vehicle attempted to drive between vehicles in intersection traffic, striking two cars. Officer Taylor stated that he also attempted the maneuver and struck the same vehicle, causing his cruiser to become disabled.

Officer Taylor observed John Johnson (Johnson) exit the Hyundai holding a handgun **"in his right hand,"** [11:24 AM / 11:47] wearing a black hoodie and dark pants and ran south towards an apartment complex.

Officer Taylor pursued Johnson on foot but lost sight of him due to a snowbank. He began clearing corners for officer safety. When [REDACTED] arrived, Officer Taylor asked, "Where did he go?" He reported seeing [REDACTED] point, appearing to indicate Johnson had gone behind a building. Officer Taylor was unaware, at that time, that 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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

subject had entered an apartment. Officer Taylor reported hearing several gunshots in rapid succession but could not identify who fired.

Upon entering the apartment, Officer Taylor saw Johnson already on the ground, not moving, with [REDACTED] giving commands to Johnson. Officer Taylor held lethal cover while [REDACTED] handcuffed the subject. [REDACTED] informed him there was a pistol next to Johnson's right hip. Officer Taylor stated he retrieved the pistol, placed it on the couch, and later made it safe by removing the magazine and chambered round.

Officer Taylor stated he cut Johnson's hoodie and shirt down the back and right sleeve and pointed out bullet wounds. Other officers applied medical treatment such as chest seals. Officer Taylor remained with [REDACTED] at his cruiser after medical aid was initiated. Officer Taylor transferred the recovered firearm to a North Olmsted officer.

When asked to describe the firearm he observed Johnson running with, Officer Taylor described it as a black, striker-fired pistol. Officer Taylor reported fear for his own safety and that of others throughout the incident. When asked to describe the lighting, Officer Taylor stated it was cloudy but clear. Lighting inside the apartment was dim but aided by natural light.

Officer Taylor was asked and agreed to a consensual collection of his DNA for exclusionary purposes as he handled Johnson's firearm without gloves. That sample was taken and submitted as Matrix item #34.

The interview concluded at approximately 1210 hours. The interview was audio and video recorded. The recordings were uploaded to Axon Justice / Evidence.com in Reference Item D - Interviews within a subfolder titled Officers. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form and victims' rights forms are also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details

References:

Reference Item D - Interviews - stored in Axon Justice

Attachments:

1. 2026-02-24 Criminal Investigation Notification Officer Taylor
2. 2026-02-24 Marsys Law Form Officer Taylor - Victims' Rights Request Form
3. 2026-02-24 Officer Taylor DNA consent form

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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation



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).

Michael Taylor
Printed Name of Interviewee

2/24/26 @ 1112
Date / Time

[Signature]
Signature of Interviewee

SA Jesse Bynum
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #179
BCI Agent (Signature)



OHIO BUREAU OF CRIMINAL
IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION

CONSENT TO COLLECT BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

FOR DNA ANALYSIS

I, Michael Taylor HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY
Douglas Burke AND Jesse Bynum

WHO HAVE PROPERLY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS AUTHORIZED AGENT(S) OF THE OHIO BUREAU
OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION OF MY **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT** NOT TO
HAVE BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES TAKEN FROM ME WITHOUT A **SEARCH WARRANT**.
KNOWING OF MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO REFUSE TO SUCH A SEARCH, I WILLINGLY GIVE
PERMISSION AND CONSENT TO THE ABOVE NAMED AGENT(S) TO OBTAIN THOSE BIOLOGICAL
SAMPLE(S) THEY DEEM NECESSARY FOR DNA TESTING PURPOSES TO WIT:

Exclusion

THE ABOVE NAMED AGENT(S) FURTHER HAVE MY PERMISSION AND CONSENT TO TAKE FROM MY
PERSON THE BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES LISTED ABOVE WHICH THEY DESIRE FOR
DNA TESTING PURPOSES IN THE CASE OR CASES UNDER INVESTIGATION.

THIS WRITTEN PERMISSION TO OBTAIN BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES WITHOUT A SEARCH WARRANT
IS GIVEN BY ME TO THE ABOVE NAMED AGENT(S) VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT ANY THREATS
OR PROMISES OR COERCION OF ANY KIND.

SIGNED BY ME ON THIS 24 DAY OF FEB, 2026, AT 1100 AM-PM

LOCATION OF CONSENT: 10147 Royalton Rd Suite J, North Royalton, OH

SIGNED: [Signature]

WITNESS: SA Jesse Bynum

ADDRESS: 18 West Ave

WITNESS: _____

CITY: Florida STATE: OH

DOB: 11/21/1992

SSN: [Redacted]

CASE NO: 2026-0255