



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



2026-0240
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4800 Duvall Rd., Lot
303, Ashville, OH 43103 (L)

Investigative Activity: Search Warrant
Involves: Apple iPhone – BCI Evidence Item #11
Activity Date: 01/23/2026
Activity Location: Madison County Municipal Court – 55 North Oak Street,
London, OH 43140
Authoring Agent: SA Joshua Welty, #173

Narrative:

Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joshua Welty (SA Welty) drafted a search warrant for an Apple iPhone, BCI evidence item #11, relative to the officer-involved critical incident which occurred on January 20, 2026.

On Friday, January 23, 2026, SA Welty met with Madison County Municipal Court Judge Eric M. Schooley (Judge Schooley). Judge Schooley reviewed the search warrant and search warrant affidavit. Judge Schooley authorized the search warrant.

On Tuesday, January 27, 2026, the obtained search warrant, and Apple iPhone, were turned over to BCI Computer Forensic Specialist (CST) Jarrod Scott (Scott). CST Scott attempted to complete his examination of the device and download contents contained therein. However, CST Scott was unable to access the device. The device is currently locked and the passcode is unknown. The phone requires a six-digit passcode.

SA Welty and SA Holcomb spoke with family members of Chase Dalton, device owner, regarding the device's passcode. None of the family members' agents spoke with knew the passcode. Dalton's sister, Destiny Eitel, and mother, Brandy Dalton, thought it may be Dalton's date of birth (123003). CST Scott attempted this passcode without success. Dalton's brother, Richard Dalton Jr., could not provide any possible suggestions.

After obtaining the search warrant, and while interviewing the family members listed above, SA Holcomb was able to photograph message threads occurring on the device before the officer-involved critical incident happened. These messages were documented in another report relating to interviews of respective family members.

SA Welty obtained a grand jury subpoena through the Pickaway County Prosecutor's Office for cell provider records, specifically call logs and messages from Verizon

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Wireless. Service of the subpoena to Verizon Wireless occurred on January 29, 2026. The information obtained will be documented in a separate report.

On Wednesday, February 04, 2026, SA Welty filed the search warrant return with the Clerk for the Madison County Municipal Court, indicating the warrant was not executed, nor was any evidence seized.

A copy of the search warrant documents and search inventory are attached to this investigative report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 1: Search Warrant - Cell Phone (BCI Item 11) - Returned Unserved

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STATE OF OHIO)
) SS
COUNTY OF MADISON)

IN THE MADISON COUNTY
MUNICIPAL COURT

FILED
JUN 23 2026

SEARCH WARRANT
ORDER

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

TO: ANY SPECIAL AGENT OR COMPUTER FORENSIC SPECIALIST OF THE OHIO BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, and/or ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Whereas there has been filed with me an affidavit, wherein the Affiant avers that he believes that electronic evidence pertinent to the investigation of felonious assault, improperly discharging a firearm at or into a habitation, and discharge of a firearm on or near prohibited premises, that occurred in Pickaway County, State of Ohio, exists on an Apple iPhone, collected as BCI evidence item # 11. Item being originally seized on January 20, 2026, from a porch at 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio, which is currently in the possession and custody of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, located at 1560 State Route 56 SW, London, in Madison County, Ohio.

As such, within an Apple iPhone, collected from 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio, BCI evidence item # 11, there is now, and it is necessary to obtain the following:

- 1) All information within the above-listed item including but not limited machine-readable data, all previously erased data, and any personal communications including but not limited to email, chat capture, capture files, correspondence stored in electronic form, text messages, voice mail, contact lists and/or correspondence exchanged in electronic form, usernames and passwords, user accounts and ownership information, and all photographs stored in electronic format.

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe such evidence is contained within and/or upon the device described above and is necessary for the purpose of locating electronic evidence pertinent to the investigation of felonious assault, improperly discharging a firearm at or into a habitation, discharge of a firearm on or near prohibited premises, that occurred in Pickaway County, Ohio, and that grounds for issuance of the search warrant exist.

If found, said items will be seized and used as evidence in the prosecution of felonious assault, in violation of Ohio Revised Code, and/or other violations of the Ohio Revised Code in Pickaway County Common Pleas Court.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OHIO with the necessary and proper assistance, to serve this warrant during the daytime season and to obtain forthwith, electronic evidence from within the Apple iPhone, collected from 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio, BCI

evidence item # 11. Said property seized and maintained shall remain in the care, custody and control of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation unless and until otherwise authorized by this Court.

It is further ORDERED and authorized for good cause that the three (3) day rule for execution of the said warrant is extended to a reasonable period of time to allow agents to execute and thoroughly search the seized property. Said extension is based on the logistical and technical difficulties confronting law enforcement.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of January 2026.



JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

FILED

JAN 23 2026

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS
COUNTY OF MADISON)

IN THE MADISON COUNTY
MUNICIPAL COURT

FILED
JAN 23 2026

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

Before me, a Judge in the Municipal Court, Madison County, Ohio, personally appeared the undersigned, Special Agent Joshua Welty, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a member of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and avers that he believes that electronic evidence pertinent to the investigation of felonious assault, improperly discharging a firearm at or into a habitation, discharge of a firearm on or near prohibited premises, offenses that occurred in Pickaway County, Ohio, exists on an Apple iPhone, collected as BCI evidence item # 11. Item being originally seized on January 20, 2026, from a porch at 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio, which is currently in the possession and custody of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, located at 1560 State Route 56 SW, London, in Madison County, Ohio.

As such, within the Apple iPhone, collected from 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio, BCI evidence item # 11, there is now, and it is necessary to obtain the following:

1) All information within the above-listed item including but not limited machine-readable data, all previously erased data, and any personal communications including but not limited to email, chat capture, capture files, correspondence stored in electronic form, text messages, voice mail, contact lists and/or correspondence exchanged in electronic form, usernames and passwords, user accounts and ownership information, and all photographs stored in electronic format.

If found, said items will be seized and used as evidence in the prosecution of the offenses of felonious assault, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section and/or other violations of the Ohio Revised Code in Pickaway County Common Pleas Court.

The Affiant states that he has good cause to believe that electronic evidence exists within the aforementioned device regarding the commission of felonious assault, improperly discharging a firearm at or into a habitation, discharge of a firearm on or near prohibited premises, in Pickaway County, Ohio.

The facts upon which the affiant bases such belief are as follows:

1. I have been employed with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation since November 2025.
2. I am currently assigned to the Force Investigations Unit.
3. I am a certified peace officer in the State of Ohio.

4. I have over 10 years of experience in Law Enforcement.
5. I have attended hundreds of hours of advanced training focused on criminal investigations, including obtaining a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and master's degree in business administration.
6. I have participated in numerous search warrants, including the preparation and execution of said warrants.
7. I have participated in numerous felony and misdemeanor investigations.
8. On January 20, 2026, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation ("BCI") was requested by the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office ("PCSO") to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident.
9. On January 20, 2026, at about 2:51 p.m. the PCSO was contacted by a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who reported she had been sexually assaulted by a twenty-one (21) year old male, later identified as Chase Dalton. During the call, [REDACTED] informed the PCSO Communication Center that she was able to lock Chase outside of the residence, but he was attempting to re-enter the residence, located at 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio.
10. The PCSO – Communication Center received a second call at about 3 p.m. from the same address indicating a male was outside shooting at the trailer.
11. Officers and deputies from the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office, Ashville Police Department, and South Bloomfield Police Department, responded to the Duvall Road address. Upon their arrival, they contacted Chase Dalton outside the residence standing on a porch. Officers on scene broadcast via radio they Chase at gunpoint.
12. At about 3:14 p.m. officers broadcast shots were fired. Chase suffered injuries related to the gunfire and was transported to Grant Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased.
13. PCSO Deputy Rubio obtained a search warrant from the Circleville Municipal Court (Case No [REDACTED] for processing the scene at 4800 Duvall Road, Lot 303, Ashville, Pickaway County, Ohio.
14. BCI Crime Scene Technicians Amy Cruvey and Holly Ryczak processed the scene. During the processing of the scene several items were recovered in and around the curtilage and house, including an Apple iPhone, collected as BCI item # 11. The cellular device was collected from the porch where Chase was standing when encountered by law enforcement.
15. The warrant would corroborate statements and help show calls placed and/or received, and any other electronic communication or searches completed before, and during, the incident on January 20, 2026.

FILED

JAN 23 2026

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

Based on my experience and training, I believe that there is a fair possibility that the evidence will be found in the phone.

PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA. This Affiant states that the seized electronic media will remain in the care, custody and control of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation unless and until otherwise authorized by this Court.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION OF 3-DAY EXECUTION DEADLINE. This Affiant states that the requested search of the electronic media to be performed by the agent(s) identified above is expected to require more than three (3) days due to logistical and technical concerns. Hence, the "execution" of the requested warrant may require several weeks from beginning to end. If the term "execution" were deemed to occur at the completion of the analysis rather than the initiation of the analysis, then it would be pragmatically impossible for law enforcement officer to comply with the three (3) day deadline and still properly conduct the search. Therefore, pursuant to revised Code 2933.24(A), this Affiant requests that the three-day time requirement be waived in reference to this warrant.

Ohio Criminal Rule 41 section D dictates that the return shall be made promptly and shall be accompanied by a written inventory of any property taken. Based on the nature of the forensic examination process and the time that is needed to complete such a search on electronic equipment, this affiant would request that the return process for this warrant be made promptly at the time that the forensic examination is complete.

Because of the ways in which various types of computer technologies operate in storing or processing records, it is common to find that specific records authorized to be seized are inextricably mixed or without difficult or extremely time-consuming procedures are inseparable from other records, programs, or files. Current technology also allows the storage of sounds, images and video movies as digital files on a diskette or chip in a recording device, as well as on different formats of magnetic tape. Additionally, personal correspondence stored in electronic form, including but not limited to open and unopened e-mail, chat logs, and instant messenger logs, is frequently stored on these systems and is also inextricably mixed with items of evidentiary value. Among these items may be personal correspondence stored in electronic form. Information or communication between conspirators and/or victims may be in the form of electronic communications residing on any media. The storage medium containing records or evidence relating to the crime will be seized for analysis, but only those items authorized to be seized by the warrant will be printed out, disclosed stored on an evidence disk, or otherwise copied for evidence purposes.

All of the above records may be seized, listened to, read, reviewed, copied, and converted to human-readable form as necessary by the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Authorization is granted if necessary, to make human readable copies or recordings of this data in order to preserve and protect the information and to thereafter seize, read, listen to, copy, and maintain the

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MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

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JAN 23 2026

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

described property.

Affiant is aware that seizing stored communications implicates privacy rights which Congress believed important enough to protect under the Electronic Communication Privacy Act (ECPA), specifically, 18 U.S.C. 2703. Such material is further protected by Ohio Revised Code 2933.51 et.seq. In executing the warrant requested, it is possible that Affiant or designee will seize such communications, along with other material encompassed in the warrant. Affiant is also aware that seizing arguable work product and/or documentary materials from someone who may be publishing holding said materials for publication implicates privacy rights which Congress believed important enough to protect under the Privacy Protection Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000aa (PPA). However, Affiant believes that any material seized will not fall with the PPA.

Based on the information contained in this affidavit, Affiant's training and experience as a law enforcement officer, participation in the investigation relative to this affidavit, conversations with participating law enforcement officers, and any oral testimony incorporated herein, it is Affiant's belief that the items to be searched for and seized are within the item to be searched.

A night time warrant is not requested.

Further, Affiant sayeth naught.



AFFIANT
SPECIAL AGENT JOSHUA WELTY
OHIO BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence

this 23 day of January 2026.



JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

RETURN; RECEIPT; INVENTORY OF SEARCH WARRANT

FILED

FEB 04 2026

State of Ohio

Madison County ss.

MADISON CO. MUNICIPAL COURT
MADISON COUNTY, OHIO

I, BCI Special Agent Joshua Welty, the person taking property hereunder, received the attached search warrant on the 23 day of January, 2024 and (check appropriate):

I am returning the Warrant without having executed the same.

I executed it as follows: On the _____ day of _____, _____ at _____ o'clock _____,

I searched _____, described in the warrant, and left a copy of the warrant (check one)

With Care of _____, together with a copy of this Inventory and Receipt for the items seized.

Furthermore (check appropriate):


no evidence for seized.

electronic records

The following is an INVENTORY of property taken pursuant to the warrant prepared by Special Agent Joshua Welty:

See copy of evidence inventory

This inventory was taken by Special Agent Joshua Welty in the presence of the witnesses signing below:



BCI Special Agent Joshua Welty

Credible witness, if SA Welty is not present

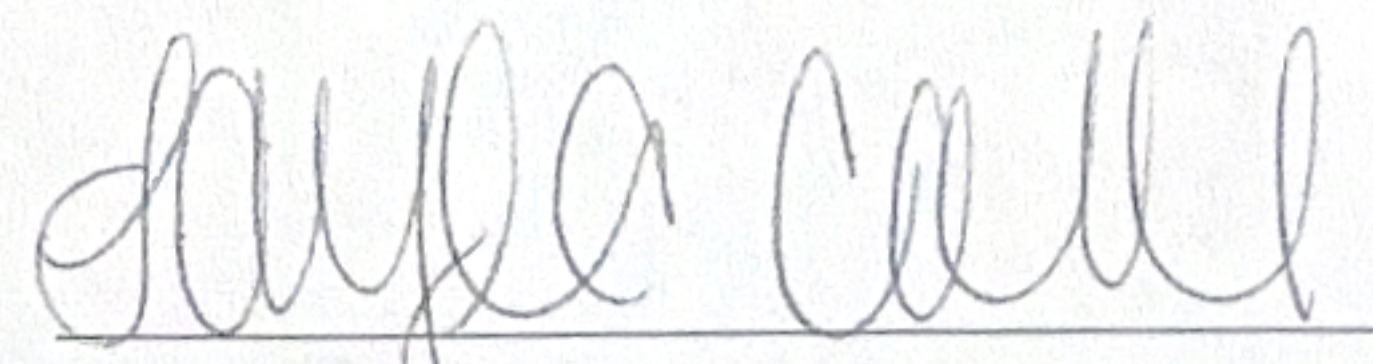
I swear this Inventory is a true and detailed account of all property taken by me on the Warrant; and a copy of this Inventory was deposited with the person or at the premises from which the property was taken as a Receipt of the items taken.



BCI Special Agent Joshua Welty, #173

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence by Special Agent Joshua Welty, this 4 day of

February, 2026.



Notary Public/Clerk of Courts/Deputy Clerk