



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



2025-1603  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4482 Hampton Woods  
Ct., Columbus, Ohio 43230 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Uninvolved Officer Interview  
**Involves:** Officer Christian Ibarra  
**Activity Date:** 05/20/2025  
**Activity Location:** CPD SWAT Headquarters  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Ryan D. Scheiderer

**Narrative:**

On May 20, 2025 at approximately 0314 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) and Eric Runyan (SA Runyan) obtained a recorded statement from Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Officer Christian Ibarra (Officer Ibarra) regarding the May 19, 2025 fatal shooting incident between CPD officers and Jerry Smith (Smith) that occurred at 4482 Hampton Woods Court in Columbus, Ohio. The contact with Officer Ibarra took place at the CPD Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) building. Prior to providing a statement, Officer Ibarra was notified that BCI was conducting a criminal investigation into the shooting incident and he confirmed he would provide a voluntary statement. The following is a summation of the statement of Officer Ibarra and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording.

On May 19<sup>th</sup> Officer Ibarra (Badge #3549 & radio call sign 61-B) was working patrol out of Substation 6 ("6-Sub") and in his Field Training period with his partner, CPD Officer Dunken Thompson (Officer Thompson). At approximately 2200 hours, Officer Ibarra was on station filing paperwork when he heard radio traffic to the effect "He has a gun... he's shooting at us". Officer Ibarra and the other officers on station left and responded to 4482 Hampton Woods Court to assist the on-scene officers. Officer Ibarra was aware officers had been dispatched to a "unknown complaint" at that location. When Officer Ibarra and Officer Thompson arrived on scene, Officer Ibarra observed three CPD officers already on scene behind vehicles with their firearms drawn. Within minutes of arriving on scene, Officer Ibarra observed an African American male subject later identified as Smith, open the door to the residence at 4482 Hampton Woods Court and discharge a firearm outside. Officer Ibarra learned there was also an unknown female inside the residence with Smith. Officer Ibarra observed CPD K9 Sergeant Jason Ayers (Sgt. Ayers) negotiating with Smith who would open the door and shout at the officers, then close it and retreat back inside the residence. One time when Smith opened the door, he discharged a firearm towards officers and Officer Ibarra heard what he believed to be the bullet strike something

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behind his location. Due to his position, Officer Ibarra could not see what kind of firearm Smith had when he shot at officers, but did observe the muzzle flash. Officers maintained a perimeter and tried to negotiate with Smith until CPD SWAT and Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) members arrived on scene to take over.

Officer Ibarra explained that individual officers from SWAT arrived first and then the CPD Armored Rescue Vehicles (ARV's) arrived with additional SWAT officers. A CPD negotiator had telephone communication with Smith and Officer Ibarra could hear some of the conversations. According to Officer Ibarra, at times it seemed like Smith was going to surrender, and then he would become hostile again. While SWAT was on scene, Officer Ibarra heard one (1) or two (2) additional gunshots and observed the female exit the residence. SWAT officers escorted the female towards Officer Ibarra and he then took custody of her and took her to an awaiting ambulance to be checked.

Officer Ibarra denied discharging a firearm or Taser during the incident and denied ever visually observing any officers discharge a firearm, but did hear gunshots while on scene. Officer Ibarra didn't have any additional information.

**References:**

None

**Attachments:** CPD Officer Christian Ibarra Audio 5.20.2025

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