

**Statement of Sergeant Christopher Staley, Youngstown Police Department,  
Regarding Incident on October 9, 2025**

On 10-09-2025 at approximately 1230 hours, I Det. Sgt. Christopher Staley along with other Operators of the Mahoning Valley Crisis Response Team (SWAT), responded to 4134 Rush Blvd. Youngstown, Ohio 44512 to assist with an officer involved critical incident. Upon arriving on scene at 4134 Rush Blvd it was determined that one Youngstown City Police Officer had confronted an armed suspect in the back yard of the residence and had been struck by gunfire in the right arm.

Being one of the first initial first responders on scene as well as my role as a Det. Sgt. for the Youngstown Police Department, I Det. Sgt. Staley began to take control of the initial scene in order to establish both an outer perimeter as well as an inner perimeter which spanned 3 blocks in all directions. While doing so, I ensured that the residence in question, 4134 Rush Blvd and all outbuildings to include the detached garage and rear yard shed were completely secured. Once commander Saluga arrived and assumed command of the scene, I turned the perimeter over to YPD Command staff and assumed my role as Assistant Team Leader for MVCRT. After discussions with Commander Saluga, I then left the scene to retrieve the Armored NRU Van in order to get an entry team close to the residence. Upon my arrival back to the scene, MVCRT Operators were loaded into the van, and a plan was being implemented on how to systematically clear the residence and the outbuildings.

At approximately 1400 hours the MVCRT began entry of the residence. Myself, along with other Operators, then approached the front of the residence loudly announcing "police"! Once at the front door of the residence it was determined that the residence was secured. MVCRT operators then called up a breach team and opened the front door manually. MVCRT Operators then attempted to fly an indoor drone into the residence to gain information and see if the suspect had run into the abandoned structure. Ultimately, the indoor drone failed to maintain flight and had crashed inside the residence.

At approximately 1405 hours Operators made physical entry into the residence. At approximately 1408 hours, Operators had secured the first floor of the house and began clearing the second story of the residence. At this time, I assisted with clearing the second story of the residence. Once the second story of the residence was cleared, I was advised that there was an attic access panel inside a closet in a second story bedroom. I was advised by operators Villaplana, [REDACTED] and Daley that they needed a pry bar in order to open the access panel. I was able to retrieve the pry bar from the armored NRU van and give it to the aforementioned operators.

At approximately 1420 hours [REDACTED] Villaplana, Daley, and myself began making access into the attic of 4134 Rush Blvd. Operators moved the door to the attic using a pry bar, then attempted to fly an indoor drone up into the attic due to it being a confined space. The drone

had failed to navigate the attic and was stuck up inside the attic space. Operators then used a mirror with a flashlight to clear around the attic access. Once it was determined that the suspect was not immediately visible around the attic access [REDACTED] then began entering the attic access. [REDACTED] was able to recover the drone as it crashed close to the entrance of the attic. While recovering the drone [REDACTED] noticed some of the attic insulation to look out of place like it had been tampered with. At that time [REDACTED] held at the attic entrance and relayed the information back to myself. Due to this new information, I contacted Team Leader Brooks over the radio and advised him to meet me downstairs at the front of the residence. Once meeting with Team Leader Brooks, I advised him that the suspect could possibly be barricaded inside the attic. Team Leader Brooks then relayed this information to Commander Saluga.

At approximately 1426 hours [REDACTED] made full entry into the attic and began to clear the area of insulation he thought may have looked out of place. At this time, I had just returned upstairs to speak with Operator Villaplana to discuss if the suspect was confirmed to be in the attic. At approximately 1427 hours I heard a single gunshot come from the attic area. This was immediately followed by a volley of several more gunshots. At this time, Team Leader Brooks rushed up the stairs and assisted us with evacuating from the attic and second floor. We stopped on the landing and ensured the entire team was together. Once we confirmed we had the entire team and assessed each other for any injuries, the determination was made to make our way back to the first-floor kitchen due to Team Leader Brooks reporting that gunshots had come from the attic to the second floor toward us.

Commander Saluga then ordered that gas be deployed into the attic using 40 m.m. munitions launchers. As the gas was deployed into the attic from the exterior perimeter teams, and additional drone was deployed to attempt to see into the attic from inside the residence. This drone had also failed. A drone was then utilized from the exterior of the house that gained entry through a vent that was punched out from the gas deployment. That drone confirmed that the suspect was lying on the one side wall of the attic.

At approximately 1642 hours Operators Kelly, Villaplana, Daley, and Team Leader Brooks pushed back up the stairs and back into the bedroom where the attic access was located. Team Leader Brooks and Operator Kelly then hand deployed a robot into the attic so they could get a closer look at the suspect and gain intelligence on his condition. After the robot was successfully placed into the attic all Operators backed out of the room and worked back to the top of the stairs.

At approximately 1655 hours Commander Saluga came into the residence to advise the suspect was deceased. Commander Saluga advised all operators and Team Leaders who were inside the residence during the critical incident were to remain inside until BCI arrived and conducted their investigation. Once BCI arrived we were released with nothing further to report.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Det. Sgt. C. Staley #1129**  
**Mahoning Valley Crisis Response Team**  
**Youngstown Police Department**

DIS C. A. Staley #1129