



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



2025-1227

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4411 Montgomery Road,
Norwood, Ohio (Hamilton County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED]
Date of Activity: 04/28/2025
Activity Location: Norwood Police Department – Business – 4701 Montgomery Road,
Cincinnati, OH 45212
Author: SA Douglas Eveslage, #66

On Monday, April 28, 2025, at approximately 1610 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agents Doug Eveslage and Richard Ward interviewed Norwood Police Department [REDACTED] in the presence of Attorney Scott Rubenstein. The interview took place at the Norwood Police Department Training Center, located at 2600 Park Avenue, Norwood, Ohio 45212. The interview was audio and video recorded.

[REDACTED] was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the April 16, 2025 officer-involved critical incident, which occurred in the area of 4411 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer.

[REDACTED] was read the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form, which he signed and stated that he understood (Attachment #01).

The following summary of the recorded interview highlights the key points that the author deemed most relevant, although it does not provide a verbatim account. Additionally, this report was placed in a chronology to enhance the reader's understanding of the information elicited during the interview. However, it is important to note that this may not reflect the actual order of the questions posed. Therefore, it is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

Preliminary and Demographic Information Worksheet:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Name: [REDACTED] | Rank: Officer |
| Badge Number: [REDACTED] | Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED] |
| Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED] | Immediate [REDACTED] |

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| | |
|--|--|
| Radio Channel Utilized: LE East | Mobile Data Terminal: Yes |
| Cruiser Description: NPD marked unit | Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: Driver |
| Assignment: [REDACTED] | Normal Shift: [REDACTED] |
| In-Car Camera: No | Spotlight: Yes |
| Emergency Lights: Yes | Siren: Yes |
| Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED] | Duty Status: Active |
| Days Off: [REDACTED] | Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No |
| Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 7 hrs | Consider Self Well Rested: Baby at home but yes |
| Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED] | Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED] |
| Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): No | Corrective Lenses: Contacts |
| Uniform Worn: NPD marked uniform | Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: OC, baton |
| Ballistic Vest: Exterior | Body Worn Camera: Yes |
| Other Recording Devices: No | Partner: No |
| Injuries: No | Equipment Damage: No |
| Training or Areas of Specialty: Def. Tactics | OPOTC Certification: [REDACTED] |
| Military Experience/Training: No | Use-of-Force Training: No |
| Prior Shooting Incidents: No | Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: No |
| Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No | Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No |
| Alcohol in Past 24 Hours: No | Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Months ago |

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Make: Glock | Model: G17 |
| Caliber/Gauge: N/A | Serial: N/A |
| Type: N/A | Method of Carry: N/A |
| Magazine Capacity: N/A | Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): N/A |
| Extra Magazines: N/A | Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: N/A |
| Discharged During Incident: N/A | Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary |
| Rounds Remaining After Incident: N/A | Number of Rounds Fired: N/A |
| Right/Left-Handed Carry: N/A | Ownership: N/A |
| Last Qualification Date: N/A | Type of Holster, if any: N/A |

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Narrative:

On April 16, 2025, [REDACTED] responded to the ACB (all county broadcast) advising that Norwood officers were fighting with someone. [REDACTED] arrived on scene and when he went upstairs he saw [REDACTED] walking Karita Thomas (Thomas) out in handcuffs, [REDACTED] was on the upper part of Akeem Holtz's (Holtz) body, [REDACTED] was on the other side of Holtz's body, and [REDACTED] was trying to control Holtz's legs.

[REDACTED] explained that he went over to [REDACTED] side of Holtz and assisted with securing him in handcuffs. Once that was complete, [REDACTED] assisted [REDACTED] with controlling one of Holtz's legs. [REDACTED] stated that officers removed a couple pairs of handcuffs from Holtz, the paramedics gave Holtz a shot of medicine to calm him down, and then he was sat up and attended to by the medics. [REDACTED] said that the medics moved Holtz from the hallway upstairs, to the ambulance, and he rode in the back of the ambulance with the medics down to the University of Cincinnati Hospital.

SA Eveslage asked if the medics said anything, and [REDACTED] recalled the medics telling the officers that he would need an arm or a leg to administer the medicine he had in a needle for Holtz. [REDACTED] let the medics know that they could use the leg he was holding, the medics gave Holtz the shot, and the medics told the officers it could take a couple minutes for the medicine to work. [REDACTED] said that the officers stayed in their positions until they could feel Holtz relax and become "compliant."

SA Eveslage asked if the medics directed the officers to sit Holtz up or how that decision was made, but [REDACTED] stated that he did not remember the medics giving them directions and if they did, he did not hear them. [REDACTED] described the decision to roll Holtz over on his side as a group decision, to get Holtz off his stomach. SA Eveslage asked [REDACTED] if he felt any tension in Holtz's leg as he was holding it down, and [REDACTED] said that Holtz was "actually kicking a whole bunch of holes in the drywall." [REDACTED] described Holtz using the wall to try and get up, so he was just trying to "mitigate" that as much as possible.

After the shot, [REDACTED] said that he just slowly stopped being tense, the officers fixed the handcuffs, and sat up Holtz. [REDACTED] said that when Holtz was sat up, he was leaning on him and another officer, so they decided to keep him sitting up but lean him against the wall and medics could treat him. SA Eveslage asked if [REDACTED] could describe Holtz's behavior as he was sitting up with the medics, but [REDACTED] said he did not remember and just knew that the medics were with him. SA Eveslage asked if he remembers anything the medics were talking about in relation to the condition of Holtz, and [REDACTED] believes the medics said Holtz had a pulse. [REDACTED] further explains that when he was in the back of the ambulance, the medics put Holtz on an [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] said that he was in the hallway collecting the medical equipment and trash that was laying around after Holtz was loaded into the ambulance. One of the medics approached the officers in the hallway and said they needed an officer to ride in the back of the ambulance with them, so [REDACTED] rode with them. While in the back of the ambulance, [REDACTED] describes the medics talking about the [REDACTED] being [REDACTED] and "[REDACTED]"

SA Eveslage asked if Holtz was still laying down while being treated by the medics and if Holtz was still handcuffed, either to the bed or behind his back. [REDACTED] said he does not remember, but thought the handcuffs were still on Holtz, behind his back, as Holtz was laying on them. [REDACTED] said that as they were arriving to the hospital, the medics asked him to open the back doors of the ambulance. The medics "wheeled" Holtz out of the ambulance and into one of the rooms inside the emergency area, which was the last time [REDACTED] saw Holtz.

This interview was concluded at approximately 1625 hours. This interview was video/audio recorded. See recording for further details (Reference #01).

References:

Axon BWC videos

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-04-28 [REDACTED] BCI notification

2025-1227

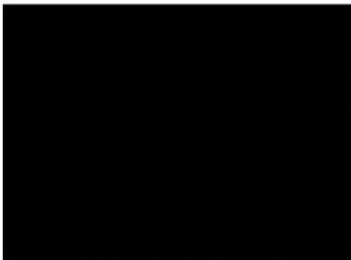


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Criminal Investigation Notification

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).



04/28/2025 1411
Date / Time

Signature of Interviewee

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #66
BCI Agent (Signature)