



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



2025-1666
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 909 Garden Ave., Middletown,
OH 45044 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Officer Brian Singleton (W)
Date of Activity: 06/13/2025
Activity Location: Middletown Police Department – Business – One Donham Plaza,
Middletown, OH 45042
Author: SA Lauren Frazier, #129

Narrative:

On June 13, 2025 at approximately 1040 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Richard Ward and Lauren Frazier interviewed Middletown Police Detective Brian Singleton (Detective Singleton). The interview took place at the Middletown Police Department. Also present for the interview was Attorney Rob Stokar. The interview was audio recorded.

The following summary of the recorded interview highlights the key points 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 obtained 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.

Detective Singleton was identified as being an officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the officer-involved critical incident that occurred on May 27, 2025, in the City of Middletown, Butler County, Ohio. Detective Singleton did not discharge his firearm during this incident. The primary objective of the interview was to gather all pertinent information known or observed. He confirmed that he was providing his statement voluntarily.

Detective Singleton prepared a typed statement, which was provided to investigators. Detective Singleton read the statement out loud and at the conclusion, he signed and dated the statement. The typed statement read as follows:

STATEMENT OF DETECTIVE BRIAN SINGLETON, BADGE NO. 643

This statement is in regard to an incident that occurred on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at approximately 7:23 a.m. I am making this statement voluntarily as part of the investigation concerning this matter.

My date of hire as a police officer with the Middletown Division of Police was June, 2021. My regular assignment with Middletown PD is as a Special Operations Unit Detective, with [REDACTED] off. My regular duty hours are from [REDACTED], and on May 27, 2025, I was working from [REDACTED] until approximately to [REDACTED]. On the day of the incident, the unit tasked with the service of warrants included a seven-person team including a five-officer Special Operations unit, a one-officer uniformed patrol officer, and an additional uniformed [REDACTED] officer assigned to the Special Operations Unit. We were tasked with the mission of serving high-risk search warrants that were the result of narcotics investigations, securing the locations, and conducting subsequent searches. The Special Operations Unit was utilizing one unmarked police SUV and one marked police unit for the execution of the search warrants at 909 Garden Ave. I was identified as unit V-15. At the time that this incident occurred, I was wearing jeans, a T-shirt, and an outer bullet proof tactical vest, prominently marked in white with "POLICE" on the front and back. I was carrying a department approved Glock 26, semi-automatic 9mm pistol, loaded with department approved ammunition. I am unsure when I most recently qualified with my weapon, but I was current with all required qualifications. I was not carrying a secondary weapon. I was not equipped with a body worn camera. My uncorrected vision and hearing are good and I was not wearing glasses or contacts. I am in good health, and I do not take any medications that would impair my ability to perform my duties. I had not consumed alcohol in the 24 hours prior to my shift.

On May 27, 2025, I attended a role call which included a briefing of the locations where search warrants would be served. This briefing included information about 909 Garden Ave., to include a site assessment and intelligence on the potential residents. I was not the affiant for the warrant. Following the service of another search warrant at another location, I proceeded with four members of the team to 909 Garden Ave. Middletown, Ohio 45044. 909 Garden Ave. is a singlestory home in a residential neighborhood, with an elevated front porch. I do not recall having previously responded to calls for service to this location in my capacity as a Middletown Police Officer. I also do not recall having had previous contact with the suspect or the other resident involved in this incident. The weather on the day of the incident was cloudy and temperatures were moderate.

The four-officer Special Operations unit detectives and the marked [REDACTED] unit ([REDACTED]) arrived in two separate vehicles and parked several houses east of 909 Garden Ave. We approached from our parked vehicles, single file, until we reached the front of the residence, where I separated from the other officers and moved towards the back door to secure the rear of the residence. The remaining team members, which included [REDACTED] Detective Crank, Detective Hoyle and Detective Grindstaff, remained at the front where they intended to make entry through the front door of the

residence. Detectives Hoyle and Crank were assigned and equipped with a Haligan pry bar and ram to assist in breaching the door to the residence if residents refused entry. Detective Grindstaff and [REDACTED] provided additional support for the service of the warrants. I assumed a position on the northeast corner of the structure which allowed me to observe the door on the north side (rear) of the residence, as well as maintain visual containment on the east side of the structure. As I maintained my position, I was able to hear several loud verbal commands being given by the officers at the front of the residence. These commands announced the presence of "Middletown Police," and advised residents police had a search warrant for the residence. As an officer at the front continued to make announcements, I heard loud banging indicating entry was being made on the front door of the structure. I then heard several gunshots, but I was unable to determine from my position whether the shots were fired from the inside or outside of the structure. I maintained my position briefly then quickly moved to the southeast corner of the structure, where I visually confirmed no officers appeared down and observed the other officers making entry through the front door. I then returned to my position on the northeast corner to maintain containment on the rear of the residence while the interior of the house was being secured. Prior to the door opening, and until shots were fired, I do not recall hearing any statements or other noise from inside the house.

After several minutes, I made entry at front in order to assist with interior containment and securing any persons inside. Upon entry, I observed a male down inside the front door and a gun on the floor in close proximity to the front door. I proceeded to the rear of the residence, and I assisted Detective Crank with first aid on a female that had sustained a leg wound. After Detective Crank applied a tourniquet, I maintained control of the female, and tightened her tourniquet, until medics arrived and provided medical attention. I remained with the female until medics removed the female from the residence. After exiting the residence, I assisted SWAT in canvassing the outside of the rear of the residence to determine if any other structures needed searched.

Due to my assigned position on the northeast corner of the structure, I was unable to see the front of the residence, and I did not have a visual on the other officers when shots were fired. I was initially unsure whether officers had fired, or had been fired upon, when they attempted to breach the front door to serve the warrant. After [REDACTED] fired his weapon, I entered the front of the residence to assist with securing the interior and providing necessary medical attention to any injured parties. I remained at scene until I was relieved by a supervisor.

This concludes my statement, and I am prepared to answer additional clarifying questions.

Detective Singleton stated that he is a Detective with the Special Operations Unit, with a focus on drug-related offenses. He stated that he did not have a body-worn camera or any other recording devices at the time of this incident.

On the day of the incident, Detective Singleton said that the other four officers began to

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approach the front of the residence, and he split off and went to the rear. He stated that there were no other officers on an exterior perimeter. From the back of the residence, positioned on the northeast corner, Detective Singleton said that he could see the rear door to the residence. He said that there were no doors on the east side, and he could see the backyard area.

Detective Singleton said that he heard, what he believed to be announcements, being given by officers in the front of the residence. Shortly after, he heard banging, which he believed was by officers attempting to make entry into the residence. Detective Singleton said that he heard shots fired, but he was not sure how many shots and did not know who had fired.

Detective Singleton moved his position to the southeast corner, to check on the safety of other officers at the front of the residence. Detective Singleton said that he was not sure who was shooting or in what direction. Detective Singleton maintained his position in case the subject tried to retreat into the house or escape out of the back of the residence. Detective Singleton recalled Detective Hoyle verbalize via radio that medics were needed on scene.

Detective Singleton made his way to the front of the residence where he observed a male on the floor and said that he learned that police had fired shots. He was still unsure if the subject had fired at officers. Detective Singleton said that the male was laying down towards his left, in the living room area by a coffee table, and was bleeding. He said that the gun was a few feet away from the front door, which he described as a revolver.

Medical aid to the male was already being rendered by other officers. Detective Singleton went straight back to a female inside the residence, who he described was bleeding from her leg. He said that Detective Crank was already assisting with providing medical assistance to her by applying a tourniquet. Detective Singleton said that the female was standing and they tried to move her over to a chair. He said that the injury was located between her calf and her ankle. Eventually, multiple medics showed up and provided aid to the female. He said that medics applied a second tourniquet. Detective Singleton stayed with her until she was transported via the ambulance. To his knowledge, no officers rode with her to the hospital.

Detective Singleton went back to the Middletown Police Department where he was ultimately photographed by BCI. SA Frazier asked if he believed that the other officers followed their policy and procedures in using deadly force and he stated, "yes."

The interview concluded at 1054 hours. Detective Singleton's typed statement and a copy of the audio recorded interview are attached to this report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-06-13 Detective Singleton Typed Statement

Attachment # 02: 2025-06-13 Detective Brian Singleton Audio Interview

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This concludes my statement, and I am prepared to answer additional clarifying questions.

Det B Singleton June 13th, 2025

Detective Brian Singleton, Badge No. 643