



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 905 Brady Ave., Steubenville, OH 43952,
Jefferson County

To: Micah Ault, Ohio Attorney Generals Special Prosecutions
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Joseph Goudy, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: July 13, 2026
Involves: Matthew Metzger (S)
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 Brady Ave., Steubenville, OH
43952, Jefferson County
BCI Case Numbers: Special Investigations (FIU): 2026-2005
Crime Scene (CSU): 2026-2005
Cyber Crime (CCU): 2026-2005
BCI Laboratory: 26-34415

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Investigative Request

On Sunday, May 24, 2026, Chief Ken Anderson of the Steubenville Police Department requested assistance from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on May 24, 2026, in the area of 905 Brady Avenue, Steubenville, Ohio 43952 and resulted in the death of Matthew Metzger (Metzger).

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the May 24, 2026, officer-involved shooting in Jefferson County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

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Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent Joseph Goudy (SA Goudy) was assigned as the lead FIU case agent. SA Goudy received assistance in the investigation from SA Joe Lamping (SA Lamping), SA Nick Valente (SA Valente), SA Jesse Bynum (Bynum), SA Rob Surgenor (Surgenor), and SA John Tingley (Tingley). BCI Special Agents Ed Lulla (SA Lulla) and Chad Doran (SA Doran) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Computer Forensic Specialist (CFS) Clarice Cowgill of the Cyber Crimes Unit attempted to conduct an extraction and analysis of an Apple iPad recovered from the vehicle originally driven by Metzger. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Chuck Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the 2 officers who discharged their weapons
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Recorded interview(s) of the involved subject and others subjects directly involved in the incident
- Interviews of 3 civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance at the post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, including criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available dash cameras involved in the incident

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- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available surveillance videos which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident
- Reviewed phone/text records obtained via search warrant from wireless service provider
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Obtained search warrants for the subject's Apple iPad and attempted to perform an analysis of the data present
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
 3. DNA
- Obtained search warrant to analyze electronic evidence, to include:
 1. [REDACTED]
- Reviewed data obtained from aforementioned items of electronic evidence
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered
- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident

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- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

Incident Summary/Overview

On Sunday, May 24, 2026, the Steubenville Police Department (SPD) requested the Force Investigations Unit and the Crime Scene Unit to conduct an investigation into an officer involved critical Incident. Officers from the Steubenville Police Department responded to 905 Brady Avenue regarding a male, later identified as Matthew Metzger (Metzger). SPD received 911 calls regarding Metzger pointing guns at cars and putting other guns into a new vehicle parked at the Ford dealership.

When officers arrived on scene, they encountered Metzger standing near his personal vehicle across the street from 905 Brady Avenue. When [REDACTED] first encountered him, Metzger could be heard yelling he was the head of "DARPA" and for the officers to stand down. During this time, [REDACTED] repeatedly told Metzger to, "Show me your hands," followed by, "Drop the gun." A second officer, [REDACTED] arrived immediately afterwards. Shortly after [REDACTED] gave commands for Metzger to comply, Metzger refused to comply. Video footage shows Metzger running across the street toward 905 Brady Avenue and discharging his firearm in the direction of [REDACTED]. At that time, both officers discharged their patrol rifles at Metzger. Metzger later succumbed to his injuries.

Soon after the shooting incident, Metzger was secured and emergency medical assistance was provided to him until the Steubenville Fire department (SFD) Emergency Medical Service (EMS) arrived on scene. Later it was determined that Metzger was placing firearms and a can of ammunition into a brand-new Ford F-150 Raptor that was parked on the Ford dealership lot. After speaking to Metzger's parents, it is believed that Metzger was attempting to steal the F-150 Raptor. A text message was sent by Metzger to his mother indicating that he wanted to steal a truck and guns.

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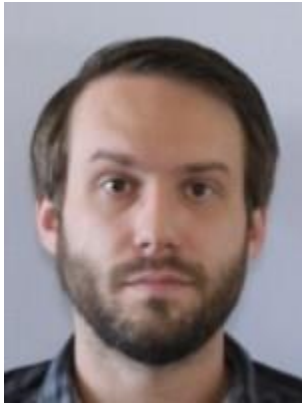


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Decedent



Name: Matthew Metzger

DOB: September 22, 1989

Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OHLEG)

(Height: 5'9" / Weight 185 / White male)

Matthew Metzger received emergency medical aid from responding officers, followed by additional treatment by EMS personnel after the shooting. He later succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Autopsy Report

The autopsy of the decedent (Matthew Metzger) was completed by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's office as requested by the Jefferson County Coroner. As of this date, the autopsy report has not been completed. The autopsy report will be provided at a later date once completed.

Physical Evidence

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting in order to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

Due to significant rainfall and the running rainwater along the roadway through the crime scene, smaller items of evidence and their respective placards were moved away

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from their original positions. No Leica scan was completed due to the evidence items being moved by the rainwater in the roadway.

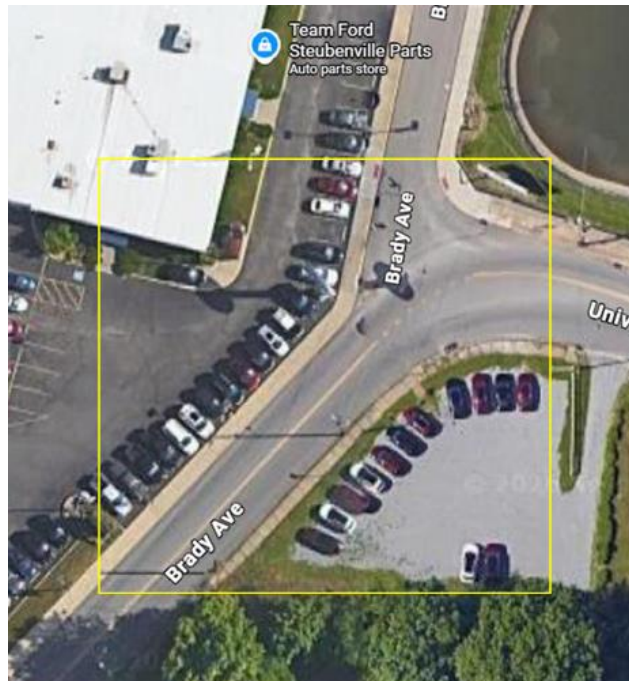


Image #1: Google Map image of 905 Brady Avenue, Steubenville. The crime scene is outlined in yellow.

The following images are photos from CSU showing the overall scene with Metzger deceased in the roadway and other items of importance.



(Image #2)



(Image #3)

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(Image #4: Crime Scene South view)



(Images #5 & #6: Metzger's vehicle)

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(Image #7: South view of decedent and location of firearm)

The Ford Raptor Metzger was putting guns into.



Matrix item #026 – Handgun used by Metzger

(Image #8: West View of placards and firearm used by Metzger under vehicle)



(Image #9: Photo of gun possessed by Metzger sitting under front of vehicle)

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(Image #10: The Ford Raptor Metzger was putting guns into)



(Image #11: The back seat compartment of the Ford Raptor with Metzger's guns and ammo can)

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Lab Submissions

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The following items were submitted for a DNA swab. However, they will not be submitted for analysis. The swabs will be retained for any potential future need.

1. Lab Item #14 (Matrix Item #026) Century Arms Canik – 9mm pistol / SN: T6472-20BN08631
2. Lab Item #17 (Matrix Item #032) DPMS A-15 5.56x45 NATO rifle / SN: FH226321
3. Lab Item #18 (Matrix Item #033) Mossberg 500c – 20-gauge shotgun / SN: R415283
4. Lab Item #19 (Matrix Item #034) Bergara BSR - .22 caliber rifle / SN: TA004580

As of July 15, 2026, the BCI Firearms Section was still in the process of performing an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). This process includes comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon to determine if identifications can be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Once this process is completed, the final lab comparison report will be submitted at a later date.

Civilian Interviews

Family members

Craig and Karen Metzger – Parents of Matthew Metzger

When agents arrived at the Metzger residence, they advised Craig and Karen of their son Matthew's passing as a result of this matter. After explaining to them what had occurred, Craig and Karen began to provide a background into Matthew. They mentioned that Matthew was diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome and was possibly paranoid schizophrenic. Previously, Craig and Karen stated that Matthew was involved in a car accident, which they believe may have aggravated his condition. Karen explained how Matthew has been "so hateful" for the past month. She stated:

"He's blaming me for all these things that he, he's been delusional for a while. And we just couldn't, but he was having so many periods of being, um, lucid. I mean, he's, he had a, a really high IQ and, and really high. But, but today I spent whole afternoon stopping things. He, he put a whole bunch of, uh,

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subscriptions on my Apple credit card. And I texted him and I said, 'What are you doing?' 'You know, cancel those'. He said, 'No, my wife told me to do it.' Matthew wasn't married. He's been, you know, thinking that he was with this girl." (00:07:05)

Karen went on to discuss her and Craig's recent conversations with the family doctor and potentially admitting Matthew for mental health care. She stated:

"It just, the things, we just didn't know what to do to help. Anyway, we were afraid. I talked to our family doctor about whether we should try to do, uh, 302 [similar to an Application for Emergency Admission in the State of Ohio], uh, you know, a commitment. And this was a, this was a month or two ago before it got to be consistent. And I never dreamed he would leave the house looking for trouble. But I was concerned about somebody going to the house. And I told the officer, uh, the Ohio State Police that, you know, that, um, he's paranoid. I'm really worried about him getting scared and trying to protect himself. You know what I mean? So, I honestly never thought that unless we sent somebody there, that there would be any reason for anyone to go to the house and be in danger or if that was even, you know, possible. (00:09:31)

Karen and Craig went on to discuss the car accident Matthew was involved in in February of 2026. They stated how he asked to go to the hospital to get checked out. During that time, Craig stated:

"The next day he said, 'Dad, I think I should go to the hospital.' I said, 'Thank you, God.' So, I took him to the hospital and up here at, uh, Weirton and they got him all hooked up and he, he was, he was paranoid. He kept talking about this government invention, magnetic thing that causes people to go crazy, I guess. And he said that the government used it on him years ago. He's telling all kinds of stories. And you, we couldn't even have a normal conversation with him lately. (00:12:32)

Craig and Karen were asked if Matthew had given them any indication that he planned to harm himself or others. They both reported that he had not. However, they both advised that Matthew had been suffering from delusions. Matthew's most recent delusions appeared to be centered around him running government agencies such as the NSA. They also noted that Matthew had a strong desire to protect his property. Craig reported that he had considered Matthew being involved in an incident similar to the one being investigated had it taken place at his residence as opposed to in the public.

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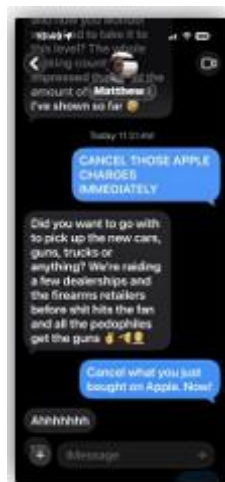


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Craig advised that Matthew had several firearms including a .22 caliber rifle, a Mossberg 20 gauge, an AR-15 style rifle, and possibly a 9mm handgun. He could not recall Matthew having any other firearms than the ones he listed. They were not able to recall if Matthew purchased any ammunition. While explaining why BCI was involved in the investigation, Craig responded,

"I can tell you right now, if he had all those guns loaded, that the officers acted properly, and as a father, that's hard to say, but...." (00:26:34)

Karen added that she received text messages from Matthew on Sunday, May 24, 2026, prior to the incident. The text was alarming to her. The text asked her if she wanted to go with them to pick up the new cars, truck and guns. The text also mentioned about raiding a few dealerships and guns stores before, *"shit hits the fan and all the pedophiles get the guns."* The following is a snippet of the text message:



(Image #12)

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-05-24: Family Interview - Craig and Karen Metzger (IRW-3)."

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Witnesses

Jonathan Manning / DOB: 11-05-1962 / Phone: [REDACTED]

Jonathan Manning (Manning) stated that he witnessed Metzger walking on the east side of the car dealership, pointing a handgun at another vehicle. Metzger did not discharge the firearm at that point. As Manning continued to observe Metzger's movements, he stated he saw him remove additional guns from his Jeep, carry them across the street from where it was parked and place them into a new vehicle on the car lot. Manning then stated that he observed two police vehicles arriving. Shortly afterwards, Manning stated that he then heard 3 to 6 gunshots fired.

Austin Guiler / DOB: 02-02-1998 / Phone: [REDACTED]

Austin Guiler (Guiler) stated that while he was pulling out into the intersection, he observed Metzger with a gun. Furthermore, his friends were driving behind him when Metzger pointed a gun at them and said that they were under arrest. As Guiler pulled into a parking lot, he stated that the police officers fired their guns at Metzger because he pulled a gun on them.

Sharon Kowalik / DOB: 03-26-1955 / Phone: [REDACTED]

Sharon Kowalik (Kowalik) stated that after a police car stopped in front of her, an officer exited from the vehicle with his gun and yelled at a man across the street to exit his vehicle and drop the weapon. Kowalik then stated that the male (Metzger) ran across the street "shooting his gun." It was at this time when Kowalik stated that the officers started to fire their weapons which resulted in Metzger falling on the other side of the street. Kowalik stated that Metzger ignored the commands by officers to drop his gun. Kowalik believed that as a result of the gunfire, a tire on her vehicle went flat due to it being struck by a bullet.

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-06-15: Witness Statement Review (OICI-19 CivilWitIntRpt-1)."

Neighborhood Canvass

1630 Pershing Avenue - Cathryn Rench

Rench reported she lived alone and had no security cameras on her home. Rench was in her backyard when she heard what she described as a tight grouping of really loud "bopping" sounds. She estimated she heard six or seven of these bopping sounds in quick succession. Rench initially believed these sounds were the result of someone setting off fireworks. Rench walked towards the front of her home and saw emergency lights on police/fire vehicles parked near the scene of the shooting. She then believed

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there may have been a car crash that was responsible for the noises she heard and the emergency vehicle she saw. Rench never heard or saw the subject or any officers. Rench later learned from her neighbor, reportedly a retired police officer, that there had been an officer-involved shooting and that was the cause of the loud bopping sounds and explanation for the emergency vehicles she observed.

1624 Pershing Avenue – Natalia Kay

Kay reported she heard approximately four or five gunshots all of which were fired in quick succession. She originally believed the sounds she heard may have been a car backfiring. She later learned from a neighbor there had been an officer-involved shooting. Kay did not see or hear the police or the involved subject at any point in time. Kay did not have any security cameras on her home.

919 Woodlawn Road – Robert Sherretts

Sherretts' kitchen window faces out towards the parking lot where the subject parked his vehicle. Sherretts' home does have security cameras, but they face the front of the home and were not positioned in a way to capture any relevant video of the shooting incident. Sherretts did not create any video recordings of the incident with his cell phone or any other devices. However, he did report seeing a single police officer walking towards the Ford dealership behind his home and across the street. Sherretts recalled the officer was holding his firearm out and it was pointed in the general direction of the Ford dealership. Sherretts did not have a clear view of the officer but recalled he was dressed as one would expect of a typical uniformed police officer. Sherretts recalled hearing this officer loudly and clearly yell out verbal commands. Sherretts was unsure exactly what commands the officer was yelling out but believed they were something along the lines of, "Get on the ground. Put your hands up." Sherretts noted the officer repeated this verbal command two or three times.

Seconds later Sherretts heard the sound of gunfire. Sherretts estimated he heard approximately three or four shots, a brief pause, then one or two more shots. Sherretts estimated the officer was approximately 70 yards from him when he saw the officer. After the shooting, Sherretts briefly went outside and saw officers standing over/near the subject. He could not tell what the officers were doing but noted the subject was not moving at that time.

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-05-24: Neighborhood Canvass Conducted (OICI-18 NeighborhoodCan-1)."

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Officer Interviews

The following paragraphs are a summary of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and/or discharging their weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

██████████ was not dispatched directly but heard the call for service from the dispatch radio. ██████████ believed it was car 10 and car 50 from the Hilltop zone that were originally dispatched. ██████████ responded also to assist. The information ██████████ received from dispatch indicated that multiple callers reported a male near the Team Ford dealership who was armed with a handgun and brandishing it at passersby. Dispatch also reported additional calls from witnesses saying that the male had a gun and was stashing more guns and ammunition inside a new vehicle on the car lot. When asked whether he had any training relevant to responding to this type of situation, ██████████ stated that he relied on his Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Training (ALERT), which addresses active shooter scenarios. Based on the nature of the calls coming into dispatch, he believed that this training was applicable to the incident.

██████████ was asked if he had any prior dealings with the subject, later identified as Matthew Metzger (Metzger). The day prior, ██████████ responded to the Walmart parking lot to take a complaint involving Metzger. He explained that it stemmed from a road rage incident during which Metzger told the female complainant that he was going to have OSP arrest her. It was also reported that Metzger brandished a black handgun in the high-ready position in front of the complainant before he drove off. That encounter was video recorded on the complainant's cell phone. When he arrived on scene, ██████████ recognized Metzger from that previous complaint.

As ██████████ was responding to the area, he stated:

"I made the decision that I would deploy a rifle due to the level of threat that he potentially had, which is the rifle or shotgun. And, um, I told my supervisor what I was doing. I asked other responding units since I was coming in from the south side of Brady, University Boulevard comes and makes a swooping turn. I wanted that area to be cornered off as well. So, I asked for a unit to come up east and shut down the road." (23:22).

When ██████████ exited his cruiser; he observed Metzger running up a small embankment behind another vehicle. During that time, ██████████ stated he was at the "high-ready" with his patrol rifle and asked Metzger to show him his hands. When

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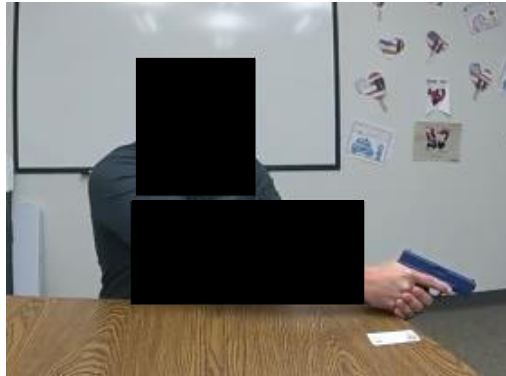


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██████████ first began giving commands to Metzger, Metzger was positioned with his handgun pointed in ██████████ direction as he leaned across the hood of the vehicle next to him, near the A-pillar. ██████████ demonstrated how Metzger was standing by using a blue training handgun.



(Image #13: Demonstration of how Metzger was standing and pointing his handgun)

██████████ stated that Metzger told him that he was the king of Dartmouth and that was consistent to what he said the previous day during the road rage video at Walmart. ██████████ stated that he did not feel comfortable discharging his rifle at that moment because Metzger presented only a small target and there was a school building directly behind him. He then moved to cover. When ██████████ arrived, ██████████ repositioned himself to prevent any potential crossfire based on ██████████ location. As ██████████ took cover behind another vehicle; he heard gunshots being fired. He did not know if ██████████ fired first or if it was Metzger. ██████████ stated:

"I didn't know if it was ██████████ firing first. I didn't know if the suspect was firing first, but due to the prior information of him already being armed with a, with a handgun and ex uh, possibly having access to more weapons in a dealership lot with all this cover and vehicles, I made the determination when I turned around and I seen him running still, that I was gonna neutralize the threat at that time. And I fired two shots." (26:03).

██████████ did not know how many rounds ██████████ discharged. After Metzger was down, ██████████ stated that no more rounds were discharged. ██████████ checked Metzger's vehicle while he ██████████ covered Metzger. Once additional officers arrived on scene, emergency medical assistance was provided to Metzger. When Sgt. Barrett arrived, ██████████ secured his rifle and was removed from the scene.

██████████ was asked to clarify the moment he decided to discharge his patrol rifle:

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"When after I heard the volley of shots go off, I had to turn and and try to get a sight picture. So, it took me a, a second and I seen him still running and he was running in the direction of the dealership lot where they were advising that he had other weapons stashed. So, I mean, you know, that's, that's the point, that's the determination that I made myself, that if there's shots being fired from either [REDACTED] or the suspect and he's running to a position to gain access to more weapons, potentially more deadly weapons that could cause mass casualties that I was gonna neutralize the threat at that time." (30:43).

[REDACTED] continued by describing his sight picture:

"I fired two rounds and he fell to the ground immediately. I seen the handgun, I can't remember exactly where it was at, but I know it was in the immediate vicinity. He, he roll over and grab it and I know that I called that out to [REDACTED] and I think he might have moved it out of the way initially, but it was there, the handgun that I was seen was pointed at me, was laying right on the sidewalk area right next to him. (32:13).

[REDACTED] stated that he feared for his safety and the safety of others and believed that no other use-of-force option was available under the circumstances. [REDACTED] explained that throughout the incident he remained aware of his surroundings, including [REDACTED] position, which helped him determine when it was safe to discharge his firearm. At the end of the interview, [REDACTED] reviewed his body-worn camera and dash camera footage and reported no additions or changes to his statement.

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-06-18: Involved Officer Interview - [REDACTED] (OICI-22 InvolOfcInt-2)."

As [REDACTED] was responding, dispatch advised that they received multiple calls about a male with a gun. Dispatch also received calls that the male had a rifle or shotgun slung over his shoulder and was placing weapons into a new vehicle at the car dealership.

[REDACTED] further stated that [REDACTED] also responded and he heard him request permission, over the radio, to deploy the patrol rifle. [REDACTED] was authorized to do so by Sergeant (Sgt.) Barrett (Barrett). [REDACTED] further stated,

"I was already in my mind thinking we should probably deploy the rifle against a long gun threat 'cause it was made over the radio that there was a long gun involved." (21:54).

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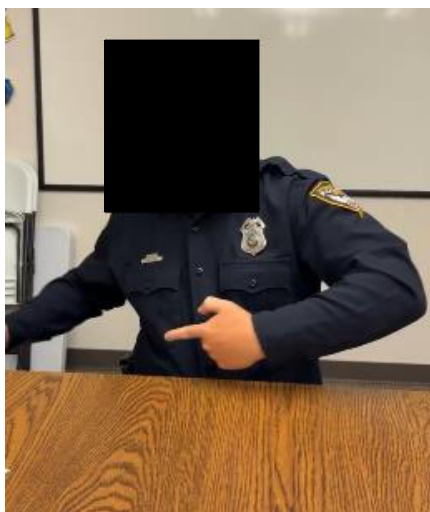
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When [REDACTED] arrived on scene, he stated that when he exited his vehicle, he deployed his patrol rifle. [REDACTED] also stated that [REDACTED] was already on-scene and positioned across the street from his location. [REDACTED] stated that from a position of cover, he observed [REDACTED] speaking with the subject as he was standing near a black Jeep in the smaller parking lot across from the main dealership. It was at this time, when [REDACTED] began to take a sight picture of the subject, while [REDACTED] was giving the subject commands to *"Put the gun on the ground."* (23:34)

It was at that time when [REDACTED] observed the subject holding a handgun and pointing it down towards the ground. [REDACTED] maintained a *"tactical advantage and provided cover"* (23:45) as [REDACTED] continued with his command to drop the gun. During that time, the subject engaged in a conversation with [REDACTED] while commands were being given. [REDACTED] could not make out what the subject was saying.

At this point, the subject began to run towards the dealership but then changed direction and ran towards [REDACTED]. As the subject was running, [REDACTED] stated that the subject was *"bladed"* and had the handgun in his left hand pointed towards him as he was running. [REDACTED] stated:

"As he crosses Brady Avenue I, to the best of my memory, he has the pistol pointed in his left hand as he's like running like this bladed towards me. And then in his other hand, his right hand, I'm almost certain he was carrying like a posse box, like a trapper keeper box." (24:46).



(Image #14: Demonstrating how Metzger was running across the street)

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█████ demonstrated (above image) how Metzger ran in a bladed position with the handgun pointed directly at him. █████ mentioned that the subject also had something like a "posse box" or "trapper keeper box" in his other hand. █████ further stated:

"As he is crossing the middle of Brady Avenue, I see him, the gun underhanded pointed at me in his left hand. So, at that point, I then engaged him because he was a threat to me for my safety." (25:45).

█████ thought that the subject was running to try and grab his "stashed weapons" that he previously placed into one of the vehicles on the dealership lot. █████ described the moment he discharged his patrol rifle towards the subject:

"I engaged a threat. Um, when I began engaging a threat, safety went off and, in my training, and my muscle and me memory took over. I couldn't exactly tell you at that moment how many times I fired. But I fired till he was no longer a threat. He was down on the ground." (26:01).

After the subject went down, █████ stated that as he approached the subject, he kicked the handgun away from the subject. █████ further clarified that the gun was not in his hand at this time, but it was in close proximity to where the subject's hand was lying. Afterwards, █████ walked over to the black Jeep the subject was standing near to ensure that there were no additional threats. After checking the area for any potential threats, █████ walked towards his SPD cruiser and checked on the vehicle and occupants parked behind his cruiser to make sure they were okay. █████ then secured his patrol rifle in the center rifle rack. At this point, █████ began to take witness statements and collect information from witnesses in the area. Shortly thereafter, █████ was relieved of his duty and was transported back to SPD.

When █████ was asked why he utilized his patrol rifle as opposed to his pistol, he stated:

"...my training and experience like the use of force continuum, if someone has a higher power weapon than you, you should level up to their level. So, in my opinion, a pistol versus a long gun, I'd rather have the long gun." (29:16).

With the use of a blue training gun, in image #2, █████ demonstrated what he observed of the subject while he was standing near the black Jeep. He described the gun being held in a "high Sul" position while he was speaking with █████. █████ stated that he was to the subject's right while the subject was facing █████ and holding the gun. The subject was bladed just enough for █████ to notice the handgun.

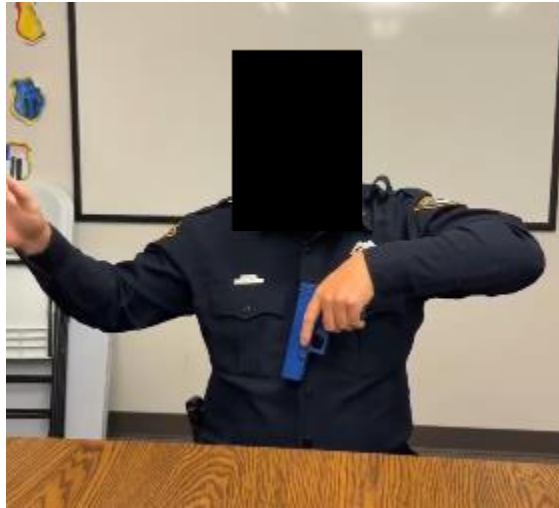
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(Image #15)

██████████ believed that no other reasonable force option was available in this situation. At the conclusion of this interview, ██████████ was given the opportunity to review his BWC. After reviewing his BWC video, ██████████ went back on the record to make an amendment to a previous statement he had made. In the video labeled as "2026-06-18: Video Interview - ██████████ (2/2)," ██████████ stated that he had mixed up his actions regarding when he approached the jeep. ██████████ stated that he approached the black Jeep first before he kicked the handgun away from the subject's hand.

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-06-18: Involved Officer Interview - ██████████ (OICI-22 InvolOfcInt-1)."

Dispatch-Related Information

911 calls

The following information contains 911 calls made to the Steubenville Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office related to this matter.

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911_line_740_284_1245_2026_05_24_16_57_40.wav

Elapsed Time	Source	Narrative
00:01	Dispatch	"Steubenville Police"
00:02	Caller	"911 with a call from Team Ford...I'm right in front of Team Ford and a guy ran in front of a car. I said you probably shouldn't do that, and he pulled a gun at me and pointed at it, pointed it at me and said you're under arrest sir. He's in a bucket hat, like a white shirt with black sweatpants. And he is got glasses on, and he pulled a gun literally right out of his fucking side and pointed it right at me, and my wife, in my car."
00:26	Caller	"Yeah, yeah. White male..."

911_line_740_284_1245_2026_05_24_17_00_22.wav

Elapsed Time	Source	Narrative
00:00	Caller	"Yes. Uh, Stony Hollow Toyota...guy's walking with a gun, a shotgun...He's got a, uh, uh, uh, army and like a, uh, military like floppy hat on..."
00:19	Caller	"He's at the Ford. Black pants...He had a handgun, now he's got it now he's got a high-powered rifle."
02:17	Caller	"He's got, he just got his gun. He is walking back to the pickup truck at the Ford, right at the front of the Ford dealership."
02:29	Caller	"He has a bag, a bag of ammo. Looks like he has a bag of ammo with him."

Console_2_2026_05_24_17_00_36.wav

Elapsed Time	Source	Narrative
00:00	Dispatch	"Jefferson County 911"
00:05	Caller	"He's, he's in front of Team walking through the cars. He's got a shotgun on his fucking shoulder and the gun in his hand walking around. Stopping traffic and stuff."

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Console_2_2026_05_24_17_03_28.wav

Elapsed Time	Source	Narrative
00:49	Caller	No narrative. Shots fired by Police overheard on recording
01:23	Dispatch	"Did he shoot himself?"
01:25	Caller	"No. No, they shot him. The cops shot him. He was started running across the street waving stuff. Then they shot him. He was waving a gun at the cops."

Console_3_2026_05_24_16_59_21.wav

Elapsed Time	Source	Narrative
00:00	Dispatch	"Jefferson County 911."
00:03	Caller	"Yes, there's a guy brandishing a gun. Getting in his car near Biggio Ford..."

Radio Traffic Recordings

163_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_01_00_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Dispatch: *"Radio Hilltop Units. Can you respond to Team Ford parking lot. Right in between the sign in the building for a white male, white shirt, black pants. Caller stated he has a gun on him. One caller stated that he has a pistol. Another caller stated that he had some type of shotgun and placed it in a truck in that parking lot."*

164_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_01_51_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Dispatch: *"I got additional call from the first caller who said he had a handgun. Caller said he's walking around Team Ford now. Has, uh, believe a rifle or shotgun pointing at cars as those are going by."*

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165_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_02_48_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Dispatch: *"Male stated he just grabbed his gun, back out of the truck and he's right in front of the Team Ford building." (00:00)*

Dispatch: *"Units. The vehicle that he keeps walking back and forth to is a big black pickup truck. It should be parked at the front of the parked entrance, like right in the, right front corner. They stated he's got a bag of ammo supposedly." (00:33)*

Unknown Officer: *"Show me your hands. I got one male. He's involved yesterday. He's pointing the handgun." (01:10)*

167_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_04_22_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Unknown Officer: *"Shots fired. Shots fired. Start a 31. Officers are okay." (00:00)*

Officer (Unit 68): *"60 to jcom. Start a 31 at that location. Shots fired." (00:10)*

Unknown Officer: *"Male's laying on the road. Handguns away from him. Waiting to approach..." (01:17)*

171_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_07_44_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

[REDACTED] radio. *For log purposes, we're starting first aid right now, but he's got a head injury and a chest injury. We need that 31." (00:00)*

172_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_08_28_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Unknown Officer: *"Individual said there is a vehicle filled with ammo and weapons over to the left of you guys." (00:00)*

176_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_12_23_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Dispatch: *"9/22/89. 9/22/89. His first name is gonna be Matthew, last name Metzger." (00:00)*

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189_RADIO_STPD1_2026_05_24_17_40_02_by_Start_Time_asc.wav

Unknown Officer: *"I have located it. There's two rifles underneath the, uh, the seat of the car."* (00:00)

CAD Narrative Call

CAD call from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

05/24/26 16:58:36 MALE ON FOOT PULLED A HANDGUN AT THE CALLER. WHITE MALE BUCKET HAT GOT IN A WHITE COROLLA

For further information, please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-06-04: Review - Dispatch Related Information (OICI-02 DRRW-1)."

Video Recordings

Body Worn Cameras

At the 01:35 mark of the video and Axon time of 17:04:00, [REDACTED] was observed outside his vehicle giving the subject, Matthew Metzger (Metzger), commands of, "Sir, show me your hands." Metzger was heard yelling back that he was the head of Darpa and to stand down now.



(Image #13)

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At the 01:42 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:06, after additional commands of "Show me your hands," [REDACTED] was heard saying, "He's pointing a handgun," followed by, "Drop the gun, drop the gun." Shortly afterwards, [REDACTED] began to move to his right and was also heard yelling at [REDACTED] "Crossfire."

At the 01:53 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:18, the first gunshot was heard, followed by additional sounds of gunfire. Due to the positioning of [REDACTED] body and the location of the body worn camera (BWC), there was no clear view of the shooting incident.

At the 01:57 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:22, [REDACTED] was heard saying, "Shots fired, shots fired. Start a 31, Officers are okay." It was at that time that Metzger was observed lying in the roadway near the curb.



(Image #14)

At the 03:36 mark of the video, Axon time 17:06:00, [REDACTED] was heard saying to another assisting officer, "Fucking pointed the gun right at me dude." In the background, Metzger could be heard moaning while additional officers provided emergency medical assistance.

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At the 00:48 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:06, as [REDACTED] was approaching the area, Metzger was heard yelling "*Stand down now!*" multiple times to the officers. [REDACTED] was heard yelling for Metzger to "*Drop the gun*" multiple times.

At the 01:00 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:18, Metzger was observed running across the street. During this time, gunfire was heard which resulted in [REDACTED] discharging his patrol rifle.

At the 01:01 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:19, Metzger was observed running across the street. While doing so, it looked as if Metzger's arm was raised.



(Image #15)

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At the 01:49 mark of the video, Axon time 17:05:07, after checking Metzger's vehicle, [REDACTED] walked back over to Metzger's location and found a handgun on the ground nearby where Metzker was lying. [REDACTED] was heard saying he was going to kick the handgun away from where Metzker was lying.



(Image #16)

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Dash Camera Videos

Car [REDACTED] - [REDACTED]

At the 00:01:28 mark of the video file, Axon time 17:04:04, after exiting from his patrol vehicle with his patrol rifle, [REDACTED] was observed aiming his rifle in the area between two vehicles where Metzger was standing.



(Image #17)

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At the 00:01:44 mark of the video file, Axon time 17:04:19, after [REDACTED] moved out of view, Metzger was observed running across the street as [REDACTED] was seen off in the distance approaching from his position.



(Image #18)

At the 00:01:46 mark of the video, Axon time 17:04:21, Metzger was observed falling to the ground near the curb.



(Image #19)

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For further information please refer to the Matrix report titled, "2026-06-04: Video Review (OICI-16 NonOCICVidRev-2)."

Conclusion

On Sunday, May 24, 2026, the Steubenville Police Department requested BCI's FIU and CSU to investigate an Officer involved critical incident. The investigation revealed that a male, identified as Matthew Metzger, arrived at 905 Brady Avenue (Team Ford Dealership) at 4:40:34 PM (Team Ford Surveillance video time). The surveillance video showed Metzger driving his black Jeep Cherokee through the dealership lot before eventually parking across the street from the main lot. Metzger was then observed on surveillance videos walking back across the street to look at the new vehicles parked on the lot. After viewing several of the vehicles, Metzger walked back across the street to his Jeep Cherokee and eventually removed three long guns and a can of ammunition and walked it all back to the car lot and placed them into an unsecured Ford Pick-up truck that belonged to the dealership. The long guns were identified as a Mossberg 20-gauge shotgun, a Bergara .22 caliber rifle and a DPMS A-15 5.56mm rifle on an AR platform.

After placing the guns into the Ford truck, Metzger was observed walking back across the street to where his Jeep Cherokee was parked. According to multiple 911 calls and confirmation from the surveillance video at the Ford dealership, Metzger was observed pointing a handgun at a passing motorist. According to the dispatch files, Metzger yelled out to the passing motorist that he was under arrest. Soon after this occurred, Metzger was seen walking back to his Jeep Cherokee. After another trip back and forth across the street by Metzger, SPD [REDACTED] was the first to encounter Metzger. While Metzger had his patrol rifle deployed, he was heard telling Metzger to show him his hands followed by drop the gun. Metzger was heard on [REDACTED] BWC yelling that he was the head of DARPA and for the officers to stand down, multiple times. Shortly thereafter, [REDACTED] arrived at the scene, positioning himself on the opposite side of the street from [REDACTED]

After several commands were given by the responding officers to Metzger to drop his gun, he refused to comply. According to [REDACTED] during this time, observed Metzger leaning on the hood of a vehicle, pointing his gun at him. [REDACTED] stated that due to the potential safety issues behind Metzger, he did not fire his rifle. When Metzger began to run from his original location, he ran across the street towards the car dealership lot. The dealership's surveillance footage showed Metzger running while pointing an object toward [REDACTED]. During his interview, [REDACTED] confirmed

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that Metzger pointed a handgun at him, prompting [REDACTED] to discharge his patrol rifle. At that same moment, [REDACTED] also discharged his patrol rifle. The actions of the officers resulted in Metzger falling to the ground and eventually succumbing to his injuries. Metzger was struck approximately 5 times as stated by the preliminary reports from the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's doctor performing the autopsy.

During the course of the investigation, it was learned from his family that Metzger was suffering from mental health issues prior to the incident. It was also learned from his family that Metzger was suffering from mental health issues prior to the incident. Earlier in the day, prior to the incident, Metzger texted his mother about joining him and others to steal a new car and guns from a gun store. There was no evidence of other individuals being involved with Metzger. While reviewing prior SPD reports involving Metzger, it was noted that on the day before the incident he was involved in an altercation with another individual in the Wal-Mart parking lot. According to the complainant from that incident, Metzger pulled a gun on her and said that he was the head of DARPA and that state troopers were on their way to arrest her. The complainant provided cell phone video of that incident which confirmed the allegation. Metzger eventually drove off without further incident.

The 9mm handgun was discharged by Metzger approximately four times. Four 9mm Norma spent cartridge casings were discovered. It was also determined that the SPD officers discharged approximately twelve .223 rifle rounds during the incident.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Joseph Goudyt. SA Goudy can be reached via email at joseph.goudy@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at 614-208-3009.

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