



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



2025-3739

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4272 Cider Mill Drive,
Cincinnati, OH 45245 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer

Involves: [REDACTED] (O)

Activity Date: 11/25/2025

Activity Location: 4312 Glen-Este Withamsville Road, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Authoring Agent: SA Lauren Frazier #129

Narrative:

On Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 0957 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Lauren Frazier (SA Frazier) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Union Township Police Department (UTPD) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Steve Lazarus. The interview took place at the Union Township Police Department, located at 4312 Glen-Este Withamsville Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245. The interview was audio recorded.

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

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information obtained during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: [REDACTED]
Radio Channel Utilized: Union Twp.	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: White Ford Explorer with blue police decals	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: Self - driver
Assignment: South beat patrol	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Present & Utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized

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Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Rotating	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 7-8 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Dark blue pants, long sleeve shirt with UTPD patches, outer vest carrier, & badge	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Baton, pepper spray, taser
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: None	OPOTC Certification: Current
Military Experience/Training: [REDACTED]	Use-of-Force Training: Current
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: None	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: None
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: N/A

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Smith & Wesson	Model: M&P 9 M2.0
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster - duty belt
Magazine Capacity: stated 19 (possibly 17)	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 19 + 1
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 19
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary

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Rounds Remaining After Incident: 19	Number of Rounds Fired: 1
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Summer 2025	Type of Holster, if any: Retention

Narrative:

On the date of the incident, [REDACTED] stated that he was at the police department, typing up charges for an unrelated incident. He heard via radio, officers got dispatched to an incident involving a code 40, which is a firearm. He heard that the subject's mother and girlfriend were at the residence and it was starting to become a hostage or suicide by cop situation.

[REDACTED] put himself in route to the call through his in-car computer and radio. He said that he initiated his lights and siren and responded to Cider Mill Drive. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that he turned off his overhead lights and siren a few hundred feet before he arrived so that the subject didn't know officers were approaching. He said that [REDACTED] was in front of him and [REDACTED] arrived behind him.

He met with other officers already on scene, to include [REDACTED]. He said that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was on the other side of the street with his cruiser. [REDACTED] gave officers a description of the correct house, stating that there was a basketball hoop. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that officers began toward the involved residence, 4272 Cider Mill Drive.

[REDACTED] used a printed diagram of the scene to reference during this interview. While referring to the diagram, [REDACTED] described that [REDACTED] was in the driveway of 4270 Cider Mill Drive, positioned behind a vehicle. [REDACTED] was with him but then he moved to another vehicle with a better view of the front door. [REDACTED] said he was positioned behind a vehicle parked on the street near the front of the subject's residence. [REDACTED] was behind a vehicle in the driveway of 4273 Cider Mill Drive. [REDACTED] was near his cruiser, which was parked on the street, just north of the subject's residence. [REDACTED] said that cars were driving through the street, so [REDACTED] had [REDACTED] move his cruiser to block off the roadway.

[REDACTED] said that officers were waiting outside and getting updates from dispatch, stating that the subject was making threats about harming himself and stating that officers were going to have to kill him. [REDACTED] had dispatch transfer the male caller to a 19A, which was his cell phone. [REDACTED] said he could hear [REDACTED] talking to the subject. He recalled [REDACTED] telling the subject that officers did not want to hurt him. [REDACTED] said that it didn't sound like the de-escalation was going well. He stated that the subject was locked in on wanting to harm

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officers or have officers harm him. He stated that Sgt. Shaw arrived on scene and got in position near [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] said that he did not have the best line of sight, describing that he could see the garage but couldn't see the front door. He said that he could see down the right-side alley, side door, and backyard, in case anyone exited from the rear or side of the residence. He said that [REDACTED] was still on the phone with the subject and told officers to get ready because he was going to release a female. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that if the female came out of the residence, that he was going to give her commands, secure her, and make sure she was safe.

[REDACTED] said that he could not see the front door but was told by other officers that the front door opened. He was told a female was at the door but not coming out of the residence. He recalled a canine coming outside and barking at officers. Other officers stated that the female was going back inside. Then, a male appeared and [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] stated that the subject had a gun. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] then aired via radio that the male was pointing the weapon at him.

[REDACTED] said that he took a kneeling position on his left knee and used the rear vehicle bumper as cover. He heard [REDACTED] still on the phone with the subject, telling him not to come out of the house with a weapon. A short time later, [REDACTED] stated, "here he comes." [REDACTED] stated that the subject ran out of the house with a weapon, described as a handgun, pointed upwards while he was running. [REDACTED] noted that the subject was running weird, which he described as skipping high in the air while running diagonally through the yard toward the neighbor's sidewalk.

He said that he heard [REDACTED] fire approximately 2 to 3 rounds. [REDACTED] said that he was still trying to get a good shot, while considering his backdrop and surrounding area. He said that [REDACTED] s rounds did not affect the male, so he stood up and fired one round toward the subject's midsection. He said that the subject was approximately 20-25 feet away when he fired and was just coming out of the yard and onto the sidewalk. He was unsure if his round hit the subject or not. [REDACTED] heard [REDACTED] fire another 2 to 3 rounds a few seconds after him. At that point, he observed the male subject fall onto the sidewalk.

[REDACTED] said that the subject was running directly toward the location of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He said that he didn't think that the subject knew there were other officers nearby. [REDACTED] believed that [REDACTED] was the subject's main target because his cruiser had the spotlight pointed at the house. [REDACTED] was asked if he believed the subject was going to shoot at officers and he stated yes, he

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believed that the subject was going to seriously harm or shoot an officer. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] stated that he was in fear for the lives of other officers and that's why he fired his weapon. He said that he stopped firing because his backdrop changed and it was not safe for him to fire.

Another officer radioed that shots had been fired. [REDACTED] said that he started running toward the subject then realized that officers still needed to clear the house. He observed [REDACTED] already at the front door and joined him. He said that [REDACTED] kicked the door in, using a donkey style kick and switched to his handgun.

Officers believed that there were two females inside the residence. [REDACTED] said that an older female was lying in a hospital type bed in the living room. [REDACTED] was telling her to show her hands but said that she seemed confused and disoriented. [REDACTED] stayed with the female, while [REDACTED] and Sgt. Shaw, with a ballistic shield, cleared the residence to check for victims and secure the house. The female told officers that no one else was inside.

[REDACTED] spoke to the female on scene, who told him that her son was severely intoxicated and that officers had talked to him the night prior. She told him that her son was acting crazy and had a weapon. The female said that she called 911 and tried to go into her room down the hallway. She told [REDACTED] that her son grabbed the phone and she tried to hide in the garage. Officers had a medic respond to check on the female. She had [REDACTED] and was ultimately transported to Mercy Anderson Hospital.

[REDACTED] was asked if he knew the subject or had any prior contact with him and he stated no. [REDACTED] stated that he did not give any verbal commands prior to firing his weapon. After the subject was shot, [REDACTED] said that he heard a scraping noise on the ground from someone kicking the gun presumably away from the subject. When asked if the subject fired his weapon, [REDACTED] stated that he did not believe so. At the time of the shooting, [REDACTED] was asked if he perceived any other options other than the use of deadly force and he stated no.

While on scene, he said that Detective Wilford took possession of his handgun. [REDACTED] said that he did not manipulate the firearm and the gun remained on scene until collected by BCI.

The interview concluded at approximately 1034 hours. The interview was audio recorded and has been attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation

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Notification form and printed diagram referenced are also attached to this report.
Please see the attachments for further details.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

2025-11-25 Criminal Investigation Notification [REDACTED]

2025-11-25 Reference Diagram [REDACTED]

2025-11-25 [REDACTED] Audio Interview

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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).

[REDACTED]

11/25/2025 0959
Date / Time

[REDACTED]

Lauren Frazier
BCI Agent (Printed)

 #129
BCI Agent (Signature)

BCI Case# 2025-3739

Type: Reference diagram

Description: Google Maps Arial photograph

Location: 4272 Cider Mill Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Date: 11/15/2025

Officer Name: [REDACTED]

Officer Signature: [REDACTED]

