



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



2024-3649

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 6880 Sunset Strip Ave
NW, Room #220, North Canton, Ohio, 44720

Investigative Activity: Receipt and Review of Lab Reports
Involves: Jackson Township Police Department (O)
Activity Date: 02/25/2025
Activity Location: BCI Richfield
Authoring Agent: SA Matthew Armstrong

Narrative:

On February 25, 2025, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Armstrong (SA Armstrong) received the BCI Laboratory report(s) for items submitted to the BCI Lab on November 21, 2024.

Ten items were submitted to the lab for analysis. They included multiple firearms collected at the scene as well as fired cartridge cases

The reports originated from the Firearms section of the laboratory and were authored by Forensic Scientist's Mike Roberts, and Joshua Barr and Forensic Science Technician Patrick Murphy. They have been attached to this report.

The reports were reviewed and revealed the following information:

Lab Item #	Matrix Item #	Crime Scene Item #	Description	Result
1	9	10	Springfield Armory, model XDM Elite, 10mm semi-automatic pistol, SN: BE277600	Operable and source identification for Lab Items #3, #5, #6, and #7 (Crime Scene Items #14, #16, #24, #25; and Matrix Items #12, #14, #21, #22).
2	8	9	Ruger, 38 Special, Revolver, SN: 540-45090	Operable
8	45	48	Romarm, Model WASR-10, 7.62X39mm semi-automatic rifle, SN: A1-33596-15 RO	Operable

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Officer Involved Critical Incident - 6880 Sunset Strip Ave
NW, Room #220, North Canton, Ohio, 44720

Lab Item #	Matrix Item #	Crime Scene Item #	Description	Result
9	46	49	CVA, Model Scout, .45-70, single shot rifle, SN: 61-06-133257-23	Operable
10	47	50	Dickson, Model Ermox XXPA, 12 Gauge semi-automatic shotgun, SN: 204216591	Operable

For additional details refer to the attached lab reports.

References:

None

Attachments:

1. BCI Lab Report 24-38325-1 (Firearms Operability)
2. BCI Lab Report 24-38325-4 (Firearms)
3. BCI Lab Report 24-38325-3 (NIBIN 1)

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DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bureau of Criminal Investigation

**Laboratory Report
Operability**

To: BCI / Richfield
Matthew Armstrong
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH 44286

BCI Laboratory Number: 24-38325

Analysis Date:
November 22, 2024

Issue Date:
December 02, 2024

Agency Case Number: 2024-3649
BCI Agent: Dan Boerner

Offense: Shooting Involving an Officer
Subject(s): James J. Vanest
Victim(s): State of Ohio

Submitted on 11/21/2024 by Betsy Farris

1. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #BE277600) with cartridge and magazine (CSU Item 10 Matrix Item 009)
 - *One (1) Springfield Armory 10mm Auto semi-automatic pistol, model XDm Elite, serial number BE277600 and a loaded magazine with an unknown number of cartridges.*
2. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #540-45090) with cartridge (CSU Item 009 Matrix Item 008)
 - *One (1) Ruger 38 Special double-action only revolver, model LCR, serial number 540-45090 and five (5) cartridges.*
8. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #A1-33596-15) with magazine and cartridge (CSU Item 048 Matrix Item 045)
 - *One (1) Romarm 7.62 x 39mm semi-automatic rifle, model WASR-10, serial number A1-33596-15, one (1) loaded magazine and forty-one (41) cartridges.*
9. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #61-06-133257-23) with cartridge (CSU Item 049 Matrix Item 046)
 - *One (1) CVA 45-70 Govt. break-top rifle, model Scout, serial number 61-06-133257-23 and one (1) cartridge.*
10. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #204216591) with shotshells and magazines (CSU Item 050 Matrix Item 047)

Please address inquiries to the office indicated, using the BCI case number.

[] BCI -Bowling Green Office
750 North College Drive
Bowling Green, OH 43402
Phone:(419)353-5603

[] BCI -London Office
1560 St Rt 56 SW P.O. Box 365
London, OH 43140
Phone:(740)845-2000

[X] BCI -Richfield Office
4055 Highlander Pkwy. Suite A
Richfield, OH 44286
Phone:(330)659-4600

- *One (1) Dickinson 12 Gauge pump-action / semi-automatic shotgun, model XXPA, serial number 204216591 and three (3) magazines and nineteen (19) unfired shotshells.*

Findings

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #1: One (1) Springfield Armory pistol	N/A	Not tested (see below)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #2: One (1) Ruger revolver	N/A	Not tested (see below)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #8: One (1) Romarm semi-automatic rifle	N/A	Operable

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
One (1) CVA single-shot rifle	N/A	Operable

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
One (1) Dickinson 12 Gauge pump-action / semi-automatic shotgun	N/A	Operable

Remarks

The Springfield Armory pistol, Item #1, was submitted with the frame (with a loaded magazine), slide, barrel and recoil spring separated from each other. Bullet impact damage was noted on the frame, magazine and a cartridge loaded in the magazine. Due to the damage on the magazine, it could not be fully unloaded or removed from the frame. Additional testing will be performed at a later date.

The submitted Ruger revolver, Item #2, was found with a cartridge stuck inside one of the chambers. The cylinder has difficulty closing. Further testing will be conducted at a later date.

There were no pertinent findings regarding the submitted cartridges in Items #1, 2, 8, 9, plus the extra magazines and unfired shotshells from Item #10.

All evidence will be returned to the submitting agency upon completion of the full analysis.

Analytical Detail

Analytical findings offered above were determined using visual and physical examinations.



Michael E. Roberts
Forensic Scientist
(234) 400-3652
michael.roberts@OhioAGO.gov



Based on scientific analyses performed, this report contains opinions and interpretations by the analyst whose signature appears above. Examination documentation and any demonstrative data supporting laboratory conclusions are maintained by BCI and will be made available for review upon request. Results relate only to the items tested.

Your feedback is important to us! Please complete our Laboratory Satisfaction Survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q9VQHL5>

Comparison Conclusion Scale

The following lists the conclusions a Forensic Scientist may reach when performing comparisons. In reaching a conclusion, a Forensic Scientist considers the similarities and dissimilarities and assesses the relative support of the observations under the following two propositions: the evidence originated from the same source or from a different source.

A Forensic Scientist may utilize their knowledge, training, and experience to evaluate how much support the observed similarities or dissimilarities provide for one conclusion over another. A conclusion shall not be communicated with absolute certainty. It is an interpretation of observations made by the Forensic Scientists and shall be expressed as an expert opinion.

1	Source Identification	The observations provide extremely strong support for the proposition that the evidence originated from the same source and the likelihood for the proposition that the evidence arose from a different source is so remote as to be considered a practical impossibility.
2	Support for Same Source	The observations provide more support for the proposition that the evidence originated from the same source rather than different sources; however, there is insufficient support for a Source Identification. The degree of support may range from limited to strong or similar descriptors of the degree of support. Any use of this conclusion shall include a statement of the factor(s) limiting a stronger conclusion.
3	Inconclusive	The observations do not provide a sufficient degree of support for one proposition over the other. Any use of this conclusion shall include a statement of the factor(s) limiting a stronger conclusion.
4	Support for Different Source	The observations provide more support for the proposition that the evidence originated from different sources rather than the same source; however, there is insufficient support for a Source Exclusion. The degree of support may range from limited to strong or similar descriptors of the degree of support. Any use of this conclusion shall include a statement of the factor(s) limiting a stronger conclusion.
5	Source Exclusion	The observations provide extremely strong support for the proposition that the evidence originated from a different source and the likelihood for the proposition that the evidence arose from the same source is so remote as to be considered a practical impossibility; or the evidence exhibits fundamentally different characteristics

We invite you to direct your questions to:
Abby Schwaderer, Quality Assurance Manager
(740) 845-2517
abby.schwaderer@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Michael E. Roberts
Statement of Qualifications
Michael.Roberts@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Education

- Bachelor's degree in Biology. December 1990. Berea College. Berea, Kentucky

Professional Experience

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Forensic Scientist. June 1992-present.

- **Selected Specialized Training**

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Firearm Examiner Training. 1992

A complete CV can be made available upon request

Updated: 4-01-2024



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Laboratory Report
Firearms

To: BCI / Richfield
Matthew Armstrong
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH 44286

BCI Laboratory Number: 24-38325

Analysis Date: January 13, 2025

Issue Date: February 04, 2025

Agency Case Number: 2024-3649

BCI Agent: Dan Boerner

Offense: Shooting Involving an Officer

Subject(s): James J. Vanest

Victim(s): State of Ohio

Submitted on 11/21/2024 by Betsy Farris

1. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #BE277600) with cartridge and magazine (CSU Item 10 Matrix Item 009)
 - *One (1) Springfield Armory 10mm Auto semi-automatic pistol, model XDM Elite, serial number BE277600 with one (1) partially loaded magazine stuck in the pistol and one (1) envelope with eight (8) 10mm Auto cartridges.*
2. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #540-45090) with cartridge (CSU Item 009 Matrix Item 008)
 - *One (1) Ruger 38 Special +P double action only revolver, model LCR, serial number 540-45090 with one (1) cartridge stuck in the cylinder and one (1) envelope with four (4) 38 Special cartridges.*
3. Envelope containing cartridge casings (CSU Item 014, Matrix Item 012)
 - *Two (2) fired 10mm Auto cartridge cases.*
4. Brown paper bag containing magazine (CSU Item 015, Matrix Item 013)
 - *Two (2) loaded magazines containing a total of nineteen (19) 10mm Auto cartridges.*
5. Brown paper bag containing cartridge case (CSU Item 016, Matrix Item 014)
 - *Three (3) fired 10mm Auto cartridge cases.*
6. One manila envelope containing cartridge case (CSU Item 024 Matrix 021)
 - *One (1) fired 10mm Auto cartridge case.*
7. Envelope containing cartridge casings (CSU Item 025 Matrix Item 022)

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London, OH 43140
Phone:(740)845-2000

[X] BCI -Richfield Office
4055 Highlander Pkwy. Suite A
Richfield, OH 44286
Phone:(330)659-4600

- *Five (5) fired 10mm Auto cartridge cases.*
- 8. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #A1-33596-15) with magazine and cartridge (CSU Item 048 Matrix Item 045)
 - *One (1) Romarm 7.62X39mm semi-automatic rifle, model WASR-10, serial number A1-33596-15 RO, one (1) magazine and forty-one (41) 7.62X39mm cartridges.*
- 9. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #61-06-133257-23) with cartridge (CSU Item 049 Matrix Item 046)
 - *One (1) CVA .45-70 GOVT single-shot rifle, model Scout, serial number 61-06-133257-23 and one (1) .45-70 GOVT cartridge.*
- 10. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #204216591) with shotshells and magazines (CSU Item 050 Matrix Item 047)
 - *One (1) Dickinson 12 Gauge Semi-Automatic / Pump-Action shotgun, model Ermox XXPA, serial number 204216591, three (3) magazines and nineteen (19) 12 Gauge unfired shotshells.*

Findings

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #1 - Springfield Armory pistol	N/A	Operable
	Items #3 and #5-7 - Eleven (11) cartridge cases.	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #2 - Ruger revolver	N/A	Operable

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #8 - Romarm rifle	N/A	Operable

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #9 - CVA rifle	N/A	Operable

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #10 - Dickinson shotgun	N/A	Operable

Remarks

The Springfield Armory pistol, Item #1, was submitted with the slide removed and examination revealed apparent impact damage to the front of the grip area. The impact damage prevented the magazine from being removed. One (1) of the cartridges in the magazine was ruptured by the impact damage and the partially expanded bullet was lodged in the magazine frame/ grip of the pistol. This prevented the cartridges below this point in the magazine from being removed. The ruptured

cartridge case and one (1) additional cartridge were removed from the magazine. The pistol was then reassembled and test fired by hand loading cartridges into the chamber.

Examination of the Ruger revolver, Item #2, revealed apparent impact damage to the cylinder preventing one (1) of the cartridges from being removed. The revolver was placed in a remote firing device due to safety concerns and the cartridge was fired. The cartridge case was then removed with a plastic dowel rod.

During testing of the Dickinson shotgun, Item #10, intermittent misfires occurred (light firing pin strikes on the shotshells). The shotgun was disassembled to inspect for broken, missing or misaligned parts, however, none were found. The shotgun was cleaned and reassembled but still misfires on one (1) of the four (4) attempts after reassembly. A conclusive determination as to the cause of the misfires could not be determined.

One (1) of the submitted cartridges from Item #2 and two (2) of the submitted cartridges from Item #4 were used for testing.

No pertinent findings were made with respect to the magazines from Item #4, the two (2) additional magazines from Item #10 or the submitted cartridges from Items #8-10.

All evidence will be returned to the submitting agency.

Analytical Detail

Analytical findings offered above were determined using visual, physical, and microscopic examinations / comparisons.



Joshua Barr
Forensic Scientist
(234)400-3649
joshua.barr@OhioAGO.gov



Based on scientific analyses performed, this report contains opinions and interpretations by the analyst whose signature appears above. Examination documentation and any demonstrative data supporting laboratory conclusions are maintained by BCI and will be made available for review upon request. Results relate only to the items tested.

Your feedback is important to us! Please complete our Laboratory Satisfaction Survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q9VQHL5>

Comparison Conclusion Scale

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(740) 845-2517
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Joshua B. Barr
Statement of Qualifications
Joshua.barr@ohioAGO.gov

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science. August 2007. Eastern Kentucky University. Richmond, KY.

Professional Experience

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Forensic Scientist (Firearms Section). January 2009 – Present.
- Hamilton County Coroner's Office. Forensic Scientist 1. March 2008 – December 2008.

Required Technical Training

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Firearm & Toolmark Examiner Training. 2009.
- National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) User Training. 2008.

Memberships

- Association of Firearm & Toolmark Examiners. Provisional Member #2811. December 2010.
- Association of Firearm & Toolmark Examiners. Regular Member #2811. July 2015 – Present.

A complete CV can be made available upon request

Updated: 4/1/24



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Laboratory Report Outsourced NIBIN Cases

To: BCI / Richfield
Matthew Armstrong
4055 Highlander Parkway
Richfield, OH 44286

BCI Laboratory Number: 24-38325

Analysis Date:
January 23, 2025

Issue Date:
January 24, 2025

Agency Case Number: 2024-3649
BCI Agent: Dan Boerner

Offense: Shooting Involving an Officer
Subject(s): James J. Vanest
Victim(s): State of Ohio

Submitted on 11/21/2024 by Betsy Farris

1. One cardboard box containing firearm (Serial #BE277600) with cartridge and magazine (CSU Item 10 Matrix Item 009)
 - Also containing TWO (2) bullets
 - Test Fire Exhibit Number: BCI 1T1/1T2

A triage of the submitted firearms evidence was performed. This process includes assessing cartridge case(s) and test fires to determine the best representative sample from those having similar firearm produced markings for NIBIN entry. This is not, nor should it be, interpreted as a comparative examination to the fired cartridge case(s) or as to determine how many firearms may have been responsible for firing the cartridge case(s).

A cartridge case(s), Exhibit Number: BCI 1T1 was entered and searched in the NIBIN database.

A correlation review was performed by the ATF NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC). A NIBIN lead was generated. The results are referenced in the attached report.

The bullets were not examined.

All evidence will be returned to the submitting agency upon completion of the full analysis.

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Phone:(740)845-2000

☒ BCI -Richfield Office
4055 Highlander Pkwy. Suite A
Richfield, OH 44286
Phone:(330)659-4600

Patrick Murphy
Statement of Qualifications
Patrick.Murphy@ohioago.gov

Professional Experience

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Laboratory. Laboratory Technician. Sept 2022-Present
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Task Force Officer. 2013-2016
- Phoenix Police Department. Police Officer. 1998-2016

Required Technical Training

- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. NIBIN Authorized Trainer. Aug 2023
- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations, Lab Technician Training. Feb 2023
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Correlation Review. Feb 2023
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Triage/Acquisition. Oct 2022

A complete CV can be made available upon request
Updated 03/27/2024