



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Investigative Activity: Video Review
Involves: Elyria Police Department (O), John Johnson (S), [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 01/28/2026
Activity Location: 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, OH
Authoring Agent: SA Jesse Bynum #179

Narrative:

On Friday, January 23, 2026, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum) received video footage from Elyria Police Department (EPD) SA Bynum was informed that the files contained video footage from the dash cameras recorded by the EPD.

SA Bynum reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

Elyria Police Department

Dash Camera Video Files

Officer Mike Taylor

SA Bynum reviewed the video file from Elyria Police Department (EPD) Officer Mike Taylor (Taylor). One file was found to contain dash mounted camera video footage that was 03:44:37 in length and had a timestamp and identifying information in the upper right corner.

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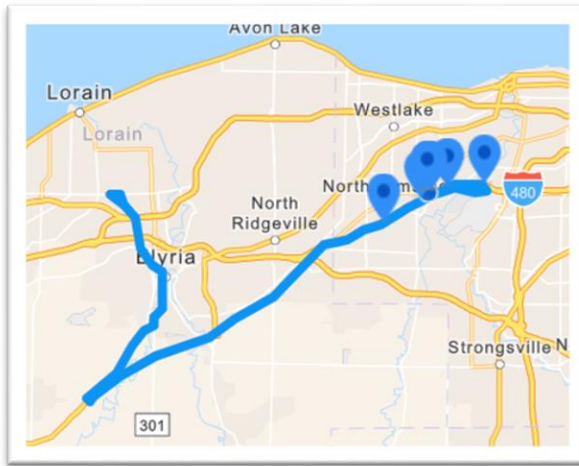
Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292)*. Axon Justice displayed map of the location data during the pursuit shown below with blue markers to show the location of noted events in image 1 and the last location in image 2.



(Image 1)



(Image 2)

Below, in image 3, is a list of noted events with the mark of the video on the left and displayed times listed in the description.

Position	Description
00:18:26.955	(Marker 1) 2026-01-21 15:52:01 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) LPD Terminating Pursuit
00:19:24.616	(Marker 2) 2026-01-21 15:52:58 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Johnson's vehicle left lane
00:21:05.044	(Marker 3) 2026-01-21 15:54:39 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Exited on Grayton Rd
00:22:36.620	(Marker 4) 2026-01-21 15:56:10 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Advises spikes deployed
00:23:05.587	(Marker 5) 2026-01-21 15:56:39 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Johnson's vehicle strikes stopped silver vehicle in right lane
00:23:09.287	(Marker 6) 2026-01-21 15:56:43 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Taylor's cruiser strikes the same vehicle
00:23:11.686	(Marker 7) 2026-01-21 15:56:45 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Johnson exits vehicle and runs across Brookpark Road.
00:23:27.801	(Marker 8) 2026-01-21 15:57:01 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) Johnson description given "Black male grey hoodie jeans"
00:23:50.607	(Marker 9) 2026-01-21 15:57:25 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292) "Shots Fired" heard on radio

(Image 3)

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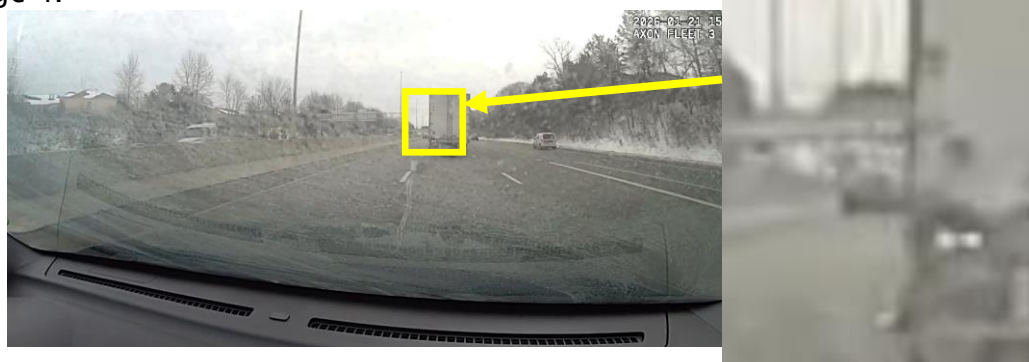
**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Descriptions of noted events in this document will refer to the time displayed on the video. The mark of the video can be referenced in the above chart. At 15:52:01 hours dispatch was heard advising that Lorain Police Department was discontinuing their involvement in the pursuit once Elyria Police Department was able to take over as lead on the pursuit. Johnson's vehicle was observed in the left lane at 15:52:58 hours as shown in Image 4.



(Image 4)

At 15:54:39, Johnson's vehicle exited 480 East at the Greyton Road exit and then turned right (Westbound) on Brookpark Road as shown in Image 5.



(Image 5)

At 15:56:10, an officer was heard advising that spikes were deployed successfully on Johnson's vehicle.

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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

At 15:56:39, Johnson's vehicle struck the driver's side rear of a silver Ford vehicle on Brookpark Road that was stopped at a light in the right lane at Columbia Road as shown in Image 6.



(Image 6)

At 15:56:43, Officer Taylor's cruiser struck the same vehicle at Columbia Road as shown in Image 7.



(Image 7)

At 15:56:45, Johnson was observed exiting his vehicle and then running across Brookpark Road towards the Clareshire Drive Apartments as shown in Image 8.



(Image 8)

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

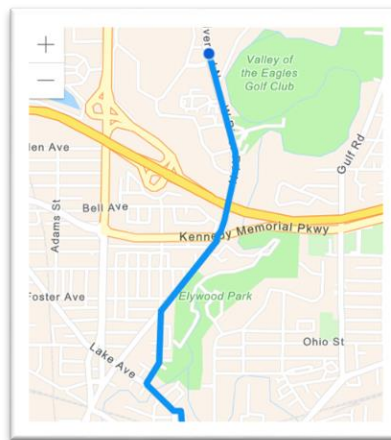


2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

At 15:57:01, an officer was heard giving a description of Johnson as "Black male, grey hoodie, jeans". At 15:57:25, an officer was heard saying "shots fired". The rest of the video was reviewed with nothing noted until the video ended at 19:18:11. A second dash camera video titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Michael Taylor (EL292)* 2 was reviewed and found to be 00:43 in length and did not contain anything notable.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera* 1 and found it to be 11:12 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:03:03. Axon Justice displayed map of the location data during the video file as shown below in image 9.



(Image 9)

dash camera footage began in the Elyria Police Department parking lot and then traveled to the area near the ATT store and the Brinks truck parked on the side of the road at approximately 1549 W River Rd N, Elyria, Ohio. At 15:12:46 hours, requested the height and weight of their robbery suspect. Another officer was heard responding over the radio "6' 2", 6' 3", thin, light skin". The video ends at 15:14:16 hours with nothing else noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera* 2 and found it to be 34:58 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:29:09. Axon Justice displayed map of the location data during the video file as shown below in image 10.

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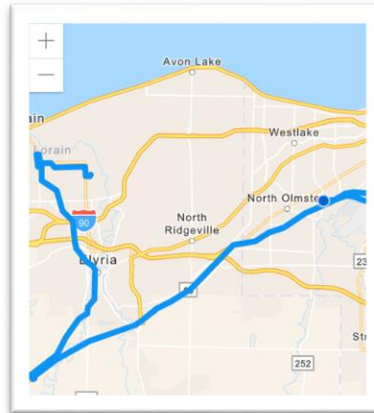


Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County



(Image 10)

Below, in image 11, is a list of noted events with the mark of the video on the left and defined times listed in the description.

Position	Description
00:04:03.136	(Marker 1) 2026-01-21 15:33:12 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 [REDACTED] Advised dispatch in pursuit with Lorain of the robbery suspect
00:07:14.240	(Marker 2) 2026-01-21 15:36:24 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Was advised "This suspect is wanted for aggravated robbery with a firearm and kidnapping"
00:27:33.545	(Marker 3) 2026-01-21 15:56:43 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 An officer is heard on the radio stating that Johnson struck a vehicle.
00:27:40.052	(Marker 4) 2026-01-21 15:56:49 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Johnson was observed running across Brookpark Road
00:27:53.853	(Marker 7) 2026-01-21 15:57:03 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 An officer was heard describing Johnson as a "black male grey hoodie jeans"
00:27:56.264	(Marker 5) 2026-01-21 15:57:06 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Officer Mike Taylor observed running van with open rear door at 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F
00:27:57.563	(Marker 6) 2026-01-21 15:57:07 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Female child observed outside of 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F
00:28:05.084	(Marker 8) 2026-01-21 15:57:14 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 [REDACTED] heard giving orders "Move Move"
00:28:08.590	(Marker 9) 2026-01-21 15:57:18 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 fifteen loud percussive sounds were heard
00:32:55.598	(Marker 10) 2026-01-21 16:02:05 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Officer Mike Taylor observed ejecting the magazine of a black pistol
00:32:59.323	(Marker 11) 2026-01-21 16:02:09 Dash Camera [REDACTED] 2 Officer Mike Taylor observed racking the slide of a black pistol and ejecting a round of ammunition.

(Image 11)

At 15:33:12, [REDACTED] was heard advising dispatch that he was in pursuit with Lorain Police Department with the robbery suspect. At 15:36:24, an officer was heard over the radio saying, "This suspect is wanted for aggravated robbery with a firearm

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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

and kidnapping". At 15:56:43, an officer was heard on the radio stating that Johnson struck a vehicle. The view from [REDACTED] dash camera was blocked by traffic as shown in image 12.



(Image 12)

At 15:56:49, Johnson was observed running across Brookpark Road as shown in image 13.



(Image 13)

At 15:57:03, an officer was heard describing Johnson as "Black male, grey hoodie, jeans".

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Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

At 15:57:06, Officer Mike Taylor was observed running and a van was observed with an open rear door in the driveway of 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F as shown in image 14.



(Image 14)

At 15:57:07, a child was observed standing outside of 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F as shown in image 15.



(Image 15)

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Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

At 15:57:14, [REDACTED] was heard giving orders "Move. Move." At 15:57:18 approximately fifteen loud percussive sounds were heard. At 16:02:05, Officer Mike Taylor was observed ejecting the magazine of a black pistol as shown in image 16.



(Image 16)

At 16:02:09, Officer Mike Taylor was observed racking the slide of a black pistol and ejecting a round of ammunition as shown in image 17. The video footage ended at 16:04:07 with nothing further noted.



(Image 17)

Officer Austin Helmink

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Austin Helmink (EL144) 1* and found it to be 5:43 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:00. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Austin Helmink (Helmink) was heard asking which AT&T store. The video ends at 15:07:46 with nothing further noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Austin Helmink (EL144) 2* and found it to be 2:36 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:14:26. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Helmink was heard advising "This is not the car" while checking a

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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

black vehicle parked in a U-Haul business. The video ends at 15:17:01 with nothing further noted.

Officer Michael House

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Michael House (EL163) 1* and found it to be 15:22 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:45. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Michael House (House) was observed driving from EPD to the ATT store. The video ends at 15:18:08 with nothing further noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Michael House (EL163) 2* and found it to be 00:41 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:28:11. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. The video ends at 15:28:52 with nothing noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Michael House (EL163) 3* and found it to be 00:59 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:32:59. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. The video ends at 15:33:58 with nothing noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Cam Michael House (EL163) 4* and found it to be 01:01:59 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:33:59. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer House was involved in the pursuit; however his position was near the rear, so the vehicles involved were not observed. At 15:58:13, Officer House was observed arriving at the Clareshire Drive apartments. The video ends at 16:35:35 with nothing further noted.

Officer Anthony Vicens II

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Anthony Vicens II (EL311)* and found it to be 5:22 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:09. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Anthony Vicens II (Vicens II) was observed driving to the AT&T store. The video ends at 15:07:30 with nothing further noted.

Officer Christopher Lewis

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Christopher Lewis (EL188)* and found it to be 01:07:29 in length with a time stamp in the upper right

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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

corner beginning at 15:32:58. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Christopher Lewis (Lewis) was observed joining the pursuit, at least three cars back from Johnson. At 15:52:59, Lorain Police Department discontinued the pursuit and EPD became primary. Officer Lewis was the second cruiser back from Johnson at that time. At 15:56:47, Johnson was observed running across Brookpark Road, as shown in image 18.



(Image 18)

At 15:56:51, Johnson was observed running towards the Clareshire apartments, as shown in image 19.



(Image 19)

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Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

At 15:57:00, Officer Lewis was heard giving the description of Johnson over the radio. At 15:57:18, loud percussive sounds were heard. At 15:57:25, Officer Taylor was observed running towards 24496 Clareshire Dr., Apt. F. The video ends at 16:39:14 with nothing further noted.



(Image 20)

Officer Jerry Hackney

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled 2026-01-21 Dash Camera Jerry Hackney (EL137) and found it to be 16:33 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:02. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Jerry Hackney (Hackney) was observed driving to the AT&T store and then towards Lorain City. The video ends at 15:18:33 with nothing further noted.

Officer Kevin Palko

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled 2026-01-21 Dash Camera Kevin Palko (EL256) and found it to be 04:15 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:13:24. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Kevin Palko (Palko) was observed driving to the U-Haul. The video ends at 15:17:40 with nothing further noted.

Officer Matt Perkins

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled 2026-01-21 Dash Camera Matt Perkins (EL264) and found it to be 21:20 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:48. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark

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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

of the video. Officer Matt Perkins (Perkins) was observed driving from EPD to the AT&T store. The video ends at 15:24:05 with nothing further noted.

Officer Paige Mitchell

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Paige Mitchell (EL229)* and found it to be 01:01:19 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:03:05. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Paige Mitchell (Mitchell) was observed driving from EPD to the AT&T store. The video ends at 16:04:10 with nothing further noted.

Officer Richard Buckway

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Richard Buckway (EL049)* and found it to be 03:40 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:03:37. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Richard Buckway (Buckway) was observed driving from EPD to the AT&T store. The video ends at 15:07:17 with nothing further noted.

Officer Sharon Smith

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Sharon Smith (EL276) 1* and found it to be 31:06 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:00. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Sharon Smith (Smith) was observed driving to the AT&T store. The video ends at 15:33:03 with nothing further noted.

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Sharon Smith (EL276) 2* and found it to be 07:38 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:36:39. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Smith was observed driving to the AT&T store. The video ends at 15:33:03 with nothing further noted.

Officer Tavonn Kurtz

SA Bynum reviewed the video file titled *2026-01-21 Dash Camera Tavon Kurtz (EL184)* and found it to be 04:10 in length with a time stamp in the upper right corner beginning at 15:02:06. The video footage did not contain audio until the 00:30 mark of the video. Officer Tavonn Kurtz (Kurtz) was observed driving in Elyria. The video ends at 15:06:15 with nothing further noted.

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Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Investigative Report**



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Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR EVALUATING THE VIDEO RECORDINGS

There are numerous other factors that need to be considered when reviewing and evaluating the videos and audio recordings of this incident. Those factors are:

- A. Video recording devices record within the video and sound capabilities available, and they record objectively. Video recordings lack the history, perspective, and interest of the people involved. The positions, angles, obstacles, lighting, and distance from the incident are also factors that need serious consideration.
- B. Video recording devices also record more information about a particular scene or incident than the person(s) involved in the incident can process during the critical incident. Video recording devices rarely record an event from the same perspective of the officer. It captures the action but not the perception, decision making, focus, or intent of the officer. Video recordings often miss tactile cues or other actions of a subject.
- C. The speed of the incident is remarkable. The speed and complexity of rapidly evolving situation(s) that occur during use of force encounters are difficult concepts to comprehend by only watching the video.

The video footage was submitted to the Evidence.com / Axon Justice BCI case file in Reference Item C – Incident Video.

References:

Reference Item C – Incident Video – Stored in Axon Justice

Attachments:

None

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