



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



2026-2005

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

Investigative Activity: Involved Officer Interview
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 06/18/2026
Activity Location: Steubenville Police Department
Authoring Agent: SA Joseph Goudy

Narrative:

On Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 0940 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Joseph Goudy (SA Goudy) interviewed Steubenville Police Department (SPD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Max Miller, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at 123 South 3rd Street, Steubenville, Ohio 43952. The interview was video recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited 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: Sergeant Tyler Barret
Radio Channel Utilized: SPD 1	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: Standard SPD marked vehicle - Black Dodge Charger	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: None
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]

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In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 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: Standard issued SPD patrol uniform with patches and badge	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser / Asp / Pepper Spray
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: Extra Rifle Training at Jefferson County Sheriff's office	OPOTC Certification: Yes - Attended Eastern Gateway Community College.
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Annual - Last being approximately 18 months ago
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Were you under the influence of any substances that would impair your memory or judgement at the time of the incident: No	Are you under the influence of any substances that would impair your memory or judgement during the interview: No

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 22
Caliber/Gauge: .40 caliber	Serial: Unknown
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right Hip in holster on duty belt
Magazine Capacity: 15 rounds	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 16
Extra Magazines: 4	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines:

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	15 in 2 magazines / 22 in 2 magazines.
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: All rounds accounted for	Number of Rounds Fired: None
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 3 weeks prior to the incident	Type of Holster, if any: Hip

Weapon #2

Make: Troy Industries	Model: AR-15
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56 mm	Serial: Unknown
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: Cruiser center rifle rack
Magazine Capacity: 30	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): Unknown
Extra Magazines: 3 extra possibly in the trunk	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: Unknown
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Backup
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Unknown due to not knowing how many rounds were initially loaded by the armorer.	Number of Rounds Fired: Approximately 10
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Fall 2025	Type of Holster, if any: Cruiser center rifle rack.

Narrative:

At the start of the interview, [REDACTED] was provided with a criminal investigation notification form which he discussed previously with his FOP attorney, Max Martin, and then signed. After asking the preliminary and demographic information, [REDACTED] was asked if he had reviewed any video such as body worn camera (BWC), dash camera or surveillance camera videos of the incident. He replied that he did not. [REDACTED] was not dispatched directly to the incident. However, he did hear the call for service from dispatch and responded to assist. The information he initially heard was that there was a male pointing a gun at cars.

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. This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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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).

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).

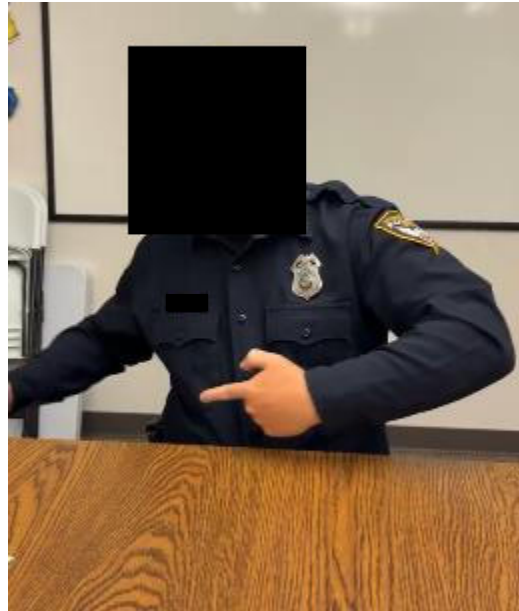


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(Image #01: Demonstrating how Metzger was running across the street)

██████████ demonstrated above 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

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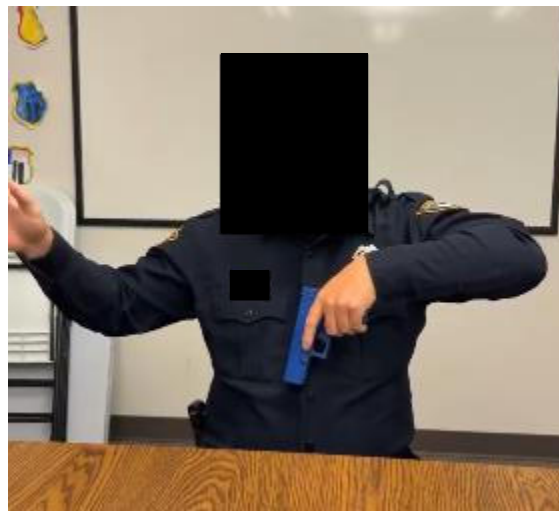
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potential threats, [REDACTED] walked towards his SPD cruiser and checked on the vehicle and occupants parked behind his cruiser to make sure they were okay. [REDACTED] then secured his patrol rifle in the center rifle rack. At this point, [REDACTED] began to take witness statements and collect information from witnesses in the area. Shortly thereafter, [REDACTED] was relieved of his duty and was transported back to SPD.

When [REDACTED] 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, [REDACTED] 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 [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated that he was to the subject's right while the subject was facing [REDACTED] and holding the gun. The subject was bladed just enough for [REDACTED] to notice the handgun.



(Image #2)

[REDACTED] believed that no other reasonable force option was available in this situation. At the conclusion of this interview, [REDACTED] was given the opportunity to review his BWC. After reviewing his BWC video, [REDACTED] 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 - [REDACTED] (2/2)," [REDACTED] stated that he had mixed up his

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actions regarding when he approached the jeep. [REDACTED] stated that he approached the black Jeep first before he kicked the handgun away from the subject's hand.

The interview concluded at approximately 1026 hours.

For further information, please refer to the video interview with [REDACTED]. Both videos could be located in Axon Justice under reference item K – involved Officer Interview / [REDACTED]. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is attached to this report.

References:

Reference Item K – involved Officer Interview / [REDACTED]

Attachments:

1. Criminal Investigation Notification Form

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DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Bureau of Criminal Investigation
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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]

Printed Name of Interviewee

6-18-26 - 9:40 AM

Date / Time

[Redacted]

Signature of Interviewee

[Handwritten Signature]

Max Martin

S/A Joe Gaudy

BCI Agent (Printed)

[Handwritten Signature]

BCI Agent (Signature)