



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

Investigative Activity: Witness Officer Interview
Involves: Deputy Caleb Neer
Activity Date: 07/01/2026
Activity Location: Richland County Sheriff's Office
Authoring Agent: SA David Hammond

Narrative:

On Wednesday, July 01, 2026, at 1008 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) David Hammond (SA Hammond) and SA Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) interviewed Richland County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) Deputy (Dep.) Caleb Neer (Neer), who was accompanied by his attorney, Beth Liggett, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at Richland County Sheriff's Office - 597 Park Ave. E, Mansfield, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

Dep. Neer was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the May 11, 2026, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 905 E. Warren St. Bucyrus, Ohio. Reportedly, Dep. Neer did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer.

The following is a summary of 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. The information 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.

Dep. Neer stated his radio call sign on May 11, 2026, was 727. He has been employed by the RCSO for about six years. He has been a police officer for a total of ten years. During the incident, Dep. Neer wore his Richland County Sheriff's Office tactical uniform with Sheriff's Deputy markings affixed to it. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. He rode in a Bearcat Tactical Vehicle unit marked with law enforcement emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the

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.



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

incident or during the interview with BCI. Dep. Neer stated that he was not wearing a body worn camera during the incident, which is not required by his department during Tactical Team responses.

Dep. Neer advised that he had watched some of the video footage recorded during the incident. He stated he watched them "once or twice". He indicated that they had not changed his perception or memory of the event.

Dep. Neer related that he was called out at approximately 0130 hours. He responded to the Mansfield Police Department to retrieve equipment, before responding to the scene. Dep. Neer was assigned to Bearcat #182. He advised that after arriving at the scene he was deployed to the back (three-side) of the home, near the alleyway.

After arriving, Dep. Neer described what happened:

At the 06:53 mark, "I was, um, told to put gas in the house with a 40. Mike. Mike. So, we got on scene and I was told by Sergeant Williams to go ahead and start deploying the gas. Um, I started deploying on the three-four corner right off the bat."

Dep. Neer clarified that a 40 Mike-Mike was a 40-millimeter grenade launcher, equipped to propel gas rounds, to be used in less than lethal applications. He describes a potential gun shot that occurred during this round of gas insertion into the home.

At the 08:20 mark, "I remember Dep. Neyer saying something about, are you guys deploying gas on the, it'd be the two-three corner. And he thought he saw a flash."

Dep. Neer then describes being asked to adjust the angle of insertion of the gas into the home, because it is passing through the front wall. Dep. Neer moved to the car port in the rear yard where he deployed additional gas rounds. At that time, he believed additional rounds were fired inside the home.

At the 08:33 mark, "I remember the team saying, hey, your gas is or getting deploy or rolling out the front of the house, so to get a better angle. So, we moved to this shed here, myself, Sergeant Williams and patrolman, um, Walter. Okay. We moved underneath there and started deploying at a better angle on this two, three corner up into there. And that's when he shot. I can't even tell you how many rounds out. I see the flash of the muzzle and then the whole side of the wall. I don't know if there was a flash of the muzzle. I can't confirm that a hundred percent. I did see a flash from inside the house. Okay. Um, but it was

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.



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

upstairs and he, that's when the rounds started coming out above the window and we pulled back to the bearcat and got inside."

At the 10:44 mark, *"I got the first round off, it went through the window and that's when he started firing rounds out."*

At the 10:52 mark, *"I know he shot more than five rounds out and that's when we stood up and we deployed back to the Bearcat for cover. Because we had absolutely no cover underneath there. So, we didn't want to catch any stray rounds. So, we automatically turned around and hustled back to the Bearcat. And we got inside."*

At the 11:21 mark, *"I could hear 'em and see bullets coming out of the house."*

Dep. Neer reported that he and Sgt. Williams had to disable one or more lights that were turned on in the garage, near the Bearcat. Dep. Neer related that the lights were illuminating their positions and creating a glare that made it difficult for the operators to visualize the subject shooting inside the home. The lights were initially shot with knee knockers with little effect. Dep. Neer stated that eventually the lights were shot by Sgt. Williams using a handgun. This task was communicated through radio traffic with command staff knowledge.

At the 14:52 mark, *"We took that or shot that light out because it was shadowing us on our movements and we didn't know exactly what he could see or if he was watching us. Okay. So, we decided to take that light out so that they, you know, he couldn't see us from the shadowing movement."*

At the 16:21 mark, *"It gives off a lot of our position. If we decide to move anywhere outside of the Bearcat, then it'll shadow us, tell him where his is and we don't know what his capabilities are. If he's able to, if he's an accurate shot, he could have hit one of us if we were moving. So, and then there's us, there's a general public, um, we don't know. Um, we know there wasn't anybody directly in this area, but I know there was people to the, I, I think that would be the west down the alleyway. Um, there was people standing and then more people were over here in this intersection or farther away."*

Dep. Neer described being given a break and a chance to the command post to rest. He was eventually re-deployed to the area of the home to assist others with pulling the electrical meter to disable the home's electricity.



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

At the 19:02 mark, "We usually pull the meters on them, so it shuts all the power off so there's not a chance of an electrical fire. Um, if he has in or access to the internet, he can watch stuff from his phone."

Dep. Neer described being sent to the Bearcat located at the rear of the home, near the alleyway. He related that eventually, the Ohio State Highway Patrol began assisting at the scene. He advised that the rook removed a portion of the fence and a vehicle from the rear yard. He also described seeing a bullet hole in a fence near the Bearcat and accompanying damage in a nearby car.

At the 20:19 mark, "We were getting out and walking around this vehicle every once in a while, for some air. And we actually found a bullet here on the backside of that car. And then the round came through this fence here. Okay. And so, the round came through the fence, hit the car, and was laying on in the ground."

Dep. Neer relates that while in the back of the Bearcat, he witnesses the subject fire out of the home, as the Rook is inserting gas into the home or removing portions of the wall.

At the 21:58 mark, "We go back to the Bearcat. Like I said, by now it's moved pretty much right in line with this other vehicle parked there. Um, the roof comes in and starts ripping the side of the house out. And um, I know for a fact when he started going to that second story and started ripping or deploying gas in there, I can't remember if he was deploying gas at that time or if I'm almost positive, he was deploying the gas, but he was, he started firing out at the rook at that point."

At the 23:18 mark, "He starts, um, deploying the gas and rounds start coming out. And at that point he backed off a little bit and then that's when, um, he brought it back because actually he damaged one of the gears in the rook when he hit the bearcat. Okay. So, it was only like shooting out a certain amount of gas."

Dep. Neer describes the Rook being deployed to the front of the home and being relieved to go to the command post for an additional break. He then re-deployed to the area of the Bearcat at the back of the home. Dep. Neer related that he assisted one of the snipers, Dep. Neyer, by placing a piece of cloth over his head to reduce the glare in his scope.

Ath the 29:17 mark, "I go back to the Bearcat, um, and we're on standby at that point waiting on um, Sergeant Kingsborough to give more orders and that's

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.



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

when, um, patrolman, uh, [REDACTED] he came walking back, um, and he told Neyer, hey, um, I'm going to take the gun from here. I'm going to give you a break. He said, okay. So, Deputy Neyer steps off to the right. I'm still in between the white truck and the Bearcat at the time. And um, [REDACTED] gets on the long gun, and I remember he needed a sweat or a rag or something to cover up his head because he had the same issue as [REDACTED]. And um, Deputy Neyer gave his sweatshirt to lay over top of him."

At the 30:03 mark, "I don't remember what, I could make out a little bit of radio traffic on my comms, but I wasn't coming in clear at all for me. Um, but I remember, um, Sergeant Kingsborough, he had comms to [REDACTED] He said, I'm only talking to him for now. And um, then we were standing there and, um, Sergeant Kingsborough, I can't, I couldn't make out exactly what he said, but that's when, um, [REDACTED] took the shot."

The interview concluded at approximately 1047 hours. A copy of the recording was uploaded to Reference Item G - Witness Officer Interviews - Richland County Deputies - Dep. Caleb Neer in Axon Justice.

References:

Reference Item G - Witness Officer Interviews - Richland County Deputies - Dep. Caleb Neer

Attachments:

None