



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

To: Assistant Section Chief Micah Ault and Senior Assistant Attorney
General Denise Salerno, Ohio Attorney General's Office - Special
Prosecutions Section
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Daniel P. Boerner, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: August 26, 2026
Involves: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], and Brandon L. Butts
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut,
Ohio 44030, Ashtabula County (L)
BCI Case Numbers: Force Investigations Unit (FIU): 2026-2448
Crime Scene (CSU): 2026-2448
Cyber Crime (CCU): 2026-2448
BCI Laboratory: 26-35201

Investigative Request

On Thursday, June 25, 2026, Chief Deputy Terry Moisio of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on June 25, 2026 in the area of 613 Orange St., Conneaut, Ohio 44030 and resulted in the death of Brandon L. Butts.

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the Thursday, June 25, 2026 officer-involved shooting in Ashtabula County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) was assigned as the lead FIU case agent. SA Boerner received assistance in the investigation from SA Joseph Goudy (SA Goudy), SA Darien Spann (SA Spann), and SA John Tingley (SA Tingley). BCI Special Agents Ed Lulla (SA Lulla) and Lurna McClintock (SA McClintock) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Special Agent Robert Surgenor of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an extraction and analysis of cell phone recovered from scene. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the three (3) deputies/officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of five (5) deputies/officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Interviews of three (3) civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance at post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available surveillance videos which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Reviewed phone/text records obtained via search warrant from wireless service provider
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Obtained search warrants for the subject's phone and performed an analysis of the data present
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
 3. DNA analysis
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident
- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

Incident Summary/Overview

On Thursday, June 25, 2026, at approximately 1320 hrs, Deputies assigned to the Special Response Team (SRT) from the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) arrived at 613 Orange St., Conneaut, Ohio 44030 and attempted to take a male subject, Brandon L. Butts (Butts), into custody on several outstanding warrants. Butts was confirmed to be in the residence and barricaded himself in the basement with a female, Heather Duva (Duva). Members of SRT attempted to negotiate with Butts without success. Members of the Conneaut Police Department (CPD) arrived on scene to assist and introduced pepper balls into the basement in an attempt to get Butts to come out. Members of the SRT, responding to requests for help from Duva, breached the basement door and "rescued" Duva. Duva reported that Butts indicated that he had a firearm, but that she did not see one.

Butts failed to comply with orders to exit the basement and on at least two occasions came out of the basement with a rifle under his chin. Butts reportedly told deputies/officers to shoot him multiple times. Butts reportedly pointed the rifle at deputies/officers from behind the basement door on two occasions. On the second occasion, two deputies and one officer fired their weapons, striking and killing Butts. Butts was subsequently declared deceased by Fire/EMS.

Scene Processing and Evidence Documented/Collected

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting in order to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

SAs Lulla and McClintock collected fifteen (15) 9mm Luger cartridge cases and thirty-two (32) .556/.223 cartridge cases. Additionally, SAs Lulla and McClintock collected a camouflage-colored Traditions .50 caliber muzzleloader (SN: 14-13-058059-00) and a rifle case in the basement.

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Scan Data Review

SA Boerner reviewed the scan data captured during the initial scene processing and observed that the approximate distance from the side door to the basement door was approximately ten (10) feet. The approximate width of the stairwell into the basement was approximately three (3) feet. Additionally, an overhead diagram was created to show the location of evidence at the time of scene processing (*Figures 1-3, Scan Data Images*).



Figure 1, Approximate distance from basement door to side door

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
Prosecutor Summary**

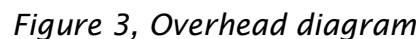
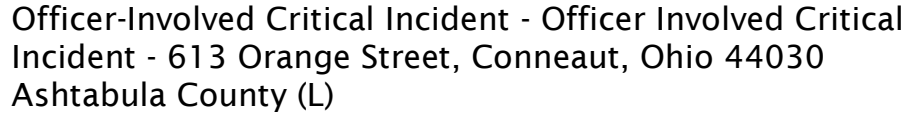
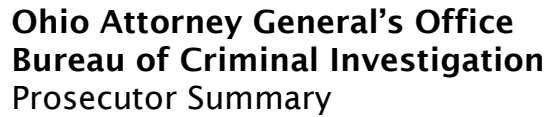


Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 2, Approximate width of stairwell

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.



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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

BCI Laboratory Analysis

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The muzzleloader was found to have DNA consistent with that of Butts on the grip and forend. Bloodstains on the stock were also found to have DNA consistent with that of Butts.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon, identifications were able to be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made (*Figures 4-8, Screen shots from lab report*):

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #53: Glock Pistol 	N/A	Operable
	Item #49: One (1) fired bullet	Source Identification
	Items #1, 9-12, 14-20, 22-23 & 27: Fifteen (15) fired 9mm Luger cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Items #47, 57EB1, 61EB1, 62 & 63EB1: Two (2) fired bullets, One (1) fired jacketed lead bullet fragment and two (2) fired bullet jackets	Inconclusive*

Figure 4, Screen shot from lab report

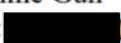
Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #54: Colt Machine Gun (SN:  	N/A	Operable
	Items #37 & 42-44: Four (4) fired 5.56 NATO cartridge cases	Source Identification-Cycling^^
	Items #4, 33-36, 38-41 & 45-46: Ten (10) fired 5.56 NATO cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Items #48, 50 & 60: Two (2) fired bullets and one (1) fired bullet fragment	Inconclusive*
	Items #52, 56 & 58: Three (3) fired bullets	Source Identification

Figure 5, Screen shot from lab report

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #55: Colt Machine Gun (SN: [REDACTED]) [REDACTED]	N/A	Operable
	Items #2-3, 8, 21, 24-25 & 28-31: Ten (10) fired 5.56 NATO cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Items #48, 50 & 60: Two (2) fired bullets and one (1) fired solid copper bullet fragment	Inconclusive*
	Items #5-7, 13, 26 & 32: Six (6) fired 5.56 NATO cartridge cases	Source Identification- Cycling^^

Figure 6, Screen shot from lab report

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Items #57EB2, 57EB3, 59, 61EB2, 63EB2, 64 & 65: Two (2) fired jacketed lead bullet fragments, one (1) fired solid copper bullet fragment, three (3) fired bullet jacket fragments, two (2) fired lead bullet cores and one (1) fragmented piece of metal	N/A	Unsuitable^

Figure 7, Screen shot from lab report

**Item #51 was submitted in a loaded condition. It was disassembled, and a grease gun was used to unload the firearm. After unloading, the firearm was reassembled for return to the department in a safe condition. The firearm was found to be missing the trigger/trigger guard, tang screw and ramrod assembly. Additionally, the firearm had damage to the stock. The operability of this item was not tested.

Figure 8, Screen shot from lab report

Interviews¹

Interview with Cain Dello-Butts (brother) and Lenette Butts (mother)

The family asserted that the deceased did not possess a firearm in the basement and stated that only knives or an air rifle were present upstairs. They believed law enforcement removed an air rifle from the first floor. SA Boerner obtained a description of the air rifle from Cain, went into the residence, located the air rifle, and photographed it in place. SA Boerner subsequently showed the photograph to Cain and

¹ Summaries of the interviews were created using Microsoft Copilot and reviewed for accuracy. 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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

explained that the air rifle was in the same place that Cain explained it would be
(Figure 9, Location of air rifle).



Figure 9, Location of air rifle

Family members described the sequence leading to the shooting, including officers arriving to serve a warrant, breaking windows, deploying chemical irritants, issuing commands, and firing multiple rounds. They reported observing officers repeatedly entering and exiting the basement prior to EMT access. Family members raised concerns about potential movement of items of evidence and the integrity of the crime scene. They stated neighbors had photos or videos of officers entering the scene before EMTs. Cain stated the following (17:23 mark):

It was like, you could tell it was like trumped up. You know, they're waiting on him. Like you tell him drop the gun. I'm like, he doesn't have a gun. I told you guys he doesn't have a gun. I know for sure, you know? And they're like, how do you know for sure? I'm like, guy's, my brother man, I know he has a gun now. You know? Sure. And uh, I

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

mean, I would've give it to him and he, they're like, I know he has like a thunder stick that he carries around pretends it's a bomb and like tells everybody about fucking kill myself. He goes that, you know, you see him with that mask on outside one o'clock morning like, you know, right. Fucking nuts man. And you know, he's been fighting demons forever, man. And this was like a perfect, perfect storm for you feel me. And what happened was when they were yelling at him and shit, he kept going, fuck you, get the fuck away. I'm not going to jail. Well, I'm not going to jail. So, when they do blow all the windows up right there now girlfriend, now he's a girl there. He loves his girl death. You know, she gets tired now. He's by himself, man. And now he's completely cornered and mind you, schizophrenia kicks in. Everybody's guilty. I'm guilty, she's guilty. He hates everybody right now. So, I, Brandon, knock, get the fuck off. I'm fuck you fat ass but screaming me. He's not coming back. This quit doing what you're doing. He got eight people on top of steps pointing at my brother. I got a video of that man pointing at him, man at the top steps. He's, he's like 20 feet down steps. You guys are academy fucking SWAT. Qualify with your rifle, man. 'cause how you gonna put that many rounds and at the, at the drop off it was like this pop and then it was "brrrrrrrrrrrrrm" okay. You know what I mean? It was just insane.

Interview with Angela Gregory and Elijah Gregory (neighbors)

SA Boerner spoke with Angela Gregory (Angela) who reported that she was not present during the incident but did have still images to provide to investigators. Angela was provided a "Community Request" through Axon Justice and submitted three still images for investigators to review. The still images depicted events that reportedly took place after the shooting and did not contain any new information relevant to the investigation.

SA Boerner spoke with Elijah Gregory (Elijah) who reported that he did not see the incident but heard suspected gunshots from his bedroom window. Prior to the suspected gunshots he heard yelling/arguing outside which he described as normal. Elijah reported that he went outside, saw what he described as a SWAT team, and had a panic attack. Elijah reported that he went back inside and called Angela.



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Interview with Heather Duva (girlfriend)²

SA Boerner asked Duva to describe what happened and Duva stated the following:

So, I have videos. I can tell you minute by minute, pretty much what happened. Um, I was still gonna write it down for Jeremy (Jeremy Tor, attorney for the family), um, and give it to him. But so, the whole thing beginning to end, uh, when they put the crime scene tape up, it took like a little over an hour. So, we, I mean, I had just woke up and he was in the next room. Um, he left a note right there and it said, "Get ahold of him when I wake up." Cause he's, you know, he was gonna be in the garage, but he wasn't in the garage. Uh, he was down in the basement. His hot water tank had been leaking. So, he was like, like vacuuming up water. Um, then, uh, we heard Sheriff's office, Jefferson Sheriff's office, Brandon come out and he, uh, shut the door. He put, uh, the couch up next on it. Um, and then, uh, the pallet from underneath the bed, he put, uh, in front of the door. And then, uh, after that he kept saying, call my mom. Call my mom. So, I called his mom twice and she didn't answer. So, then I looked at my phone, my messages, and his brother, Cain, had said, there's like thirty (30) sheriffs surrounding the house. Have him come out. And I said, 'He,' I said, 'He's not going to listen to me.' You know, he's fight or flight like scared right now. He's trying, you know, he's panicking. And, um, so he, he, I called Cain and there's a five-minute video, uh, call that I have recorded, but there's no audio to the video to that one. Anyways, it's a five-minute, like, and you can see me, I point the camera at the door so you can see what the door is like, like blocked.

And then I put the camera, you can see the window behind me that broke to put the pepper spray balls down. Um, and I just said, you know, I, they asked if he had a gun. They asked, you know, they asked me a couple questions, and I said, like, like they can hear him saying that he has a gun. Uh, but he doesn't. I said, 'I'm looking right at him. He does not have a gun.' He, you know, he, uh, he's piling stuff in front of the door. He's like, he's like trying to, I don't wanna even say get away 'cause we're in the basement and he's not getting away. You know, there was no really way out. Uh, they, I mean, he knew he was

² Heather Duva also provided a written and recorded statement to ACSO on the date of the incident. Those statements are consistent with the statement provided to SA Boerner. 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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

cornered, but he, his brain told him, we're getting out of here. Like, get out. So, uh, they asked if I was able to get the stuff away from the door 'cause they were putting pepper spray down there. So as soon as they put those, those pepper spray balls down there, I could not breathe. I was like, I panicked. Like, get me outta here. So, I went over the door, I took the couch and the pallet and I moved it. And, uh, then I noticed that the door was nailed shut. And he didn't really do that. Like, uh, like he did that all the time. He would, if he felt a certain type of way, he would screw the door shut.

Like, that's not just like, oh, this instance thing. And he, that was a thing he did sometimes. 'cause there's no, the door is not super sturdy. It's like the, there's no, you know, the door handle's not got a lock on it. So, he did that just kind of to lock the door sometimes.

SA Boerner asked Duva what happened once she came out of the house and Duva stated the following:

He was trying to get in the crawl space. He was like not focused on that area. Like there's two rooms in the basement. There's not, there's three rooms. The main room, that's his bedroom, then the room next to that, which is where the crawl space is, and then there's like a, like a small bathroom in there. And then there's the front room, uh, which is a laundry room. So, he was in the next room over with, and I know the door, that door was open, there's no lock on that door. Um, he was in there, he wasn't really, he was trying to get away. He wasn't really trying to engage in the other cops at that point. He was trying to get away. So, uh, when the door had opened, even if he shut it, he would've had to nail it to like lock it. So, I just don't, I don't see him dropping everything he's doing to go re do, do that. I don't, I don't a hundred percent know for sure, but I don't think so. Because right after I came out, I could hear him banging on the crawlspace break in the back window, and that would've been all away from the door.

So, yeah. So, there's three doors that would be right there where they were dealing with. So one goes, one is just the side door that's outside. Right. Outside the door. Then you walk in and you look to your left, there's a door that leads up to the kitchen. And then there's a door that goes that you go down the basement stairs all the way. Right.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Then there's that two-bedroom door. It's the basement door. Okay. And that's where the one that was shut.

So, I told them that it's nailed shut. And, uh, they said, okay, well I need you to move away from the door 'cause we're gonna open it. Uh, I said, okay, I'm away from the door. But at this point I could barely talk because of the pepper spray. So, I was trying to tell 'em I was away from the door. Then they, they just kept repeating it. 'We're gonna open the door, we're gonna open the door.' And I screamed and I said, 'Open the fucking door.' I'm, I'm away from the door. Open the fucking door, open it. And they hit it with something really hard door opened.

And then, uh, I came up and out of the basement. And then I don't understand why they didn't go down at that point and get him when he's, you know, when I just told him he didn't have a gun and they're all at the door, I, that would've been the time I would think to grab him. So, I go upstairs and I'm putting water on my face, and the ambulance is checking me out. It was another roughly half hour before he was, before they it all. So that's over half hour that that side door was open. They could have gone down there.

So, and I'm not sure what happened. 'cause I'm on the street. I can just see what's going on outside. I don't know if he did go down there. I don't know if really what happened inside from that point, just based just what we were told really. But so, we can hear him pounding on the crawl space now, he knows he is not getting outta that crawl space. He probably could not breathe and was panicking. The crawl space leads to the main wall of the house. Like it's not just a piece of wood. You know, he's not getting outta that.

So, we heard him pounding on it. It was so loud. And then they came over to us and they almost, not laughed, but they're like scoffed that Brandon had just broken a little piece, a little window that was part of the box. Uh, you know, like a big thick basement window. He broke the window, the glass in the middle. They're like, I don't know how he thinks he's gonna get out of that. And I said, 'He's trying to breathe. He's, he can't breathe. He's trying to get, he's not trying to escape,' which yeah, he is, but you know, that's not why he broke the window. He's trying to get air; he's trying to breathe. And, um, so for like a half hour after that, they're just around the house. They're standing

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

around the house. I mean, there's so many cops. And we, all three of us were standing there telling him, and I have video of this too, that we're all telling him he's not gonna hurt anybody. He, he's scared, he's trying to get away. He has mental issues. Um, where he's, I mean, he's paranoid schizophrenic diagnosed, um, you know.

SA Boerner asked summarized what happened prior to the shooting and Duva stated the following:

Yeah. And we, I was standing pretty close to the house. I mean, I could see everything. I didn't get like a hundred percent of like the video, but all the audio's there and like, they kept telling me to back up or to go over here, go over there. And I said, I need to see him because I need to see him come out. I need to make sure he's okay. They kept trying to get me to move and, you know, not be there, which I'm sure they can say was because they didn't want me to get hurt, bullets, whatever. But I was not, I was not moving. And the, his mom and his brother were, um, understandably upset. Absolutely. But they were, you know, yelling like, Brandon 'Come out,' just Brandon just come out and then they're yelling things like, 'He doesn't have a gun. Do not shoot my brother. Do not shoot my brother.' Like, he's, he's not gonna hurt anybody. He's not a threat. Like they were all saying things like that. I had also, you know, they were asking questions about what happened down there, and I told them I didn't, I didn't see a gun.

Um, okay. And then, so we were standing in front of the house, and it sounded to me, now you can watch it and make your own, uh, conclusion, but it sounds like you hear a single shot and then everyone kind of is quiet like, what was that? And then all of a sudden like boom. Like just, it sounds like twenty (20) or thirty (30) shots, like rapid fire all at once, really loud. And then, and then it's like his mom screamed and then you hear me say, 'Is that guns?' Because I just could not even believe that that was, that was wow. How they shot him. Like the, the situation that was happening versus like, versus what we heard the shots sound like was just completely like, unreal. And from what I understand, there was like sixty (60) shell casings that they collected and the, the video, I mean, I have the audio from right when he was shot.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

So, and it just, there was no, uh, there's bullet holes in the basement door. There's bullet holes in the basement floor. So, after they shot him and he's laying on the floor, they shot him more. I mean, she's, it's like I read the report and everything. It's like he went out on the floor for seven hours and he's little like, no, there was no reason for that.

Decedent

The decedent (Brandon L. Butts) was a thirty-three (33) year old, white male who resided at 613 Orange St., Conneaut, Ohio 44030.

Prior Police Encounters

A review of the records received from both the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) and from the Conneaut Police Department (CPD) showed Butts being involved in multiple reports for traffic type offenses, narcotics type incidents, and domestic type incidents.

At the time of the incident, Butts had eight (8) separate warrants for his arrest. The warrants were issued by both the Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas and the Conneaut Municipal Court. The warrants were for Failure to Comply (F-4 and M-1) and for miscellaneous traffic offenses.

Previous Arrests/Convictions

Reason for Arrest	Date of Arrest	Arresting Agency	Disposition
Probation Violation (M)	11/13/2012	ACSO	Held
Domestic Violence (M)	05/19/2017	CPD	Convicted of lessor offense
Agg. Possession of Drugs (x2)	11/20/2017	CPD	1 cnt dismissed, Convicted 1 cnt.
Failure to Comply (F-4), (M-1) x2	12/29/2025	ACSO	Held

Autopsy Report

The autopsy report for the decedent (Brandon L. Butts) was obtained from the Ashtabula County Coroner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

The cause of death for Butts was determined to be [REDACTED]. The manner of death was [REDACTED]. The toxicology

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

report [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Involved Deputy/Officer Interviews³

Interview with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] responded to 613 Orange Street after hearing radio traffic that the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office was attempting to serve an arrest warrant on Brandon Butts, who had barricaded himself in the basement with a female.

Upon arrival, [REDACTED] observed deputies positioned around the residence and family members outside. Deputies reported the basement door was barricaded, there were no secondary exits, and negotiations with Butts were unsuccessful.

[REDACTED] assisted in breaching basement windows, allowing pepper-ball deployment. During this deployment, the female hostage screamed for help, prompting a crisis entry by sheriff's personnel. The female was safely removed and transferred to EMS.

After the hostage was removed, gas accumulated in the stairwell, requiring officers with gas masks to maintain containment. Deputies reported that Butts was armed. Butts intermittently opened the basement door, threatening to kill officers and himself, and refusing to surrender. He displayed a flashlight while claiming it was a gun and later presented a silver-barreled muzzleloader under his chin, demanding officers shoot him (*Figure 10, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm*). When he advanced up the stairs with the firearm, officers deployed 40 mm less-lethal impact rounds, forcing him back several times.

³ Summaries of the interviews were created using Microsoft Copilot and reviewed for accuracy. 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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 10, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

During the final encounter, the basement door remained partially open, and [REDACTED] observed Butts lowering the firearm and pointing it directly at officers (Figure 11, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm). Based on repeated threats and the imminent danger, officers discharged their firearms. A drone confirmed Butts was down. Deputies entered, secured the weapon, and requested EMS.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 11, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

[REDACTED] stated he fired because Butts threatened to kill officers, possessed a firearm, and pointed it at them. Specifically, [REDACTED] stated "He had, um, Brandon Butts had threatened to kill us. Uh, he was in possession of a gun. He pointed that gun at us and I thought he was gonna kill us." He believed all reasonable options for peaceful resolution had been exhausted.

Interview with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] responded to 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio, to serve arrest warrants on Brandon Butts. Upon arriving, [REDACTED] spoke with a male at the front door who confirmed Butts was inside and that his bedroom was located in the basement. As deputies entered, [REDACTED] saw Butts flee down the basement stairs, slam the door, and begin barricading it with furniture and other objects.

[REDACTED] repeatedly announced himself as law enforcement and ordered Butts to come upstairs, Butts refused and continued barricading the basement door.

[REDACTED] exited the residence to gather information from Butts' mother, who said he always carried knives and possibly had a gun. Around this time, officers learned a female was trapped in the basement with Butts. Pepper balls were deployed through basement windows, and soon afterward a female was heard screaming for help. Deputies Warsing and Massie breached the basement door,

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

extracted the female, and moved her to safety. [REDACTED] retrieved his rifle and gas mask before rejoining the team.

During negotiations, Butts stated he would not go back to jail, made multiple threats, and claimed he had a firearm. He repeatedly appeared at the cracked basement door—initially displaying what appeared to be a flashlight, then stating he would “go get a gun.” Deputies/officers later observed him with a long gun, at times pressing it beneath his chin while shouting suicidal statements, and other times threatening to kill the officers (*Figure 12, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm*).



Figure 12, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

Less-lethal 40 mm rounds were used twice—one missed, the second struck Butts and drove him back into the basement. Shortly afterward, Butts returned to the doorway and pointed the long gun directly at [REDACTED], who saw the barrel clearly illuminated by his weapon light. Fearing imminent death, [REDACTED] fired to stop the threat. [REDACTED] stated “as soon as I saw it (firearm), I thought I was not making it home.”

After the shooting, [REDACTED] reloaded, assisted other deputies, and remained on scene until he was transported for mandatory drug testing. He later returned to the sheriff's office. [REDACTED] stated there were no other viable options once Butts pointed the firearm at him.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical
Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Interview with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and members of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office Warrant Service Team responded to 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio, to serve an arrest warrant on Brandon Butts. Upon arrival, deputies made contact with Butts' brother, who confirmed Butts was inside the residence. Deputies entered the kitchen area and heard Butts run into the basement, slam the door, and begin barricading himself inside. [REDACTED] notified dispatch and other responding units of the situation.

Deputies gave repeated verbal commands for Butts to exit the basement. Butts refused, yelling obscenities, stating he would not come out, and threatening to kill himself. Additional personnel from the Conneaut Police Department arrived and deployed pepper balls into the basement through windows. During this time, deputies learned a female (Heather) was also in the basement. Butts refused to let her leave, and she appeared distressed and coughing. [REDACTED] identified this as an escalating hostage situation.

Deputy Massie and Deputy Warsing breached the basement door and successfully rescued the female. After her removal, deputies received information that Butts was armed with a firearm. Butts continued to shout threats, stating he would kill the officers and himself.

During the standoff, Butts intermittently opened the basement door. At one point, he extended his hand holding what appeared to be a flashlight. [REDACTED] initially prepared to fire, but upon identifying the object as non-lethal, he disengaged. Later, Butts emerged from the doorway holding a long-barrel hunting-style rifle under his chin, making repeated suicidal and homicidal statements and refusing to surrender (*Figure 13, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm*). Deputies attempted less-lethal force twice using 40 mm foam rounds. The second round struck Butts, causing him to retreat temporarily.



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 13, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

Butts then inserted the barrel of the firearm through the cracked basement door, pointing it directly at deputies. [REDACTED] experienced a startle response and took cover, then returned to observe Butts withdraw the weapon. Deputies outside stated he would not be allowed to present the weapon again. Shortly afterward, Butts again aimed the firearm toward deputies (Figure 14, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm). [REDACTED] and other members of law enforcement fired to stop the threat, believing Butts posed an imminent danger of death or serious injury. [REDACTED] stated the following:

Uh, I was scared. Um, I knew that from previous we had the intel that he had the gun. He's saying that he is not leaving the basement. He did not want to go back to jail or prison. He kept his girlfriend down in the basement. He would not let her leave. He restricted her from, from freedom basically, uh, to showing us that he had a, a gun to more threats of trying to kill us, wanting to kill us. I am going to fucking shoot you to presenting the, the threat the first time and to the last time until we stopped the threat.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 14, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

After the shooting, deputies attempted verbal contact and received no response. A drone was deployed and confirmed Butts was incapacitated. Deputies entered the basement, secured the firearm, rendered aid, and confirmed no additional individuals were present. Fire/EMS later declared Butts deceased. [REDACTED] was transported for mandatory drug testing and then returned to the sheriff's office.

Witness Deputy/Officer Interviews⁴

Interview with Dep. Gyasi Warsing

Dep. Warsing reported hearing movement inside the residence and learned from the suspect's brother that Butts was in the basement. After initial contact, he turned interior cameras to prevent ambush and interviewed the brother, who stated Butts had access to knives and possibly a firearm. CPD later arrived and introduced pepper balls into the basement. Deputies then learned a female, identified only as "Heather," was barricaded inside with Butts. Dep. Warsing forced the basement door partially open with a ram and extracted the female, who was heard yelling for help.

⁴ Summaries of the interviews were created using Microsoft Copilot and were reviewed for accuracy.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Dep. Warsing stated Butts repeatedly claimed to possess a firearm and threatened to “blow [their] brains out.” At one point, Butts pushed a silver-colored, large-bore muzzleloader-type barrel through the doorway. Dep. Warsing alerted other officers, and the entry team—[REDACTED] Dep. Warsing, and [REDACTED]—held position. Officers attempted to deploy less-lethal 40mm munitions multiple times as Butts cycled between emotional distress, aggression, and requests for “suicide by cop.” He exited the basement several times with a firearm held beneath his chin, retreating after officers issued commands and less-lethal rounds were deployed (*Figure 15, Dep. Warsing demonstrating positioning of firearm*).



Figure 15, Dep. Warsing demonstrating positioning of firearm

Dep. Warsing continued verbal negotiations, during which Butts stated he would not return to prison and demanded deputies look him in the eyes when they shot him. After additional attempts at communication, Butts again pointed the firearm outward through the basement doorway toward officers. At that time, [REDACTED] discharged their weapons, striking Butts.

Following the shooting, deputies checked for injuries and attempted further communication. A drone deployed by Det. Wolff confirmed Butts was down. Dep. Warsing stated he feared Butts would fire upon them based on his repeated threats and presentation of the firearm.

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Interview with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated the ACSO Special Response Team had been conducting operations targeting individuals with high-risk warrants. Their final subject of the day was Brandon Butts, confirmed to have multiple active warrants. Upon arrival, [REDACTED] made contact with Butts' mother and escorted her outside while other deputies observed Butts retreating into the basement. Deputies' attempts to communicate with Butts were unsuccessful, and they learned a second individual was in the basement with him.

Communication was established between the hostage and CPD personnel via phone. The hostage reported she was unable to exit because the basement door had been screwed shut. CPD officers deployed pepper-ball rounds through basement windows, prompting audible coughing and verbal responses from Butts.

[REDACTED] armed herself with a 40mm less-lethal launcher and was twice called to the side door to deploy it. The first deployment attempt was unsuccessful due to lack of a clear shot. During the second attempt, Butts appeared at the doorway holding a firearm and yelling at officers to shoot him (*Figure 16, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm*). [REDACTED] fired but missed. After reloading, she was called forward again as Butts advanced up the basement steps with the firearm held under his chin. [REDACTED] fired, striking him in the chest/stomach area. Butts retreated back inside.



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)



Figure 16, [REDACTED] demonstrating positioning of firearm

Deputies continued verbal commands for Butts to drop the weapon. Shots were subsequently fired (not by [REDACTED]). A drone operated by Det. Wolff confirmed Butts was down; EMS later determined he was deceased.

Following the incident, [REDACTED] obtained both recorded and written statements from the rescued female hostage. She stated she believed all reasonable options had been attempted given the circumstances.

Interview with Lt. Mike Sullivan

Lt. Sullivan stated he responded to assist the Ashtabula County Special Response Team with a report of a possibly barricaded subject in the basement. Upon arrival, he parked near the residence and encountered family members, including Cain and Lenette Butts, who were yelling and attempting to approach the residence. Lt. Sullivan assisted in keeping them back while SRT personnel positioned themselves on the north side of the home.

Cain Butts provided Lt. Sullivan with a phone, through which Sullivan communicated with a female identified as Brandon's girlfriend. She reported being trapped in the basement, coughing heavily, unable to see, and believed the door was nailed shut with an obstruction placed in front of it. Lt. Sullivan relayed this information to SRT member Evan Wolff. The SRT subsequently breached 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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

basement door, enabling the female to exit. She reported that Brandon claimed to have a gun, though she had not seen one.

Lt. Sullivan relayed that information as well. Lt. Sullivan assisted with moving family members away from the residence as a perimeter was established. He observed SRT personnel issuing repeated verbal commands to Brandon, who was reportedly yelling statements indicating suicidal intent. Lt. Sullivan did not have a visual on Brandon.

As the situation escalated, Lt. Sullivan heard an exchange of gunfire but could not determine who fired or how many rounds were discharged. Following the shooting, family members attempted to approach the residence, and Lt. Sullivan assisted in securing the scene and establishing caution tape. Fire/EMS personnel later entered the residence to provide aid to Brandon.

Lt. Sullivan reported wearing a body-worn camera during the incident but stated it was only activated intermittently due to administrative matters.

Interview with Sgt. Wade Stitt

Sgt. Stitt reported that he responded to assist the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office with a barricaded male subject in the basement of the residence, identified as Brandon Butts. A female, later identified as Heather, was also inside. Upon arrival, Sgt. Stitt observed ACSO deputies positioned near the residence and was briefed by Det. Wolff regarding the barricaded situation.

To assist with scene management and de-escalation, Sgt. Stitt repositioned his cruiser to accommodate Butts' brother, who had mobility issues and a dog. Throughout the incident, Sgt. Stitt worked to keep family members away from the secure perimeter as they became highly agitated and non-compliant.

While checking the perimeter, Sgt. Stitt witnessed Butts break a basement window using a metal pole approximately six to seven feet long. He heard Butts verbally threaten officers, stating he would kill them, while aggressively waving the pole.

Pepper ball rounds were deployed by CPD Ofc. Delisle in an effort to gain compliance. During continued attempts to control the family and maintain scene security, Sgt. Stitt heard gunfire. He turned and observed officers at the side door firing their weapons. Sgt. Stitt recognized only [REDACTED] among the shooters and stated he himself was never in a position to fire.

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

Following the shooting, family members and additional civilians became increasingly hostile, pushing against caution tape and verbally expressing anger toward law enforcement. Officers continued de-escalation efforts to regain control of the scene.

Interview with Ofc. Mike Delisle

Ofc. Delisle reported that he responded to the residence to assist ACSO deputies who were attempting to serve an arrest warrant on Brandon Butts. Butts was barricaded in the basement with his girlfriend, Heather Duva. Upon arrival, Ofc. Delisle retrieved a pepper-ball launcher and positioned himself on the north side of the residence. Following instructions from [REDACTED], he deployed multiple pepper-ball rounds into the basement through broken glass-block window openings. Duva later exited the basement while Butts remained inside.

Ofc. Delisle was repositioned several times around the residence to continue deploying pepper-ball rounds through various openings, including an interior floor vent. He reported hearing increased banging noises from within the basement consistent with Butts being affected by the chemical agent. Shortly after, Butts began striking out basement windows with a pipe while yelling obscenities at officers. When Butts extended his arms outside one window, Ofc. Delisle fired two additional pepper-ball rounds, causing Butts to retreat back inside.

Delisle stated ACSO deputies repeatedly ordered Butts to exit the residence. He heard officers announce that Butts possessed a firearm, followed by commands to drop the weapon. Gunshots were then heard. Ofc. Delisle was positioned on the opposite side of the residence at the time of the shooting and did not have visual contact with Butts. Ofc. Delisle secured his pepper-ball launcher after deploying approximately 15-20 rounds.

Dispatch Related Information

ACSO Dispatch Related Information

The CAD/Dispatch Records (ACS26-014100) were reviewed and the following were observed:

- The call was created at 13:20:34hrs
- The address listed was 613 Orange St., Conneaut, Ohio
- At 13:21:53hrs, units advised "SRT units attempting warrant service"
- At 13:33:05hrs, units advised "Male barricaded"
- At 13:37:31hrs, units requested EMS to stage
- At 13:45:08hrs, units advised "Deploying pepper ball right now"
- At 13:45:22hrs, units advised "Female downstairs with him"

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
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

- At 13:49:45hrs, units advised "Female out / still working on male"
- At 13:55:34hrs, units advised "Female reporting he had a C40⁵. She did not see it"
- At 13:57:57hrs, units advised "Come out said he was armed"
- At 14:03:34hrs, units advised "Suspect has a C40"
- At 14:05:06hrs, units advised "Gun"
- At 14:09:38hrs, units advised "Verbally giving commands"
- At 14:10:30hrs, units advised "Shots fired"
- At 14:16:54hrs, units requested EMS to enter the residence
- At 14:27:44hrs, units requested the coroner

Conneaut PD Dispatch Related Information

The CPD dispatch-related information is similar to that of the ACSO dispatch-related information.

Video Recordings

None of the members of the ACSO SRT were wearing Body Worn Cameras (BWC) during the incident. According to the SRT members this is common protocol. The CPD detective involved was also not wearing a BWC during the incident. CPD officers providing scene security were wearing BWCs but none of the cameras visually captured the shooting.

The area was canvassed for possible surveillance/witness video and while video was collected, none of the recordings visually captured the shooting.

Conclusion

On Thursday, June 25, 2026, Chief Deputy Terry Moisio of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on June 25, 2026 in the area of 613 Orange St., Conneaut, Ohio 44030 and resulted in the death of Brandon L. Butts.

The incident began with members of the ACSO SRT attempting to serve multiple arrest warrants on Butts. Butts was confirmed to be inside the residence and reportedly barricaded himself in the basement with his girlfriend (Heather Duva). Members of

⁵ The term "C40" is a radio/CAD term for a firearm.

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
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
Ashtabula County (L)

ACSO attempted to negotiate the surrender of Butts and were unsuccessful. Members of CPD introduced pepper balls into the basement of the residence in an attempt to get Butts to surrender. Duva was subsequently "rescued" from the basement by members of the SRT.

Members of ACSO continued to attempt to negotiate with Butts and those attempts were unsuccessful. Butts made several statements indicating that he would harm himself or members of law enforcement.

Butts reportedly exited the basement on at least two occasions with a muzzle loader underneath his chin. Butts subsequently pointed the muzzle loader at members of law enforcement and members of law enforcement fired their weapons. Butts was struck multiple times and died as a result of his injuries.

The involved members of law enforcement were interviewed and provided statements as to what they observed, etc. The statements were similar in consistent in content. The involved members of law enforcement indicated that they fired their weapons due to a threat of immediate physical harm or death presented by Butts.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Dan Boerner. SA Boerner can be reached via email at Daniel.Boerner@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at 330.606.8639.

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.