



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



2024-2718

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 248 E. 11th Avenue,  
Columbus, OH 43201 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** [REDACTED] (S)  
**Date of Activity:** 10/14/2024  
**Activity Location:** Law Offices of Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton and Lipperman –  
Business – 4683 Winterset Drive, Columbus, OH 43220  
**Author:** SA James H Gore, #168

**Narrative:**

On the morning of September 10, 2024 at approximately 0130 hours, Lamine Mahmoudi (Mahmoudi), of 235 Chittenden Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, was killed during a confrontation with officers from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD). Mahmoudi was armed with a meat cleaver and butcher knife, and incident took place in the rear parking lot of the CPD Precinct 4 substation. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by CPD to handle the Officer-Involved Critical Incident investigation. The six involved officers were identified as:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

On the afternoon October 14, 2024, BCI Special Agents (SA) James Gore and Kyle Douglass interviewed [REDACTED] at the Law Offices of Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman. The purpose of the interview was to obtain [REDACTED] account of the critical incident. Present with [REDACTED] was attorney Cathrine Harshman, as legal counsel from the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP).

Prior to starting the interview, SA Gore read and presented a "Criminal Investigation Notification" form to [REDACTED]. The form advised [REDACTED] of his rights, and it also specified that the investigation was not administrative in nature. [REDACTED] reviewed and signed the form.

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.

Ms. Harshman provided a printed statement from [REDACTED] which summarized his involvement in the incident. [REDACTED] was asked to read the statement out loud for the purpose of refreshing his memory. After reading it, [REDACTED] signed his statement, and he confirmed that it was an accurate account of what he recalled from the event.

In his statement, [REDACTED] wrote that prior to his normal shift, he worked a special duty assignment from 1300 to 2100 hours at a Kroger liquor store, located at [REDACTED]. During that time, he explained, he heard traffic on his police radio regarding the first dispatch run to Lamine Mahmoudi's residence, where Mahmoudi reportedly barricaded himself in his home, armed with a knife. [REDACTED] said when he arrived for his normal shift at the precinct ([REDACTED]), he learned more details about the prior shift's encounter during a roll call briefing. At roll call, he was shown a photo of Mahmoudi, so that he could be aware of what he looked like.

[REDACTED] wrote that his shift was also dispatched to Lamine Mahmoudi's residence:

*"About a half hour after arriving for my shift at Substation 4, I was dispatched with several other officers from Zone 4 to 235 Chittenden Avenue on a 33-A (our 10-code for knife). There had been previous calls at the address due to the actions of one of the roommates (suspect). When we were dispatched to that location, I believe another roommate had called because the suspect had a knife inside the residence. The address was a brick duplex-styled home, which had multiple entry points for more than one apartment. There was a set of stairs (external) on the right (east) side of the residence leading to the apartment that the suspect was believed to live.*

*The parking lot of Substation 4 is short distance from the parking area that was used for the 235 Chittenden Avenue address. Because I was in the middle of loading up my cruiser, I went on foot to the rear of the address and was the third officer to arrive. I did go back for my cruiser when it became evident one was needed and drove it to the rear of the building. Other officers at the call included: Sergeant Van Dusen, [REDACTED]*

*I believe the suspect at some point opened the rear door but would come out of the residence after repeatedly being asked to drop his weapons and come out. Soon thereafter, Lieutenant Engles arrived, as did the Mobile Crisis Response Unit (MCR), who eventually made announcements to the suspect from the PA on my cruiser. From what I remember, the suspect did not make any attempts to communicate with either police or MCR. Eventually, supervision told us to disengage."*

[REDACTED] described the moment that Lamine Mahmoudi approached the substation on foot:

*"At approximately 1:30am, I was in the parking lot north of the Substation 4 in my cruiser facing outward (north) in one of the parking spaces. Other members of Zone 4 were with me in their cruisers with their windows open. Officers were talking. From west to east, [REDACTED] was in Cruiser [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in Cruiser [REDACTED]; I was in Cruiser [REDACTED] was in Cruiser [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was in Cruiser [REDACTED]. Unoccupied CPD Wagon 48 parked facing south on the northwest side of the parking lot and a few other cruisers (also unoccupied) were parked in the northeast*

corner of the lot. The substation parking lot and parking lot directly to the north across the alley is well lit with several overhead lighting sources. I heard another officer ask something to the effect of: "is this our guy?"

██████████ statement continued:

*I reached over and remounted by BWC which was laying on the passenger seat. Someone said that the suspect had a knife in his hand. I exited my cruiser and turned on my BWC. Someone radioed that the suspect was a 33-A. I looked up and saw the suspect with knives in his hands coming east down the alley between the parking lot of the substation and parking area for the residences on Chittenden. The suspect was a younger male with a lighter complexion. He was wearing lighter colored pants, a grey sweatshirt, and a hat. I lost sight of him for a few moments when he went behind the CPD wagon that was parked in the northwest corner. Officers began talking to the suspect, saying things similar to "we just want to help, we don't want to hurt you, put the knife down, put it down..." I also began to give commands similar to the other officers. The officers, including myself, fanned out. We had no cover and the parking lot of the substation is not fully fenced in and is open to the alley. It was completely open to the suspect with no physical barrier. ██████████ was on the far right (east) and had moved further north in the parking lot towards the alley. I was standing between ██████████ on my right (east) and ██████████ on my left (west). ██████████ and ██████████ were west of ██████████, but I am not sure who was closer to me.*

According to ██████████, the suspect (Mahmoudi) disregarded the pleas and commands of the officers. ██████████ described the moment the officers responded with force:

*"The suspect continued to walk east. The lighting in the parking lot made it easy to see the knives in the suspect's hands as they would glint when the edges caught the light. It appeared to me that he had a cleaver-like knife in his right hand and a longer, large kitchen knife in his left. The suspect stopped walking east and turned to face us. We continued to all give commands for him to drop his weapon. I remember saying "don't do it" several times. I was afraid that we would have no choice other than to fire. We were basically begging him to stop, so we would not have to fire. He was saying something, but I could not tell what. He walked south/southeast towards us, but more towards the direction of ██████████, brandishing his knives. He walked up over the curb between the parking lot towards us from the alley onto the parking spaces on the north side of the lot. It appeared to me at the time that he made a movement in preparation to charge or throw the knives. I and the officers around me fired at what seemed to be at the same. I stopped firing when the suspect fell to the ground, as did the other officers. I aired that shots had been fired."*

██████████ stated that he assisted officers with handcuffing Mahmoudi. He reported seeing injuries to Mahmoudi's head, chest, and legs. He said he suggested to others that they check the residences north of the alley for potential bullet strikes and bystander injuries, since the buildings were in the backdrop of the shooting. ██████████ stated that he then reported to the Columbus Police Training Academy where he waited for his representation from the FOP.

██████████ said he thought he fired three times. From a round count when his weapon was

collected, [REDACTED] learned that he actually fired five rounds. Likewise, [REDACTED] initially estimated that he was twenty-five to thirty feet from Mahmoudi when he shot. After reviewing his body-worn camera footage, however, [REDACTED] stated he realized he was much closer, as in fifteen to twenty feet.

[REDACTED] concluded that his reaction to the lethal threat that the officers faced was consistent with his training.

Copies of the Criminal Investigation Notification form, [REDACTED] statement, and audio-recorded interview are available for further review as attachments to this report.

#### References:

No references

#### Attachments:

- Attachment # 01: Criminal Investigation Notification CPD [REDACTED] 10-14-2024
- Attachment # 02: CPD [REDACTED] written statement 10-14-2024
- Attachment # 03: 10-14-2024 CPD [REDACTED] Interview – SA Gore, SA Douglass

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



**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).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Interviewee

10-14-24 3:10pm  
Date / Time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

James Gons 16th  
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]  
BCI Agent (Signature)

[Signature]

**STATEMENT OF OFFICER [REDACTED] BADGE NO. [REDACTED]**

This statement is regarding my involvement in an officer involved shooting that occurred on Monday, September 10, 2024 between 1:25am and 1:35am near the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Substation 4 located at 248 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This is a voluntary statement given as part of the criminal investigation conducted into the matter by the Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI).

I was hired by the CPD on [REDACTED] I do not have any previous law enforcement experience. I do not have any prior/current military service. My regular assignment at CPD is Patrol [REDACTED] My regular duty hours are [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] I have been in my unit since I was released from probation in [REDACTED] On Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, I was on my regular assignment. I was dressed in the patrol uniform of the day, which includes navy pants and a navy short sleeved shirt with my CPD badge identifying me as police officer on the front. I was not wearing a hat. I was clearly identifiable as a Columbus Police Officer. My body worn camera (BWC) was mounted on the center of my chest. I was armed with a department-issued Smith and Wesson M&P 9mm 2.0 with standard department-issued ammunition. My weapon has a TL-1 HL light made by Streamlight. I am current in my range qualifications with my sidearm and the light. I was not carrying any backup weapons. I was driving CPD Cruiser [REDACTED] I had no partner.

I am left-hand dominant. I was in good health at the time of this incident. I was not taking any medication that would in any way affect my ability to carry out my responsibilities and duties as a police officer. I had worked special duty at a Kroger liquor store located at: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] prior to my shift. This was a special duty assignment that I have regularly worked for a number of years. I had plenty of sleep prior to my special duty/shift. I was

not under any unusual stress. I do not wear a hearing aid, nor do I have any problems with my hearing. I do not wear glasses, nor do I have any problems with my vision.

About a half hour after arriving for my shift at Substation 4, I was dispatched with several other officers from Zone 4 to 235 Chittenden Avenue on a 33-A (our 10-code for knife). There had been previous calls at the address due to the actions of one of the roommates (suspect). When we were dispatched to that location, I believe another roommate had called because the suspect had a knife inside the residence. The address was a brick duplex-styled home, which had multiple entry points for more than one apartment. There was a set of stairs (external) on the right (east) side of the residence leading to the apartment that the suspect was believed to live.

The parking lot of Substation 4 is short distance from the parking area that was used for the 235 Chittenden Avenue address. Because I was in the middle of loading up my cruiser, I went on foot to the rear of the address and was the third officer to arrive. I did go back for my cruiser when it became evident one was needed and drove it to the rear of the building. Other officers at the call included: Sergeant Van Dusen, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I believe the suspect at some point opened the rear door but would not come out of the residence after repeatedly being asked to drop his weapons and come out. Soon thereafter, Lieutenant Ingles arrived, as did the Mobile Crisis Response Unit (MCR), who eventually made announcements to the suspect from the PA on my cruiser. From what I remember, the suspect did not make any attempts to communicate with either police or MCR. Eventually, supervision told us to disengage.

At approximately 1:30am, I was in the parking lot north of the Substation 4 in my cruiser facing outward (north) in one of the parking spaces. Other members of Zone 4 were with me in their cruisers with their windows open. Officers were talking. From west to east, [REDACTED]

was in Cruiser [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in Cruiser [REDACTED] I was in Cruiser [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was in Cruiser [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was in Cruiser [REDACTED] Unoccupied CPD Wagon 48 parked facing south on the northwest side of the parking lot and a few other cruisers (also unoccupied) were parked in the northeast corner of the lot. The substation parking lot and parking lot directly to the north across the alley is well lit with several overhead lighting sources. I heard another officer ask something to the effect of: "is this our guy?"

I reached over and remounted by BWC which was laying on the passenger seat. Someone said that the suspect had a knife in his hand. I exited my cruiser and turned on my BWC. Someone radioed that the suspect was a 33-A. I looked up and saw the suspect with knives in his hands coming east down the alley between the parking lot of the substation and parking area for the residences on Chittenden. The suspect was a younger male with a lighter complexion. He was wearing lighter colored pants, a grey sweatshirt, and a hat. I lost sight of him for a few moments when he went behind the CPD wagon that was parked in the northwest corner. Officers began talking to the suspect, saying things similar to "we just want to help, we don't want to hurt you, put the knife down, put it down..." I also began to give commands similar to the other officers. The officers, including myself, fanned out. We had no cover and the parking lot of the substation is not fully fenced in and is open to the alley. It was completely open to the suspect with no physical barrier. [REDACTED] was on the far right (east) and had moved further north in the parking lot towards the alley. I was standing between [REDACTED] on my right (east) and [REDACTED] on my left (west). [REDACTED] were west of [REDACTED] but I am not sure who was closer to me.

The suspect continued to walk east. The lighting in the parking lot made it easy to see the knives in the suspect's hands as they would glint when the edges caught the light. It appeared to



me that he had a cleaver-like knife in his right hand and a longer, large kitchen knife in his left. The suspect stopped walking east and turned to face us. We continued to all give commands for him to drop his weapon. I remember saying "don't do it" several times. I was afraid that we would have no choice other than to fire. We were basically begging him to stop, so we would not have to fire. He was saying something, but I could not tell what. He walked south/southeast towards us, but more towards the direction of [REDACTED] brandishing his knives. He walked up over the curb between the parking lot towards us from the alley onto the parking spaces on the north side of the lot. It appeared to me at the time that he made a movement in preparation to charge or throw the knives. I and the officers around me fired at what seemed to be at the same. I stopped firing when the suspect fell to the ground, as did the other officers. I aired that shots had been fired.

We began to render aid. The knives were placed away from the suspect. I helped other officers cuff the suspect. Officers began compressions. I aired that the alley behind the substation would need to be blocked off, as well as the entrances. The suspect had obvious wounds in his head. He had multiple wounds in his chest. I pulled down his pants to check for wounds in his legs, of which there appeared to be several. Officers continued compressions until medics arrived. I did mention at some point that the residence north of us should be checked, as it was the backdrop to the shooting and I wanted to make sure that no one else had been injured. I had no further involvement in the incident. I went to the CPD Training Academy to await my FOP representation.

I now know that I fired five (5) times. When I fired, I fired from a standing position with both hands. I used my sights. I fired at the suspect's center mass. There was plenty of light in the parking lot, but I also used my weapon's light. I fired north. I did not see any officers or civilians in my backdrop. My backdrop was the fence and vehicles directly behind the suspect. I believed I

was approximately 25-30 feet from the suspect. I did not fire from cover. At the time, I didn't have the time, distance, or barrier necessary to successfully deploy less than lethal force. I stopped firing once the suspect had fallen to the ground and was no longer a threat.

When I fired, there had been multiple calls regarding the suspect that day, who had been reported as armed with a knife. There had been several attempts to get him to come out of the house peacefully prior to this interaction with him, which he refused to do. The suspect was given multiple commands for several minutes as he walked east down the alley and failed to comply. He gave no indication that he was going to stop moving in our direction or drop his weapons. Instead, the suspect turned towards us showing us both knives and then walked towards officers in the parking lot. He made what I perceived to be a threatening movement in our direction. At the time, I did not have any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect the lives of my fellow officers and myself who were in imminent danger of death or extreme bodily harm from the suspect.

I know the suspect's name was Lamine Mahmoudi. Prior to September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, I do not remember having any prior interactions with the suspect either personal or professional.

Upon review of the video of the incident, the incident went much faster and the suspect was closer to officers than I remembered (approximately 15-20 feet). Otherwise, the videos do not materially alter my recollection of events.

This statement consists of five (5) pages.



