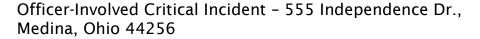


**Prosecutor Summary** 





To: S. Forrest Thompson, Medina County Prosecutor Cc: Chuck Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI

From: Joseph Goudy, Special Agent, Ohio BCI

Date: October 3, 2024 Involves: Victoria Carter (S)

Case Title: 2024-2096

BCI Case Numbers: Special Investigations (SIU): 2024-2096

Crime Scene (CSU): 2024-2096 Cyber Crime (CCU): 2024-2096 BCI Laboratory: 24-35370

### **Investigative Request**

On Wednesday, July 17, 2024, Captain Eric Bors of the Medina County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved shooting incident. The incident reportedly occurred on July 17, 2024, at the MCSO located at 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256 and resulted in the death of Victoria Carter.

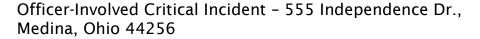
#### Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the July 17, 2024 officer-involved shooting in Medina County, Ohio. This report is an overview of the information to be useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this 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 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.



Prosecutor Summary





### **Investigative Team**

BCI Special Agent Joseph Goudy (Goudy) was assigned as the lead SIU case agent. SA Goudy received assistance in the investigation from SA Eric Lehnhart (Lehnhart), SA John Tingley (Tingley), and SA Jack Shea (Shea). BCI Crime Scene Technicians Mike Rostocil (Rostocil) and Laurna McClintock (McClintock) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. BCI Computer Forensic Specialist (CFS) Jarrod Scott of the Cyber Crimes Unit conducted an analysis of the taser recovered from 555 Independence Drive, Medina, Ohio. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor, Chuck Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

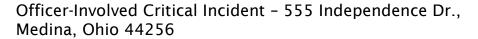
### **Summary of Process**

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 1 officer who discharged his weapon.
- Recorded interviews of 1 officer who was involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Recorded interview(s) of other subjects directly involved in the incident
- Interviews of 5 civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of the decedent
- Special agent attendance to postmortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed postmortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- 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



**Prosecutor Summary** 





- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- 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
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
  - 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
  - 2. Firearm operability testing
- Obtained consent to analyze electronic evidence, to include:
  - 1. Electronic Control Device (e.g. Taser)
- Reviewed data obtained from aforementioned items of electronic evidence
- 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
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission
- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident

### **Incident Summary/Overview**

On July 17 at approximately 1800 hours, a female identified as Victoria Carter (Carter) arrived at the Medina County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), located at 555 Independence Drive, Medina, Ohio. When Carter arrived at the property, she was driving a white 2011 Buick Lucerne erratically through the parking lot. Eventually, Carter pulled up the driveway near the main entrance and proceeded to drive up onto the front sidewalk of the MCSO building. After she pulled up onto the sidewalk, she parked her vehicle. Just before Carter exited her vehicle, a male walking by advised her that she could not park on the sidewalk. At that point, Carter exited her vehicle and appeared to be upset and yelled at the male. As Carter exited her vehicle, she had a knife in her right hand and a long-barreled black handgun in her left hand. During this interaction with the male, Carter appeared to shove him away from her. The video surveillance showed Carter was the aggressor during this interaction.

After Carter shoved the male away from her, the male walked up the main sidewalk and approached the main doors of the MCSO. When the male reached the main doors, with



Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

the use of an intercom, he advised MCSO Correction Officer Sean Barker, on the other end of the intercom, that a female was outside had a gun. It was at this moment that the male began to walk away from the main doors back towards the parking lot. Carter was observed on video having another brief interaction with him. The surveillance videos depicted Carter briefly chasing the male down the main sidewalk away from the building and then returning to go back towards the main doors of the MCSO. During this time, Carter was observed, via the surveillance video, being animated as if she was speaking to someone. At this time, she was facing the building and there was no one else around her. According to statements, it sounded as if she was speaking in a foreign language that no one was able to understand.

At this point, Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage heard what sounded like yelling coming from outside Sheriff Grice's office window. When Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage exited his office, they encountered Carter outside holding a gun and knife in her hands. Deputy Clinage had his taser out while giving commands to Carter to drop the weapons. Sheriff Grice had his agency-issued firearm out and pointed in the direction of Carter while Deputy Clinage was giving verbal commands. At one point, Carter did put the gun down on the ground but continued holding the knife in her right hand. As Deputy Clinage continued with verbal commands, Carter picked up the gun again and began to walk towards them. During this moment, Carter was yelling, but Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage were unable to understand what she was saying.

After more commands were given to stop and drop the weapons, Carter continued moving towards them. Deputy Clinage deployed his taser on Carter, which appeared to not have any effect on her. Shortly thereafter, Sheriff Grice fired his duty weapon twice and struck Carter both times. At this time, Carter turned away from them and fell to the ground. As she fell to the ground, the gun and knife she originally had were lying next to her. Soon thereafter, additional deputies arrived on scene to secure the weapons and Carter. Once Carter was secured, emergency medical aid was provided until EMS arrived on scene.

The gun possessed by Carter was later discovered to be a black semi-automatic style Benjamin Trail .177 caliber pellet gun. This item was moved out of Carter's reach as deputies arrived to secure her and render aid. The knife originally possessed by Carter was described as a Winchester pocketknife with the blade open. There appeared to be blood on the blade of the pocketknife. It is believed that the blood on the blade was in fact Carter's blood; due to how Carter fell and where the knife was in relation to her wounds. When additional deputies arrived on scene, one deputy was observed kicking the knife away from where Carter was lying so they could safely secure her and render aid.



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

During an interview with MCSO jail inmate Alber Koons (Koons), he provided more insight into Carter's behavior on the day of the incident. Koons indicated that he and Carter have been in a relationship for approximately 10 years. Koons said that it had been documented that Carter was and was on medication for it. Koons said Carter had and that when she was younger, she was traumatized by her father. Koons also mentioned that Carter's mother was also diagnosed as Koons said that when Carter was on her medication, she was fine. Furthermore, Koons said that he could always tell when she was off her medications or not taking them correctly.

Koons indicated that this was the case on the day of the incident. Prior to her arriving at the MCSO, he spoke with her on the phone. During that conversation, Koons said she was initially going there to put money on his books. Koons said that during the conversation she was just rambling to which he didn't know what she was saying. Koons said that he knew she was off her medication that day due to how she was acting on the phone. Due to how Carter was acting during the phone call, Koons told her not to come to the MCSO jail.

#### **Decedent**



Name: Victoria Ann Carter

DOB: 1/14/1987 - Age: 37

Last 4 of SSN: 6415

Address: 5861 Ryan Road, Medina, Ohio 44256

(W/F - 5'5" - 165 lbs. - Brown hair / Green eyes)

### **Autopsy Report**

The autopsy report for the decedent (Victoria Ann Carter) was obtained from the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

The cause of death for Victoria Ann Ca	rter was determined	
		The
toxicology report		



**Prosecutor Summary** 

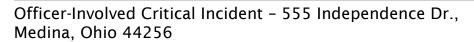


Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256





**Prosecutor Summary** 

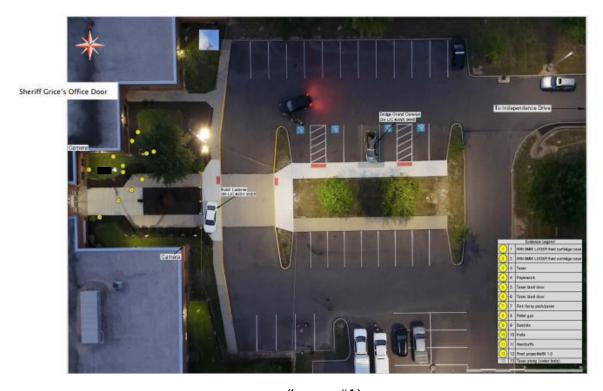




### **Physical Evidence**

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded to 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.

The below listed crime scene scan image depicts an overhead view of the parking lot and MCSO building. The incident occurred near the main entrance of the MCSO building.



(Image #1)



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

The below listed crime scene photograph depicts a close-up photograph of the area where the shooting occurred. This photograph shows evidence placards 1-4 and 6-8.



(Image #2)



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

The below listed crime scene photograph depicts the black Benjamin Trail NP pellet gun as evidence item #8. In addition, the suspected ballistic impact was labeled as BI 1.0. The projectile removed from the ballistic impact was labeled as evidence item #12.



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**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

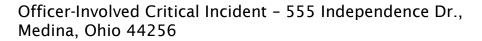
This crime scene photograph depicts evidence items 9 and 10. Evidence item 10 is the bloodstained knife originally possessed by Carter.



(Image #7)



**Prosecutor Summary** 





The below listed photograph depicts the Glock 9mm semi-automatic handgun originally possessed by MCSO Sheriff Grice. The photograph also depicts the 16 remaining 9mm rounds in the gun after the shooting occurred.



(Image #8)

The below listed photographs depict evidence item #1 and item #2 lying on the ground near the corner of the MCSO building in the area Sheriff Grice was firing his weapon from. Both items are Winchester 9mm spent cartridge casings which were later confirmed to have been fired by Sheriff Grice's duty weapon.



(Image #9)



(Image #11)



(Image #10)



(Image #12)



Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

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:

### Submitted on 07/24/2024

- 1. Lab Item 1 / Matrix Item 001 Envelope containing fired cartridge case
- 2. Lab Item 2 / Matrix Item 002 Envelope containing fired cartridge case
- 3. Lab Item 3 / Matrix Item 012 Envelope containing bullet
- 4. Lab Item 4 / Matrix Item 014 Cardboard Gun Box containing One Glock 9mm Semi-automatic pistol, Serial # with magazine and sixteen (16) WIN 9mm cartridges.

### Submitted on 09/09/2024

- 1. Lab Item 5 / Matrix Item 040 Envelope containing fired bullet from pants of decedent
- 2. Lab Item 6 / Matrix Item 046 Envelope containing bullet fragments removed from the left hip of decedent.

#### Findings:

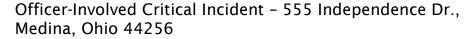
Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item 4: Glock pistol	N/A	Operable
	Items 1 & 2: two (2) 9mm Luger fired cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Item 3: one (1) fired bullet	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item 4: Glock pistol	Item 5: one (1) fired bullet	Source Identification

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item 6: two (2) lead fragments	N/A	Unsuitable^



**Prosecutor Summary** 





#### Witnesses

#### **Robert Wolfe**

Robert Wolfe (Wolfe) said that he drove Paul Wallace (Wallace) and Tamera Spencer (Spencer) to the Medina County Sheriff's Office, so Spencer could put money on the books of a friend who was in MCSO Jail. Wolfe remained in the vehicle while Wallace and Spencer went inside. While Wolfe was sitting in his van (Ohio Registration JWX9445) in the parking lot of the MCSO, he heard a loud radio and a person yelling. The person was driving a white car. Wolfe noted that the vehicle was driving erratically while in the parking lot. Wolfe stated that the vehicle almost hit a pole in the lot, before hitting a different pole near the sidewalk and front entrance of the MCSO.

Wolfe exited his vehicle to tell the female driver she could not park there, and then he saw she had what he described as a "big black gun" in her hands. Wolfe stated that the female was yelling, but he could not understand what she was saying, so he went to the front entrance of the MCSO. Wolfe said he pushed the intercom button and told deputies that there was a female with a gun that appeared to be on drugs. Wolfe said after that, the female focused on him and began to chase him before she fell. Once Wolfe was back near his vehicle, he saw deputies come from the side of the building and heard them give commands to drop the weapon. Wolfe also thought that the commands changed to drop the knife before hearing a taser being deployed by deputies. Additional commands were heard and then Wolfe heard two gunshots.

#### **Paul Wallace**

Paul Wallace (Wallace) was inside the MCSO lobby looking out towards the parking lot. Wallace said he saw Wolfe pointing at the female, and then he ran to the entrance of the MCSO. Wallace walked away from the windows and then observed the female with a gun on the ground. Wallace said that he heard gunshots but did not see them.

### **Tamra Spencer**

Tamra Spencer (Spencer) was inside the MCSO lobby accessing the kiosk to put money on the books for an inmate. Spencer said that she did not see any of the incident.

#### **Ionut Zaharia**

Ionut Zaharia (Zaharia) was a jail inmate of the MCSO at the time of the incident. Zaharia stated that while he was inside the rec room of the jail he observed through a window, from which he had a limited view, a white Buick Lucerne or Lacrosse traveling across the parking lot. Zaharia stated that he found that to be out of the ordinary due to not seeing many vehicles drive through that portion of the parking lot. During that time, Zaharia stated that he then heard a crunching sound as if the vehicle struck



Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

something, followed by a woman yelling. Zaharia stated that it sounded as if the female was yelling in a different language. He was not able to understand what she was saying. Zaharia stated he saw a male wearing a brown or red polo shirt with khaki shorts walking up to the car. Zaharia assumed that the female was yelling at him.

Shortly thereafter, he heard officers yelling for the female to "back away, back away," followed by, "drop it, drop it, drop it." A few seconds later, he heard a low caliber "pop" followed by two loud "pops." Zaharia stated it was clearly distinguishable between the first low caliber shot and the last two shots being fired. After the shots were fired, Zaharia stated that he then heard the female moaning a little bit, but that was it.

#### **Director Rebecca Byrne**

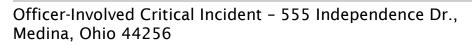
Rebecca Byrne (Byrne) was the Medina County Director of Administrative Services and Programming. The shooting incident occurred directly in front of her office window. Byrne stated that while she was sitting at her desk inside her office working, she noticed Deputy Doug Clinage (Clinage) giving commands with his taser. Byrne stated she did not recall if he had the taser out of his holster or if he had his hand on it while it was holstered. Byrne also noticed a female outside with a gun in her left hand, which was pointed down. Byrne went on to describe the gun as to being a "long gun" and that, "it was big, it wasn't a small gun." At this point, Byrne stated she ran out of her office to notify other deputies of what was going on. Shortly after, when Byrne saw Sheriff Terry Grice (Grice), he told her to advise dispatch, "Shots were fired, and we needed a squad." Immediately thereafter, Director Byrne notified dispatch.

#### MCSO Corrections Officer Sean Barker

Correction Officer Sean Barker stated that while he was inside the control booth, he answered the intercom, which was located at the front door of the facility. Correction Officer Barker stated that at approximately 1800 hours, a male was heard saying, "a female is waving around a gun intoxicated." Soon thereafter, the male walked away. Correction Officer Barker stated he did not recall the number to dispatch to alert them to this, so he contacted another deputy he observed walking into the building. With the intercom still open, Correction Officer Barker stated he heard what sounded like a taser going off. Correction Officer Barker further stated that the female was heard "screaming a lot" while outside but could not make out what she was saying. Correction Officer Barker did not hear or see anything further.



Prosecutor Summary





#### **Character Witness**

### Albert Koons (Boyfriend to Victoria Carter)

Albert Koons (K	loons) was a jail inmate at the MCSO at the time of the incident. Koons		
was the boyfrie	nd of the decedent Carter. Koons stated that he and Carter have been		
together for ap	together for approximately 10 years. Koons indicated that they were not married, bu		
together. Koon:	s stated that it had been documented that Carter was		
ā	and was on medication for it. He also stated that Carter had		
	Koons stated that when Carter was younger,		
she was "traum	atized" by her father. Koons continued by saying that Carter's mother		
was also	Koons stated that when Carter took her medicine,		
she was fine.	<del></del>		

Koons was asked if Carter had ever reacted in this manner previously. Koons replied, "never, UNINTELLIGIBLE, we didn't even have a gun. I'm a felon first of all, so I don't even have one. Second of all, I didn't think there was a gun in my house at all. After I talked to her brother, her brother told me it was a kid's toy gun." (02:18 mark). Koons stated that an officer should be able to tell if the gun she had was a toy gun.

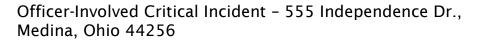
When Koons was asked if he had ever seen Carter when she was off of her medications, Koons replied, "yea, she was in the hospital back in January" (03:17 mark). Koons stated that she had never been abusive with him. Furthermore, Koons stated that Carter had a "delusion" that he beat her up. Koons further stated that he did not "beat her up" and that he was asleep when she alleged that it occurred. Koons stated that after a year, that case was eventually thrown out. Koons stated that she had delusions ever since her dad molested her from the age of 2 to 12 years old. (03:35 mark).

Regarding the jail phone call that occurred earlier in the day, on the day of the incident, Koons stated, "...she started acting crazy again, I told her to knock it off, don't even come up here, just stay home, it's not that important. Because she was coming up to put money on my books, that's why she come up here." (04:48 mark). When Koons was asked what Carter was saying on the jail phone call, Koons replied, "I don't even know, rambling." (5:02 mark). Koons continued, "...she probably, she probably her meds, and I didn't want anything stupid to happen like this." (5:14 mark).

Two days prior to the day of the incident on a previous jail call, Koons stated that Carter was rambling about the government and that's when he knew she was, "in one of her little things." (05:26 mark). Koons stated when Carter acts up, it is because she was not taking her medications. At that point, Koons stated that he had Carter's brother get a welfare check done on her. Koons stated when he was out of jail, he used in the morning and at to make sure that Carter was taking her medication, night every day. Koons further stated that even if she did not take her meds when



**Prosecutor Summary** 





directed, she would act up. Prior to this incident, Koons stated that Carter had never reacted like this. Koons stated that when Carter was taking her medication properly, she was fine, and she was also a peaceful person.

Prior to the incident, Koons stated that she was good about going to her doctor's appointments and peer support groups. When Koons was asked about Carter's prior encounter with law enforcement, he stated that she did have encounters with them. Furthermore, they would usually send her to "psyche ward."

### **Officer Interviews**

The following paragraphs are extremely abbreviated versions of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and/or discharging their weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

### **Medina County Sheriff Terry Grice**

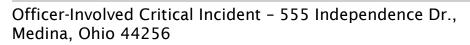
On the day of the incident, Sheriff Grice stated that he was inside his office speaking with MCSO Deputy Doug Clinage (Clinage). Sheriff Grice's office was located at the front of the building with a window that could view the front parking lot and walkway to the main doors. During this time, Sheriff Grice stated that they both heard, "yelling out in the parking lot area." When they looked outside of the window, they saw a white male walking down the main sidewalk towards the parking lot while being followed by a female. The female was "having some sort of exchange" with the male. The male continued walking to his vehicle in the parking lot. Sheriff Grice stated this action caught their attention. At this point, Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage walked out the door from the Sheriff's personal office to investigate the matter. (12:30 mark).

When they exited the office, Sheriff Grice stated that he could hear music playing and noticed a white vehicle parked, "very hastily" on the sidewalk (13:40 mark). The music was heard coming from that vehicle. "I could still hear a female, I don't, I don't know if she was yelling, but there was some sort of noise." (14:08 mark). At this point, after Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage exited, they walked towards the front door where they encountered a female standing at the front door with her back to them. Sheriff Grice stated:

...the female was standing up by the entrance doors of the Sheriff's office, had her back to us. At that point, I noticed that she had a wet mark on her, I think they were shorts, whether she urinated on herself or she sat in something. Her back was to us, and I don't' know if one of us said something, but she turned.



Prosecutor Summary





At that point, she had a black, um, long barreled, what looked to be a handgun, but it was a longer barrel, and she also had, I believe it was in her right hand, appeared to be a knife. (14:45 mark).

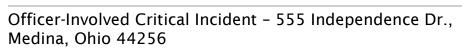
After noticing the knife and handgun in the female's hands. Sheriff Grice stated that he was standing at the edge of the building using cover. Sheriff Grice further stated that Deputy Clinage was standing off to his left with, "absolutely no cover." Sheriff Grice stated:

We both started giving commands immediately to drop the gun, drop the gun, drop the gun. She immediately looked at us, made again some sort of audible noise nothing that indicated she heard what we were saying but she was definitely making some noise. Uh, If I'm correct, at some point, she does put down the gun, she continues towards us still with the knife. More commands were given to drop, drop the knife, drop the knife. She continues, she stops, and I don't know if that gun is still in the area of her legs, but I believe she goes back down, retrieves that. At that point, I saw the red dot. I already had my firearm, um, holstered, not holstered, out of my holster. Deputy Clinage, I could see he had something in his hands, but then I did see the red dot. At that point, when she, I believe she grabbed the gun again, um, he deployed his taser. She stopped, she was standing in this flower bed and the taser, I believe, at least one of the, um, probes hit her maybe in the top right, enough to have her, at that point, seize but her attention immediately went to Deputy Clinage but with no other reaction. So, I don't know at that point if it was an effective deployment again, she had stopped at, I don't know what the time was, what the length of time was, it then, I don't know if the five seconds was done on the taser, she then continued in our direction. Still, I believe at that time, still had the, she had the knife in her hand, I don't know if the gun was in her hand. She came in our direction. Out of fear for, um, Deputy Clinage, um, the other citizen out here, and obviously myself, I discharged, I believe two rounds at that point. (15:40 mark).

Sheriff Grice stated that after the female was struck, "uh, she hesitated, she was still standing and then she at some point, did fall to the ground." (17:52 mark). At this point, Sheriff Grice stated that he advised Deputy Clinage to use his radio to notify dispatch. Sheriff Grice stated that Deputy Clinage indicated he did not have a radio, even though he did. Sheriff Grice further stated that he wasn't sure if Deputy Clinage meant that his battery was dead or that he did not realize he had it with him. At this point. Sheriff Grice entered back into his office and told the Director of Administrative Services to advise dispatch what had occurred and to request EMS. Shortly thereafter, additional deputies arrived on scene to assist with emergency medical aid on the



**Prosecutor Summary** 





female. Sheriff Grice instructed another supervisor to secure the scene and to make sure the witness in the parking lot did not leave. Sheriff Grice stated soon after the incident occurred,

collected his firearm and secured it into an evidence box.

When Sheriff Grice was asked if he was able to determine what was being said from the initial yelling that was heard from within his office. Sheriff Grice stated the female was saying something in a "hostile" way due to how the male was walking and looking back towards her. Shortly after, the female stopped following the male and turned back towards the building while still yelling. (21:42 mark). Sheriff Grice was then asked if it was normal as to the manner in which the white vehicle, he originally described, was parked on the sidewalk, he replied, "no." (22:35 mark).

Sheriff Grice was asked if he could describe the knife, he initially saw the in the female's right hand. Sheriff Grice stated, "again, I believe it was in her right hand and it appeared to have a fixed blade and then the knife blade was pointing up." (23:03 mark).

When Sheriff Grice was asked if he thought that the verbal commands were effective, he replied, "initially when she put the gun down and then we obviously still saw the knife and that's why the commands continued to be communicated, yelled." Sheriff Grice was then asked if there was any indication that the female would have complied at that point with the commands. He replied, "no, and then that was when the taser was deployed, and again, whether that five second cycle stopped, at which point she still had it, she continued in a position towards myself and Deputy Clinage." (24:11 mark).

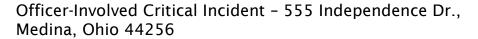
Sheriff Grice was asked to discuss the fear he mentioned he had for Deputy Clinage and the civilian, as far as what he thought would have happened. Sheriff Grice replied, "...my thought was she was either going to use the knife and I don't recall if she still had the gun, that she was coming to, uh, bodily harm, or bodily harm to either Deputy Clinage, if it was the knife or myself, um, she still had the gun, all three of us, at that point, were potential victims." (26:52 mark).

Sheriff Grice was asked to describe his experience or training pertaining to encounters with a knife or edged weapons. He stated, "Generally it's a twenty-foot spread we try to keep. In my mind that was not twenty feet." Sheriff Grice was then asked if that was the distance someone with a knife could cover in the amount of time it takes for him to discharge his firearm, he stated that it was. (27:41 mark).

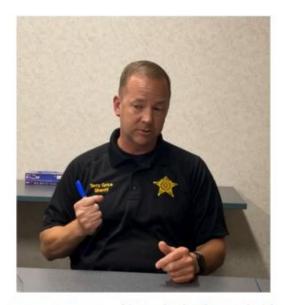
Sheriff Grice was asked to demonstrate how the female was holding the knife during the encounter. With the use of a marker and the blue cap acting as the blade, Sheriff Grice grabbed it with his right hand and held it up as illustrated below. (28:27 mark).



**Prosecutor Summary** 







(Demonstration of how the knife was held)

(Image #13)

When Sheriff Grice was asked if he experienced any form of perceptual phenomena. Sheriff Grice stated that he experienced time slowing down during the incident. He also described the time when he fired his weapon that it was "echoing." Sheriff Grice stated the echoing could have something to do with where he was standing in relation to the building. (29:00 mark).

When asked if there was any other use of force option to use other than his firearm, Sheriff Grice stated, "no."

For further information, please refer to the report titled, "2024-07-22: Video Interview – MCSO Sheriff Terry Grice."

#### **Witness Officer**

#### **Deputy Douglas Clinage**

On the day of the incident, Deputy Clinage was working his assigned patrol shift, 6AM to 6PM. Deputy Clinage stated that at the time of the incident, he was inside MCSO Sheriff Terry Grice's (Grice) office speaking with him when he heard what sounded like an argument coming from the front of the building. At that point, Deputy Clinage stated that he and Sheriff Grice walked outside to the front of the building to investigate the matter. Deputy Clinage stated when they walked outside, they saw, "...a male walking back to the cars out in the parking lot and as I, as I walked around the



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

corner of the building, I observed a female standing in front of the building holding a gun and a knife in her hands." (06:35 mark). Deputy Clinage was not able to understand what was being said during the argument.

After Deputy Clinage encountered the female, he began assessing her hands in which she was still holding the knife and gun. After several commands were given, the female refused to comply. At one point, she dropped the gun and yelled at them. Deputy Clinage stated that they could not understand what she was saying due to the "gibberish and just a whole bunch of nonsense that she was saying." (09:09 mark). Deputy Clinage continued,

"...from there, I fixated on the fact that she still had a knife on her hand, in her right hand. Um, told her to drop the knife repeatedly. Um, she wouldn't comply with that. Um, at that point in time, she bent over, picked the gun up off the ground again and took some quick steps towards us. (09:18 mark).

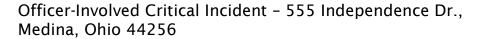
At this point, Deputy Clinage stated that he continued to assess the situation, especially due to the fact that Sheriff Grice did not have any body armor on, nor did he have any other equipment available to utilize other than his duty weapon. Deputy Clinage stated that he attempted to take over the scene to avoid putting Sheriff Grice in harm's way. Deputy Clinage stated he then approached the female with his taser out to try and take control of the situation. Deputy Clinage further stated he had his taser out,

"...because there are weapons involved, I deployed my taser. Um, it didn't work. Um, the female growled at me, locked eyes with me and took a couple, took some steps towards me. I retreated cause I was in fear for my safety. And from there the Sheriff shot her." (10:11 mark).

When Deputy Clinage was asked if he had ever seen the female prior to the incident, he replied that he never did and that he did not know who she was. Deputy Clinage was then asked to elaborate what he meant by the taser not working. Deputy Clinage stated that he did not get the response that he expected. "Um, I expected her to lock up, get the NMI (Neuro Muscular Incapacitation), and fall down. Um, she just stood there and growled at me more." (12:05 mark). When he was asked if both taser probes made contact with the female, Deputy Clinage stated that he was not sure. He further stated that he knew one of them did but was not sure about the second one. Deputy Clinage stated after the taser cycled, the female continued to move towards them. Deputy Clinage indicated it was at this point when Sheriff Grice fired his two rounds at the female. When Deputy Clinage was asked if he had his duty firearm out, he stated that he did have them both out. Deputy Clinage further stated that he had his duty weapon



**Prosecutor Summary** 





out at the same time he deployed his taser. Deputy Clinage stated that he did not fire his duty weapon during the incident.

After the shooting occurred, Deputy Clinage stated,

"Um, I made sure the Sheriff was okay. Um, and then, I approached the female, put her in an armbar, she was still holding the knife in her left hand at this point in time. Um, and I tried to secure her and while I was in the process of securing her and to start rendering aid, other deputies showed up and assisted me with that." (14:15 mark).

Deputy Clinage was then asked to describe the commands he and Sheriff Grice gave the female. Deputy Clinage stated that they both were telling the female to, "drop the weapon, drop the weapon, put the weapon on the ground, stop what you're doing, show us your hands." (14:50 mark). Deputy Clinage then stated that after the female put the gun down on the ground, they began giving her commands to, "...drop the knife, drop the knife, and she wouldn't do that." (15:09 mark). Shortly thereafter, with the use of an overhead google map, Deputy Clinage indicated where he was standing and where they exited the building from. Deputy Clinage stated that he was approximately 10 to 12 feet from the female at the time he deployed the taser.

For further information, please refer to the report titled, "2024-07-23: Video Interview - Deputy Doug Clinage."

#### **Dispatch-Related Information**

The following information was received from the MCSO computer aided dispatch (CAD) records:

```
07/17/24 18:04:10 | Simonton, Scott | 130 | New Call On Scene - CENTRAL ADVISING THAT THERE IS A 07/17/24 18:04:35 | Simonton, Scott | 163 | On Scene  
07/17/24 18:05:04 | Simonton, Scott | 163 | RT - SHOT FIRED OUT FRONT AT ENTRANCE  
07/17/24 18:05:05 | Gage, Nicole | 124, 130, 163 | On Scene  
07/17/24 18:05:19 | Simonton, Scott | 103 | CENTRAL ADV C24 FEMALE OUTSIDE HAS GUN  
07/17/24 18:05:19 | Simonton, Scott | 112 | On Scene  
07/17/24 18:06:21 | Simonton, Scott | 112 | On Scene  
07/17/24 18:06:36 | Gage, Nicole | MCLST | Dispatched  
07/17/24 18:06:37 | Simonton, Scott | 112 | RT - GET DB HERE  
07/17/24 18:07:48 | Gage, Nicole | 124, 130, 141, 163 | On Scene  
07/17/24 18:07:50 | Poland, Frank | 130 | RT - WERE GOING TO NEED LIFE FLIGHT ITS GSW THROUGH AND THROUGH  
07/17/24 18:08:46 | Simonton, Scott | 119 | Dispatched  
07/17/24 18:11:14 | Simonton, Scott | 112 | RT - JAIL ADV THAT A MALE WITH BLACK SHIRT CAME TO THE FRONT DOOR STATING THAT THE FEMALE HAD A GUN AND SHE WAS DRUNK
```

The below listed information is the radio traffic from the MCSO dispatch recordings:



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

<u>Audio</u>	Officer	<u>Transmission</u>
<u>Mark</u>		
0:00:03	130	"I was advised by central when I tried to put my car away
		that there is a 24, intoxicated lady at the front entrance
		supposedly with a code 40. If you would notify the road
		room and I will be 41 out front."
0:00:24	Unknown	"UNINTELLIGIBLE, 99 traffic, we have a guy with a gun
		outside in front of the station."
0:00:33	163	"Shots fired, female down, we need a squad, were out front
		of the sheriff's office, entrance."

0:01:00	112	Asked for the detective bureau to assist with the scene.
0:01:15		Advised to notify EMS that they will need life-flight and
		described the wound as a "Gunshot wound through and
		through to the chest."
0:01:25	Dispatch	"Returned to a Victoria Carter, 37 years, out of Medina."

As the incident unfolded, there were no 911 calls made to the MCSO dispatch center.

For further information, please refer to the report titled, "2024-08-15: Dispatch Information Review (IRW-12)."

### **Video Recordings**

The photographs below are snippets of the three surveillance video files received from the MCSO. The video files depict footage of the front of the MCSO building where the incident occurred.

20240719092814 SURV CAMERA VIDEO

Duration: 33 minutes and 54 seconds

This video file shows the front driveway and parking lot of the Medina County Sheriff's Office. This video shows Carter arriving on the property, along with a brief encounter she has with another male in the parking lot



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 00:40 mark of the video, a white Buick sedan was observed entering the parking lot approaching the MCSO building.



(Image #14)

At the 01:52 mark of the video, a male was observed walking up to the white sedan, while on a cell phone.



(Image #15)



**Prosecutor Summary** 



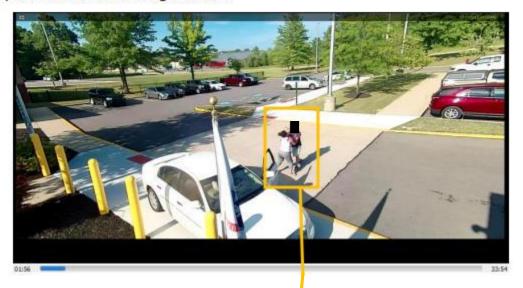
Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 01:56 mark of the video, a female identified as Victoria Carter (Carter), was observed exiting the white Buick sedan in a quick and aggressive manner towards the male.



(Image #16)

At the 01:56 mark of the video, Carter was observed putting her hands on the male in what appeared to be a shoving manner.



(Image #17)

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Page 24 of 38 Supervisor Approval: SAS Charles Moran #67 10/11/2024 8:44 AM



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256



(Zoomed in View)

At the 01:57 mark of the video, after Carter separated from the male, a black gun was observed in Carter's left hand.



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Page 25 of 38 Supervisor Approval: SAS Charles Moran #67 10/11/2024 8:44 AM



**Prosecutor Summary** 

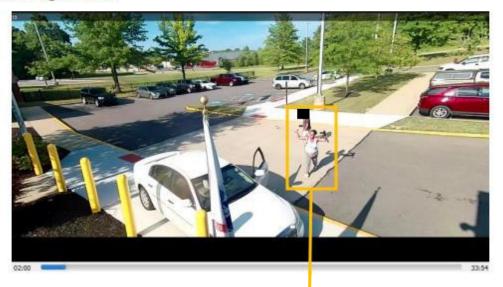


Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256



(Zoomed in View)

At the 02:00 mark of the video, the female turned away from the male and appeared to be shouting something towards the building while holding the gun in her left hand and a knife in the right hand.



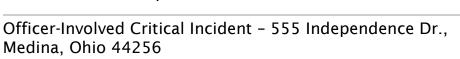
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Page 26 of 38 Supervisor Approval: SAS Charles Moran #67 10/11/2024 8:44 AM



Prosecutor Summary





(Image #19)



(Zoomed in View)

### 20240719101814 SURV CAMERA VIDEO

(Duration 33 minutes, 57 seconds)

This video file shows the front walkway to the front entrance of the Medina County Sheriff's Office. This video depicts the actual shooting incident near the front entrance.

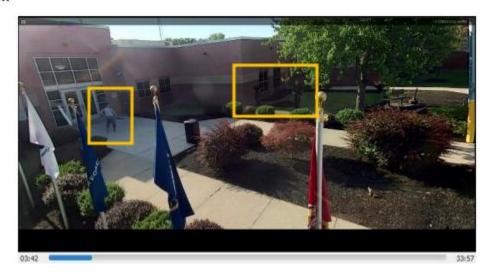


**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 03:42 mark of the video, Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage were observed moving closer towards Carter. At this point, Carter was observed turning around to face them.



(Image #20)

At the 03:47 mark of the video, Carter was observed still holding the knife in her right hand. Deputy Clinage was observed with his taser out and pointed towards her. Sheriff Grice was observed with his firearm out and pointed in her direction.



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256



(Image #21)



Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 04:12 mark of the video, Carter was observed walking towards Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage. Carter still had the gun and knife in her hands during this time.



(Image #22)

At the 04:09 mark of the video, Deputy Clinage was observed deploying his taser at Carter. This appeared not to not any effect on her.



(Image #23)



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 04:13 mark of the video, Sheriff Grice was observed firing his duty weapon at Carter. The smoke from the muzzle was also observed at this time.





Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 04:15 mark of the video, Carter was observed turning and beginning to fall to the ground after being struck on gunfire. As Carter was falling to the ground, she was observed still holding the gun in her left hand.



### 1#Front Door @2024-07-17T215859.107Z

(Duration: 34 minutes)

This video file contains overhead footage of the front doors to the MCSO.



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 03:31 mark of the video, Carter was observed walking back up towards the main doors with the knife in her right hand, positioned behind her back, and the gun in her left hand.



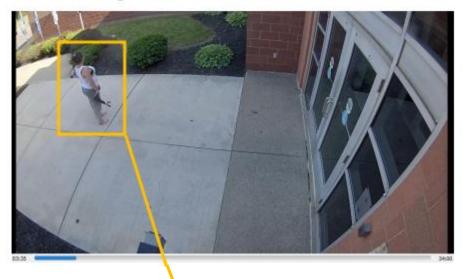


**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 03:35 mark of the video, Carter was observed transitioning the gun into her right hand while still holding the knife in the same hand.



(Image #27)



(Zoomed in View)

Page **34** of **38** 

Supervisor Approval: SAS Charles Moran #67

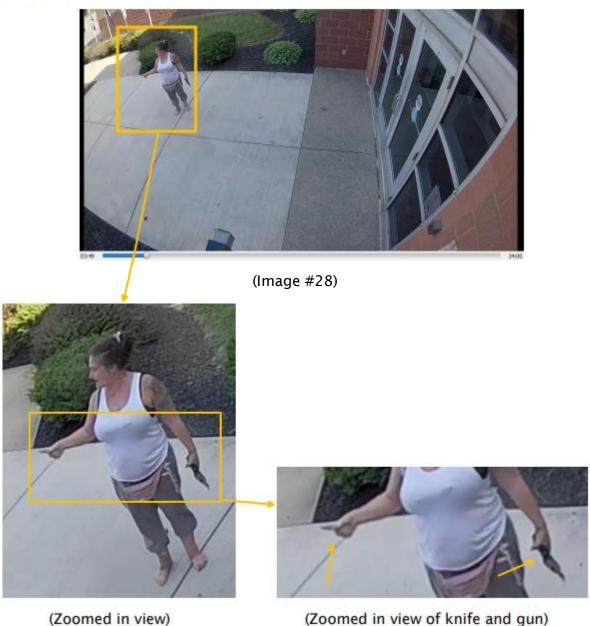


**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 03:49 mark of the video, Carter was observed speaking with Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage. While doing so, Carter transitioned the gun back to her left hand and continued to hold the knife in her right hand.



Page **35** of **38** 

Supervisor Approval: SAS Charles Moran #67

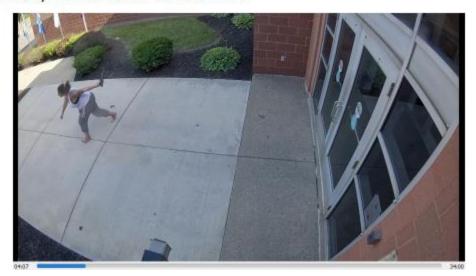


**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

At the 04:07 mark of the video, after picking up the gun, Carter was observed moving towards Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage while still holding the knife in her right hand. Carter eventually walked out of camera view.



(Image #29)

For further details, please refer to the video surveillance report titled, "2024-09-30: Surveillance Video Review (IRW-17).

#### **Conclusion**

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that Victoria Carter was initially going to the MCSO jail to put money on the books for her boyfriend Albert Koons, who was an inmate at the time of the incident. According to Koons, he stated that Carter was documented as to being a and was on medication for it. Koons stated that Carter's mother suffered from the same issue. Koons further stated that Carter was traumatized by her father when she was younger. Koons said when he was out of jail, he would always make sure she was taking her medications. Koons said he was always able to tell when she was not taking her medications. On the day of the incident, during the phone call with her, he said Carter was rambling about the government and he could tell she was not taking her medications. Koons told Carter not to come up to the jail and to stay home.

Video surveillance showed Carter arriving at the MCSO property and parking her vehicle on the sidewalk meant for pedestrian traffic and not vehicular traffic. When she exited her vehicle, a male identified as Robert Wolfe was seen on the surveillance video



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

telling Carter that she was not allowed to park there. At that moment, the surveillance video showed Carter quickly exiting her vehicle with a gun and knife in both hands, running towards Wolfe and she shoved him away from her. At that point, Wolfe went to the front door of the MCSO to advise, via the intercom, that there was a female outside with a gun and she appeared to be on drugs. After Wolfe alerted the MCSO correction officer (Sean Barker), over the intercom he walked away and went back to his vehicle in the parking lot. While doing so, Carter encountered Wolfe again and chased him down the main sidewalk towards the parking lot. Afterwards, Carter returned to the main doors of the MCSO.

At this point, Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage heard what sounded like yelling coming from outside Sheriff Grice's office window. When Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage exited his office, they encountered Carter outside holding a gun and knife in her hands. Deputy Clinage had his taser out while giving commands to Carter to drop the weapons. Sheriff Grice had his agency-issued firearm out and pointed in the direction of Carter while Deputy Clinage was giving verbal commands. At one point, Carter did put the gun down on the ground but continued holding the knife in her right hand. As Deputy Clinage continued with verbal commands, Carter picked up the gun again and began to walk towards them. During that moment, Carter was yelling, but Sheriff Grice and Deputy Clinage were unable to understand what she was saying.

After more commands were given to stop and drop the weapons, Carter continued moving towards them. Deputy Clinage deployed his taser at Carter, which appeared to not have any effect on her. Shortly thereafter, Sheriff Grice fired his duty weapon twice and struck Carter both times. At this time, Carter turned away from them and fell to the ground. As she fell to the ground, the gun and knife she originally had were lying next to her. Soon thereafter, additional deputies arrived on scene to secure the weapons and Carter. Once Carter was secured, emergency medical aid was provided until EMS arrived on scene.

The gun originally possessed by Carter was later discovered to be a black semi-automatic style Benjamin Trail .177 caliber pellet gun. This item was moved out of Carter's reach as deputies arrived to secure her and render aid. The knife originally possessed by Carter was described as a Winchester pocketknife with the blade open. There appeared to be blood on the blade of the pocketknife. It is believed that the blood on the blade was in fact Carter's blood; due to how Carter originally fell and where the knife was in relation to her wounds. When additional deputies arrived on scene, one deputy was observed kicking the knife away from where Carter was lying so they could safely secure her and render aid.



**Prosecutor Summary** 



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 555 Independence Dr., Medina, Ohio 44256

#### **Contact Information**

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved shooting 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 Joseph Goudy. SA Goudy can be reached via email at joseph.goudy@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or by telephone, at 234-400-3396.