



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



2025-3739

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4272 Cider Mill Drive,
Cincinnati, OH 45245 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] (W)
Date of Activity: 11/25/2025
Activity Location: Union Township Police Department – Business – 4312 Glen Este–
Withamsville Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45245
Author: SA Lauren Frazier, #129

Narrative:

On Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 0818 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Lauren Frazier (SA Frazier) and Kenneth Smith (SA Smith) interviewed Union Township Police Department (UTPD) [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), who was accompanied by his attorney, Steve Lazarus. The interview took place at the Union Township Police Department, located at 4312 Glen–Este Withamsville Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245. The interview was audio recorded.

The following summary of the recorded interview highlights the key points the author deemed most relevant, although it does not provide a verbatim account. Additionally, this report was placed in a chronology to enhance the reader's understanding of the information obtained during the interview. However, it is important to note that this may not reflect the actual order of the questions posed. Therefore, it is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

[REDACTED] was identified as being an officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the officer-involved critical incident that occurred on November 17, 2025, in Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio. [REDACTED] did not discharge his firearm during this incident. The primary objective of the interview was to gather all pertinent information known or observed by him. He confirmed that he was providing his statement voluntarily.

[REDACTED] has been a police officer at the Union Township Police Department for approximately [REDACTED]. He previously served at the Village of Morrow Police Department. He is currently assigned as a [REDACTED] and has been a [REDACTED] for approximately two years. Sgt. Shaw stated that he is assigned to [REDACTED], which is typically from [REDACTED]. He stated that he was wearing his road patrol uniform, which consisted of dark blue pants, a dark blue shirt, badge, duty belt, and an outer vest carrier, clearly marked police. Sgt. Shaw was assigned to cruiser [REDACTED] and was wearing a body worn camera (BWC),

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which was activated and recording during the incident.

On November 17th, 2025, [REDACTED] stated that he responded to the incident on Cider Mill Drive for a hostage situation. Dispatch advised that a male subject was going back in the residence to retrieve a firearm. Additional radio codes were used by the radio communication center, regarding this dispatch. [REDACTED] described the various codes used by their communication center, to include code 40 (firearm) and code 58A by cop (suicide by cop).

He stated that [REDACTED] was already on scene and had a visual of the male subject. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] flashed his flashlight at officers, to give them an idea of where he was at. He said that dispatch also stated that the male had a visual of one of the officers, so they knew they were in the right location.

Officers set up a perimeter and [REDACTED] took a position directly across the street from the subject's residence, behind a pickup truck in the driveway. He stated that he could see the garage, but couldn't see the front door completely, because it was tucked in behind the garage. Numerous officers were on scene within a couple minutes. He said that Sgt. Shaw was last to arrive on scene because he was just starting his shift.

A short time later, [REDACTED] requested dispatch to transfer the 911 call to his cell phone so he could talk to the male subject directly. The call was forwarded to [REDACTED]'s cell phone, and he started talking to the subject, identified as Tommy. [REDACTED] asked Tommy what they could do to help him. [REDACTED] said that Tommy was going up and down, describing that sometimes he was talking to him and sometimes talking to people inside the residence. [REDACTED] said that prior to his arrival, he believed that there were two females in the residence.

[REDACTED] estimated that he spoke with the subject for approximately 15 minutes. He said that he requested Sgt. Shaw to call SRT (Special Response Team). [REDACTED] stated that he requested SRT because the subject never calmed down. He said that subject believed that officers had snipers on him and [REDACTED] said that he didn't feel like he was going to be successful in the negotiation.

He said that he was talking to the subject and trying to relay information on the radio and verbally to the officers that were nearby. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was behind a vehicle to his right and [REDACTED] was behind a vehicle to his left. He said that [REDACTED] was furthest to the north, behind a cruiser, to his left. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED]'s cruiser would have been the only one within the subject's view.

[REDACTED] stated that he could see movement but could not see the subject. He said that the subject was going to release a female, later determined to be his mother. [REDACTED] encouraged the subject to release her but stated that it seemed like it took forever for anything to get accomplished, and that nobody was coming out. At one point, [REDACTED] said that officers stated that the subject came out and had a firearm pointed in their direction. He said that he did not observe this because his view was obstructed from the layout of the house. [REDACTED] said that he could only see movement to the far back corner of the garage.

[REDACTED] stated that he was still trying to get the subject to release his mother. Other

officers were telling him that the subject had a gun. [REDACTED] was telling the subject not to leave the house with the firearm in his hand. He said that the subject stated that officers wanted to shoot him. [REDACTED] told the subject that nobody wanted to hurt him.

Suddenly, he stated that he saw the subject take off running across the yard in a diagonal direction towards officers. [REDACTED] described that the subject had his arms out straight in front of his body, with what appeared to be a firearm in his hand. [REDACTED] believed the subject was holding the gun in his right hand, but stated that he was a distance away, and it could have been his left hand. He said that the subject was running straight towards the sidewalk, in the direction of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] described the firearm as a handgun.

[REDACTED] stated that when the subject began running with the gun pointed towards officers, he believed that the subject was "charging to shoot one of our officers." [REDACTED] said that he heard shots fired. He was not sure who had fired at that time. He stated that he saw the subject go down on the sidewalk. [REDACTED] responded over to the subject, requested for a medic to respond, and radioed that shots had been fired. He said that two other officers approached the subject. He said that he believed that Sgt. Shaw kicked the subject's firearm over to the side. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began assessing the subject's injuries. He said that he observed one gunshot to the middle of the subject's back. [REDACTED] checked for a pulse and believed that he had one.

[REDACTED] stated that his phone was still in the back of the truck, so he had [REDACTED] secure the subject's firearm. He said that he meant to have him stand by it, but instead, [REDACTED] retrieved the gun and put it in his cruiser. [REDACTED] was speaking with his lieutenant and [REDACTED] was doing chest compressions on the subject. [REDACTED] moved several cruisers to make room for the medics to respond.

Other officers cleared the subject's residence. [REDACTED] said that he thought that there were two females inside, so he had officers do a secondary search to make sure they didn't miss anybody. Only one female was located inside, and the residence was secured by other officers.

[REDACTED] learned that [REDACTED] was one of the officers that had fired. He said that he collected [REDACTED] rifle and secured it in the back of his cruiser. Sgt. Shaw drove [REDACTED] cruiser back to the police department, and the rifle remained in the trunk.

The interview concluded at 0835 hours. A copy of the audio recorded interview is attached to this report.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-11-25 [REDACTED] Audio Interview