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

2026-2566
Officer Involved Critical Incident - State Route 67 and Township Road 8, Republic, OH 44867, Seneca County (L)

Investigative Activity:	Witness Officer Interview
Involves:	Officer Kevin Scherley (W)
Activity Date:	07/22/2026
Activity Location:	Seneca County Sheriff's Office – 3040 OH-100, Tiffin, Ohio
Authoring Agent:	**SA David Hammond #120**

Narrative:

On Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 1100 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) David Hammond (SA Hammond) and SA Ryan Emahiser (SA Emahiser) interviewed Village of Bloomville Police Department (BPD) Officer (Ofc.) Scherley (Scherley), who was accompanied by his attorney, Yvonne Wojtas, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Seneca County Sheriff's Office – 3040 OH-100, Tiffin, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

Ofc. Scherley was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the July 7, 2026 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of State Route 67 and Township Road 8, Republic, Ohio. Reportedly, Ofc. Scherley did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer.

The following is a summary of the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. The information was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. In some instances, answers have been compressed to aid in ease of reading. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

It should be noted that during the interview, law enforcement officials were shown a drone photograph/diagram of the overall scene and final vehicle locations, taken by the Crime Scene Unit. This photograph/diagram (2026-2566 diagram without placards)

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was used to reference locations and movements of persons and vehicles during the incident. A copy of this photograph/diagram has been attached to this report.

Ofc. Scherley stated his radio call sign on July 7, 2026, was Bloomville 2. He has been employed by the BPD for about one and a half years. He has been a police officer for a total of thirteen years. During the incident, Ofc. Sherley wore his standard police uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove a BPD cruiser marked with BPD emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a Police Officer during the incident. He stated was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI.

Ofc. Scherley stated that he was wearing his body worn camera at the time of the incident. His BPD cruiser was also equipped with a dash mounted camera. Both were recording during the incident. Ofc. Scherley stated that he had watched both videos prior to the interview. He stated that the video footage was not different than his memory of the incident.

Ofc. Scherley related that he had prior contacts with Jeffrey Sergent prior to the officer involved critical incident.

> At the 04:11 mark, "*I mean I've had some over the years. I was working in the warrants and transports years ago when he came in here on a charge. Um, at that time I know, he tried to take a gun off one of our deputies, or they had to fight him. He had, I believe he had warrants out of Tennessee that time. Um, had several interactions in the jail with him. Nothing that I guess sticks out. Seems like he was in one of the bubbles in B block. Most of his stay there, which is typically more for inmates that have some kind of problems or problems with other people in the jail. Okay. Um, other than that, I mean I've dealt with him a couple times in Bloomville or in Bloomville responding with Republic.*"

Ofc. Scherley was asked if he felt like he had a baseline for what Sergent's normal behavior was, and how he interacted with police officers. He stated that he thought he did. Ofc. Scherley then recounted his contact with [redacted] on the morning of July 7, 2026.

> At the 05:40 mark, "*The morning of this incident in question* [redacted] *stopped by my office, my station and he made me aware that they had charges on a felony domestic, um, sergeant. Essentially* [redacted] *was just telling me that they had the felony warrants out for him. Obviously knowing that he lives in Bloomville asked me to kind of keep an eye out if I would see him, if I did, you know, to make sure to notify them, probably not try to apprehend him myself.*

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He's been known to be violent towards law enforcement or his actions have been erratic different times in the past, so they didn't want me to try to apprehend him on my own."

Ofc. Scherley described seeing Sergent in his vehicle on the morning of July 7th, 2026.

At the 06:45 mark, "*I had went past his residence and just noted the vehicles that were there. Um, shortly after that, I don't know if it was probably close to 9:30, 9:45, somewhere in there. I went to sit by where the old store and skating rink is in Bloomville, which is a normal spot. I sit and run traffic. Um, I was there for a brief period of time, and I noticed down on North Street there's a stop sign that comes out. This state Route 19, which is North Marion Street, I noticed a vehicle that I was pretty sure was Sergent's vehicle that he would be driving. So, I seen that car go North on State Route 19. At that point I began to start following it. Um, I called* [redacted] *and let him know that I had, that I'd seen that vehicle. Um, from there he went westbound on County Road 16. Um, I was on the phone with* [redacted] *at the time. At that point when I got close to State Route 67, I got close enough. I could verify that it was Jeffrey Sergent that was in the driver's seat of that vehicle."*

Ofc. Sherley recounted the roads that they traveled on and coordinating with [redacted] to get additional units in the area, before a traffic stop was initiated. Eventually, [redacted] and Ofc. Scherley initiated a traffic stop at the intersection of State Route 67 and Township Road 8 in Seneca County.

At the 10:20 mark, "*I get out of my cruiser* [redacted] *was parked in front of him, uh, essentially cutting off his vehicle. I stop aways back, where I would on any normal traffic stop so I can have a visual on what he's doing. Um, when I got out, I did unholster my gun. I kept it at a complete low, low ready. Obviously,* [redacted] *is in front of me. There's nowhere clear, um,* [redacted] *was on the PA system giving him orders to get out of the vehicle. Shut the vehicle off. Um, and at that point, Jeff Sergent at one point, you know, he was asking what the problem was, what was going on. We told him that they, you know, essentially, he had a warrant that he was going to be placed under arrest. He needed to shut the truck off."*

At the 11:08 mark, *"Um, he did not comply with shutting the truck off.* [redacted] *and myself were out there for quite a, seemed like quite a while, just giving him orders, trying to get him to step out of the vehicle so we can make everything safe. Um, he wanted to know why he was being arrested and we told him we would fill him in on all that information once we had every uh, this whole scene*

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safe and secure. Um, at one point I know Sergent did state he didn't want his vehicle being towed. Um, [redacted] *and myself both assured him that if he cooperated with us, we would let some family member somebody come pick up his vehicle so it wouldn't get towed. Okay. Um, at one point I think he made a comment, something about he didn't trust the sheriff's office or something.*

I told him, you know, he could step out to me, I would take him into custody and get the whole situation resolved. Uh, he still did not shut the truck off, did not step out of it. Um, he was showing his hands visible that he didn't have a weapon in his hand. Um, um, we kept negotiating trying to get him to come out of the vehicle at one point. I know I stated to him, you know, if he stepped out now like there's going to be more units coming. If he didn't trust them, like if he got out now, it would be just the two of us that were there. We could get the whole scene taken care of; we could get everything taken care of at that time. He still refused those orders. Um, around that time I think is when [redacted] *and* [redacted] *showed up or got on the scene. Um, I know we asked him if he had any weapons in the vehicle at that point he pulled I think two pocketknives out of his pocket and he threw them on the dash, floorboard of the vehicle."*

SA Hammond asked Ofc. Scherley, *"Thinking back about your previous encounters with him and thinking about that baseline behavior, um, was his behavior, uh, during this vehicle stop inside of that vehicle? Thinking about the whole incident, was it consistent with what you had seen from him in the past? Was it better? Was it worse?"*

At the 13:48 mark, *"He was getting increasingly worse I would say. You know, um, he was getting more, showing anger, just um, I've known him to be paranoid in the past. I believe in May we had dealt with him. He had called, he had actually called into the station and thinking that he might get arrested for a domestic or something that time. Um, he, but he was the one that called in, not the wife.*

He wouldn't come out of the house apparently that time. He would not come face to face to talk to us. I talked with him over the phone, but he would not come out actually and speak with us that he did not trust the Sheriff's Office being there. Um, I think it was on that encounter, I had spoken with his wife also and she said nothing physical had ever happened between the two of them. Uh, she did state he was up for approximately three days that at that point in time."

Ofc. Sherley was asked if he has ever known Sergent to use drugs.

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At the 14:50 mark, "*I haven't officially known him to use them. Uh, at that point she did say he was hanging around with a Calvin Coons who's in Bloomville also, who's also a known drug, possible meth user. And she said she thought he was hanging out with him. So, I mean, and being up for three days, I had suspicions that he was probably using methamphetamine, but I never had anything that I could confirm that he was a hundred percent on.*"

Ofc. Scherley further described Sergent's behavior.

At the 16:36 mark, *"As we're negotiating, he seems to get, become more and more erratic behaviors. You know, paranoid, yelling, you know, he doesn't understand why we're there. We're telling him, you know, just get out and we'll make it safe. And at some point,* [redacted] *also shows up on scene. Um, and we're trying to talk with him at this point. Then* [redacted] *does move his vehicle over because there was a lane he could have probably exited it easily and fled us at that point. Um,* [redacted] *moved his vehicle over to kind of cover that lane. So, we had him more boxed in. Um, sometime in here Sergent then he, as he was talking to us, his driver's side window was down. He begins to roll that up, essentially cutting off most of the communication of what we have with him. Okay. We're trying to still try to yell, communicate through the vehicle. Um, nothing seems to be working at this point.*

I know [redacted] *told him a couple different times, you know, we're going to have to break the windows. I think I even tried telling him, you know, Sergent, if you comply we don't have to break the window, we can get you out.*"

Ofc. Scherley recalled deputies breaking out the driver's window.

At the 18:00 mark, "[redacted] *I believe had a window punch or him and* [redacted] *had transferred it a couple times maybe to try to window punch so they could shatter the window. Um, at this point they were asking about an ASP, I don't think* [redacted] *or* [redacted] *about neither one had an ASP on them. I had my baton on me. So, I get that out, extend it, pass it up to them so that that way they can break and clear the window.*

When they hit it with the window punch, I believe [redacted] *did that. At that point* [redacted] *used the ASP to rake the window, try to clear it out to prevent anybody from getting cut on the broken glass. Um, as soon as that window was hit with the ASP and clearing it out is when Jeffrey Sergent then put the truck in reverse.*"

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Ofc. Scherley described what happened when Sergent began to back up the truck.

> At the 19:10 mark, *"I was up, um, the truck pass or driver's side of the vehicle. I was back towards the bed of the truck.*
>
> *Um, when he did that, then he, when he put it in reverse, he stepped on the gas extremely hard and cut the wheel turning. Um, he had to just miss the Bloomville cruiser with where that was sitting and he ran into the guardrail. Um, I know at that time I'm pretty sure my hands went onto the bed of the truck to help push myself away to try to get out of the danger of where that vehicle was going. Okay. Um, from there I was able to get, kind of get a cover point, get in behind the door of my vehicle. Um, and at that point I'd seen Sergent, you know, we're yelling at him to stop. He drops the truck into drive. Um, I see start moving forward and that's when I hear the gunshots come out."*

Ofc. Scherley was asked how many times deputies fired their weapons.

> At the 20:06 mark, "*I didn't remember exactly. I thought probably four to five. Obviously watching the body cam might have been a couple more than four to five. Um, at the time I had no idea who had shot."*

Ofc. Scherley recounted the deputies' movements at the time of the incident.

> At the 20:41 mark, [redacted] *was on the passenger side. I know he moved kind of back. That's why I did not draw my firearm. I had a crossfire with him. I, is what I felt like, I didn't feel like I could safely shoot in any direction where* [redacted] *was over here. Um,* [redacted] *was up towards the front of the truck, and I know* [redacted] *moved further to the then the south side of the road when the truck moved. He moved south about as far as he could with the guardrail, at that point too, there was, you know, when the truck was put in the drive, I think* [redacted] *would've been right in the path of the vehicle as it was going forward."*

Ofc. Scherley described his actions during and after the shooting.

> At the 21:54 mark, *"As the vehicle goes forward, the shots had, um, his foot, I assume either he had it or the foot was on the gas pedal slams into* [redacted] *s cruiser that's in front of him. Um, at that point the tires were screeching, engine was making noises. I hopped into my Bloomville cruiser and pulled it up directly behind his because I did not know his status or if he was going to try to reverse the vehicle again after being hit. So, I wanted to pull my cruiser up to try to keep everybody else safe."*

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Ofc. Scherley stated that at the time, he was unsure who was in front of the truck when it moved forward. He stated that watching the BWC video enhanced his memory.

> At the 22:56 mark, *"I mean, after watching the body cam, I'm sure who was where at that time I did not know who it was. I knew they were law enforcement, obviously other law enforcement personnel out there with me, but I didn't know who was where exactly when that happened."*
>
> Ofc. Scherley was asked, *"When the vehicle started to back up before it hits the guardrail, did you feel like your life or your safety was in danger at all?"*
>
> At the 23:20 mark he replied, *"Yes. Um, there was a limited space where there was right there and when he backed up, he hit the, he accelerated extremely fast at a high rate of speed. Um, I think I even pushed off the bed of the truck to help myself get a little more distance in between there and I did not know what direction he was attempting to go at that point. So yes, I felt like I was in danger."*
>
> Ofc. Scherley was asked, "*As the vehicle moved forward off of the guardrail, um, was there anyone that you felt like, did you feel like anyone else was in danger at that point?*"
>
> At the 24:16 mark, he replied, *"I felt any of the deputies that were over there were at risk of being ran over by the vehicle."*

The interview concluded at approximately 1127 hours.

The audio recording of this interview was uploaded to Axon Evidence.com – Reference Item M – Witness Officer Interviews – Axon Capture Audio – 2026-07-22 – Kevin Scherley.

References:

> Reference Item M – Witness Officer Interviews – Axon Capture Audio – 2026-07-22 – Kevin Scherley.

Attachments:

1. 2026-2566 Diagram without placards

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BCI Case Number:	Location:	Date of Occurrence:
2026-2566	E Township Rd. 8 & SR 67, Republic, OH	Jult 7, 2026
Offense:	**Involved Agency:**	**Lead Investigator:**
Officer Involved Critical Incident	Seneca County Sheriff's Office	Special Agent Hammond

Drawn By:
Emily Miller, Crime Scene Technician - Overhead Diagram w/o Placards