



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



2025-0559

Officer Involved Critical Incident – [REDACTED] Miami
Township, Ohio (Montgomery Co.) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED]
Date of Activity: 02/28/2025
Activity Location: Miami Twp. (Miamisburg) Police Department – Business – 2660
Lyons Road, Miamisburg, OH 45342
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On Friday, February 28, 2025, at approximately 0955 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agents Steven Seitzman and Richard Ward interviewed Miami Township Police [REDACTED], who was accompanied by his attorney Steve Lazarus and union representative Officer Kurtis Green. The interview took place in a conference room inside the Miami Township Police Department. The interview was audio recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Notification form. A copy of the form is attached to this investigative report.

The details below summarize what the author believed to be the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report 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. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: [REDACTED]
Radio Channel Utilized: Miami Township Primary	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: White Dodge Durango with Miami Township Police graphics	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: n/a
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]

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In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: [REDACTED]
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 7 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: Approximately [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): n/a	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Standard navy-blue department-issued uniform with an external load-bearing vest	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Collapsible baton and TASER
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: [REDACTED]
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: CIT, FTO, firearms instructor, evidence technician, FF/EMT (now expired)	OPOTC Certification: Sinclair Law Enforcement Training Academy- [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Annual use of force training and Power DMS updates
Prior Shooting Incidents: None	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: New Years Eve

Officer's Firearm(s):

Duty Weapon

Make: Glock	Model: 45
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial: n/a
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Duty belt, holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17 +1 in the chamber
Extra Magazines: 3	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 10	Number of Rounds Fired: Believed he fired 5 or 6 based on his personal recollection. During a round count, he discovered he

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	fired 7 rounds.
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Left-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Summer of 2024	Type of Holster, if any: Level III Safariland holster designed for weapon-mounted light and red dot optic

Less-Lethal

Make: Axon TASER	Model: 7
Type: Conducted Energy Device	Serial: n/a
Type of Deployment: Probes	Method of Carry: Vest, holster
Cartridge: Allows for two separate deployments to induce neuromuscular incapacitation	Total Deployments: 2

Regarding the incident at issue, [REDACTED] advised the following:

During his shift, he responded to a dispatch involving a "subject threatening his family with a knife" on [REDACTED]. As he arrived on the scene, he observed several female subjects running out the front door. He stated the female subjects were screaming and stated that the involved subject, Jayden Stephenson, still had the knife and had mental health issues.

[REDACTED] stated that he stood at the front door, which was closed. He then deployed his TASER and peeked through the glass. He stated that he could see Jayden standing in the middle of the living room with a knife in his right hand. At this point, he believed Jayden was there by himself. He recalled indicating on the police radio that he had been told that everybody was out of the house.

[REDACTED] kept watching through the front door and yelling several times for Jayden to drop the knife. He said Jayden was pacing back and forth in the living room. At this point, [REDACTED] arrived. [REDACTED] brought a less lethal shotgun. [REDACTED] stated that he stood on the right side of the door, while [REDACTED] stood on the left side. He observed Jayden sitting on a barstool in the family room with the knife still in his right hand. He again told Jayden to drop the knife.

[REDACTED] stated that he began conversing with Jayden. He learned that Jayden was upset that his car had been impounded. At the same time he was speaking with Jayden, he broadcast on the police radio to have a medic stage in the area. He said he placed his TASER laser on Jayden; however, he reported that there were obstructions that would have prevented him from effectively deploying the TASER. He said Jayden responded with short answers and was obviously agitated about his car.

As [REDACTED] continued his dialogue with Jayden, he recalled that Jayden "started to come off the chair and moved toward us [police officers]." At that point [REDACTED] fired a beanbag round. He recalled that Jayden spun around but kept the knife in his hand. He then tried to deploy his TASER. He stated that he believed one probe hit Jayden, but the second cord wrapped around his feet. He stated that Jayden ran up the steps, at which point he

attempted to use the TASER again. He was uncertain if he hit Jayden; however, he stated that it had no effect whatsoever. From there, he stated that Jayden went into a bedroom on the left and shut the door.

██████████ stated that he deactivated his TASER and re-holstered it so he could draw his duty pistol. He stated that ██████████, and he stacked up on the door. ██████████ drew his TASER for a less lethal option. He kicked the door open to prevent him from having to expose his arm in the room. Once the door swung open, he could see Jayden's foot sticking out of a side room (bathroom) and straight up in the air. At this point, he believed that Jayden had some type of injury, possibly self-inflicted. He approached Jayden with ██████████ to his right and ██████████ to his left. He could see Jayden lying on his side with the knife in his right hand. He recalled ██████████ deploying his TASER and ██████████ deploying a less lethal beanbag round. He said Jayden then "jumped right back up" and was "fighting through it [the TASER]." He said that Jayden was "bringing his arm up in a slashing motion, and he was coming; he was advancing on us. At that point in time, I felt that he was going to stab one of us or kill one of us. I felt the need to discharge my weapon. As I'm discharging my weapon, I start moving backwards, and he is now entering the bedroom with us, and I remember hearing a few shots and seeing one of ██████████ shots go through his neck. And, as soon as that happened, he dropped to the floor. He had a very weird smile on his face when he was doing this."

SA Seitzman asked ██████████ about the moment Jayden got up from the bathroom floor. He reiterated that Jayden stood up very quickly and aggressively. He said Jayden "loaded his arm" and was exhibiting a "slicing motion." He felt that Jayden was going to swipe at the officers with the blade. He further stated that Jayden was specifically staring while this was occurring. He estimated that Jayden got within two or three feet of him with the knife.

██████████ stated that he was not on his sights for his first shots. He stated that he did not want his arms outstretched as Jayden was approaching him with the knife. He stated that he then created distance between him and Jayden. He was positive that he was the first officer to discharge. He stated that he recalled firing three or four rounds, but Jayden kept coming toward him. He did not see any wounds on Jayden at that time, and he thought he may have missed. He then recalled firing three additional rounds. He stated that he knew ██████████ also fired. He clarified that he could not actually see her, but he knew ██████████ had retreated. He said she fired more than once; however, he was uncertain how many times she fired.

██████████ recalled Jayden falling to the ground. He said someone broadcast that shots had been fired. He then secured Jayden in handcuffs. As he was handcuffing Jayden, he noticed that Jayden's right arm had been shattered. He stated that someone had kicked the knife away from Jayden. He stated that officers began assessing Jayden for wounds. He noted that Jayden had agonal breathing and further observed that his "carotid was blown out completely on both sides, and it was just pumping out..." He then recalled ██████████ and Officer Rankins starting CPR. At that time, he said he went into the bathroom to check for additional persons and/or weapons. He said that it was his belief that officers did everything to save Jayden's life.

██████████ stated that he eventually removed himself from the residence and got into a medic. He stated that he was photographed. He then washed blood off his hands. He stated

that he was transported to a local facility to be evaluated. He disclosed that [REDACTED]

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] if there were any positions of cover or concealment he could have utilized as Jayden was coming toward him. He answered in the negative. He said there were no positions of safety he could have reached.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] what his intentions were prior to the use of force, i.e., a "pink slip" Jayden or effectuate an arrest for a criminal offense. He stated that his first action was to separate Jayden from the knife. He stated that he would then determine if a crime had occurred, and if so, Jayden would have been charged. He stated if it was determined that Jayden was only going to self-harm, then a "pink slip" would be warranted. SA Seitzman asked him if he thought a criminal offense had occurred based on the information he had at that point. He stated, "Oh yes. At least a domestic violence." SA Seitzman asked him if he believed an additional offense occurred when Jayden stood up from the bar stool. He again answered in the affirmative. SA Seitzman asked him what his intention was once Jayden ran upstairs. He stated that he went after him because he did not know if he was going to commit suicide or going to obtain a rifle to shoot from the window or escape. He continued by saying, "He was still very much a threat as far as I was concerned with the knife because he wasn't following commands, and he was...he was obviously very agitated, and if he's hostile towards his family...he's hostile towards...the police; he would be hostile towards strangers."

SA Ward asked [REDACTED] about the Miami Township Police Department's Use of Force policy. [REDACTED] agreed that Miami Township police officers are authorized to use deadly force when faced with a threat of serious bodily harm and/or death. SA Ward asked [REDACTED] if all less-lethal options had been exhausted prior to the use of deadly force. [REDACTED] answered in the affirmative.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] why he fired his weapon. He said he believed Jayden was going to stab him or [REDACTED]. He stated that had he and [REDACTED] backed out of the room [REDACTED] would have been trapped alone, as he had gone in the opposite direction.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] to describe Jayden's knife. He stated it was five to six inches in length. He said it had a "squared-off nose with a razor-sharp..." He said it was like a "modernized version of a barber's razor" with a folding capability.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] if he had any prior contact with Jayden. He stated that on Monday, February 17, 2025, he talked to Jayden regarding a trespassing complaint at Everybody Fitness on Kingsridge Drive. He said the manager of the gym wanted Jayden trespassing for throwing weights around and menacing other patrons. [REDACTED] stated that he spoke with Jayden and described him as agitated but cooperative. He stated that he explained to Jayden that he was permanently trespassing from the gym and escorted him off the property. He stated that Jayden thanked him toward the end of the encounter.

[REDACTED] stated that he had been to [REDACTED] in a social setting. He stated that he had attended a 2022 New Year's Eve party at a friend's house on Sawgrass Drive while off duty. He stated that they walked over to [REDACTED] for a few minutes. He believed

that the Schindler family was present; however, he did not recall seeing Jayden during the brief visit.

The interview concluded at 1036 hours. The audio recording is attached below.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-02-28 Interview of [REDACTED]

Attachment # 02: Notice of Criminal Investigation- [REDACTED]

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2



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).



02-28-25 / 6 57
Date / Time

STEVEN SEITZMAN
BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)