



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



2026-2448

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 613 Orange Street,
Conneaut, Ohio 44030 Ashtabula County (L)

Investigative Activity: 2026-07-27: Review of ACSO Incident Report and Supplemental Statements

Involves: Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (O)

Activity Date: 07/27/2026

Activity Location: BCI - Richfield

Authoring Agent: SA Daniel P. Boerner #135

Narrative:

On Tuesday, July 7, 2026, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) received three documents from Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Chief Deputy Terry Moisio (Chief Moisio). The documents consisted of Sergeant Dylan Dean's (Sgt. Dean) incident report (IOR CIS D. Dean [REDACTED]) and the supplemental reports (CIS E. Wolff / CIS B. Grabman) of Detective Evan Wolff (Det. Wolff), and Detective Brett Grabman (Det. Grabman). The reports were subsequently uploaded to Matrix.

On Tuesday, July 14, 2026, SA Boerner received consent (email) from Ohio Benevolent Patrolmen's Association (OPBA) Attorney Amanda Hays-Genetin to review the incident report and the supplemental reports from Det. Wolff and Det. Grabman.

SA Boerner reviewed the incident report and observed the following:

- The incident report contained Sgt. Dean's narrative (see below) along with pertinent location, subject, witness, and victim information.

On June 25, 2026 at 1330 hours, Sheriff's Deputies assigned to the Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) arrived at the residence of BUTTS, BRANDON LEE, located at 613 Orange Street, within the City of Conneaut in effort to take BUTTS into custody on several outstanding warrants that had been issued for his arrest.

Sheriff's Deputies determined that BUTTS had a multitude of active warrants issued for his arrest, all of which were addressed to this residence. Those arrest warrants included two (2) felony capias warrants, issued by Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas, for several counts of failure to comply with the order or signal of a peace officer, which were felonies of the fourth degree. Additionally, BUTTS was found to have six (6) active and outstanding arrest warrants issued by Conneaut Municipal Court, and retained by the City of Conneaut Police Department, for offenses including:

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falsification, failure to comply with the order or signal of a peace officer, and traffic related offenses. His felony warrants were entered into NCIC and carried cautions to law enforcement, indicating that he had violent tendencies and was known to abuse narcotics, due to him having previously been charged with offenses relating to those cautions, i.e. Domestic Violence, and aggravated drug possession.

Upon arrival, Sheriff's Deputies surrounded the residence and began efforts to establish contact with BUTTS. [REDACTED] (and others) made contact with a subject at the home's east entrance door, who was later identified as BUTTS' brother, Cain Delo-Butts. Cain indicated to deputies that BUTTS was in fact inside the residence. Deputies then observed BUTTS run through the home and towards an area that was determined to lead to his basement bedroom. Simultaneously, Deputy Paynter (and others) had contact with a female subject who was later determined to be BUTTS' mother, BUTTS, LENETTE M. Lenette initially obstructed deputies and told them that BUTTS was not currently home at the time. However, as she was being escorted from the residence, those deputies observed BUTTS run down the stairs and slam the door at the bottom of the steps behind him. It was determined that BUTTS had then taken efforts to block the door, so that it could not be forced open, with large items. At 1333 hours, Deputies informed dispatchers that BUTTS had barricaded himself in the basement of the residence. Officers with the City of Conneaut Police Department were then requested to respond and assist us on scene while Paramedics, with the City of Conneaut Fire Department, were also dispatched and requested to stage in the area in case they were needed.

Deputies, including myself, then overheard a female voice screaming for help from the basement. It was clear that there was another person in the residence and that the person was in immediate danger. Conneaut PD Officers had begun to arrive and were assisting with deployment of non-lethal projectiles, which were filled with a chemical irritant (AKA Pepperballs), into the residence. Deputies Massie and Warsing were able to perform a hostage rescue technique and effectively extricated the female victim, who was identified as Heather Duva, from the basement. As she was brought outside from the basement, the basement door again closed. Duva reported to officers that BUTTS had taken her "hostage" and refused to allow her to leave the basement. She further stated that he was claiming to her that he had a firearm in the basement. However, she indicated that she had not actually seen one. She reported no substantial injuries and later completed a written statement regarding the incident.

[REDACTED] along with Deputies Warsing [REDACTED] and CPD [REDACTED] established a hold on the exterior doorway on the home's north side which allowed them a direct visual of the basement stairway and the closed door at the

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landing of the stairs. They began efforts to negotiate with BUTTS from that point. He was heard yelling from the basement and asking us all to just leave. He was also heard breaking things in the home, and at one point it sounded as if he was going to break through the floor of first level of the home. We determined that he was going around the residence and tearing the home's ventilation ducts from the floor in an apparent effort to lessen the effects of the chemical irritant that was being deployed. Officers on the south side of the residence shortly thereafter reported breaking glass and observed BUTTS breaking a basement window with what appeared to be a metal rod. Once he observed officers there he regressed back into the residence.

I overheard BUTTS yelling at Deputies who were making efforts to negotiate his surrender. He told them that he was armed and that he intended shooting and killing himself. He yelled threats and those officers and threatened to shoot them as well. At one point, BUTTS emerged from the basement door with a long rifle firearm under his chin and stated that he was going to kill himself. [REDACTED] was near-by and she was requested to deploy an additional tool that we had on scene. A less-than-lethal projectile was deployed but failed to strike BUTTS. The projectile struck the interior wall area near him, and he immediately regressed back into the room. He continued in his turbulent behavior and continued yelling threatening statements at the officers. Eventually, Deputy Warsing was able to establish some rapport with BUTTS and he indicated that he may be willing to come out and speak with him. However, he instead slightly opened the door and pointed the barrel of the long gun in the direction of officers at the top of the stairs. [REDACTED] ordered BUTTS to put the gun down and informed him that if he pointed the gun at them again he may be shot.

Negotiation efforts continued but, eventually BUTTS again opened the door slightly and the barrel of the long gun emerged again. BUTTS aimed the firearm towards the officers at the top of the stairs, and they immediately fired their services weapons at him through the door. After shots were fired, there was no further response from BUTTS downstairs. Additional team members, including myself, moved in and took over the position at the top of the basement stairway. We called out to BUTTS several times but got no response from him. Detective Wolff quickly deployed a drone unit and flew it into the basement. This is when he observed BUTTS lying at the bottom of the stairs. He appeared to be in need of immediate medical care, I, along with Deputies Massie and Paynter, rushed downstairs to assess the situation further.

I made entry to the basement bedroom. I found BUTTS lying on his right side in the northeast corner of the small room. His head was oriented towards the southeast and his feet to the northwest. I observed the green long rifle firearm lying to the immediate west of his body. It was oriented diagonally, in a similar position as his body, with the

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barrel pointing to the northwest. I observed that it had several bullet holes through the stock area of it. I was not able to clear the firearm, as it had no break point. I moved it to a safe area so that I could further assess BUTTS' injuries. I immediately observed a large amount of blood pooling under BUTTS' face and head. It was clear that he had sustained several gunshot wounds. I pulled his body outward and maneuvered him onto his back. I found that he was displaying no signs of life, he was not breathing and he was unresponsive. I then checked for any detectable pulse. I found none. I believed that he was likely beyond any help or first aid that I would have been able to provide.

I had advised that it was safe for paramedics to come down and render additional aid to BUTTS. They arrived and also immediately noted that he had no detectable signs of life. They contacted the on-duty emergency department doctor at University Hospital's Conneaut Medical Center, after being advised of the circumstances and their observations, he instructed them to pronounce BUTTS as deceased. At 1425 hours, Paramedics pronounced BUTTS deceased and made notification to the Ashtabula County Coroner's Office. Investigators from that officer were en-route to the scene.

All personnel who had been present at the top of the stairs when shots were fired were removed from the scene, per agency protocol. Other on scene personnel secured the scene with marking tape and removed all other parties from the area. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation was notified and requested to respond to the scene to handle additional investigation into the matter. Deputies remained on-scene with BCI Agents until they completed their tasks at the scene.

- The incident report contained supplemental reports completed by Lieutenant John Helfer, Lieutenant Matt Johns, and Det. Grabman.
- Lt. Helfer's supplemental report consisted of the documentation of his interaction with the involved deputies after the shooting.
- Lt. Johns' supplemental report consisted of the documentation of his preparation of a search warrant for 613 Orange St.
- Det. Grabman's supplemental report was consistent with his separate narrative.

SA Boerner subsequently reviewed the separate supplemental reports completed by Det. Wolff and Det. Grabman. SA Boerner found those reports consistent with Sgt. Dean's incident report.

A copy of the Sgt. Dean's incident report, Det. Wolff's supplemental report, and Det. Grabman's supplemental report were uploaded to Matrix and attached to this report.

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References:

None

Attachments:

1. IOR CIS D. Dean [REDACTED]
2. CIS E. Wolff
3. CIS B. Grabman

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Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No.

Call for Service No.

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**

INCIDENT PAGE 1

DETAILS	Location Address 613 ORANGE ST; CONNEAUT OH 44030		Township N/A		Case Number		
	Location Name		Beat CPD	Sub Beat	Geo Code 44030	Latitude 41.878278	
					Longitude -80.575108		
	Response R - ROUTINE		Shift DAY - DAY SHIFT		Weather Conditions NONE - NO ADVERSE CONDITION		
Agency Status 07 - OTHER EXCEPTIONAL CLEARANCES - ADULT		☐ Arrest(s) Made ☐ Evidence Collected ☐ Gang Related ☐ Photo(s) Taken ☐ Unknown Offender		Lighting Conditions CLR - CLEAR			
Source OFC - OFFICER		Case Clearance A - Death of offender		Cleared By DEAN, DYLAN - 1859		Clearance Date 06-25-2026	
OFFENSE	Seq 1	Description [2937.43] Failure to Appear; Issuance of Warrant	A/C C	Location 01	Bias Motives N	Usings D	
	Category 90Z		Entry Meth	Entry Locs	Entry Dir.	Exit Locs	
OFFENSE	Seq 2	Description [2905.01A1] Kidnapping _ ransom, shield, hostage	A/C C	Location 01	Bias Motives N	Usings D	
	Category 100		Entry Meth	Entry Locs	Entry Dir.	Exit Locs	
VICTIM	Seq 1	Victim Type Society/Public	Victim (Last, First Middle - Business) STATE OF OHIO		DOB	SSN	
	Resident Status		Address		Contact Info		
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address		
	Offense Link 1 - [2937.43], 3 - [2921.31], 4 - [2921.32], 5 - [2921.33], 6 - [2903.21]		Age (or range) -	Sex ☐ Unknown	Race	Ethnicity	
	Offender Link/Relationship		Injuries	Treated By	Transported To	Hair	
	☐ Discovered Crime ☐ Can ID Suspect ☐ Victim Crime Rights Served		Circumstances		Justified Homicide Circumstances		
	LEOKA Assignment		LEOKA Circumstance		LEOKA Other ORI		
	State Entry # - Date - By		State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By		
	State Entry # - Date - By		State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By		
	SUSPECT/OFFENDER	Seq 1	Offender Type SUSPECT	Offender (Last, First Middle) BUTTS, BRANDON LEE		DOB 08-11-1992	SSN
Resident Status RESIDENT		Address 613 ORANGE; CONNEAUT OH 44030		Contact Info LP: 4402659636			
Occupation		Employer		Employment Address			
Place of Birth		Age (or range) 33 -	Sex M	Race W	Ethnicity U		
Offense Links 1 - [2937.43], 2 - [2905.01A1], 3 - [2921.31], 5 - [2921.33], 6 - [2903.21]		Injury 8	Gang Affiliation	Aliases			
Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Other		Hair BLK	Eyes BRO	Hair Style	Facial Hair		
Treated By		Transported To		Master Name #	Arrest		
State Entry # - Date - By		State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By			
State Entry # - Date - By		State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			
State Entry # - Date - By		State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			
ADMIN	Assisting Officers 10161 - MOISIO, TERRY / 2934 - PAYNTER, JASON / 597 - WOLFF, EVAN / 2955 - GRABMAN, BRETT / 2476 - HELFER, JOHN / 702 - REECE, RYAN / 2648 - WARWING, GYASI / 5322 - MASSIE, ERIC / 831 - NIE...					☐ Custody Rel. Death ☐ Ofc. Non-Fatal Shooting ☐ School Related	
	Follow Up Assignment		Assigned		Related Case Number(s)		
	Reported By 1859 - DEAN, DYLAN		Submitted for Review		Shift Supervisor		



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INCIDENT PAGE 2

PERSON	Seq 1	Person Type OTHER	Name (Last, First Middle - Business) DELLO-BUTTS, CAIN PETER				DOB 05-25-1985	SSN [REDACTED]	DL#/ID# [REDACTED]	State OH	
	Resident Status RESIDENT		Address 613 ORANGE ST; CONNEAUT OH 44030				Contact Info				
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address						
	Offense Link	Age (or range) 41 - ☐ Unknown	Sex M	Race W	Ethnicity U	Height (or range) 6' 0" - ☐ Unknown	Weight (or range) 350 - ☐ Unknown	Hair BRO	Eyes BRO		
Victim Link	Offender Link 1	Injury 0	Treated By				Transported To				
☐ Discovered Crime		☒ Can ID Suspect		Statement Type OR							
State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By		
VEHICLE	Seq	Vehicle Type	Color	Year	Make	Model	Style	State	Registration	Exp. Date	
	VIN	Value		☐ Unknown	Damage Amount	Classification	Towed By	Tow Reason			
	Offense Link	Victim Link	Offender Link	Person Link	Loss Type	Stored At	Other Number				
	Ownership Verified By		Verification Method	Owner (Last, First Middle - Business)		Owner Address	Owner Contact Info				
	Insurance Company		Insurance Address		Ins. Telephone	Notes/Remarks					
	☐ Reg. Current ☐ Doors Locked ☐ Key in Vehicle ☐ Hold Vehicle ☐ Damage ☐ Theft from Vehicle ☐ Evidence ☐ Vehicle is Cargo										
	Impound Number		Impound Date	Time	Impound Location						
	Recovered Date		Time	Recovered Location			Recovered By	Recovered Agency	Recovered Value		
	Released Date		Time	Released Location			Released By	☐ Released Contents			
	State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By	
PROPERTY	Seq	Property Type	Quantity	Description							
	Make / Brand		Model		Color	Serial Number		Classification			
	Value	☐ Unknown	Damage Amount	Drug Quantity	Drug Measurement	Drug Type Suspected	Other Number				
	Offense Link	Victim Link	Offender Link	Person Link	Vehicle Link	Loss Type	Stored At				
	Ownership Verified By		Owner (Last, First Middle - Business)		Owner Address	Owner Contact Info					
	Insurance Company		Notes/Remarks					☐ Evidence	☐ Cargo		
	Impound Date		Time	Impound Location							
	Recovered Date		Time	Recovered Location			Recovered By	Recovered Value			
	Released Date		Time	Released Location			Released By				
	State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By	
NARRATIVE	Seq 1	Narrative Date 06-26-2026	Time 12:59	Narrative By 2475 - HELFER, JOHN						☐ Investigative	
	June 25, 2026, an arrest warrant was attempted to be served in the 600 block of Orange St., Conneaut City.										



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: 06-25-2026

Time: 13:20

Occurred To Date: 06-25-2026

Time: 22:04

Report Date: 06-25-2026

Time: 13:20

NARRATIVE #2

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By
2	06-28-2026	16:45	1859 - DEAN, DYLAN

☒ Investigative

On June 25, 2026 at 1330 hours, Sheriff's Deputies assigned to the Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) arrived at the residence of BUTTS, BRANDON LEE, located at 613 Orange Street, within the City of Conneaut in effort to take BUTTS into custody on several outstanding warrants that had been issued for his arrest.

Sheriff's Deputies determined that BUTTS had a multitude of active warrants issued for his arrest, all of which were addressed to this residence. Those arrest warrants included two (2) felony capias warrants, issued by Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas, for several counts of failure to comply with the order or signal of a peace officer, which were felonies of the fourth degree. Additionally, BUTTS was found to have six (6) active and outstanding arrest warrants issued by Conneaut Municipal Court, and retained by the City of Conneaut Police Department, for offenses including: falsification, failure to comply with the order or signal of a peace officer, and traffic related offenses. His felony warrants were entered into NCIC and carried cautions to law enforcement, indicating that he had violent tendencies and was known to abuse narcotics, due to him having previously been charged with offenses relating to those cautions, i.e. Domestic Violence, and aggravated drug possession.

Upon arrival, Sheriff's Deputies surrounded the residence and began efforts to establish contact with BUTTS. Deputy Cusano (and others) made contact with a subject at the home's east entrance door, who was later identified as BUTTS' brother, Cain Delo-Butts. Cain indicated to deputies that BUTTS was in fact inside the residence. Deputies then observed BUTTS run through the home and towards an area that was determined to lead to his basement bedroom.

Simultaneously, Deputy Paynter (and others) had contact with a female subject who was later determined to be BUTTS' mother, BUTTS, LENETTE M. Lenette initially obstructed deputies and told them that BUTTS was not currently home at the time. However, as she was being escorted from the residence, those deputies observed BUTTS run down the stairs and slam the door at the bottom of the steps behind him. It was determined that BUTTS had then taken efforts to block the door, so that it could not be forced open, with large items. At 1333 hours, Deputies informed dispatchers that BUTTS had barricaded himself in the basement of the residence. Officers with the City of Conneaut Police Department were then requested to respond and assist us on scene while Paramedics, with the City of Conneaut Fire Department, were also dispatched and requested to stage in the area in case they were needed.

Deputies, including myself, then overheard a female voice screaming for help from the basement. It was clear that there was another person in the residence and that the person was in immediate danger. Conneaut PD Officers had begun to arrive and were assisting with deployment of non-lethal projectiles, which were filled with a chemical irritant (AKA Pepperballs), into the residence. Deputies Massie and Warsing were able to perform a hostage rescue technique and effectively extricated the female victim, who was identified as Heather Duva, from the basement. As she was brought outside from the basement, the basement door again closed. Duva reported to officers that BUTTS had taken her "hostage", and refused to allow her to leave the basement. She further stated that he was claiming, to her, that he had a firearm in the basement. However, she indicated that she had not actually seen one. She reported no substantial injuries and later completed a written statement regarding the incident.

[REDACTED] along with Deputies Warsing [REDACTED] and CPD [REDACTED] established a hold on the exterior doorway on the home's north side which allowed them a direct visual of the basement stairway and the closed door at the landing of the stairs. They began efforts to negotiate with BUTTS from that point. He was heard yelling from the basement and asking us all to just leave. He was also heard breaking things in the home, and at one point it sounded as if he was going to break through the floor of first level of the home. We determined that he was going around the residence and tearing the home's ventilation ducts from the floor in an apparent effort to lessen the effects of the chemical irritant that was being deployed. Officers on the south side of the residence shortly thereafter reported breaking glass and observed BUTTS breaking a basement window with what appeared to be a metal rod. Once he observed officers there he regressed back into the residence.

I overheard BUTTS yelling at Deputies who were making efforts to negotiate his surrender. He told them that he was



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25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No.	[REDACTED]		
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NARRATIVE #2

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By	
2	06-28-2026	16:45	1859 - DEAN, DYLAN	☒ Investigative

armed and that he intended shooting and killing himself. He yelled threats and those officers and threatened to shoot them as well. At one point, BUTTS emerged from the basement door with a long rifle firearm under his chin and stated that he was going to kill himself. [REDACTED] was near-by and she was requested to deploy an additional tool that we had on scene. A less-than-lethal projectile was deployed but failed to strike BUTTS. The projectile struck the interior wall area near him and he immediately regressed back into the room. He continued in his turbulent behavior and continued yelling threatening statements at the officers. Eventually, Deputy Warsing was able to establish some rapport with BUTTS and he indicated that he may be willing to come out and speak with him. However, he instead slightly opened the door and pointed the barrel of the long gun in the direction of officers at the top of the stairs. [REDACTED] ordered BUTTS to put the gun down and informed him that if he pointed the gun at them again he may be shot.

Negotiation efforts continued but, eventually BUTTS again opened the door slightly and the barrel of the long gun emerged again. BUTTS aimed the firearm towards the officers at the top of the stairs and they immediately fired their services weapons at him through the door. After shots were fired, there was no further response from BUTTS downstairs. Additional team members, including myself, moved in and took over the position at the top of the basement stairway. We called out to BUTTS several times but got no response from him. Detective Wolff quickly deployed a drone unit and flew it into the basement. This is when he observed BUTTS lying at the bottom of the stairs. He appeared to be in need of immediate medical care, I, along with Deputies Massie and Paynter, rushed downstairs to assess the situation further.

I made entry to the basement bedroom. I found BUTTS lying on his right side in the northeast corner of the small room. His head was oriented towards the southeast and his feet to the northwest. I observed the green long rifle firearm lying to the immediate west of his body. It was oriented diagonally, in a similar position as his body, with the barrel pointing to the northwest. I observed that it had several bullet holes through the stock area of it. I was not able to clear the firearm, as it had no break point. I moved it to a safe area so that I could further assess BUTTS' injuries. I immediately observed a large amount of blood pooling under BUTTS' face and head. It was clear that he had sustained several gunshot wounds. I pulled his body outward and maneuvered him onto his back. I found that he was displaying no signs of life, he was not breathing and he was unresponsive. I then checked for any detectable pulse. I found none. I believed that he was likely beyond any help or first aid that I would have been able to provide.

I had advised that it was safe for paramedics to come down and render additional aid to BUTTS. They arrived and also immediately noted that he had no detectable signs of life. They contacted the on-duty emergency department doctor at University Hospital's Conneaut Medical Center, after being advised of the circumstances and their observations, he instructed them to pronounce BUTTS as deceased. At 1425 hours, Paramedics pronounced BUTTS deceased and made notification to the Ashtabula County Coroner's Office. Investigators from that officer were en-route to the scene.

All personnel who had been present at the top of the stairs when shots were fired were removed from the scene, per agency protocol. Other on scene personnel secured the scene with marking tape and removed all other parties from the area. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation was notified and requested to respond to the scene to handle additional investigation into the matter. Deputies remained on-scene with BCI Agents until they completed their tasks at the scene.

This remains an ongoing investigation.

X- _____
 Sergeant Dylan S. Dean (#4-11)
 Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20****NARRATIVE #3**

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By
3	06-26-2026	13:07	2475 - HELFER, JOHN

☐ Investigative

June 25, 2026, the Ashtabula County Special Response Team was attempting to serve an arrest warrant upon Brandon Butts at 613 Orange St., Conneaut City, Ashtabula County, Ohio in the afternoon hours. While in the office on station, I heard radio traffic announcing there were shots fired. Myself, Sheriff Niemi, and Lt. Johns responded to the scene immediately.

Upon arrival, the scene had been secured with crime scene tape. Conneaut Police Department was on scene along with Conneaut City Fire & EMS. We were briefed by Det. Grabman of the incident and that the subject of the arrest warrant, Brandon Butts, was deceased due to the officer-involved-shooting. After checking on the members of the team, I spoke briefly with Butts' family members who were also present. I was then tasked with taking the involved officers to the State Rd. Occupational Health Medical Center where the standard tests were completed. Once finished, I transported them to the station where they met with Peer Support, BCI Special Agent, Daniel Boerner, and their respective union attorneys. Boerner took photographs of the officers' clothing and took custody of their involved firearms as evidence. After several hours, the officers were released to return home.

NARRATIVE

 Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office 25 West Jefferson St. Jefferson, OH 44047 440-576-0055				Incident No. [REDACTED]			
				Call for Service No. [REDACTED]			
				Occurred From Date:	06-25-2026	Time:	13:20
				Occurred To Date:	06-25-2026	Time:	22:04
NARRATIVE #4				Report Date:	06-25-2026	Time:	13:20
Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By				☐ Investigative
4	06-26-2026	15:33	12436 - JOHNS, MATT				
On June 25, 2026, during the afternoon hours, I was at the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office when I overheard radio traffic from deputies advising that a male subject had barricaded himself inside a residence during the course of a warrant service. I accessed the call information and observed that deputies and members of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT) were actively attempting warrant service at 613 Orange Street in Conneaut, Ohio. Upon reviewing the call details, I observed that Brandon Lee Butts was identified as the subject of the warrant service. The information further indicated that Butts had barricaded himself inside the basement of the residence. I continued monitoring radio traffic and heard that chemical agents, specifically pepper balls, had been deployed into the lower level of the residence. Shortly thereafter, radio traffic indicated that a female was located in the basement with Butts. Radio traffic further indicated that Butts was actively banging on objects within the basement and attempting to create openings to obtain fresh air. Units reported that he was using a large hammer to break out basement windows. Additional information relayed over the radio indicated that Butts may have also possessed a metal pipe and possibly a machete during the incident. Prior to the use of force, Detective Wolf broadcast that Butts should be advised that his mother wanted him to put the firearm down and surrender peacefully. Shortly thereafter, a unit transmitted "Gun, gun, gun," followed by a report that shots had been fired. Upon hearing that shots had been fired, Sheriff Niemi, Lieutenant Helfer and I responded to the scene at 613 Orange Street. Upon arrival, I observed the immediate area around the residence had been secured with crime scene tape. I noted that the residence was a single-story structure located on the west side of Orange Street between Carl Street to the north and 16th Street to the south. The residence was tan in color with white trim. I observed a red, white, and blue mailbox at the front of the property and the address number "613" displayed on a placard near the front door. A detached garage was also present, the rear yard appeared to be fenced, and several vehicles were parked in the driveway. I spoke with Detective Wolff and gathered a summary of the incident, so that I could draft a search warrant for the property. From Detective Wolff, I learned that law enforcement units had arrived on scene and Butts had retreated back into the residence and then barricaded himself in the basement by securing the basement door with screws and placing heavy objects against it to prevent entry. Detective Wolff further advised that a female, later identified as Heather Duva, was inside the basement with Butts. According to Detective Wolff, Duva indicated she wanted to leave the residence; however, Butts refused to allow her to leave and had threatened her with a firearm. Deputies utilized pepper ball rounds as a diversionary tactic and subsequently breached the basement door in order to safely extricate Duva from the residence. After the female was removed, deputies withdrew from the residence and established a position outside a doorway leading into the basement stairwell. Detective Wolff advised that despite repeated verbal commands to surrender, Butts eventually emerged from the basement stairwell area while armed with a rifle. [REDACTED] deployed a 40-millimeter less-lethal round, which struck Butts in the abdominal area; however, the impact did not gain compliance or incapacitate him.							

NARRATIVE



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20****NARRATIVE #4**

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By
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☐ Investigative

Detective Wolff stated that Butts stated that he was going to kill himself or kill law enforcement, and specifically directed death threats towards [REDACTED], because she had shot him with the less-lethal round.

According to Detective Wolff, Butts then pointed the rifle directly at deputies positioned at the doorway. Deputies subsequently discharged their firearms in response to the threat. Detective Wolff further indicated that repeated verbal commands to surrender had been given prior to the use of deadly force.

Detective Wolf advised that emergency medical personnel responded to the scene following the shooting and that Butts was pronounced deceased on scene. Detective Wolff further advised that the firearm that Butts had possessed was still present and that it was an actual rifle and not a replica or toy.

Following my arrival and initial scene assessment, I obtained preliminary exterior photographs of the residence and property.

I learned that the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) had been requested to respond and investigate the officer-involved shooting.

I directed Detective Wolff to establish a crime scene log and to secure the scene until BCI arrived. I directed [REDACTED] to obtain a recorded audio statement from Duva.

I then returned to the Sheriff's Office and prepared a search warrant and supporting affidavit seeking authorization to search the residence and property for evidence related to the incident. While preparing the warrant documentation, I learned that Brandon Lee Butts had a prior felony drug conviction, which rendered him prohibited from possessing firearms under Ohio law.

I subsequently obtained court records confirming that Butts had been previously convicted on two separate occasions for felony drug offenses. I also obtained copies of the capias and related warrant documents being served at the time of the incident, which included multiple counts of felony Failure to Comply with the Order or Signal of a Police Officer.

The search warrant and supporting documentation were presented to Judge Harris, who reviewed and signed the warrant. A copy of the signed search warrant and related documents was subsequently provided to BCI Agent Boerner upon his arrival at the Sheriff's Office.

On June 26th, 2026, I prepared documents to place the search warrant proceedings under seal. Chief Assistant Prosecutor Cantalamessa signed the motion, and Judge Harris then reviewed and signed the order. I then filed the signed search warrant documents with the Clerk of Courts.

 Lieutenant M. Johns

NARRATIVE



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20****NARRATIVE #5**

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By
5	07-02-2026	08:50	2986 - GRABMAN, BRETT

☐ Investigative

On 06/25/2026 at approximately 1:30 PM, members of the Ashtabula County Special Response Team and Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office went to 613 Orange St. Conneaut, Ohio with the purpose of going to the residence to arrest Brandon Butts on his numerous felony warrants, including a felony Fleeing and Eluding warrant.

Prior to arriving at the residence, the SRT gathered and briefly spoke about Butts and the situation surrounding Butts' warrants. The team was made aware, by Deputy Paynter, that the Fleeing and Eluding warrant originated from the Conneaut Police Department's jurisdiction. The team was also made aware that there was recent information provided to Conneaut PD that indicated that Butts was staying at his mother's residence, being 613 Orange St. Conneaut, Ohio, which is the same address listed on the felony warrant.

We then left the briefing location and went directly to 613 Orange St. Once we arrived at the residence [REDACTED] parked his marked, ACSO, Sheriff's Office cruiser in the driveway. The van carrying most of the SRT members then parked behind [REDACTED] cruiser. I parked my unmarked UC vehicle in the street.

All members of the team then exited the vehicles and most of the SRT members approached the front door and/or set a perimeter around the north part of the residence. I went to the south side of the residence and formed a perimeter there. I was met by a wooden fence with a pad lock. I could see most of the back yard, but I could not see all of it.

It was around this time that I heard one of the SRT members talking to someone who was inside of the residence. I could not make out exactly what they were saying, but I could hear that Deputy ask that person to step outside and that person was made aware that law enforcement was at the residence looking for Brandon. I then heard someone say, "He's in the basement." (Or something to that extent.)

I was concerned at that point that I could not see the entire back yard or the rear of the residence. I was concerned that there would potentially be an exterior access from the outside and in to the basement. Because of that, I went around the front of the residence and began to circle towards the north side of the residence.

While coming around out front, I observed a heavy-set white male with bandages wrapped around his legs. The male was sitting on the front porch. This male was later identified as Brandon Butts' brother, Cain Dello-Butts. I also observed an older white female. She was standing in the front yard and she was later identified as Lenette Butts, Brandon Butt's mother. Cain and Lenette were standing and sitting with Detective Reece.

Once I got around the front, I began to walk around the north side of the residence. This is the side where the driveway is located and the side door to the residence leads to a landing. I observed the open door to the basement and I observed [REDACTED] standing at the door and looking down into the basement. Deputy Warsing, Deputy Paynter and Deputy Massie were also standing at the door, but I do not recall what order they were in at the door.

As I continued to walk past that side of the residence and as I moved toward the northwest corner of the residence, I over heard [REDACTED] inform the team, "He is in the basement." As I moved passed the other Deputies, I could hear loud pounding noises and the distinct sound of furniture being dragged across the floor and stacked against the door. These noises were very distinct and loud for multiple people to hear. [REDACTED] then stated, "He is barricading." (Or something to that extent.)

I heard someone from the SRT announce that we are with the Sheriff's Office and that we were here to serve an arrest warrant. The commands also included things along the lines of, "Brandon, we know you are in the basement. Come out with your hands empty. We are not going away. You have an arrest warrant. This is the Sheriff's Office." (Or something to that extent.) I also do not recall the order in which those commands were given, but I do recall hearing someone give those announcements. I do not know who was providing those announcements.

NARRATIVE



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I continued to move towards the northwest corner of the residence where Sgt. Dean was standing. Unbeknownst to me, Sgt. Dean was watching the rear of the residence and backyard while I was moving around the residence. I asked Sgt. Dean if he had seen an exit point from the basement and to the backyard. Sgt. Dean told me that there was no exit from the basement and into the backyard.

Once I knew that there was no longer a concern for another exit point, I turned my attention back to what the majority of the SRT was doing at the side door. When I walked back towards the door this time, I observed that [REDACTED] was positioned inside of the structure. He was standing in the door way of what appeared to be a step or two above the landing that led to the basement. I did not see [REDACTED] the first time when I walked past so I presumed that he was already inside of the structure when I walked by initially.

During this time frame, I walked back up to the front yard again. With the basement door being shut and barricaded and no other exit point being a concern, I went to see what assistance I could be with Brandon's mom and/or brother. When I walked up front, this time, Lenette and Cain were arguing and had to be separated by Det. Reece. This would eventually be a common occurrence between the two of them during the entire operation. They were either yelling at each other, yelling at law enforcement or yelling out to or at Brandon from outside the residence. During this particular argument, I did not hear their exact words, but it sounded something along the lines of the fact that Cain was upset that Lenette allowed Brandon in the house.

Det. Wolff also asked if anyone else was inside of the residence with Brandon. I do not know who, but either Cain or Lenette informed Det. Wolff that Brandon's girlfriend, Heather, was in the basement with him. Det. Wolff asked Lenette and Cain if Brandon had a phone number so that we could attempt to call him and speak. They stated that Brandon did not have a phone. Det. Wolff asked if Heather had a phone number that we could call. Lenette and Cain indicated that they did not know Heather's number.

I expressed my concern to Det. Wolff at this time that this could very easily turn into a hostage situation. It was very obvious now that this situation was becoming very tense and it was rapidly changing the longer we stayed on scene. I asked Det. Wolff if anyone had contacted the Conneaut Police Department for additional manpower and Det. Wolff advised me that CPD was already on the way.

At this point in time, we had now been on scene for about 15 minutes. I could still hear Deputies at the side door attempting to call out to Brandon again. This time, I could hear a male's voice and a female's voice arguing. The argument was loud, very heated and intense.

I went back to Det. Wolff and I advised him that if this situation turned physical between Brandon and Heather, that we may have to force entry. Det. Wolff instructed me to retrieve the ram from my vehicle in case we needed to breach the door. I went and retrieved the ram from my vehicle at that time.

This was also around the same time frame that CPD began to arrive on scene. There were four officers that arrived around this time frame. Those officers were Sgt. Stitt, Lt. Sullivan [REDACTED] and Officer Delisle.

When I retrieved the ram and brought it back to where the entry team was standing, I set the ram down on the ground near where the team was positioned. I could still hear Deputies giving Brandon verbal commands and I could hear a male's (presumed to be Brandon's) voice coming from the basement. There was also a lot of commotion coming from the basement. It sounded like things were being moved, dragged, thrown, pounded on, etc. and it sounded like chaos coming from the basement as the male and female continued to argue.



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At this time, it was decided that one of the glass block windows at the ground level of the residence would be breached and pepper ball rounds would be introduced into the basement. Officer Delisle retrieved a pepper ball gun from his cruiser and brought it back to where the glass block window was breached. The actual glass block was not removed from the cinderblock, but the glass window panel encased in the glass block was.

Once that was done, Officer Carlisle deployed several rounds of pepper ball into the basement. A short while later, I could hear two different and distinct sets of coughs coming from the basement. When the pepper ball was deployed, the chaos of all of the movement stopped for a brief period of time. During that time, Deputies continued to give Brandon commands to come to the door, but he did not comply.

Around this time, we were made aware that Heather had called either Cain or Lenette and was on the phone. That cell phone was provided to Lt. Sullivan of the CPD who began talking with Heather. Det. Wolff and I were standing close by to Lt. Sullivan while he was talking with Heather and Lt. Sullivan had the phone on speaker.

Lt. Sullivan asked if Heather could get out of the basement and Heather explained that she did not know if she could remove the items from in front of the door. Heather stated that she wanted to get out, but couldn't.

Lt. Sullivan directed Heather to go to the door, remove as much items as she could and that we, meaning law enforcement, would come and get her. Det. Wolff and I left Lt. Sullivan, who was still on the phone with Heather. Det. Wolff informed Deputy Warsing that he would be breaching the door with the ram that I retrieved from my vehicle and Deputy Massie would go down the stairs with Deputy Warsing to get Heather out. Only two Deputies were tasked with doing this due to the fact that other Deputies would not be able to fit in the small, enclosed space leading

Then, Deputies could hear pounding, yelling and Heather screaming for help. Deputy Warsing and Deputy Massie then went down the steps. Deputy Warsing breached the door and upon doing so, Deputy Massie was able to grab Heather, who was standing at the door. Deputy Massie was able to escort her out of the basement safely. Both Deputy Warsing and Deputy Massie then retreated back outside and re-joined the rest of the team.

Shortly after Heather was escorted out of the basement, she provided information to Det. Wolff that Brandon said he had a gun, but she did not see it. Det. Wolff communicated this information to the team over the radio. With Heather out of the basement, and the door somewhat breached open, the effects of the pepper ball were now coming up the steps and impacting the entry team at the door. Some members of the team and some CPD officers were able to obtain and put on gas masks, but some of us, including me, were without a gas mask.

As this was taking place, Brandon was still not listening to our commands to come out of the basement. Brandon was still yelling and moving around. While yelling, Brandon made the comment that he was going to kill law enforcement and/or kill himself. Brandon repeatedly made these comments and threats numerous times during the course of this incident.

Also, during this time, I began to hear multiple loud pounding noises. I could not tell if the pounding was being done to the walls or the ceiling of the basement, or the floor of the ground level floor in the house. I became concerned that Brandon was attempting to escape the basement through the ceiling and on to the ground floor.

Other officers could hear this pounding as well and I do not know who, but I do remember another cycle of pepper ball rounds being deployed in to the basement because the concern was that he was trying to escape out of the basement somehow, or at least that was my concern that I expressed to the team.

As the intense pounding continued, I could hear the pounding in various places throughout the home. Sgt. Dean



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Time: 13:20

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and I then entered the back, sliding glass door and entered into a living room area of the residence. We could still hear the pounding coming from the basement ceiling/ground floor.

As I turned one of the corners of the room, I noticed that an air vent cover was knocked out of the ventilation in the floor. I found at least three other vent covers were knocked out of the floor in that same room. Sgt. Dean and I exited the residence and informed the team what Brandon was doing and what the pounding was all about. We suspected at that time that Brandon was pounding out the ventilation covers in order to get air.

During that time, Brandon began to pound on the exterior wall at the northwest corner of the residence, which is exactly where Sgt. Dean and I were now standing. It sounded like Brandon was trying to come through the wall and trying to escape from the basement again.

Sgt. Dean and I, along with [REDACTED] went back through the back, sliding glass door and into the living room area of the residence. [REDACTED] then deployed multiple pepper ball rounds into one of the open-air vents. A short while later, I could hear Brandon screaming from the basement, "Stop! Stop! Stop!" I was hopeful that this meant that Brandon was going to surrender to us and I announced to the team that Brandon was yelling "Stop!"

I then realized that Brandon was not going to surrender. I could then hear loud, repetitive pounding coming from the south side of the residence. I went back around the backyard and I looked over the wooden fence. This time, I was in the backyard and looking at the south side of the residence towards Orange St. I saw that Brandon was shoving a long metal pipe through one of glass block window. I did not know if Brandon broke through that window or if law enforcement breached that window. The manner in which Brandon was shoving the metal pipe in and out of the window, made me believe that he was trying to create space for more air to get down into the basement.

After that, I heard more pounding coming from the basement. This time, I saw that Brandon was pounding on different set of glass block window, which had not been broken out as this point. Brandon then successfully broke through this glass block as a giant 'Thor-like' hammer came penetrating through the glass block. I saw a hand reach out and pull the hammer back into the basement.

I then saw Brandon reach both hands out of the basement and into the yard. Only Brandon's arms were exposed at this time. I could not see his face or body. Brandon was attempting to pull himself out of the basement and escape. Officer Delisle came around the southeast corner at that time and deployed more pepper ball rounds in the area of Brandon. Brandon retreated back into the basement and as he retreated, he yelled, "I have a gun motherfucker! I have a gun motherfucker!" When Brandon attempted to escape out of the basement window, we had now been on scene for approximately 30 minutes or so.

During this same time, I could hear Deputies at the north side door of the residence continuing to give Brandon commands. Brandon was speaking with Deputies during this time. While this was going on, Brandon continued to threaten to kill law enforcement and that he was going to kill himself.

During this time, Deputy Warsing was speaking with Brandon. It sounded like Deputy Warsing had established a good rapport with Brandon as Brandon was at least speaking with Deputy Warsing. I don't know the whole conversation that Deputy Warsing had or was having with Brandon due to moving around the scene so much during the incident.

Also, while all of this was taking place, Lenette and Cain had been moved from the front of the residence and escorted to the driveway/edge of the road. Both Lenette and Cain continued to argue, yell and shout. At times, Lenette and Cain would yell out to Brandon, which just fueled the chaos.

At one point, I heard Cain yell out to Brandon, "Come on Brandon!" Brandon responded loudly from the



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☐ Investigative

basement saying, "I'll shoot that fat motherfucker too!"

Deputy Warsing was able to get Brandon to focus back on him and it sounded like progress was being made. I heard Deputy Warsing assure Brandon that no one wanted to hurt him and that nothing would happen to him if he came outside. I also heard Brandon request his mother to come to the door and talk to him. This was not possible and Deputies advised Brandon that we could not bring his mother to the door, however, Deputy Warsing did tell Brandon, that if he came outside that he would be able to talk to his mother then.

It was around that time that things continued to escalate even further. At this point, the overall circumstances of this incident had changed directions so many times that it was difficult to determine where the situation was going to go next and the situation kept getting more tense as it went on. Every time that we attempted to de-escalate the situation with Brandon, Brandon would start pounding on things, break windows, attempt to escape, threaten himself, threaten officers, etc. Or his mom and/or brother would start shouting to him or at him and that only added fuel to the fire, which ultimately made this situation worse for everyone.

As the situation continued to intensify, [REDACTED] now joined the Deputies at the side door. Positioned at the side door was now [REDACTED] Deputy Warsing and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was still inside, just off of the landing. Deputy Massie was also still at the door in the stack. Det. Wolff and I were holding off of the door. Sgt. Dean was still positioned at the northwest corner of the residence and [REDACTED] had retrieved the less than lethal 40 mm from the van.

I could tell that the situation at the side door and in the basement was getting worse when Deputy Warsing was talking to Brandon and three or four different officers shouted "Stop! Don't do it!" (Or something to that extent.) I could not see what was happening at this time. I would later learn from Det. Wolff, that Brandon came to the door with a black mag-light and would quickly raise and lower the black mag-light in a manner that was consistent with drawing a firearm.

Brandon then retreated back into the basement. I did not see this happen, but I believed that Brandon went back into the basement because Brandon's voice was more muffled as compared to when it was not muffled.

A moment later, Brandon returned to the basement door and I could hear Deputies shouting for Brandon to drop the gun. Again, three or four different officers were loudly giving Brandon this command. I did not see Brandon with the gun as I was still away from the door.

It was at this time that [REDACTED] leaned around the corner and attempted to deploy a less than lethal 40 mm impact round at Brandon in an effort to get Brandon to drop the gun. Based on my training, I know that the 40 mm impact round is designed to gain compliance from a non-compliant person by striking that person with the less than lethal round. Unfortunately, in this circumstance, [REDACTED] round missed and Brandon retreated back into the basement.

Deputy Warsing pleaded with Brandon to come back to the door with nothing in his hands. Brandon continued to yell and shout and make comments about killing law enforcement and himself. Brandon came to the door again and I again heard officers yelling for Brandon to put down the gun. [REDACTED] deployed the less than lethal 40 mm round again and this time, the round struck Brandon successfully.

The impact of the round, however, did not cause Brandon to drop the gun. Instead, Brandon retreated back into the residence and began yelling again. This time, Brandon stated that he was going to kill the Deputy, meaning [REDACTED] who kept shooting the 40 mm at him. Brandon came back to the door again and I again heard Deputies and Officers tell him to put the gun down.

NARRATIVE



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☐ Investigative

It was at this time that multiple Deputies and officers opened fire [REDACTED] was still inside of the residence on the landing. Deputy Warsing and [REDACTED] were still at the door and they were with [REDACTED] When the shots were fired, we had now been on scene for approximately 40 minutes or so.

Once Deputies and Officers fired rounds down into the basement, we began to cycle those officers out from the door. I was one of the Deputies who stood at the door now with another Deputy, but I do not recall who was standing at the door with me. The overwhelming presence of pepper ball took me to a point where I struggled to breathe and speak. I shouted down into the basement for Brandon to talk to us so that we could help. I shouted this to Brandon multiple times.

By the second or third time I shouted out to Brandon, I was so overtaken by the effects of the pepper ball, that Deputy Paynter, who had a gas mask on, had to relieve me at my position. We did not go into the basement right away because we could not see where Brandon was because of how dark it was in the basement. We could not see if he was still in possession of a firearm and going into the basement with those unknown circumstances was a risk to everyone involved.

While all of this was happening, EMS was on scene, however, they did not have gas masks and it would have been impossible for them to get down into the basement at this time. Additionally, we did not know if the fired shots by law enforcement had struck Brandon and it was a safety concern whether or not Brandon still possessed a firearm.

Det. Wolff then quickly deployed our small, tactical drone and flew it down into the basement. Det. Wolff indicated to me that he saw that Brandon was down on the floor and was motionless. The SRT then entered the basement and secured the basement. I did not go into the residence.

Deputies then came out of the basement once the basement was cleared. EMS went down into the basement. It was determined at this time that Brandon was deceased. I then called Lt. Nelson, who was not on scene. I advised Lt. Nelson briefly as to what had taken place and I requested that Lt. Nelson notify the ACSO management staff of the incident.

The scene was secured with crime scene tape and the street was blocked off. I learned that [REDACTED] of the CPD [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were the law enforcement officers who fired their weapons.

Eventually, those three were escorted off scene. Deputy Warsing was also escorted off scene, even though he did not fire his duty weapon. Det. Wolff, Det. Reece, [REDACTED] Sgt. Dean, Deputy Massie, Deputy Paynter and I remained on scene in order to secure the residence and the scene while BCI was contacted. A few Conneaut police officers also remained on scene.

During all of this, Cain and Lenette were beside themselves. They were calling us motherfuckers, cock suckers, faggots, etc. I understood their reasoning for being upset, however, their yelling and shouting only got worse as time went on.

In reality, their yelling and distraction never stopped from around the time that we initially got there. In fact, during this whole event and while everything was going on, I observed that Det. Reece had to separate Cain and Lenette numerous times as they were a consistent distraction and hinderance. Lenette's and Cain's outburst would come and go in spurts that usually lasted several minutes.

Once the scene was taped off and BCI was contacted, a large neighborhood crowd assembled outside of the crime scene tape. This crowd seemed to grow rather quickly and the crowd, at numerous times, became very verbally



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hostile. The crowd, which consisted of friends, family and neighbors of Brandon, pushed the limits of the crime scene for hours. We had to extend the crime scene twice based on the fact that these individuals would walk up to the tape and attempt to intimidate law enforcement.

This intimidation included general and vague threats, video taping us and derogatory name calling. This went on for hours. This also went on while BCI Agents arrived on scene and were processing the scene. Lenette would be set off and sent into a fit of rage when she saw law enforcement walking around the residence and when she overheard law enforcement talking about anything evidence related. I heard Lenette scream at one point, "I'm losing my fucking shit!"

Brandon's brother, Derek Butts was also a very vocal and outraged distraction. Both Derek and Lenette would constantly incite the crowd to yelling, arguing, shouting and carrying on.

Cain, at times, was also a contributing factor in this, but he was significantly less inciting then his Lenette and Derek. Brandon's father, who I do not know the name of, was also a contributing factor to the chaos of the crowd as he consistently screamed and carried on in the street and at the edge of the crime scene.

Also, throughout the process of BCI collecting evidence and processing the scene, people were assembling across the street with coolers and red solo cups. It was evident, based on my observations and the fact that some members of the crowd were slurring their words, that people were consuming alcohol, which created further conflict and more unrest.

At one point, BCI removed the firearm from the residence in a white cardboard box. Numerous people from the crowd again began to yell and scream claiming that BCI obtained that firearm from the upstairs section of the residence and that the Sheriff's Office must have planted the firearm. Cain began to yell, "Give me back my gun! Why are you taking my gun?!"

This created several people in the crowd, mostly Brandon's family, to come up to the crime scene edge again, and on to the neighbor's porch, and continue to attempt to intimidate law enforcement.

As an example, at one point, Derek took exception to Deputy Paynter simply looking at him. Derek asked the question, "Why is he fucking looking at me!" (Or something to that extent.) Derek then called Deputy Paynter a faggot and as Deputy Paynter walked by, Derek stated, "He's going to get it." (Or something to that extent.) Members of the crowd had to remove Derek from the edge of the scene based on that comment and multiple people told Derek, "You cannot make threats like that." I was standing at the edge of the crime scene and I heard Derek make these comments and the other crowd members' comments. This sort of activity took place for hours.

At around 10:00 PM, the processing of the scene was completed. BCI collected the evidence and the crime scene tape was removed. The crowd had dispersed by then to where Cain and another unknown male were the only two people near the edge of the crime scene tape.

With the scene no longer needing to be secured, all CPD officers, BCI Agents and Sheriff's Office Deputies cleared the scene and left the area. Most of us had been on scene at the Butts' residence for over eight hours.

On 06/29/2026, I was instructed by Chief Moio to write a report and summary of the events that I witnessed during this event.

Detective B. Grabman
 #4-40



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No.

Call for Service No.

Occurred From Date:

06-25-2026

Time:

13:20

Occurred To Date:

06-25-2026

Time:

22:04

Report Date:

06-25-2026

Time:

13:20

NARRATIVE #5

Seq	Narrative Date	Time	Narrative By	
5	07-02-2026	08:50	2986 - GRABMAN, BRETT	☐ Investigative

NARRATIVE

DRAFT



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**

VICTIMS

VICTIM	Seq	2	Victim Type	Individual	Victim (Last, First Middle - Business)	DUVA, HEATHER LYNN			DOB	05-17-1992		SSN	[REDACTED]	DL#/ID#	[REDACTED]	State	OH			
	Resident Status	RESIDENT		Address		613 ORANGE; CONNEAUT OH 44030			Contact Info											
	Occupation			Employer					Employment Address											
	Offense Link	2 - [2905.01A1]		Age (or range)	34 -	☐ Unknown	Sex	F	Race	W	Ethnicity	U	Height (or range)	5' 0" -	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	106 -	☐ Unknown		
	Offender Link/Relationship	1 BG		Injuries	U - UNKNOWN			Treated By				Transported To				Hair	BRO	Eyes	HAZ	
	☐ Discovered Crime		☒ Can ID Suspect		☒ Victim Crime Rights Served		Circumstances		08			Justified Homicide Circumstances								
	LEOKA Assignment				LEOKA Circumstance				LEOKA Other ORI				LEOKA Status							
	State Entry # - Date - By				State Cancellation # - Date - By				NCIC Entry # - Date - By				NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By							
	Seq				Victim (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB				SSN				DL#/ID#			
	Resident Status				Address				Contact Info											
Occupation				Employer				Employment Address												
Offense Link				Age (or range)		-		☐ Unknown	Sex		Race		Ethnicity		Height (or range)	-	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	-	☐ Unknown
Offender Link/Relationship				Injuries				Treated By				Transported To				Hair			Eyes	
☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		☐ Victim Crime Rights Served		Circumstances					Justified Homicide Circumstances									
LEOKA Assignment				LEOKA Circumstance				LEOKA Other ORI				LEOKA Status								
State Entry # - Date - By				State Cancellation # - Date - By				NCIC Entry # - Date - By				NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By								
Seq				Victim (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB				SSN				DL#/ID#				
Resident Status				Address				Contact Info												
Occupation				Employer				Employment Address												
Offense Link				Age (or range)		-		☐ Unknown	Sex		Race		Ethnicity		Height (or range)	-	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	-	☐ Unknown
Offender Link/Relationship				Injuries				Treated By				Transported To				Hair			Eyes	
☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		☐ Victim Crime Rights Served		Circumstances					Justified Homicide Circumstances									
LEOKA Assignment				LEOKA Circumstance				LEOKA Other ORI				LEOKA Status								
State Entry # - Date - By				State Cancellation # - Date - By				NCIC Entry # - Date - By				NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By								
Seq				Victim (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB				SSN				DL#/ID#				
Resident Status				Address				Contact Info												
Occupation				Employer				Employment Address												
Offense Link				Age (or range)		-		☐ Unknown	Sex		Race		Ethnicity		Height (or range)	-	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	-	☐ Unknown
Offender Link/Relationship				Injuries				Treated By				Transported To				Hair			Eyes	
☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		☐ Victim Crime Rights Served		Circumstances					Justified Homicide Circumstances									
LEOKA Assignment				LEOKA Circumstance				LEOKA Other ORI				LEOKA Status								
State Entry # - Date - By				State Cancellation # - Date - By				NCIC Entry # - Date - By				NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By								



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OFFENDERS

SUSPECT/OFFENDER	Seq	Offender Type	Offender (Last, First Middle)		DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State			
	2	SUSPECT	BUTTS, LENETTE M		01-02-1962			OH			
	Resident Status		Address		Contact Info						
	RESIDENT		613 ORANGE ST; CONNEAUT OH 44030								
	Occupation		Employer	Employment Address							
	Place of Birth	Age (or range)	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	Weight (or range)				
		64 - ☐ Unknown	F	W	N	5' 5" - ☐ Unknown	175 - ☐ Unknown				
	Offense Links	Injury	Gang Affiliation	Aliases		Clothing Description	Runaway/Missing				
	4 - [2921.32]	0									
Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Other	Hair	Eyes	Hair Style	Facial Hair	Complexion	Build	Speech	Handed	Teeth	Glasses	Marital Status
	BRO	BRO									
Treated By	Transported To		Master Name #		Arrest						
State Entry # - Date - By	State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By						
SUSPECT/OFFENDER	Seq	Offender Type	Offender (Last, First Middle)		DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State			
	Resident Status		Address		Contact Info						
	Occupation		Employer	Employment Address							
	Place of Birth	Age (or range)	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	Weight (or range)				
		- ☐ Unknown				- ☐ Unknown	- ☐ Unknown				
	Offense Links	Injury	Gang Affiliation	Aliases		Clothing Description	Runaway/Missing				
Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Other	Hair	Eyes	Hair Style	Facial Hair	Complexion	Build	Speech	Handed	Teeth	Glasses	Marital Status
Treated By	Transported To		Master Name #		Arrest						
State Entry # - Date - By	State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By						
SUSPECT/OFFENDER	Seq	Offender Type	Offender (Last, First Middle)		DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State			
	Resident Status		Address		Contact Info						
	Occupation		Employer	Employment Address							
	Place of Birth	Age (or range)	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	Weight (or range)				
		- ☐ Unknown				- ☐ Unknown	- ☐ Unknown				
	Offense Links	Injury	Gang Affiliation	Aliases		Clothing Description	Runaway/Missing				
Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Other	Hair	Eyes	Hair Style	Facial Hair	Complexion	Build	Speech	Handed	Teeth	Glasses	Marital Status
Treated By	Transported To		Master Name #		Arrest						
State Entry # - Date - By	State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By						
SUSPECT/OFFENDER	Seq	Offender Type	Offender (Last, First Middle)		DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State			
	Resident Status		Address		Contact Info						
	Occupation		Employer	Employment Address							
	Place of Birth	Age (or range)	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	Weight (or range)				
		- ☐ Unknown				- ☐ Unknown	- ☐ Unknown				
	Offense Links	Injury	Gang Affiliation	Aliases		Clothing Description	Runaway/Missing				
Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Other	Hair	Eyes	Hair Style	Facial Hair	Complexion	Build	Speech	Handed	Teeth	Glasses	Marital Status
Treated By	Transported To		Master Name #		Arrest						
State Entry # - Date - By	State Cancellation # - Date - By		NCIC Entry # - Date - By		NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By						



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-0055

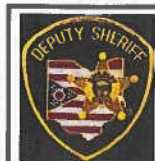
Incident No. [REDACTED]

Call for Service No. [REDACTED]

Occurred From Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**Occurred To Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **22:04**Report Date: **06-25-2026**Time: **13:20**

PERSONS

PERSON	Seq	Person Type	Name (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State		
	2	OTHER	BUTTS, DEREK DONOVAN				06-23-1990	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	OH		
	Resident Status		Address				Contact Info					
	RESIDENT		613 ORANGE; CONNEAUT OH 44030									
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address							
	Offense Link	Age (or range)	☐ Unknown	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	☐ Unknown	Hair	Eyes
		36 -		M	W	U	5' 11" -		150 -		BRO	GRN
	Victim Link	Offender Link	Injury		Treated By		Transported To					
		1	0									
	☐ Discovered Crime		☒ Can ID Suspect		Statement Type							
State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			
PERSON	Seq	Person Type	Name (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State		
	3	OTHER	PYLE, SHELLY A				04-10-1969	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	OH		
	Resident Status		Address				Contact Info					
			245 HIGH ST; CONNEAUT OH 44030									
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address							
	Offense Link	Age (or range)	☐ Unknown	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	☐ Unknown	Hair	Eyes
		57 -		F	W	U	5' 0" -		190 -		GRY	BRO
	Victim Link	Offender Link	Injury		Treated By		Transported To					
	☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		Statement Type							
State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			
PERSON	Seq	Person Type	Name (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State		
	Resident Status		Address				Contact Info					
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address							
	Offense Link	Age (or range)	☐ Unknown	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	☐ Unknown	Hair	Eyes
		-					-		-			
	Victim Link	Offender Link	Injury		Treated By		Transported To					
	☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		Statement Type							
State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			
PERSON	Seq	Person Type	Name (Last, First Middle - Business)				DOB	SSN	DL#/ID#	State		
	Resident Status		Address				Contact Info					
	Occupation		Employer		Employment Address							
	Offense Link	Age (or range)	☐ Unknown	Sex	Race	Ethnicity	Height (or range)	☐ Unknown	Weight (or range)	☐ Unknown	Hair	Eyes
		-					-		-			
	Victim Link	Offender Link	Injury		Treated By		Transported To					
	☐ Discovered Crime		☐ Can ID Suspect		Statement Type							
State Entry # - Date - By			State Cancellation # - Date - By			NCIC Entry # - Date - By			NCIC Cancellation # - Date - By			



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DEATH INVESTIGATION RECORD

Seq 1	Decedent 1 - BUTTS, BRANDON LEE		Children Present No	Target of Crime		Est. Occured Date 06-25-2026	Time 14:20
Last Seen By (Last, First Middle)		Last Seen Date	Time	Next of Kin (Last, First Middle) BUTTS, LENETTE M		Next of Kin Relationship MOTHER	
☒ Identified	How Identified VISUAL	Identified By (Last, First Middle)		Identified Description DEPUTIES ON SCENE			
Found By (Last, First Middle) DEAN, DYLAN		Found Date 06-25-2026	Time 14:16	Anything Unusual LONG GUN LYING NEAR-BY		Apparent Wounds GSW	
☒ Resp. Forced Entry	Response Forced Entry Description BASEMENT DOOR		Window/Door Condition		Body Found In BEDROOM		Body Found Description BASEMENT BEDROOM
Body Position RIGHT SIDE		Body Position Description		Manner Clothed FULLY	Manner Clothed Description		Body Condition UNTOUCHED
☒ ME On Scene	Medical Examiner STEWART, AMBER	ME Called By CONNEAUT FD	ME Called Date 06-25-2026	Time 14:27	ME Arrived Date 06-25-2026	Time 00:00	
☒ Autopsy Req.	Autopsy Location OFFICE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER		Autopsy Date	Autopsy Time	Est. Time of Death 6/25/26 1425 HOURS		
Personnel - Fire CONNEAUT FD		Personnel - EMS CONNEAUT FD		Personnel - Rescue		Personnel - Others	
Description of Evidence						Processed Date	Time
Transported By			Called Date	Time	Transported Date	Time	

IMAGES



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office
25 West Jefferson St.
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APPROVALS

☐ Units Notified☐ Detective Notified☐ Received By Investigation☐ Received By Intelligence☐ Received By Records

Reporting Officer

(1859) DEAN, DYLAN



Submitted By

Submitted On

(pending)



Shift Supervisor Approved By

Shift Supervisor Approved On

(pending)



Final Approved By

Final Approved On

(pending)

SUMMARY



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office

William R. Niemi, Sheriff
25 West Jefferson St. Jefferson Ohio 44047
440-576-9046 fax 440-576-1462

Detective Evan C Wolff

440-576-1446

Date: 7/7/2026

Case #: [REDACTED]

On 6/25/2026, the Ashtabula County Special Response Team (ACSO SRT) conducted a pre-planned, multi operation event within Ashtabula County. SRT operators met at the ACSO where a briefing occurred at 0645 hours, structuring the day's events and providing target information and location to operators.

Towards the end of the day, all targets had been checked and it was decided that the team would take an additional warrant service operation for Brandon Butts, located at 613 Orange St, in Conneaut. Information on Brandon was obtained, along with warrant confirmation and criminal history information.

The warrants entered for Brandon were two (2) felony Capias warrants issued by the Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court for felony charges of Failure to Comply with the Order or Signal of a Peace Officer. Additionally, Brandon had six (6) arrest warrants through Conneaut Municipal Court for Failure to Comply with the Order or Signal of a Peace Officer, Falsification and traffic offenses. Those warrants were confirmed to be valid and active, and returned to 613 Orange St. Brandon was entered with Known to Abuse Drugs and Violent Tendencies cautions, likely due to his previous convictions of Domestic Violence and Possession of Drugs.

At 1330 hours, SRT operators arrived on scene at 613 Orange St., which is a ranch style structure with a basement, tan in color, located on the west side of the road. The front man door was observed open with a closed screen door which was accessed by an open top wood front porch. Two (2) vehicles were observed parked in the driveway, one appearing to be disabled and on jack stands.

A marked Sheriff's patrol car was positioned in the driveway behind two vehicles that were already in the driveway, followed by the SRT black van which was parked at an angle behind the marked patrol unit placing the exit doors for operators away from the structure for safety reasons and an unmarked white Detective SUV which was parked on the roadway in front of the residence. Operators exited the vehicles

and approached the front of the residence man door, while other operators moved to the sides and rear of the structure for suspect containment.

Verbal contact inside the residence was made at the front door with Cain Dello-Butts, the brother of Brandon and Lannette Butts, the mother of Brandon. [REDACTED] and Eric Massie spoke with the pair at which time Cain reported that Brandon was present in the home and likely in his room in the basement.

At 1333 hours, I overheard muffled radio traffic from [REDACTED], followed by a verbal report that he had observed Brandon fleeing on foot down the basement stairs and in to a room in the basement, closing the door behind him. Immediately following the closing of the door, banging and dragging of heavy items could be heard. Operators on the doorway called out that Brandon was barricading the door.

An exterior screen storm door on the north side of the structure was opened, which provided a direct line of site view of the door and stairwell from the exterior of the residence. This position was elevated to the door and provided operators and position of cover while they began hailing in to the basement for Brandon to give himself up. Based on the layout of the structure it did not appear that there was any other exit location for the basement. While standing at the north man door, I observed glass block windows for the basement on either side of the doorway. Inside the center of the glass block I observed screened ports.

At 1336 hours, [REDACTED] radioed to dispatch that contact had been made and the suspect was barricading himself. At this time, I walked to the front of the residence and observed Cain and Lannette standing on the front porch. I asked Lannette if Brandon had access to firearms or any other weapons and she stated yes. I asked Lannette if anyone else was inside the basement with Brandon and she stated that she wasn't sure. While speaking with Lannette and Cain, Det Brett Grabman approached me and reported that a male and female could be heard screaming in the basement. I asked Lannette who the female was in the basement and Cain reported Brandon's girlfriend Heather, later identified as Heather Duva-Pyle. I asked Cain and Lannette if Brandon had access to a phone and they stated no. I asked for a phone number for Heather, and neither was able to provide one. I asked Cain to try and find a number for Heather.

I then walked to the SRT van and removed a ballistic shield, taking it to the north man door where operators were still calling in the home for Brandon. I placed the shield sideways in front of the glass block windows, to shield operators from any threats from that window, and to place it in a central location to be found and used if need be.

While at the door, I again spoke with Det Grabman who indicated that the female sounded scared and was pleading for us to get her out. Det Grabman advised that Heather wanted out of the basement but Brandon was not letting her out.

At 1337 hours, Sgt Dylan Dean requested dispatch notify Conneaut Fire and EMS to stage in the area. At the same time Conneaut City Police Department overheard the radio traffic and responded to the scene.

At 1339 hours, Conneaut EMS staged in the area and CPD Officers arrived on scene to assist. [REDACTED] assumed a position within the team since having training, knowledge and experience as an active SWAT team member for Ashtabula City Police SWAT. Officer Wade Stitt provided scene security. Officer Michael Delisle donned a pepper ball gas gun and Lt Michael Sullivan assisted me at the front of the residence with trying to obtain a contact phone number for Heather.

With units in place, the primary focus of the operation was then shifted to the hostage rescue of Heather. While at the front of the residence, Lt Sullivan indicated that he was able to reach Heather on a video call. I obtained the phone and asked Heather if Brandon had any weapons. Heather stated that Brandon said he had a pistol but she didn't see one. Heather was in obvious fear for her safety and was crying. Heather pleaded several times to get her out of the basement. I told Heather that we were working on it. Heather was unsure where Brandon was exactly located in the basement, but stated that she was by the door leading out but she couldn't move the couch that Brandon had barricaded the door with or open the door. Heather said that Brandon had nailed the door shut as well.

During this time Operators continued to hail in to the basement to Brandon, to let Heather go and to give up.

A plan was quickly formulated to port the small windows in the center of the glass block windows and deploy pepper ball gas rounds in to the basement on the north and south side of the structure. This was done as a diversion tactic to extract Heather, as the use of flashbangs created a risk of fire that couldn't be put out.

I tasked Dep Gyasi Warsing and Dep Massie that on the "Go" signal, both operators would go down the stairs to the basement door, Dep Warsing would breach the door and remove Heather to safety, then return up the stairs. Due to the tight confined space of the stairwell and small landing at the base of the stairs, I felt only 2 operators would be able to safely fit in the area, a breacher and a cover.

At 1345 hours, the center of the glass block window on the north side of the residence, to the right of the man door where operators were hailing in to the

basement was ported. Officer Delisle fired approximately 10 pepper ball rounds in the basement. The center of the glass block window to the left of where operators were standing was then ported, causing the pepper ball gas to be sucked through it, ultimately pulling the gas throughout the basement.

At this time, I could hear Heather begin to cough, which indicated a positive gas effect in the structure.

At 1349 hours, I gave the Go command to Dep Warsing and Dep Massie who carried out the Hostage Rescue plan. Dep Warsing had a positive breach of the basement man door, and once open Heather was observed standing just inside the doorway to the left. Dep Massie leaned in and grabbed Heather, pulling her out of the doorway and both operators extracted with Heather up the stairwell and out of the structure. During the extraction Brandon was not observed.

Operators continued to hail to Brandon from the threshold of the north side exterior man door, while I moved Heather to the SRT van, where she was provided water to remove the gas from her eyes and her medical condition was checked. Heather appeared physically unharmed, but was very scared and shaking.

Once semi calmed down, I asked Heather to describe in detail the events leading up to and during the moment Brandon barricaded the door closed. Heather explained that she woke up to a note on the bed from Brandon indicating that he would be in the garage. After reading the note, she heard yelling at which time Brandon ran in to the room and began barricading the door closed with a sofa, wood pallet that had been located underneath the bed and nailed the door shut. Heather said she could hear deputies shouting "Sheriff's Office". While doing so, Brandon accused her of telling law enforcement that he was in the home, at which time Brandon told her that he had a pistol, though she didn't see one. Heather said that they began to argue over the fact that she hadn't told anyone his whereabouts and that she wanted to leave. I confirmed with Heather that no one else was in the basement with Brandon. I left Heather in the custody of Lt Sullivan.

I briefly spoke with Lannette as they were being moved from the front porch to the roadway. I asked Lannette if Brandon has medical issues and she states yes, he had mental disorders. I asked Lannette if Brandon is supposed to be taking medication and when the last time he took his medication, and she stated, yes he is on medication but hasn't taken it for at least 3 months. I asked Lannette if Brandon is suicidal and she said yes, and that he has threatened and attempted suicide in the past.

I left the area of the roadway and returned to the operators at the doorway, who were still verbally announcing in to the structure to Brandon, to surrender.

At this point, pepper ball gas had been deployed in to the basement on both the north and south side of the residence. I decided to keep operators positioned on the north man door looking down in to the basement. I based this decision on Brandon having stated that he had a pistol in his possession and Lannette confirming Brandon to have access to weapons, the fact that Operators were at a point of advantage by being at an elevated position above the exit doorway of the basement, in a point of cover, and that the team did not have a point of cover away from the structure to fall back too, like an armored vehicle. Furthermore, I felt that if Brandon was given access to the first floor of the residence and a gun fight were to ensue, the surrounding houses and public within those houses would be in danger due to the very close proximity to the incident location. Additionally, the way house was setup, would've aided in an large tactical advantage to Brandon who was obviously unstable and armed.

At 1354 hours, while announcing in to the home, Brandon could be heard attempting to breach what was later identified as an air register in the floor of the first floor or the ceiling of the basement. This was announced over the radio. Operators responded to the approximate area on the first floor of the residence, where this was taking place, to monitor the area.

Brandon continued to prod and bang on several areas around the residence from within the basement for several minutes.

At this time Lannette and Cain were moved from the front porch of the home, to the roadway for their safety. While standing at the roadway, both parties could be heard yelling at operators.

At 1355 hours, after interviewing Heather, I broadcasted over the air that Heather reported Brandon to have made threats to possess a gun, though she didn't see it.

At 1357 hours, Dep Warsing quickly gained rapport with Brandon and began trying to talk him in to surrendering peacefully. During communications, Brandon stated that he was coming out of the basement and was armed, which was relayed via the radio.

At 1400 hours, Sgt Dean transmitted radio traffic that Brandon had breached a glass block window on the south side of the structure. I responded to the area and observed Brandon partially out of the window and actively retreating back in to the basement. At that time Officer Delisle deployed several shots of pepper ball to Brandon.

I placed Officer Delisle and Dep Jason Paynter at the southeast corner of the residence to cover the window. I learned from Det Grabman that Brandon used a

large hammer to break the window and once he retreated back in to the basement Brandon shouted that he had a gun and was going to kill police.

I responded back to the north side of the residence, where units were now actively communicating with Brandon through the man door which was partially ajar.

Lannette and Cain continued shouting obscenities from the roadway. Additionally, both parties were shouting at operators that Brandon did not have a gun and that we were scared for no reason.

At 1405 hours, radio traffic was relayed that Brandon was observed with a firearm, with the radio transmission of "gun, gun, gun". At the doorway attempting to communicate with Brandon was [REDACTED] and Dep Warsing, with supporting operators staged behind them, to include [REDACTED] with the less than lethal 40mm (LTL 40) launcher.

Dep Warsing communicated with Brandon for several minutes. During that time Brandon would sound calm for a few seconds, asking for only Dep Warsing to stay and everyone else leave, then Brandon would become erratic and make statements of harming law enforcement, harming himself, that he had a weapon and that this would end "suicide by cop". Brandon displayed this behavior repeatedly over several minutes of negotiations, at one point stepping out of the doorway with the firearm under his chin and beginning to walk up the steps.

Based on the turbulent and unpredictable behavior, coupled by the statements of harm to law enforcement, [REDACTED] was instructed to deploy the LTL40, which she did, missing Brandon. I was advised that Brandon had retreated in to the basement and continued making threats to kill law enforcement, himself and that he would die "suicide by cop".

At 1407 hours, in an attempt to gain a negotiation advantage, I turned to Lannette, who shouted to me "tell him his mother told him to come out". At her request that was relayed through to Brandon, with no success.

After making more announcements to Brandon, he appeared partially concealed in the doorway with the firearm in hand and [REDACTED] deployed LTL 40, striking Brandon in the stomach. Brandon then retreated back in the basement, out of view.

At 1410 hours, while attempting to get Brandon to peacefully surrender, Brandon presented a threat of bodily harm to the operators at the top of the steps, and was fired upon, stopping the threat.

Det Grabman and I did a condition check of the operators at the doorway and confirmed that none were injured. Operators at the top of the stairs continued to call out to Brandon, with no response.

I returned to the SRT van and obtained a drone with the goal to fly it in to the basement to check the status of Brandon. I flew the drone down the stairwell and through a partial opening of the door and into the basement. Once inside the basement I observed Brandon to be on his back and motionless just inside the doorway to the right. I relayed this information to operators who pushed down the stairs and in to the basement to secure Brandon.

EMS was requested to move inside the residence but due to the gas in the basement they did not want to enter until they could obtain a gas mask or self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Operators held on Brandon until EMS could be deployed.

At 1420 hours, EMS enter the structure. I escorted EMS down the stairs and in to the basement. With Brandon at that time was [REDACTED] and Sgt Dean. I asked [REDACTED] to exit structure and Sgt Dean and I assisted EMS.

While EMS performed their care, I observed what appeared to be several bullet perforations to Brandon's upper thoracic and facial area, as well as a heavy amount of blood on the floor near Brandon's head.

At 1425 hours, EMS declared Brandon deceased. All units removed themselves from the structure and began scene security. [REDACTED] and Dep Warsing were removed from the scene and transported to the ACSO per department policy.

At 1429 hours, the Coroners Office was advised and responded to the scene. Additionally, Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) was contacted and asked to respond to the scene for an investigation.

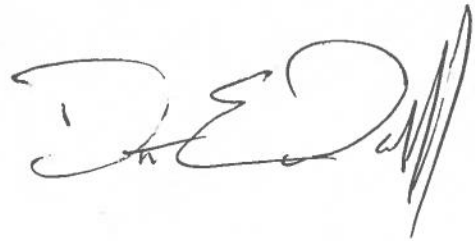
At 1450 hours, a crime scene log was started by Det Grabman to document personnel in and out of the crime scene.

Throughout the evening, numerous people gathered and continued shouting obscenities at officers and investigators. On at least 1 occasion the crowd had to be warned as they tried to cross the posted crime scene tape line and tried entering in to the crime scene. Many of the onlookers sat in the roadway to the northeast of the incident location and consumed alcoholic beverages in the roadway, while screaming

obscurities at investigators. The crime scene tape had to be extended on three (3) separate occasions in an attempt to stop the crowd from entering the crime scene.

At 2204 hours, all law enforcement personnel cleared the scene and the crime scene log was completed.

While reviewing Officer Stitt's body camera, it captured Cain and Lannette prior to and after the shooting. During this time, Cain began making threats towards law enforcement of bodily harm, while the two shouted obscenities from the streets. This behavior carried on throughout the evening with Cain and Lannette agitating a forming crowd and screaming obscenities. Several times during the evening, family members of Brandon had to be warned to leave the area and cease their turbulent behavior.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. E. D.' followed by a stylized flourish.



Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office

William R. Niemi, Sheriff

25 West Jefferson St. Jefferson Ohio 44047

440-576-9046 fax 440-576-1462

On 06/25/2026 at approximately 1:30 PM, members of the Ashtabula County Special Response Team and Ashtabula County Sheriff's Office went to 613 Orange St. Conneaut, Ohio with the purpose of going to the residence to arrest Brandon Butts on his numerous felony warrants, including a felony Fleeing and Eluding warrant.

Prior to arriving at the residence, the SRT gathered and briefly spoke about Butts and the situation surrounding Butts' warrants. The team was made aware, by Deputy Paynter, that the Fleeing and Eluding warrant originated from the Conneaut Police Department's jurisdiction. The team was also made aware that there was recent information provided to Conneaut PD that indicated that Butts was staying at his mother's residence, being 613 Orange St. Conneaut, Ohio, which is the same address listed on the felony warrant.

We then left the briefing location and went directly to 613 Orange St. Once we arrived at the residence [REDACTED] parked his marked, ACSO, Sheriff's Office cruiser in the driveway. The van carrying most of the SRT members then parked behind [REDACTED] cruiser. I parked my unmarked UC vehicle in the street.

All members of the team then exited the vehicles and most of the SRT members approached the front door and/or set a perimeter around the north part of the residence. I went to the south side of the residence and formed a perimeter there. I was met by a wooden fence with a pad lock. I could see most of the back yard, but I could not see all of it.

It was around this time that I heard one of the SRT members talking to someone who was inside of the residence. I could not make out exactly what they were saying, but I could hear that Deputy ask that person to step outside and that person was made aware that law enforcement was at the residence looking for Brandon. I then heard someone say, "He's in the basement." (Or something to that extent.)

I was concerned at that point that I could not see the entire back yard or the rear of the residence. I was concerned that there would potentially be an exterior access from the outside and in to the basement. Because of that, I went around the front of the residence and began to circle towards the north side of the residence.

While coming around out front, I observed a heavy-set white male with bandages wrapped around his legs. The male was sitting on the front porch. This male was later identified as Brandon Butts' brother, Cain Dello-Butts. I also observed an older white female. She was standing in the front yard and she was later identified as Lenette Butts, Brandon Butt's mother. Cain and Lenette were standing and sitting with Detective Reece.

Once I got around the front, I began to walk around the north side of the residence. This is the side where the driveway is located and the side door to the residence leads to a landing. I observed the open door to the basement and I observed [REDACTED] standing at the door and looking down into the basement. Deputy Warsing, Deputy Paynter and Deputy Massie were also standing at the door, but I do not recall what order they were in at the door.

As I continued to walk past that side of the residence and as I moved toward the northwest corner of the residence, I over heard [REDACTED] inform the team, "He is in the basement." As I moved passed the other Deputies, I could hear loud pounding noises and the distinct sound of furniture being dragged across the floor and stacked against the door. These noises were very distinct

and loud for multiple people to hear. [REDACTED] then stated, "He is barricading." (Or something to that extent.)

I heard someone from the SRT announce that we are with the Sheriff's Office and that we were here to serve an arrest warrant. The commands also included things along the lines of, "Brandon, we know you are in the basement. Come out with your hands empty. We are not going away. You have an arrest warrant. This is the Sheriff's Office." (Or something to that extent.) I also do not recall the order in which those commands were given, but I do recall hearing someone give those announcements. I do not know who was providing those announcements.

I continued to move towards the northwest corner of the residence where Sgt. Dean was standing. Unbeknownst to me, Sgt. Dean was watching the rear of the residence and backyard while I was moving around the residence. I asked Sgt. Dean if he had seen an exit point from the basement and to the backyard. Sgt. Dean told me that there was no exit from the basement and into the backyard.

Once I knew that there was no longer a concern for another exit point, I turned my attention back to what the majority of the SRT was doing at the side door. When I walked back towards the door this time, I observed that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was positioned inside of the structure. He was standing in the doorway of what appeared to be a step or two above the landing that led to the basement. I did not see [REDACTED] the first time when I walked past so I presumed that he was already inside of the structure when I walked by initially.

During this time frame, I walked back up to the front yard again. With the basement door being shut and barricaded and no other exit point being a concern, I went to see what assistance I could be with Brandon's mom and/or brother. When I walked up front, this time, Lenette and Cain were arguing and had to be separated by Det. Reece. This would eventually be a common occurrence between the two of them during the entire operation. They were either yelling at each other, yelling at law enforcement or yelling out to or at Brandon from outside the

residence. During this particular argument, I did not hear their exact words, but it sounded something along the lines of the fact that Cain was upset that Lenette allowed Brandon in the house.

Det. Wolff also asked if anyone else was inside of the residence with Brandon. I do not know who, but either Cain or Lenette informed Det. Wolff that Brandon's girlfriend, Heather, was in the basement with him. Det. Wolff asked Lenette and Cain if Brandon had a phone number so that we could attempt to call him and speak. They stated that Brandon did not have a phone. Det. Wolff asked if Heather had a phone number that we could call. Lenette and Cain indicated that they did not know Heather's number.

I expressed my concern to Det. Wolff at this time that this could very easily turn into a hostage situation. It was very obvious now that this situation was becoming very tense and it was rapidly changing the longer we stayed on scene. I asked Det. Wolff if anyone had contacted the Conneaut Police Department for additional manpower and Det. Wolff advised me that CPD was already on the way.

At this point in time, we had now been on scene for about 15 minutes. I could still hear Deputies at the side door attempting to call out to Brandon again. This time, I could hear a male's voice and a female's voice arguing. The argument was loud, very heated and intense.

I went back to Det. Wolff and I advised him that if this situation turned physical between Brandon and Heather, that we may have to force entry. Det. Wolff instructed me to retrieve the ram from my vehicle in case we needed to breach the door. I went and retrieved the ram from my vehicle at that time.

This was also around the same time frame that CPD began to arrive on scene. There were four officers that arrived around this time frame. Those officers were Sgt. Stitt, Lt. Sullivan, [REDACTED] and Officer Delisle.

When I retrieved the ram and brought it back to where the entry team was standing, I set the ram down on the ground near where the team was positioned. I could still hear Deputies giving Brandon verbal commands and I could hear a male's (presumed to be Brandon's) voice coming from the basement. There was also a lot of commotion coming from the basement. It sounded like things were being moved, dragged, thrown, pounded on, etc. and it sounded like chaos coming from the basement as the male and female continued to argue.

At this time, it was decided that one of the glass block windows at the ground level of the residence would be breached and pepper ball rounds would be introduced into the basement. Officer Delisle retrieved a pepper ball gun from his cruiser and brought it back to where the glass block window was breached. The actual glass block was not removed from the cinderblock, but the glass window panel encased in the glass block was.

Once that was done, Officer Carlisle deployed several rounds of pepper ball into the basement. A short while later, I could hear two different and distinct sets of coughs coming from the basement. When the pepper ball was deployed, the chaos of all of the movement stopped for a brief period of time. During that time, Deputies continued to give Brandon commands to come to the door, but he did not comply.

Around this time, we were made aware that Heather had called either Cain or Lenette and was on the phone. That cell phone was provided to Lt. Sullivan of the CPD who began talking with Heather. Det. Wolff and I were standing close by to Lt. Sullivan while he was talking with Heather and Lt. Sullivan had the phone on speaker.

Lt. Sullivan asked if Heather could get out of the basement and Heather explained that she did not know if she could remove the items from in front of the door. Heather stated that she wanted to get out, but couldn't.

Lt. Sullivan directed Heather to go to the door, remove as much items as she could and that we, meaning law enforcement, would come and get her. Det. Wolff and I left Lt. Sullivan, who was still on the phone with Heather. Det. Wolff informed Deputy Warsing that he would be breaching the door with the ram that I retrieved from my vehicle and Deputy Massie would go down the stairs with Deputy Warsing to get Heather out. Only two Deputies were tasked with doing this due to the fact that other Deputies would not be able to fit in the small, enclosed space leading

Then, Deputies could hear pounding, yelling and Heather screaming for help. Deputy Warsing and Deputy Massie then went down the steps. Deputy Warsing breached the door and upon doing so, Deputy Massie was able to grab Heather, who was standing at the door. Deputy Massie was able to escort her out of the basement safely. Both Deputy Warsing and Deputy Massie then retreated back outside and re-joined the rest of the team.

Shortly after Heather was escorted out of the basement, she provided information to Det. Wolff that Brandon said he had a gun, but she did not see it. Det. Wolff communicated this information to the team over the radio.

With Heather out of the basement, and the door somewhat breached open, the effects of the pepper ball were now coming up the steps and impacting the entry team at the door. Some members of the team and some CPD officers were able to obtain and put on gas masks, but some of us, including me, were without a gas mask.

As this was taking place, Brandon was still not listening to our commands to come out of the basement. Brandon was still yelling and moving around. While yelling, Brandon made the comment that he was going to kill law enforcement and/or kill himself. Brandon repeatedly made these comments and threats numerous times during the course of this incident.

Also, during this time, I began to hear multiple loud pounding noises. I could not tell if the pounding was being done to the walls or the ceiling of the basement, or the floor of the ground level floor in the house. I became concerned that Brandon was attempting to escape the basement through the ceiling and on to the ground floor.

Other officers could hear this pounding as well and I do not know who, but I do remember another cycle of pepper ball rounds being deployed in to the basement because the concern was that he was trying to escape out of the basement somehow, or at least that was my concern that I expressed to the team.

As the intense pounding continued, I could hear the pounding in various places throughout the home. Sgt. Dean and I then entered the back, sliding glass door and entered into a living room area of the residence. We could still hear the pounding coming from the basement ceiling/ground floor.

As I turned one of the corners of the room, I noticed that an air vent cover was knocked out of the ventilation in the floor. I found at least three other vent covers were knocked out of the floor in that same room. Sgt. Dean and I exited the residence and informed the team what Brandon was doing and what the pounding was all about. We suspected at that time that Brandon was pounding out the ventilation covers in order to get air.

During that time, Brandon began to pound on the exterior wall at the northwest corner of the residence, which is exactly where Sgt. Dean and I were now standing. It sounded like Brandon was trying to come through the wall and trying to escape from the basement again.

Sgt. Dean and I, along with [REDACTED] went back through the back, sliding glass door and into the living room area of the residence. [REDACTED] then deployed multiple pepper ball rounds into one of the open-air vents.

A short while later, I could hear Brandon screaming from the basement, "Stop! Stop! Stop!" I was hopeful that this meant that Brandon was going to surrender to us and I announced to the team that Brandon was yelling "Stop!"

I then realized that Brandon was not going to surrender. I could then hear loud, repetitive pounding coming from the south side of the residence. I went back around the backyard and I looked over the wooden fence. This time, I was in the backyard and looking at the south side of the residence towards Orange St. I saw that Brandon was shoving a long metal pipe through one of glass block window. I did not know if Brandon broke through that window or if law enforcement breached that window. The manner in which Brandon was shoving the metal pipe in and out of the window, made me believe that he was trying to create space for more air to get down into the basement.

After that, I heard more pounding coming from the basement. This time, I saw that Brandon was pounding on different set of glass block window, which had not been broken out as this point. Brandon then successfully broke through this glass block as a giant "Thor-like" hammer came penetrating through the glass block. I saw a hand reach out and pull the hammer back into the basement.

I then saw Brandon reach both hands out of the basement and into the yard. Only Brandon's arms were exposed at this time. I could not see his face or body. Brandon was attempting to pull himself out of the basement and escape. Officer Delisle came around the southeast corner at that time and deployed more pepper ball rounds in the area of Brandon. Brandon retreated back into the basement and as he retreated, he yelled, "I have a gun motherfucker! I have a gun motherfucker!" When Brandon attempted to escape out of the basement window, we had now been on scene for approximately 30 minutes or so.

During this same time, I could hear Deputies at the north side door of the residence continuing to give Brandon commands. Brandon was speaking with Deputies during this time. While this was going on, Brandon continued to threaten to kill law enforcement and that he was going to kill himself.

During this time, Deputy Warsing was speaking with Brandon. It sounded like Deputy Warsing had established a good rapport with Brandon as Brandon was at least speaking with Deputy Warsing. I don't know the whole conversation that Deputy Warsing had or was having with Brandon due to moving around the scene so much during the incident.

Also, while all of this was taking place, Lenette and Cain had been moved from the front of the residence and escorted to the driveway/edge of the road. Both Lenette and Cain continued to argue, yell and shout. At times, Lenette and Cain would yell out to Brandon, which just fueled the chaos.

At one point, I heard Cain yell out to Brandon, "Come on Brandon!" Brandon responded loudly from the basement saying, "I'll shoot that fat motherfucker too!"

Deputy Warsing was able to get Brandon to focus back on him and it sounded like progress was being made. I heard Deputy Warsing assure Brandon that no one wanted to hurt him and that nothing would happen to him if he came outside. I also heard Brandon request his mother to come to the door and talk to him. This was not possible and Deputies advised Brandon that we could not bring his mother to the door, however, Deputy Warsing did tell Brandon, that if he came outside that he would be able to talk to his mother then.

It was around that time that things continued to escalate even further. At this point, the overall circumstances of this incident had changed directions so many times that it was difficult to determine where the situation was going to go next and the situation kept getting more tense as it went on. Every time that we attempted to de-escalate the situation with Brandon, Brandon would start pounding on things, break windows, attempt to escape, threaten himself, threaten officers, etc. Or his mom and/or brother would start shouting to him or at him and that only added fuel to the fire, which ultimately made this situation worse for everyone.

As the situation continued to intensify, [REDACTED] now joined the Deputies at the side door. Positioned at the side door was now [REDACTED] Deputy Warsing and [REDACTED] was still inside, just off of the landing. Deputy Massie was also still at the door in the stack. Det. Wolff and I were holding off of the door. Sgt. Dean was still positioned at the northwest corner of the residence and [REDACTED] had retrieved the less than lethal 40 mm from the van.

I could tell that the situation at the side door and in the basement was getting worse when Deputy Warsing was talking to Brandon and three or four different officers shouted "Stop! Don't do it!" (Or something to that extent.) I could not see what was happening at this time. I would later learn from Det. Wolff, that Brandon came to the door with a black mag-light and would quickly raise and lower the black mag-light in a manner that was consistent with drawing a firearm.

Brandon then retreated back into the basement. I did not see this happen, but I believed that Brandon went back into the basement because Brandon's voice was more muffled as compared to when it was not muffled.

A moment later, Brandon returned to the basement door and I could hear Deputies shouting for Brandon to drop the gun. Again, three or four different officers were loudly giving Brandon this command. I did not see Brandon with the gun as I was still away from the door.

It was at this time that [REDACTED] leaned around the corner and attempted to deploy a less than lethal 40 mm impact round at Brandon in an effort to get Brandon to drop the gun. Based on my training, I know that the 40 mm impact round is designed to gain compliance from a non-compliant person by striking that person with the less than lethal round. Unfortunately, in this circumstance, [REDACTED] round missed and Brandon retreated back into the basement.

Deputy Warsing pleaded with Brandon to come back to the door with nothing in his hands. Brandon continued to yell and shout and make comments about killing law enforcement and himself. Brandon came to the door again and I again heard officers yelling for Brandon to put down the gun. [REDACTED] deployed the less than lethal 40 mm round again and this time, the round struck Brandon successfully.

The impact of the round, however, did not cause Brandon to drop the gun. Instead, Brandon retreated back into the residence and began yelling again. This time, Brandon stated that he was going to kill the Deputy, meaning [REDACTED], who kept shooting the 40 mm at him. Brandon came back to the door again and I again heard Deputies and Officers tell him to put the gun down.

It was at this time that multiple Deputies and officers opened fire. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was still inside of the residence on the landing. Deputy Warsing and [REDACTED] were still at the door and they were with [REDACTED]. When the shots were fired, we had now been on scene for approximately 40 minutes or so.

Once Deputies and Officers fired rounds down into the basement, we began to cycle those officers out from the door. I was one of the Deputies who stood at the door now with another Deputy, but I do not recall who was standing at the door with me. The overwhelming presence of pepper ball took me to a point where I struggled to breathe and speak. I shouted down into the basement for Brandon to talk to us so that we could help. I shouted this to Brandon multiple times.

By the second or third time I shouted out to Brandon, I was so overtaken by the effects of the pepper ball, that Deputy Paynter, who had a gas mask on, had to relieve me at my position. We did not go into the basement right away because we could not see where Brandon was because of how dark it was in the basement. We could not see if he was still in possession of a firearm and going into the basement with those unknown circumstances was a risk to everyone involved.

While all of this was happening, EMS was on scene, however, they did not have gas masks and it would have been impossible for them to get down into the basement at this time. Additionally, we did not know if the fired shots by law enforcement had struck Brandon and it was a safety concern whether or not Brandon still possessed a firearm.

Det. Wolff then quickly deployed our small, tactical drone and flew it down into the basement. Det. Wolff indicated to me that he saw that Brandon was down on the floor and was motionless. The SRT then entered the basement and secured the basement. I did not go into the residence.

Deputies then came out of the basement once the basement was cleared. EMS went down into the basement. It was determined at this time that Brandon was deceased. I then called Lt. Nelson, who was not on scene. I advised Lt. Nelson briefly as to what had taken place and I requested that Lt. Nelson notify the ACSO management staff of the incident.

The scene was secured with crime scene tape and the street was blocked off. I learned that [REDACTED] of the CPD, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were the law enforcement officers who fired their weapons.

Eventually, those three were escorted off scene. Deputy Warsing was also escorted off scene, even though he did not fire his duty weapon. Det. Wolff, Det. Reece, [REDACTED], Sgt. Dean, Deputy Massie, Deputy Paynter and I remained on scene in order to secure the residence and the scene while BCI was contacted. A few Conneaut police officers also remained on scene.

During all of this, Cain and Lenette were beside themselves. They were calling us motherfuckers, cock suckers, faggots, etc. I understood their reasoning for being upset, however, their yelling and shouting only got worse as time went on.

In reality, their yelling and distraction never stopped from around the time that we initially got there. In fact, during this whole event and while everything was going on, I observed that Det. Reece had to separate Cain and Lenette numerous times as they were a consistent distraction and hinderance. Lenette's and Cain's outburst would come and go in spurts that usually lasted several minutes.

Once the scene was taped off and BCI was contacted, a large neighborhood crowd assembled outside of the crime scene tape. This crowd seemed to grow rather quickly and the crowd, at numerous times, became very verbally hostile. The crowd, which consisted of friends, family and neighbors of Brandon, pushed the limits of the crime scene for hours. We had to extend the crime scene twice based on the fact that these individuals would walk up to the tape and attempt to intimidate law enforcement.

This intimidation included general and vague threats, video taping us and derogatory name calling. This went on for hours. This also went on while BCI Agents arrived on scene and were processing the scene. Lenette would be set off and sent into a fit of rage when she saw law enforcement walking around the residence and when she overheard law enforcement talking about anything evidence related. I heard Lenette scream at one point, "I'm losing my fucking shit!"

Brandon's brother, Derek Butts was also a very vocal and outraged distraction. Both Derek and Lenette would constantly incite the crowd to yelling, arguing, shouting and carrying on.

Cain, at times, was also a contributing factor in this, but he was significantly less inciting then his Lenette and Derek. Brandon's father, who I do not know the name of, was also a contributing factor to the chaos of the crowd as he consistently screamed and carried on in the street and at the edge of the crime scene.

Also, throughout the process of BCI collecting evidence and processing the scene, people were assembling across the street with coolers and red solo cups. It was evident, based on my observations and the fact that some members of the crowd were slurring their words, that people were consuming alcohol, which created further conflict and more unrest.

At one point, BCI removed the firearm from the residence in a white cardboard box. Numerous people from the crowd again began to yell and scream claiming that BCI obtained that firearm from the upstairs section of the residence and that the Sheriff's Office must have planted the firearm. Cain began to yell, "Give me back my gun! Why are you taking my gun?!"

This created several people in the crowd, mostly Brandon's family, to come up to the crime scene edge again, and on to the neighbor's porch, and continue to attempt to intimidate law enforcement.

As an example, at one point, Derek took exception to Deputy Paynter simply looking at him. Derek asked the question, "Why is he fucking looking at me!" (Or something to that extent.) Derek then called Deputy Paynter a faggot and as Deputy Paynter walked by, Derek stated, "He's going to get it." (Or something to that extent.) Members of the crowd had to remove Derek from the edge of the scene based on that comment and multiple people told Derek, "You cannot make threats like that." I was standing at the edge of the crime scene and I heard Derek make these comments and the other crowd members' comments. This sort of activity took place for hours.

At around 10:00 PM, the processing of the scene was completed. BCI collected the evidence and the crime scene tape was removed. The crowd had dispersed by then to where Cain and another unknown male were the only two people near the edge of the crime scene tape.

With the scene no longer needing to be secured, all CPD officers, BCI Agents and Sheriff's Office Deputies cleared the scene and left the area. Most of us had been on scene at the Butts' residence for over eight hours.

On 06/29/2026, I was instructed by Chief Moisio to write a report and summary of the events that I witnessed during this event.

Detective B. Grabman



#4-40