



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Investigative Activity: Meeting with Prosecutor
Date of Activity: 03/19/2025
Author: SA David Hornyak, #112

To: Connie Pillich, Hamilton County Prosecutor

CC: Special Agent Supervisor William Jones, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation

From: Special Agent Dave Hornyak, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Date: April 8, 2025

Case Title: Officer-Involved Critical Incident – Evendale, OH I-75 N / MM14

Case Number: 2025-0883

Preface:

This report only briefly summarizes investigative activity and information related to this case. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary; therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be reviewed in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Audio and/or video recordings where they exist should also be reviewed as they may contain further specific details.

CASE REQUEST:

On March 19, 2025, the Evendale Police Department contacted the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to request an investigation into an officer-involved shooting that occurred on Interstate 75 N in the jurisdiction of Evendale.

INVESTIGATIVE TEAM:

Special Agents Dave Hornyak and Steve Seitzman of the BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU) conducted the criminal investigation. BCI Crime Scene Technicians Amy Cruey and Holly Ryczek processed the scene and collected all evidence. BCI Lab personnel received and are reviewing evidence at the time of this report.

CASE OVERVIEW:

In the early morning of March 19, 2025, multiple law enforcement agencies were involved in

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the pursuit of a stolen vehicle. The pursuit terminated in Evendale near I-75 and ended with several subjects fleeing on foot. As officers from the involved agencies searched for the subjects, [REDACTED] of the Lockland Police Department reported over the radio that he had encountered an individual on foot walking along I-75. [REDACTED] then reported that the subject had something in his hands and would not comply. [REDACTED] requested back-up, radioed again to ask assisting officers to hurry, and then reported shots fired. As a result of the encounter, a then-unidentified individual was shot and killed. No officers were injured.

INITIAL INVESTIGATION AND INTERVIEWS:

Upon arrival at the location of the shooting, BCI agents began to process the scene and initiated interviews with witnessing officers. Chief Michael Ott of the Lockland Police Department (LPD) reported that LPD officers were not currently equipped with cruiser cameras and, while they are in the process of testing body-worn cameras (BWC), [REDACTED] was not outfitted with a BWC that morning.

From interviews at the scene, Hamilton County Cpl. Shane Wiseman reported seeing the shooting as he ran to assist [REDACTED] Deputy Wiseman reported seeing [REDACTED] backing up as the subject was advancing toward him, and then seeing [REDACTED] fire shots resulting in the subject falling to the ground.

With assistance from the Hamilton County Coroner's Office, the involved subject was later identified as Samuel Munyarutete, an immigrant from Uganda who came to the United States on August 15, 2024. At the scene, a metal rod was found lying near Mr. Munyarutete, which was collected and entered into evidence by the BCI Crime Scene Unit. Also collected was [REDACTED] service pistol among other evidence items.

VIDEO AND AUDIO REVIEW:

Communications center recordings were reviewed and were found to closely match the accounts of what officers reported they had heard over the radio. Cpl. Wiseman who was first to arrive just moments after the shooting, was outfitted with an active BWC, the video from which was obtained and reviewed. The video showed the Cpl. Wiseman running towards the encounter as [REDACTED] asks units to "step it up" in responding to assist him. Although the camera is shaky, Cpl. Wiseman can clearly be heard shouting and repeating, "Stop or you're gonna get bit! Stop or you're gonna get bit!" The distant silhouettes of two individuals can then be seen in the dark just before and multiple gunshots are heard. One of the individuals falls to the ground and, as Cpl. Wiseman gets closer, the individual is clearly seen clutching a rod or pipe in his right hand. The officers repeatedly tell the subject to drop the weapon and to put his hands out away from him before [REDACTED] grabs the rod and tosses it away from the subject's reach. The rod on the video closely matches what was later found on the highway near Mr. Munyarutete's body.

INTERVIEW WITH FAMILY MEMBERS:

BCI agents separately interviewed Mr. Munyarutete's brother and nephew. Neither could explain why Mr. Munyarutete would have been walking on the highway but both stated that Mr. Munyarutete suffered from mental issues. The family also knew that Mr. Munyarutete had

been arrested the week prior to the shooting incident and then released from the Hamilton County Jail several days later. Mr. Munyarutete was also reported to be an immigrant from Uganda who only spoke Swahili and Kinyarwanda.

INVOLVED-OFFICER INTERVIEW:

During his voluntary interview with BCI, Lockland Police [REDACTED] stated that upon encountering Mr. Munyarutete on the highway, after first asking if he needed help, he then attempted to get Mr. Munyarutete to comply with verbal commands to stop moving towards him and to show his hands. [REDACTED] said that, seeing Mr. Munyarutete carrying something in his right hand that appeared to be a possible weapon, he called out the situation on the radio and sought assistance from other officers. [REDACTED] stated that, when Mr. Munyarutete continued moving toward him, he then felt it necessary to deploy his Taser. When the Taser had no effect and with Mr. Munyarutete still advancing upon him, [REDACTED] stated that it ultimately became necessary to fire his service pistol. [REDACTED] became very emotional in the BCI interview stating that he attempted to give Mr. Munyarutete every chance to comply before firing his pistol in fear for his own life.

LAB REPORTS:

The BCI lab report remains pending at this time.

AUTOPSY:

On March 19, 2025, the Hamilton County Coroner's Office conducted an autopsy on Samuel Munyarutete. The preliminary autopsy report, received on April 8, 2025, showed that Mr. Munyarutete died of [REDACTED]. The final autopsy report and toxicology report remain pending.

PROSECUTOR'S DETERMINATION:

The March 21, 2025, BCI interview with [REDACTED] was monitored in-person by Hamilton County Chief Asst. Prosecutor Heidi Rosales, and Asst. Prosecutors Kate Burroughs and Kip Guinan. Video from Cpl. Wiseman's BWC and other case information was shared and discussed with the assistant prosecutors at that time.

On April 7, 2025, Hamilton County Prosecutor Connie Pillich held a press conference officially announcing that [REDACTED] was justified in his use of deadly force and would not be criminally charged.

End of report.