



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



2024-3258

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1273 Rosedale Drive, Dayton,
OH (Montgomery Co.) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Date of Activity: 11/04/2024
Activity Location: Doll, Jansen & Ford – 111 West First Street, Suite 1100, Dayton, OH 45402
Author: SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On Saturday, October 19, 2024, the Dayton Police Department requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation in investigating the facts and circumstances surrounding an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on the same date on Access Road near Rosedale Drive in the city of Dayton.

On Monday, November 04, 2024 at approximately 1531 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agents Steven Seitzman and Richard Ward interviewed Dayton Police [REDACTED], who was accompanied by his Fraternal Order of Police attorney, Joshua Engel. [REDACTED] was identified as an officer who discharged his weapon during the OICI. The interview took place in a conference room at the law office of Doll, Jansen & Ford, located at 111 West First Street, Suite 1100, Dayton, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

The details below summarize what the author believed to be the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Sergeant Savage
Radio Channel Utilized: Dayton West	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized

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(portable radio); TAC West Channel 6 (in car)	
Cruiser Description: Marked Dodge Durango	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: No
Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present; Not Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: Approximately 8 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: Since April 2019	Length at Current Agency: Since August 2024 (Note: [REDACTED] started with the Dayton Police Department in [REDACTED]. He went to the Huber Heights Police Department from March 2024–August 2024, before returning to the Dayton Police Department in [REDACTED])
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): N/A	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Long sleeve navy blue shirt with Dayton Police patches. Navy Blue cargo-style pants. Black exterior ballistic vest with badge and name on the front and police written on the back.	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Collapsible baton and TASER X7 conducted energy weapon
Ballistic Vest: Exterior	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: No
Injuries: No	Equipment Damage: No
Training or Areas of Specialty: Crisis Intervention Team certification, PIT certification, field training officer, hostage negotiator basic training, and other training.	OPOTC Certification: Dayton Police Academy, graduated in [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: No	Use-of-Force Training: Annual during firearms qualifications.
Prior Shooting Incidents: No	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None related to use of force or dishonesty.
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Two beers at approximately 1500 hours on Friday, October 18, 2024.

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Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17 MOS Gen 5
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial number: N/A
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17 + 1
Extra Magazines: 4 (two on vest, two on belt)	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 17 (The BCI Crime Scene Unit noted that a magazine was found with 16 rounds plus one round chambered in the weapon.)	Number of Rounds Fired: 1
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Within the past 12 months	Type of Holster, if any: Issued holster
Modifications/accessories: Weapon-mounted light, Holoson 509T red dot optic	

████████ confirmed that he prepared a typed statement prior to the interview. He reviewed the statement and confirmed it was his. He then signed the statement.

████████ read his statement into the record. He explained that he responded to assist other officers on a welfare check involving a subject, later identified as Taylor Coleman Anthony Cotton, who had threatened a shootout with police officers. He said that he arrived at approximately the same time as ██████████. He said that he parked his vehicle and walked to ██████████, who was positioned to where he could view the back of the residence [Access Road]. With respect to the critical moments of the incident, he wrote:

"I observed a tan Buick turn on to Access Road from Rosedale. Another officer, who had been at the front of the house, told us to get that person out of the car. [REDACTED] and I started to approach the vehicle. I observed the suspect holding a shotgun. He was pointing the shotgun in the air; I could not see his hands. I took a few steps back and took cover behind the driver's door of [REDACTED]'s car.

I covered the suspect for a few minutes. I then retrieved [sic] stop sticks from the back of [REDACTED]'s car and deployed them to prevent the suspect from leaving the scene. I moved to the passenger side of [REDACTED]'s vehicle and maintained cover on the suspect.

[REDACTED] spoke to the suspect in an effort to diffuse the situation. He, along others, gave the suspect verbal commands to drop the weapon and leave his vehicle.

The suspect exited his vehicle and pointed his shotgun in the direction of other officers. I believed that I was in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, other officers, or other possibly innocent persons in the area. I remained behind the car and fired at the suspect. I believed that I had a clear line of sight on the suspect.

Other officers fired on the suspect as well. I observed the suspect fall to the ground. The shotgun was no longer in his hands. I approached the suspect. The suspect was searched and no other weapons were found. Other officers began life saving measures and a medic was called to the scene. The suspect was transported to a hospital."

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] how long he believed the de-escalation attempts lasted. He estimated approximately 20–30 minutes. He then recalled Cotton exiting his vehicle and pointing the gun at officers positioned on Rosedale Drive. He shot because he believed the officers, and possibly civilians, were in imminent danger of serious physical harm. He said fired one round at Cotton.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] to elaborate on his statement that he believed he was in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm. He said that it would have only taken a split second for Cotton to turn the gun in his direction.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] if he believed he acted within the policies and procedures of the Dayton Police Department. He answered in the affirmative.

The interview concluded at 1552 hours. [REDACTED]'s signed statement, signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form, and the audio recording are attached below.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

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Attachment # 01: 2024-11-04 Interview of Dayton Police [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Attachment # 02: Typed Statement of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Attachment # 03: Criminal Investigation Notification- [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

OCTOBER 24, 2024

I am a [REDACTED] with the Dayton Police Department. I have been employed as a law enforcement officer since 2019. I have been employed by Dayton since [REDACTED]. I previously worked for the Dayton Police Department and the Huber Heights Police Department. I graduated from the Dayton Police Academy in [REDACTED].

I am currently assigned as a [REDACTED]

I am providing this statement voluntarily. I have prepared the statement to the best of my recollection. I have had the opportunity to review available videos of the incident. It is possible that a future review of additional materials might refresh my recollection in the future.

I am familiar with the Dayton police department policies and procedures on use of force. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications for rifle in the Fall of 2024. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications for handgun in August 2024.

On the morning October 19, 2024, I worked a shift from [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I was wearing my uniform and operating my patrol car during my shift.

While on duty, I carry my Glock 17 9mm pistol along with 5 magazines containing 17 rounds each. One magazine is contained in the firearm, 2 are carried on my vest and the remaining 2 are carried on my belt. My firearm had 18 rounds (1 in the weapon and 17 in the magazine).

I also have a Rock River .223 rifle stored in a carrying case in the trunk of my vehicle along with six magazines. Each magazine is capable of holding up to 30 rounds; our policy is to load only 28 rounds.

I became aware of a call from Dispatch at approximately 0830 on October 19, 2024. The weather that morning was clear and cold.

The call was as a "welfare check" on Rosedale Drive. A welfare check means a request to check on the health of an individual and often involves mental health issues. One of the original responding officers requested additional support. I understood from reading the comments on the call that an individual at the scene had threatened to have a shootout with police.

I proceed to the scene.

I observed [REDACTED] on the side of the road a few blocks from the scene. He had stopped to retrieve his rifle. I then followed [REDACTED] to the scene.

I parked my car and walked towards [REDACTED] car to maintain cover and view of the back of the house. I removed my gun from my holster. Other officers asked dispatch to call the residence; no response was received. I am aware that some individuals left the residence but I could not observe them from my location.

I observed a tan Buick turn on to Access Road from Rosedale. Another officer, who had been at the front of the house, told us to get that person out of the car. [REDACTED] and I started to approach the vehicle. I observed the suspect holding a shotgun. He was pointing the shotgun in the air; I could not see his hands. I took a few steps back and took cover behind the driver's door of [REDACTED] car.

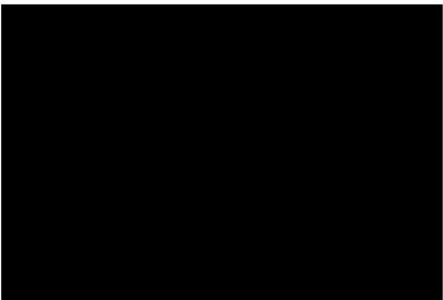
I covered the suspect for a few minutes. I then retrieved stop sticks from the back of [REDACTED] car and deployed them to prevent the suspect from leaving the scene. I moved to the passenger side of [REDACTED] vehicle and maintained cover on the suspect.

[REDACTED] spoke to the suspect in an effort to diffuse the situation. He, along others, gave the suspect verbal commands to drop the weapon and leave his vehicle.

The suspect exited his vehicle and pointed his shotgun in the direction of other officers. I believed that I was in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and the only means of escape from danger was the use of deadly force. I did not believe that I could safely withdraw from the location and adequately protect myself, other officers, or other possibly innocent persons in the area. I remained behind the car and fired at the suspect. I believed that I had a clear line of sight on the suspect.

Other officers fired on the suspect as well. I observed the suspect fall to the ground. The shotgun was no longer in his hands. I approached the suspect. The suspect was searched and no other weapons were found. Other officers began life saving measures and a medic was called to the scene. The suspect was transported to a hospital.

I remained on the scene for a period of time. I left my vehicle at the scene. I, along with other officers at the scene, was transported to the Safety Building. I remained in my uniform until an evidence tech from BCI arrived. BCI photographed me and secured my firearm. I did not receive any injuries as a result of this incident.



11/4/2024 1535 hours

Exhibit 3



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Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

[REDACTED]
Printed Name of Interviewee

11/4/2024 1532 hours
Date / Time

[REDACTED]
Interviewee

STEVEN D. SEITZMAN
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)