



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Investigative Activity: Interview Involved Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Activity Date: 02/24/2026
Activity Location: 10147 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH
Authoring Agent: SA Jesse Bynum #179

Narrative:

On Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 1204 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum) and SA Doug Burke (SA Burke) interviewed Elyria Police Department (EPD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney, Dan Leffler, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at 10147 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH. The interview was audio and video recorded.

[REDACTED] read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. [REDACTED] was also given a copy of the victim's rights information and asked to fill out the request form to indicate if he wished to invoke those rights. The form is attached to this report.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. 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 recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: [REDACTED]	Rank: [REDACTED]
Badge Number: [REDACTED]	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: [REDACTED]
Radio Call Sign: [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Sergeant Thacker and Sergeant Harris
Radio Channel Utilized: Main	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: 2022 marked Ford	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Explorer, black/white, POLICE on doors	Positions: Driver
Assignment: Neighborhood Impact Unit	Normal Shift: [REDACTED]
In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present & Utilized
Shift Day of Incident: [REDACTED]	Duty Status: Special Duty Detail
Days Off: [REDACTED]	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 6-8 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: [REDACTED]	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Blue uniform; SWAT entry vest (green/OD)	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: taser 10
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Present & Used
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: Firearms instructor, CQB instructor, field training officer, basic and advanced SWAT	OPOTC Certification: Yes
Military Experience/Training: No	Use-of-Force Training: Annually
Prior Shooting Incidents: Yes - Not the shooter	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: No
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: [REDACTED] - Not impaired	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: [REDACTED] - Not impaired

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 45 MOS
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right Hand
Magazine Capacity: 19	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 19
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 19
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: Unsure	Number of Rounds Fired: Unsure
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned

Narrative:

On the incident date, [REDACTED] was assigned to the [REDACTED] working in conjunction with narcotics and the detective bureau to conduct a warrant sweep before attending court and returning to duty. [REDACTED] described his duty weapon as a Glock 45 MOS, Gen 5, in 9mm, with agency approval and multiple accessories and modifications, including a Holosun 509T red dot, Overwatch Precision trigger components, extended slide lock, extended magazine release, flared Magwell, and Talon grips. He stated that he uses Glock 19X magazines with a 19-round capacity and that he had moved away from carrying an additional chambered round, explaining, ***"I got away from the plus one, because it [caused] more magazine issues than I cared to deal with."*** [10:17] He carried two extra magazines with 19 rounds each. He confirmed discharging his firearm during the incident but could not state the total rounds fired or remaining afterward.

[REDACTED] stated that he received an alert tone—an ***"all call"*** [13:18] —for an armed robbery involving a Brinks driver at an AT&T store. He stated they received plate, color, and make/model information about the subject's vehicle and later obtained a Flock hit indicating the vehicle's location. He proceeded toward Lorain, observed marked and unmarked Lorain Police Department units, and followed behind them. He reported that Lorain officers attempted a traffic stop when the subject's vehicle failed to stop. A pursuit was initiated, and he called out the pursuit. He

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

described the route and stated that speeds fluctuated between approximately 90 and 130 miles per hour, with traffic increasing nearer to the city. He noted a possible failed attempt at spike strips and a planned PIT by Lorain County Sheriff's Office that was not completed. The pursuit continued until the subject's, later identified as John Johnson's (Johnson), vehicle crashed in North Olmsted.

After the crash, [REDACTED] reported observing Johnson fleeing on foot southbound and stated that Johnson was carrying a firearm: ***"I observed him running southbound across Columbia. Saw his physical descript, his clothing descript. I observed him carrying a firearm in his hand,"*** [23:53] which he later described as a black handgun with an extended magazine in Johnson's right hand. [REDACTED] said he was familiar with the area and knew the entrance would be on the South side, so he drove to the first road and turned right into the entrance. [REDACTED] said he began checking between the garages of the apartments and then saw Officer Taylor looking to his right with his gun drawn so he focused on that side and saw two children outside as Johnson pushed a female into a home and closed the door.

[REDACTED] stated that he directed Officer Taylor to move to the rear of the residence in case Johnson continued through the residence and [REDACTED] approached the front door. [REDACTED] advised the two children outside to move. He kicked the door open at the handle area to force entry. Upon entry, he reported seeing Johnson reaching toward the female victim and stated that Johnson's firearm was oriented toward him: ***"At the point of my entry, the barrel appeared to be oriented in my direction."*** [31:43] When asked about the sight picture, [REDACTED] stated:

I was looking for him in the snapshot of an open shot, if it was required at that point in time, believing that if he wasn't running through the house, I was entering a hostage situation. So, I'm looking for my clear window and the moment the door opened enough for me to get a view, I just saw a barrel in my direction, him reaching out towards the victim, unsure of what he intended to do with her and the firearm is oriented on me. I engaged. [31:53]

He described his positioning and sight picture in rapid sequence and emphasized the presence of children in the immediate area. He stated that one child was directly behind the female and that a younger child, approximately one year old, was on the floor between him and Johnson. He also stated, ***"Something told me to keep my gun***

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2026-0255

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 24496 Clareshire Dr.
Apt. F, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Cuyahoga County

from going any lower than a certain height. I knew something was below, on the floor that I didn't want to lower my gun any further." [34:23]

When asked about warnings or commands prior to firing, [REDACTED] stated ***"There wasn't any opportunity"*** [37:49] to give warnings or commands before discharging his weapon. He described making a rapid decision to engage stating it was an instant that he saw the sight picture he was looking for. He further stated that his belief at the moment was that Johnson was going to shoot him, explaining, ***"Believing that he was gonna engage me in gunfire, I engaged him first."*** [26:57] When asked what he thought would happen if he did not take action, he stated, ***"That he was gonna shoot me, or use her as a human shield to prevent me from getting a shot off."*** [43:11]

[REDACTED] stated that, after firing, he backed out of the doorway briefly and then advanced once he believed Johnson was no longer a threat to him or the family. He performed a combat reload and issued commands to Johnson to show his hands. He reported moving furniture to obtain access, then handcuffing Johnson. [REDACTED] told arriving officers about the location of Johnson's firearm and exited to retrieve his medical bag, then provided medical supplies while other officers performed life-saving measures, including compressions. He stated he later stepped outside per standard practice after a critical incident and that other officers conducted a body check confirming he had no injuries.

He stated he had viewed body-camera and dash-camera footage and that what he saw on video was similar to his recollection. He reported limiting post-incident discussion with other officers to events that occurred outside the residence and confirmed speaking with a post-shooting mental-health provider. He denied that any officer asked him to lie or attempted to influence his statement.

The interview concluded at approximately 1247 hours. The interview was audio and video recorded. The recordings were uploaded to Axon Justice / Evidence.com in Reference Item D – Interviews within a subfolder titled Officers. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form and victim's rights forms are also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

References:

Reference Item D – Interviews – stored in Axon Justice

Attachments:

1. 2026-02-24 Criminal Investigation Notification [REDACTED]
2. 2026-02-24 Marsys Law Form [REDACTED] - Victims' Rights Request Form

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation



Criminal Investigation Notification

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

[Redacted]

Printed Name of Interviewee

2/24/2026

Date / Time

[Redacted]

SA J Bynum

BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature]

BCI Agent (Signature)