



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



2025-1049

Officer Involved Critical Incident – Interstate 275 / State Route
32, OH, 45245 (Clermont County) (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] (S)
Date of Activity: 04/14/2025
Activity Location: Union Township Police Department – Business – 4312 Glen Este–
Withamsville Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45245
Author: SA Lauren Frazier, #129

Narrative:

On April 14, 2025, at 0857 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Lauren Frazier and Kenny Smith interviewed Union Township Police Department (UTPD) [REDACTED] was accompanied by his attorney, Steve Lazarus, from Lazarus & Lewis. The interview took place at the Union Township Police Department, located at 4312 Gleneste–Withamsville Rd, Cincinnati, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

[REDACTED] was read the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form, which he signed and stated that he understood.

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: Union [REDACTED]	Immediate Supervisor: Lt. Combs
Radio Channel Utilized: Union Twp Dispatch	Mobile Data Terminal: UT dispatch only
Cruiser Description: white Ford Explorer	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: Himself only (driver)

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Assignment: [REDACTED]	Normal Shift: [REDACTED] (hours)
In-Car Camera: No	Spotlight: Yes
Emergency Lights: Yes	Siren: Yes
Shift Day of Incident: 2nd day	Duty Status: Active
Days Off: [REDACTED] (off)	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: No
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 6–6.5 hours	Consider Self Well Rested?: Yes
Total Length as Officer: 13 years	Length at Current Agency: [REDACTED]
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): None	Corrective Lenses: No
Uniform Worn: Dark blue uniform, outer vest, with badge and visible patches	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser, OC/mace, baton
Ballistic Vest: Yes	Body Worn Camera: Yes
Other Recording Devices: No	Partner: No
Injuries: None	Equipment Damage: None
Training or Areas of Specialty: Field Training Officer	OPOTC Certification: Yes
Military Experience/Training: None	Use-of-Force Training: Yes
Prior Shooting Incidents: No	Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force Complaints: None
Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair Your Duties at Time of Incident: No	Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that might Impair You Now for Interview: No
Alcohol in Past 24 Hours? No	Last Consumed Alcohol Prior to Incident: Saturday evening

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Smith & Wesson	Model: M&P
Caliber/Gauge: 9mm	Serial: [REDACTED]
Type: Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster
Magazine Capacity: 17 rounds	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 18 rounds
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 13 rounds	Number of Rounds Fired: 5 rounds
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right	Ownership: Department issued
Last Qualification Date: Last spring	Type of Holster, if any: Possibly Safariland

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Narrative:

On April 1, 2025, at approximately 2246 hours, ██████ said that their dispatch received a call for a driver going the wrong way at I-275 near SR-32, traveling northbound in the southbound lanes. The subject vehicle was described as a tan Ford Ranger or a dark colored SUV. ██████ checked the area but was unable to locate the vehicle.

Approximately 20 minutes later, ██████ said that he received another call for the vehicle going southbound in northbound lanes. He was still in the area and responded to I-275 to attempt to locate the vehicle. ██████ was near the TQL building, described as approximately the 64.2 mile marker, on I-275. He stated that Sgt. Derek Disbennett was also in the area and did not observe the vehicle. Shortly after, ██████ said that he observed headlights coming towards him in the fast lane. He said that the vehicle was going northbound in the southbound lanes, on I-275 South, described as a red Ford SUV.

Multiple UTPD officers were in the area, to include Sgt. Disbennett, Officer Tyler Hale, Officer Alex Puckett, and an OSHP trooper. ██████ radioed to Union Township dispatch that he had a visual of the wrong-way vehicle. He said that he activated his overhead lights to attempt to alert the vehicle and said that he realized that the driver was not going to stop. ██████ said that the vehicle may have hit him, if he did not divert out into the middle lanes. He said that the wrong-way driver passed him and did not slow down.

Sgt. Disbennett and Officer Hale were on I-275 North and also saw the wrong-way driver, driving northbound in the southbound lanes. ██████ said that UTPD dispatch advised that an OSHP trooper got behind the wrong-way vehicle and made physical contact near the 63.4 mile marker, described as the bridge over SR-32. ██████ said that he could not hear OSHP radio traffic. He said that there was a delay in receiving information because it was being relayed from other communication centers to UTPD dispatch.

██████ parked on I-275 North near Sgt. Disbennett and Officer Hale. He said that he began approaching the scene and jumped the median cables. He observed that the trooper had the vehicle, a red Ford Escape, pinned up against the concrete barrier of the bridge. He was being told by radio dispatch that the driver had a gun and that the subject was compliant and had dropped the gun. ██████ said that he did not have his gun out because he believed the subject to be compliant.

As he was approaching, ██████ said that he heard multiple shots being fired. He ducked down next to the guardrail for cover and drew his duty weapon. ██████ could not recall how many shots were fired and said that he was approximately 30-40 yards away. ██████ described that there were headlights pointed at him and the trooper's overhead lights were on, making it difficult for him to see. Therefore, he was unsure who had fired at this time. He said that other officers were in the area, but the trooper was the only one up at the subject's vehicle when shots were fired.

Once shots had stopped, ██████ continued to approach and heard the trooper giving verbal commands to the driver to "show me your hands" and stated that the driver had a gun. ██████ verbalized to other officers to watch their crossfire. ██████ directed his weapon towards the driver and began giving commands to "show me your hands."

██████ was to the left of the trooper on the driver's side of the OSHP cruiser. He said that he could see the subject and said that she was still moving. They continued giving verbal commands and the subject would not show their hands. ██████ said that the subject's hands were tucked and reaching between the seats, towards the back seat.

██████ moved to the front of the subject's vehicle and hit the hood, to try and get the driver's attention. No statements were heard by the subject. ██████ said that they could not access the driver, so ██████ provided cover, while the trooper moved his cruiser away from the subject's vehicle. The trooper backed up and dislodged his vehicle, which ripped the cruiser's bumper off.

Sgt. Disbennett told ██████ to watch out since the vehicle could still be in drive. ██████ said that he stepped out of the way, so he would not get run over. The vehicle began moving forward towards him and other officers, before turning left. ██████ stated that due to the risk of the subject's vehicle going over the bridge, going down the ramp towards 32, or going towards nearby motorists in the area, he chose to fire his duty-issued weapon into the front passenger tire, to stop the vehicle. ██████ said that he was standing approximately 6–8 feet away from the vehicle when he fired approximately 5 shots. The subject was in her vehicle, still moving, and not showing them her hands.

He said that he heard the tire pop and it eventually went flat. He said that the vehicle still had momentum, came to slow roll, then eventually stopped on the concrete median. ██████ was on the passenger side of the subject's vehicle and provided cover since the subject was still moving and they were unable to see her hands. ██████ gave additional commands to show her hands. Sgt. Disbennett was able to locate the subject's right hand and advised that it was clear of any weapons. ██████ described that the subject was in the driver's seat, but leaned over in between both front seats near the center console/passenger seat.

The door was locked, so the trooper broke the front passenger window with his ASP baton. The trooper opened the passenger door, pulled the subject out, and a firearm fell out and landed near the subject's feet. The gun was described as a small black handgun. The trooper grabbed the gun and secured it.

██████ said that the subject was lying on her back on the ground. Officer Puckett placed her in handcuffs, before ██████ said to roll her over, and began administering first aid. ██████ observed the subject to be a White female with dark brown hair, small stature, wearing a dirt bike type vest. ██████ began CPR over the vest, then removed the vest, and continued CPR. Another trooper arrived and officers were attempting to locate the wounds and used gauze and clot gear to help control the bleeding. ██████ said that he located several wounds, to include one on her left collarbone/shoulder area. He also said that there were projectiles that were loose, found lodged between her vest, near her chest.

Medics arrived and took over medical care. The subject was immediately loaded up onto a medical cot and moved to the back of an ambulance. ██████ said that he checked on the safety of several civilian witnesses on scene. OSHP Sgt. Joseph Westhoven eventually took the trooper away from the scene. ██████ went directly to OSHP Batavia Post, where he was photographed by BCI Crime Scene Unit.

██████ described that the lighting conditions were dark, with bridge lights and business lights in the area. He said that he did not hear any statements made by the subject. ██████ stated that he did not see the subject's firearm when shots were fired by ██████. ██████ said that he did not give any commands before firing his weapon. SA Frazier asked if he believed that his actions were consistent with his training and he stated, "I do."

██████ said that he has watched his body-worn camera (BWC) video. He said that he made an assumption in his BWC, when he said that the subject had fired. ██████ said that he did not see, nor have any knowledge, that the subject fired. ██████ estimated that the entire critical incident took approximately six (6) minutes from start to end.

The interview concluded at approximately 0941 hours. The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording is attached to this report (attachment #01). The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report (see attachment #02). Please see the attachments for further details.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2025-04-14 UTPD ██████ Audio Interview

Attachment # 02: 2025-04-14 ██████ Criminal Investigation Notification Form

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.

Exhibit 2



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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

4/14/25 @ 0900
Date / Time

[Redacted]
Signature of Interviewee

SA Lauren Frazier
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #129
BCI Agent (Signature)