



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



2026-1831

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 905 E. Warren St.,
Bucyrus, OH 44820, Crawford County

Investigative Activity: Witness Officer Interview
Involves: Trooper Korey Robinson (W)
Activity Date: 06/15/2026
Activity Location: 3617 State Route 4, Bucyrus, Ohio
Authoring Agent: SA David Hammond #120

Narrative:

On Monday, June 15, 2026, at 1112 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) David Hammond (SA Hammond) and SA Dan Boerner (SA Boerner) interviewed Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Trooper (Trp.) Korey Robinson (Trp. Robinson). The interview took place at 3617 State Route 4, Bucyrus, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

Trp. Robinson was identified as being a Trooper who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the May 11, 2026, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 905 E. Warren St., Bucyrus, Ohio. Reportedly, Trp. Robinson did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this officer. He was not represented by union representation during the interview.

The following is a summary of 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. The information 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.

Trp. Robinson stated his radio call sign on May 11, 2026, was Korey. He has been employed by the OSHP for about thirteen years. He has been a Trooper for a total of thirteen years. During the incident, Trp. Robinson wore his OSHP tactical uniform with a fabric police badge affixed to it. He also wore an external ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove the marked, Bearcat Tactical Vehicle equipped with emergency lights and decals to the scene. He considered himself to be well-represented as an OSHP Trooper during the incident. He stated was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI.

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Trooper Robinson advised that he utilized his issued body-worn-camera while working in active areas of the scene. He advised that he did operate a drone later in the incident and that video would have been recorded to a media card. At that time, due to software updates, he was having trouble accessing the files and uploading them to the server. He stated that OSHP was in the process of making the files available to BCI.

Trp. Robinson related that he had viewed his body worn camera footage. He stated that he had watched it once, very recently. He stated that the footage was not different than how he remembered the incident.

Trp. Robinson reported that he was contacted directly by Sergeant (Sgt.) Lofland (Sgt. Lofland) at approximately 0400 hours on May 11, 2026. He was requested to bring the Bearcat Tactical Vehicle to the scene. Trp. Robinson stated that he arrived at the scene with the Bearcat shortly before 0600 hours.

Trp. Robinson stated that he was briefed at the scene, gathering general information about the incident and potential hazards. He described being deployed to the back of the house (three-side) as Rook security.

At the 09:30 mark, "Our main thing is just to make sure our guy doesn't get hurt. Because he's pretty vulnerable when he is in there. Um, yeah, it's, it's ballistic rated, but it's, uh, there are ways to defeat it, especially if someone knows what they're doing. So, our entire job is just to make sure that he's safe. Um, if we have to rescue him."

Trp. Robinson advised that the initial plan was to move objects like the fence and Ford truck out of the back yard, so that the Rook could move into the area. Once these items were out of the way, the Tactical Team could begin the process of inserting gas into the home, via the Rook.

Trp. Robinson reported that the Tactical Team began to insert gas into the second-floor window at the back of the home. During this process, Trp. Robinson reported hearing gun fire.

At the 11:17 mark, "He went to initiate gas into the second story. Um, and then that's when the first shot was fired at us. And our, there was a, it sounded like a rifle round, not really sure what direction it was. We were trying to figure out where he was at. Um, but definitely once the gas started going in there, he either shot, we think he shot at the actual system. Um, not really a way to confirm that. I know he didn't shoot directly at me at that time, but I don't know which direction it went."

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Trp. Robinson stated that the tactical team moved back to cover to reload gas into the Rook delivery system. He related that the Rook was moved to the front of the house, where additional gas was deployed. The Rook was moved again to the back of the house. The Tactical Team began the process of introducing gas and peeling way portions of the walls, to better expose interior areas of the home. He reported hearing a second cluster of gunshots during this process.

At the 14:54 mark, "We started introducing gas again with the intention to start, um, peeling away some of the exterior of the house. And then another volley of shots was fired from inside, um, multiple rounds that time. That one was more just than one was more discernible. That was from the second story he was shooting out of the house out the three side. It looked like he was trying to shoot the Rooks, um, gas canister was, was my opinion of what he was trying to accomplish."

Robinson related that he heard multiple rounds fired. He believed they came from inside the home and traveled out in the direction of the rear yard.

At the 15:59 mark, "More than one, probably less than 10. It was, again, rifle rounds. Um, sounded coming from the interior of the house out, out the side there. Outside three."

Once a portion of the wall was removed, Trp. Robinson related that he could hear Paul Desmarais yelling inside the home. Trp. Robinson moved to a position behind the neighbor's home to better hear what he was saying.

At the 17:02 mark, "He was just screaming that, you know, trying to be compliant with commands from the PA from the backside. But he was just saying that he couldn't, he can't move. And, um, that's when better verbal contact was made with him. Um, and he started making threats that he was set on a grenade."

Trp. Robinson described Desmarais' unwillingness to surrender or comply with the requests of the hostage negotiators.

At the 17:37 mark, "Bosses started calling bomb squad then, just in case. And, and that's where negotiations kind of stalled out, as it's every request they made, he just kept saying he was set on a grenade. He wasn't moving, there was nothing he could do. And, um, I ended up moving back, um, to the position that we were at, uh, on the backside of the house. Because there's no reason, that he's saying the same things over and over."

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Trp. Robinson advised that hostage negotiators continued to attempt to work with Desmarais. He stated that several tactics were employed.

At the 18:28 mark, "Negotiators kept doing their negotiation stuff. Um, trying to talk to him, trying to get different tools in there to talk to him. Um, throw phones and drones and they were, they were trying everything. He just kept saying the same things over and over about the grenade and he ain't coming out and what do we want him to do?"

After a long period of hostage negotiation, the sniper eventually took a shot. Trp. Robinson did not hear the radio interaction between the command post and sniper alerting him to take the shot. Trp. Robinson then flew his drone into the home to check the subject for signs of life. He described seeing the subject and items around him. He indicated that the subject's injuries were incompatible with life.

Due to software updates, Trp. Robinson was having trouble accessing the drone footage files and uploading them to the server. He stated that OSHP was in the process of making the files available to BCI.

At the 23:37 mark, "He was in the back corner, um, so facing the side three that, that we had kind of exposed and ripped the wall out so that he was hiding behind like a bunk bed against the wall. And the door was semi barricaded. Um, had a rifle on the bed, a rifle on his lap. Uh, bunch of magazines. Um, I don't even know how many magazines. So, he was wearing a ballistics vest, uh, and like a, the gas mask was laying on the bed as well."

Trp. Robinson was asked about the risks that Tactical Team members faced and the outcome of the incident.

At the 24:34 mark, "Based on his conversations with us and negotiators, I don't, I don't see how there would've been a peaceful resolution. He had made numerous threats and actions that I don't, I don't see another way they could have ended."

Trp. Robinson indicated that his health and safety was at risk during the incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 1139 hours. The recording was uploaded to Axon Justice as Reference Item G - Witness Officer Interview - OSHP - OSHP Korey Robinson.

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References:

Reference Item G - Witness Officer Interview – OSHP – OSHP Korey Robinson.

Attachments:

None

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