



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 1407 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Special Agent Steven Seitzman 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 45402. 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

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Radio Channel Utilized: Dayton West	Mobile Data Terminal: Present & Utilized
Cruiser Description: Marked Ford Explorer	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: 0630-1630	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: Approximately 7 years	Length at Current Agency: Approximately 7 years
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): N/A	Corrective Lenses: No Corrective Lenses
Uniform Worn: Navy blue shirt with Dayton Police patches. Navy Blue cargo-style pants. 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 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: Patrol rifle and patrol bicycle.	OPOTC Certification: Dayton Police Academy, graduated in [REDACTED]
Military Experience/Training: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	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: No

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial number: N/A
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Holster

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Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 17 + 1
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 17
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 18	Number of Rounds Fired: 0 (with primary weapon)
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	

Weapon #2

Make: Rock River Arms	Model: Did not recall
Caliber/Gauge: 5.56/.223 caliber	Serial: As photographed
Type: Rifle	Method of Carry: In a case in the trunk of cruiser in "cruiser-ready" condition.
Magazine Capacity: Believed 32 but filled to 28	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 28
Extra Magazines: Not on person. Kept extra magazines in cruiser; three magazines in a vest and unknown amount of magazines in the rifle case.	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 28
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 22 (The BCI Crime Scene Unit noted that a magazine was found with 21 rounds plus one chambered in the weapon.)	Number of Rounds Fired: 6 (based on round count, not personal recollection)
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: Within the past 12 months	Type of Holster, if any: N/A
Modifications/accessories: 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 a welfare check involving someone who had threatened a shootout with police officers. He further learned that the involved subject, later identified as Taylor Coleman Anthony Cotton, had threatened to kill the caller. Based on the information provided, multiple officers responded to the call. Regarding the critical moments of the incident, he wrote:

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"Officer K. Urekar brought her vehicle to the front of the residence and requested the occupants to come out of the residence to speak with officers in relation to the call. While Officer K. Urekar was giving commands, a black female, later identified as the mother of the suspect, came out. She indicated that her husband was in the house and that they had called about their son. She pointed at a tan Buick and identified the suspect as the man who wants to have a shootout.

The suspect drove on Access Road and stopped about ten feet from a stop sign. He opened the driver's front door. I and the other officers gave verbal commands to exit the vehicle. I observed the suspect reach over to the passenger side of the vehicle and grab a shotgun. He held the gun with the barrel facing up with his hands near the trigger.

██████████ reported an individual with a firearm over the radio. Officers from Moraine Police Department and the Sheriff's Office responded.

I, along with Officer K. Urekar, ██████████, took cover behind a blue four door car. Sgt. Spires, and Officer Kloos later arrived at the location. Officer Kloos informed us that he had been to that house previously for mental health calls. A family member appeared at the scene. We were able to remove the family member from the scene.

██████████ 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 at my direction. 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 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. ██████████ and I pulled the suspect away from the car and the shotgun. 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."

██████████ advised that he self-dispatched himself to the welfare check after he saw the call appear on the screen. He said that multiple officers arrived at the same time. He said that he parked his cruiser across Rosedale Drive near Access Road to block the roadway. While on the call, the tan Buick sedan traveled southbound on Rosedale Drive and drove around his cruiser. The tan Buick then turned onto Access Road and stopped in the roadway approximately 10 feet from the intersection.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] [REDACTED] if he heard Cotton say anything in response to the police officers' commands. He did not hear Cotton respond for most of the incident; however, at one point he believed he heard Cotton say something to the effect of wanting to "go up." SA Seitzman asked him what he understood Cotton's statement to mean. He said that he presumed Cotton was saying he wanted to go up to heaven.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] [REDACTED] what he saw when Cotton exited his vehicle. He said Cotton stood up and pointed his shotgun at the officers who were alongside of the parked blue car on Rosedale Drive. SA Seitzman asked him what he was feeling at that moment. He recalled time slowing down. He became emotional and described that he thought he was dead. He further described the incident as one of the scariest moments in his life.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] said he fired when he saw the barrel of the shotgun pointed in the direction of the police officers. He aimed the red dot of his rifle optic at Cotton's chest area. He stopped firing when he saw Cotton fall to the ground and the shotgun moved away from his hand.

SA Seitzman asked [REDACTED] [REDACTED] if he believed his actions were consistent with his training and policies. He answered in the affirmative. SA Seitzman asked him if the actions of the other officers were proper. He again answered in the affirmative.

The interview concluded at 1433 hours. [REDACTED] signed statement, signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form, and the audio recording are attached below.

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-11-04 Interview of Dayton Police [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Attachment # 02: Criminal Investigation Notification- [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Attachment # 03: Typed Statement of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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).


Printed Name of Interviewee

11/4/24 1400
Date / Time


BCI Agent (Printed)



BCI Agent (Signature)

Exhibit 3

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 2017. I have been employed by Dayton since [REDACTED]. 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. My most recent training on use of force occurred in within the last year. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications for rifle in the spring of 2024. I most recently completed my firearm qualifications for handgun in the fall-winter 2023-2024.

On the morning October 19, 2024, I worked a shift from 0630 to 1630. 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 3 magazines containing 17 rounds each. One magazine is contained in the firearm, 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 ten magazines. Each magazine is capable of holding up to 28 rounds.

I received a call from Dispatch at approximately 0830 on October 19, 2024. The weather that morning was clear and cold. I was located on Salem Avenue near Oxford.

The call appeared on my in-car computer 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. I asked Officer K. Urekar to add herself to the call. I did this because welfare checks require two officers for safety.

[REDACTED]

I proceed to the scene.

Officer K. Urekar read more details about the incident. She communicated to me via car radio. Based on the call comments from the dispatcher, I understood that an individual at the scene had threatened to have a shootout with police. The call comments further indicated that the caller was reporting that a man had threatened to shoot her. Based on this information, Officer K. Urekar asked for all available crews to add and respond to the call.

I communicated to the other responding officers that we should meet at the intersection of Bryn Mawr and Oxford.

I, along with Officer K. Urekar and [REDACTED] approached the scene on Rosedale. Another Officer took a different route to the scene in order to control access to the scene and maintain visual from all directions.

We set up a perimeter at the scene. We asked dispatch to call the residence; no response was received.

I removed my rifle from the rear of my vehicle. Officer K. Urekar brought her vehicle to the front of the residence and requested the occupants to come out of the residence to speak with officers in relation to the call. While Officer K. Urekar was giving commands, a black female, later identified as the mother of the suspect, came out. She indicated that her husband was in the house and that they had called about their son. She pointed at a tan Buick and identified the suspect as the man who wants to have a shootout.

The suspect drove on Access Road and stopped about ten feet from a stop sign. He opened the driver's front door. I and the other officers gave verbal commands to exit the vehicle. I observed the suspect reach over to the passenger side of the vehicle and grab a shotgun. He held the gun with the barrel facing up with his hands near the trigger.

[REDACTED] reported an individual with a firearm over the radio. Officers from Moraine Police Department and the Sheriff's Office responded.

I, along with Officer K. Urekar, [REDACTED] took cover behind a blue four door car. Sgt. Spires, and Officer Kloos later arrived at the location. Officer Kloos informed us that he had been to that house previously for mental health calls.

A family member appeared at the scene. We were able to remove the family member from the scene.

[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 at my direction. 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 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. [REDACTED] and I pulled the suspect away from the car and the shotgun. 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.

[REDACTED]
11/4/24 (1419)