



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 10180 Busenburg Rd.,
Howard, OH 43028, Knox County

To: Chip McConville, Knox County Prosecutor
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Joseph Lamping, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: July 7, 2025
Involves: Lloyd Ray (S), [REDACTED]
Case Title: Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 10180 Busenburg Rd., Howard,
OH 43028, Knox County
BCI Case Numbers: Force Investigations (FIU): 2025-1783
Crime Scene (CSU): 2025-1783
Cyber Crime (CIU): 2025-1783
BCI Laboratory: 25-34482

Investigative Request

On Thursday, June 5, 2025, Sheriff Daniel J. Weckesser of the Knox County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Force Investigations Unit (FIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident reportedly occurred on June 5, 2025, at 10180 Busenburg Road, Howard, Ohio 43028 and involved the deaths of Lloyd Ray and Laurretta Beltz.

Preface

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the June 5, 2025, officer-involved shooting in Knox County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail are not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

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Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent (SA) Joe Lamping (SA Lamping) was assigned as the lead FIU case agent. SA Lamping received assistance in the investigation from Special Agents Nick Valente (SA Valente), Jack Shea (SA Shea), John Tingley (SA Tingley), Stacey Fifer (SA Fifer), Jesse Bynum (SA Bynum), Ryan Emahiser (SA Emahiser), and Dan Boerner (SA Boerner). BCI Special Agents Ed Lulla (SA Lulla), Aja Chung (SA Chung) and Larna McClintock (SA McClintock) of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview of the officer who discharged his weapon

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- Recorded interviews of six officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Interview of one SWAT team medical professional
- Interviews of three family members or associates of the subject
- Special agent attendance at post-mortem examination (autopsy) of the deceased
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, including criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Shooting reconstruction and trajectory analysis
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 - 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 - 2. Firearm operability testing
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel file of the officer involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review

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- Performed records checks, including LEADS and NCIC off-line search, for the vehicle(s) involved in the incident
- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

Incident Summary/Overview

On Thursday, June 5, 2025, the Knox County Sheriff's Office received a 911 open line call from 10180 Busenburg Road, Howard, Ohio. Deputies William Cottrell, Thomas Queen, and Joshua Snodgrass were dispatched to the residence to investigate.

██████████ arrived at the residence and met with Jerrad Ray (Jerrad). Jerrad told ██████████ that he did not call 911 and agreed to check on his father, Lloyd Ray (Lloyd), and his father's girlfriend, Laurretta Beltz (Beltz). Jerrad went into the residence and returned a short time later without Lloyd or Beltz. He also told ██████████ that some sort of commotion was going on in Lloyd's room. ██████████ overheard an alarming noise and entered the residence.

██████████ made contact with Lloyd in the residence. Lloyd told ██████████ that there wasn't any issue and that Beltz was acting irrationally. Beltz yelled out from the bedroom that Lloyd had hurt her. Lloyd walked away from ██████████, ignoring his commands. He then grabbed a rifle that was stored in his bedroom while facing away from ██████████. Beltz yelled, "He's got a gun." ██████████ ordered Lloyd to drop the gun, and Lloyd once again refused to comply with ██████████ orders.

██████████ drew his firearm and fired at Lloyd. Lloyd retreated into the bedroom where, at some point, he shot Beltz and shot at ██████████. ██████████ ordered Lloyd to drop the firearm and surrender numerous times. However, Lloyd refused to comply. ██████████ fired another round before his backup arrived. Lloyd continued to shoot at the deputies on scene. Eventually, Lloyd deployed a fire extinguisher, which the responding deputies believed to be a smoke grenade, creating a large screen of smoke. All three deputies, along with Jerrad and Jerrad's daughter, evacuated the residence.

Once outside, Lloyd continued to fire at the deputies from inside the residence. Lloyd's shots struck Deputy Queen's patrol vehicle several times near where Deputy Queen was using the vehicle as cover. After several moments outside, one final round was heard and then all shooting ceased. A SWAT team consisting of Knox County Sheriff's deputies and Mount Vernon Police Officers responded to the scene. When they eventually made entry to the residence, they discovered Lloyd and Beltz were deceased in the bedroom. Lloyd was found holding the rifle used during this incident.

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Decedents

Lloyd Ray

Lloyd resided at 10180 Busenburg Road, Howard, Ohio. Lloyd had a criminal history which documented arrests for various crimes. Lloyd had a history of violent crimes, including convictions for domestic violence and assault.

Lloyd had several encounters with the Knox County Sheriff's Office prior to June 5, 2025. During several of these interactions, Lloyd became verbally aggressive with the responding deputies and acted in a way that led the deputies to believe that Lloyd may have become physically aggressive as well.

Lauretta Beltz

Beltz was in a romantic relationship with Lloyd. She resided in her own residence, but would often spend the night with Ray, or Ray would spend the night at her residence.

Autopsy Reports

The autopsy reports for the decedents were obtained from the Licking County Coroner's Office. The Knox County Coroner's Office issued death certificates for Beltz and Ray. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

Lloyd Ray's Autopsy Report

The cause of death for Lloyd was determined to be a [REDACTED]. The manner of death was ruled [REDACTED]. The toxicology report indicated that Lloyd had [REDACTED].

Lauretta Beltz Autopsy Report

The cause of death for Beltz was determined to be a [REDACTED]. The manner of death was ruled [REDACTED]. The toxicology report indicated that Beltz had [REDACTED].

Physical Evidence

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting in order to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the information below only summarizing some of the more significant findings.

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The crime scene unit recovered 15 fired .22 caliber Aguila cartridge casings in the north bedroom and living room of the residence. An additional two fired 9mm Hornady cartridge casings were recovered from the living room and kitchen areas.

The decedents were located in the north bedroom, and they were photographed as they were found. Beltz was found to have one gunshot wound to her abdomen. Lloyd had one gunshot wound to his right temple with an exit wound to his left temple. Lloyd was found still holding the firearm used in this incident.



BCI Firearms Laboratory Analysis

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards of each weapon, identifications were able to be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

The Savage Arms model 64 rifle found in Lloyd's possession was determined to be the source of fifteen .22 cartridge casings. Matrix Item 033 (the bullet recovered from Beltz's body) could not be definitively linked to Lloyd's firearm. However, the only other .22 caliber weapon (Derya Arms TM22, Matrix Item 001) that was recovered on scene was listed as a source exclusion for this fired round.

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The Firearms Lab report notes that the Savage Arms rifle (Matrix Item 011, Lab Item 10) has, “*Similar class characteristics but insufficient corresponding individual characters to identify or exclude.”

██████████ was not in possession of any .22 caliber weapon at the time of this incident.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #10: One (1) Savage Arms rifle	N/A	Operable
	Item #2: One (1) fired bullet	Inconclusive*
	Items #3, 8-9 & 11-22: A total of fifteen (15) fired 22 caliber cartridge cases	Source Identification

*Similar class characteristics but insufficient corresponding individual characteristics to identify or exclude.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #1: One (1) Derya Arms rifle	N/A	Operable
	Item #2: One (1) fired bullet	Source Exclusion

██████████ Glock 17 9mm was also evaluated by the BCI Firearms Laboratory. It was found to be the source of one recovered bullet as well as two 9mm cartridge casings.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #4: One (1) Glock pistol	N/A	Operable
	Item #5: One (1) fired bullet	Source Identification
	Items #6 & 7: A total of two (2) fired 9mm Luger cartridge cases	Source Identification

Civilian Witnesses

Three civilian witnesses were interviewed in relation to this incident. Jerrad Ray (Jerrad), Lloyd's son, Pamela Spiker, a neighbor of Lloyd's, and her husband, John Campian,

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who was arrested at the crime scene by the KCSO. The following summations of the interviews should not be considered all-inclusive as they only represent the information deemed most relevant by SA Lamping.

Jerrad Ray

Jerrad Ray (Jerrad) was Lloyd's son. Jerrad was present at the time of the incident and was interviewed the same day. Jerrad recalled that Lloyd and Beltz were at the residence the day preceding the incident drinking beer. Jerrad left for a short time in the afternoon to pick up his young daughter and returned to the residence around 1630 hours, where he drank several beers with Lloyd, Beltz, and Beltz's sister. Beltz's sister was not present at the time of the incident. Jerrad began his nighttime routine with his daughter around 1900 hours and went to bed soon after.

Jerrad remembered that sometime around midnight he was awoken by a sheriff's deputy knocking on the door. The deputy told Jerrad that he was there because of a 911 hang-up call that had been placed from the residence. Jerrad went to Lloyd's room to check on him, and he heard arguing from inside the room. Lloyd opened the door, and when he went to shut it, Beltz yelled for help. Jerrad also thought he heard something coming from the room that he described as scuffling.

Jerrad returned to the front door where he spoke with the deputy. The deputy asked to come into the residence, and Jerrad let him in. Jerrad recalled what happened next as follows:

"So, I was in front, in front of him and walked him through. And Lauretta's yelling, help. We get into the kitchen and from from the kitchen table, you can like see down the hall to dad's bedroom door and Lauretta 's yelling help and stuff. So, the cop, uh, asked what was going on and stuff. My dad answered the door and told him she was being crazy, whatever. She was very drunk, you know? So, I, I didn't know what was going on. Said she's being crazy. And then she's on the floor and she's yelling and he reaches next to the door. And, uh, he had a .22 rifle. And when he reached for it and went to pull it, the, I, I moved, I started moving. Like, I moved behind the cop and the cop fired a round at him. And then my, I heard my, I ran to the bedroom and the cop, uh, or not, my dad, I heard what I think was .22, you know, it wasn't the cop's pistol but was firing back. And then I went in the bedroom and jumped on, jumped on, uh, my daughter. And like keep, you know, holding her ears closed." (4:20)

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Jerrad noted that another deputy arrived on scene to assist the first deputy. Jerrad said that he began to yell for his father to stop. The deputies eventually escorted Jerrad and his daughter out of the residence, and while exiting the residence Jerrad recalled hearing additional shots fired by Lloyd. After an unknown amount of time, one of the deputies drove Jerrad and his daughter away from the residence.

Jerrad stated that Lloyd and Beltz would argue frequently and were in an on-again-off-again relationship. He also did not feel that Lloyd was overly intoxicated at the time of the incident. Jerrad also could not recall anything out of the ordinary occurring preceding the incident.

Jerrad noted that his father was prescribed mood stabilizers for bipolar disorder.

John Campian

John Campian (Campian) was Lloyd's neighbor. Following the incident, Campian entered Lloyd's residence at his own discretion. A deputy from the KCSO arrested Campian and transported him to the Knox County Jail. Campian was advised of his Miranda Warnings and agreed to speak with SA Bynum at the jail. He was not present at the time of the incident and only wanted to find out what was going on in Lloyd's residence. Campian provided consent for agents to look at his cellphone. When the phone was examined nothing of relevance to this investigation was located.

Pamlea Spiker

Pamela Spiker (Spiker) is a neighbor of the Rays. She was interviewed by special agents Tingley and Fifer on the morning of the incident. Spiker reported that Lloyd and Jerrad frequently fought, and that she heard about four gunshots around 0330 to 0400 hours. Spiker also told the agents that her husband, Campian left their residence to investigate what had occurred at the Ray residence.

Dispatch-Related Information

An assortment of dispatch related information was reviewed relating to this incident. The information was broken down into three categories: the initial 911 calls, radio traffic recordings, and dispatch records. Each category is summarized below.

911 Calls

The initial call placed the Knox County Dispatch center was 1 minute and 20 seconds in length. It did not contain any noise aside from the 911 dispatcher speaking. A return call was placed by the dispatcher which was 55 seconds in length. No one answered the phone, and the dispatcher left a voicemail message.

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Radio Traffic Recordings

A total of 234 individual audio recordings were reviewed. A spreadsheet of the most important transmissions was created and placed into the report covering this section. A large portion of the transmissions dealt with the SWAT teams' response to the residence.

Dispatch Records

The dispatch logs documented the radio traffic which was overheard by the dispatchers. The log contained a large amount of information, and as such only a small portion is documented below:

Time	Message
01:48:17	Speaking to the individuals now\\back up can disregard
01:51:38	Shots fired
01:54:58	3 officers are ok\\suspect is reloading
01:53:30	Requesting medics
01:55:04	Multiple shots fired
01:56:26	Requesting U32 for SWAT team\\female possibly shot and male is barricaded
01:57:01	Possibly the firearms is a 22 rifle
02:01:33	Still firing shots\\possibly hit the cruiser

Law Enforcement Witnesses

A total of six interviews were conducted with witness officers, as well as members of the combined SWAT team that responded after the shooting occurred. The following summations of the interviews should not be considered all-inclusive as they only represent the information deemed most relevant by SA Lamping.

Deputy Joshua Snodgrass

Deputy Joshua Snodgrass (Deputy Snodgrass) was in field training, assigned to Deputy Thomas Queen (Deputy Queen), on the night of this incident. Deputy Snodgrass was dispatched to 10180 Busenburg Road along with [REDACTED] and Deputy Queen. Prior to Deputy Snodgrass' arrival, he was disregarded by [REDACTED]. Deputy Snodgrass began to travel back to his patrol area when he was disregarded by the call for service.

Shortly afterwards, [REDACTED] put out a radio transmission requesting that his backup return to the scene. While Deputy Snodgrass was traveling back to the scene, [REDACTED] made another radio transmission requesting that the backup units "step it up." Deputy Snodgrass recalled that when he arrived on scene he could hear

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██████████ giving loud commands for a person to show their hands. Deputy Snodgrass described his initial entry into the trailer and what he observed as follows:

"Deputy Queen and I entered the trailer to find ██████████ behind a kitchen counter with his weapon drawn, pointing down a short hallway in the trailer, giving verbal commands to an individual at the end of the hallway. This person was later identified as Lloyd J. Ray. Mr. Ray was yelling that he was going to kill us and was shooting down the hallway at us. Deputy Queen took up a cover position to the left of ██████████ and I maintained security at the front door through which we had entered." (6:22)

Deputy Snodgrass recalled that while inside the trailer, ██████████ had told them that Lloyd had shot a woman that was inside the bedroom with him. Deputy Snodgrass called out over the radio that shots had been fired and then started to evacuate the other occupants of the residence, Jerrad Ray (Jerrad) and his daughter. At roughly the same time, an unknown chemical was deployed into the residence, presumably by Lloyd. All the deputies along with Jerrad and his daughter evacuated the residence and took cover. Deputy Snodgrass stated that Lloyd continued to fire at them while they retreated towards the patrol vehicles. Deputy Snodgrass remained on the scene until he was relieved by SWAT team members.

Deputy Snodgrass informed the interviewers that he failed to activate his body worn camera (BWC) at the start of the incident. He explained that this was an accident and was due to the stress of the situation.

Deputy Thomas Queen

Deputy Queen was assigned to work the 0000-0800-hour shift on the night of the incident, he was also assigned as Deputy Snodgrass' training officer. Deputy Queen recounted a similar version of events as Deputy Snodgrass. Of note, he stated that prior to their arrival ██████████ called out, "shots fired," over the radio.

Upon arrival at the scene, Deputy Queen retrieved his duty rifle from the patrol vehicle and made his way into the residence. He recalled that yelling could be heard from inside. Deputy Queen stated that he entered the trailer and observed ██████████ to his left and a middle-aged white male, identified as Jerrad, and a younger female, Jerrad's daughter, in another room. Deputy Queen ordered Deputy Snodgrass to evacuate Jerrad and his daughter. Deputy Queen took cover at a kitchen countertop while ██████████ gave commands for Lloyd to drop the gun and surrender. Lloyd did not comply with the commands and began to fire at the deputies. Deputy Queen

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noted that Lloyd continued to fire, reloaded his weapon, and taunted the deputies by stating, "Come and get me pussy."

Deputy Queen reported that an unknown chemical was deployed into the residence which caused all the deputies, along with Jerrad and his daughter, to evacuate the residence. Deputy Queen took cover at his patrol vehicle, and he stated that two rounds struck his driver's side door while he was using the vehicle as cover. After the shooting had stopped, Deputy Queen remained on scene until the SWAT team took over. Deputy Queen also stated that he felt that Lloyd posed a direct threat to the deputies, Beltz, Jerrad, and Jerrad's daughter, as he was shooting towards all the listed parties.

SWAT Team Interviews

Knox County Sheriff's Office Detective Zachary Miller

Detective Zachary Miller (Detective Miller) was serving as a SWAT team member at the time of this incident. He provided a broad overview of the actions taken by the combined SWAT team made up of members of the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Mount Vernon Police Department. Detective Miller explained that a perimeter was established around the residence, and then a negotiator for the SWAT team attempted to contact Lloyd. The negotiator could not contact Lloyd or anyone else in the residence, so the team deployed a drone.

In order for the drone to enter the residence, the SWAT team had to port several windows, using less lethal munitions, to create an entrance. The drone operator was eventually able to locate Lloyd and Beltz in the bedroom of the residence. Beltz appeared to be deceased; however, the drone operator was not sure if Lloyd was alive as he was lying on a rifle in a manner which appeared in line with someone setting up an ambush. The SWAT team ported the window into the bedroom and maintained a visual on Lloyd until a search team entered the bedroom area. Since there was still a rifle in Lloyd's possession, a shield was used to pin it to the ground while the SWAT team medic evaluated Lloyd and determined he was deceased.

Mount Vernon Fire Department Lieutenant/TEMS Coty Shellenbager

Lieutenant Coty Shellenbager (Lieutenant Shellenbager) of the Mount Vernon Fire Department was serving on the MVPD SWAT team as the team's Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS). While Lieutenant Shellenbager was standing by the drone operator, he heard them say that a female, identified as Beltz, appeared to be dead. The drone operator also advised that there was a male, but they couldn't tell if he was alive or dead as he was lying on a rifle in a manner which may have been consistent with aiming. When the SWAT team made entry, Lieutenant Shellenbager followed.

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When the team secured the bedroom, Lieutenant Shellenbager recalled checking for life signs on Beltz and Lloyd. He said that he observed a gunshot wound to Beltz's abdomen, could not locate a pulse, observed no respirations, and that her body temperature was cool. Lloyd had blood pooling to the front and rear of his head, no pulse, no respirations, and his body temperature was cool, according to Lieutenant Shellenbager.

Lieutenant Shellenbager advised the SWAT command post that neither party had signs of life. The time of death was logged as 0530 hours on the Mount Vernon SWAT callout report.

Mount Vernon Police Department Lieutenant Qade Lewis

Lieutenant Qade Lewis (Lieutenant Lewis) was serving as a member of the MVPD SWAT team at the time of this incident. Lieutenant Lewis was the initial officer to pilot a drone at the scene. He explained that he flew one drone around the exterior of the residence and then landed it to change the battery. Once the battery was changed, the drone experienced a malfunction and crashed. After the crash, Lieutenant Lewis requested MVPD Detective Timothy Arnold to take over as the drone pilot.

Mount Vernon Police Department Detective Timothy Arnold

Detective Timothy Arnold (Detective Arnold) was serving as a member of the MVPD SWAT team at the time of this incident. Following the crash landing experienced by Lieutenant Lewis, Detective Arnold took over control of the drone units. On his initial flight, Detective Arnold was able to enter the residence and clear most with the drone. Detective Arnold recalled locating Beltz:

"When I flew it into the bedroom, the initial time, um, she was laying, the female victim was laying on the floor. She had a obvious, uh, gunshot wound to the stomach area. Um, looked like small caliber. Um, you could tell at that point, or I had very strong feelings that she was deceased. There was lividity already set in. Uh, her arms were, were blued out and everything. So, it looked like she had been down for quite a while." (1:15)

After finding Beltz, Detective Arnold checked the remainder of the residence again to ensure that he did not miss anything of importance. When he returned to the bedroom, he located Lloyd and recounted the incident as follows:

"And that's when I found the male, uh, laying on the one side of the, the, uh, bed between the wall and, um, the bed there behind the female. Um, from the position of where he was at, it looked like he

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possibly was belly down, um, with the rifle underneath of him. Uh, almost like he was on scope. Uh, so I wasn't sure if he was still, uh, alive or if he was waiting on ambush." (2:09)

Detective Arnold experienced an error with the first drone resulting in a crash, so he deployed a second drone. He flew the drone into the bedroom and attempted to determine if Lloyd was alive by flying the drone close to his head. Lloyd did not react, and shortly after another crash occurred. Detective Arnold remained on the perimeter while an element of the SWAT team executed a plan of action to safely enter and secure the residence.

Involved Officer Interview

The following paragraphs are an extremely abbreviated version of the involved officer's account of his actions pertaining to this incident and discharging his weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

██████████ was assigned to the ██████████ shift on the night of the incident. He worked ██████████ prior to the start of his assigned shift, beginning at ██████████. Around 0140 hours, ██████████, along with Deputies Snodgrass and Queen, were dispatched to an open line 911 call from 10180 Busenburg Road. ██████████ arrived on scene first, examined the exterior of the residence, and attempted to raise the occupants. After knocking several times, Jerrad arrived at the front door and spoke with ██████████. Jerrad said that he did not call 911, but also reported that his daughter, his father, and his father's girlfriend were all present at the residence. ██████████ asked the dispatch center for the name of the person associated with the 911 call, and they informed him the first name associated with the phone number was Laurretta. ██████████ asked Jerrad if Laurretta was his father's girlfriend, and he stated that she was ██████████. ██████████ asked Jerrad to go check on his father and Laurretta, and he went into the residence. ██████████ then disregarded his backup unit as he had made contact with a resident.

While Jerrad was inside of the residence ██████████ recalled hearing:

"some kind of yell or moan that came from a female's voice." (6:11)

When he heard the noise, ██████████ requested that his backup units come back to the scene. Jerrad returned to the door to speak with ██████████, at which time ██████████ heard the same noise as well as a male's voice. ██████████ asked Jerrad for permission to enter the residence. Jerrad said that since his father owned the house, he didn't have the right to deny or permit entry into the residence.

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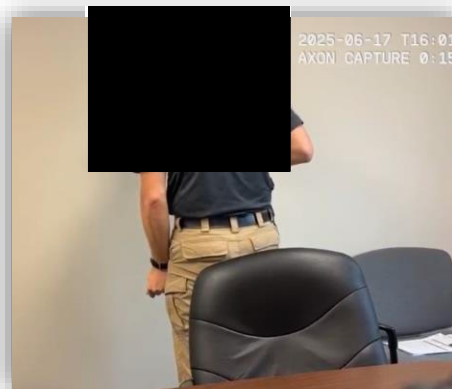


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██████████ entered the trailer and instructed Jerrad to walk in front of him towards Lloyd's room. ██████████ identified himself as a Sheriff's Deputy, and Lloyd exited the room. Lloyd told ██████████ that he was in an argument with Beltz. ██████████ told Lloyd that he was going to have to be interviewed outside, at which time Lloyd walked away from ██████████ towards the bedroom. Beltz yelled out from the bedroom that Lloyd had broken her car window. ██████████ then noticed that Beltz's feet were positioned in a manner which made him believe she was lying on the floor. Lloyd was near the bedroom door, and ██████████ described his actions as follows:

"Mr. Ray then walked back into the bedroom, went to the left side of the doorway. He came back out into the doorway and was facing Ms. Beltz. Just his back would've been to me with a rifle. I could see the green handle and the black barrel, which was being held from right shoulder to left knee." (7:39)

██████████ demonstrated the way that Lloyd was holding the firearm, pictured below:



██████████ described the events that occurred after Lloyd grabbed the rifle in the following way:

"Ms. Beltz yelled that he had a gun and I drew my primary duty weapon and instructed Mr. Ray to put down the gun. He refused to put the weapon down and I fired one round from my service weapon. I called shots fired over the radio. Mr. Ray retreated to the left side of the bedroom again as I was giving instructions to him, he appeared halfway in the doorway facing me. He showed me his left hand but not

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his right hand. I continued to give instructions to Mr. Ray when he completely disappeared into the bedroom. I heard a single shot and then I heard Ms. Beltz yell 'He just shot me in the stomach.'" (7:53)

Jerrad was still standing between [REDACTED] and Lloyd when the shooting started. [REDACTED] instructed Jerrad to get behind him, and Jerrad complied. [REDACTED] reported that he could not recall the exact sequence of events that happened immediately after the first shots were fired. He noted that he was taking cover while giving commands for Lloyd to surrender, but he couldn't get a good line of sight into the bedroom that Lloyd and Beltz were in. While looking towards the bedroom, [REDACTED] observed Lloyd kneeling while aiming the rifle in his direction. [REDACTED] fired another round at Lloyd, who continued to shoot in his direction.

[REDACTED] recalled that Deputy Queen arrived after he had fired the second round. [REDACTED] explained what happened next as follows:

"I peeked around the corner again and saw Mr. Ray crouched in the doorway with his rifle pointed at me. I quickly moved back. Mr. Ray being yelling things like, 'you're going to die today' and 'you think you're brave.' He yelled other things towards us that I can't quite remember. I continued to give instructions to Mr. Ray to come out with his hands up. After some more shots from Mr. Ray, we heard what we thought was him reloading his weapon. He shot some more and this is when I saw a large cloud of smoke appearing from the bedroom into the hallway. The smoke completely obscured the view down the hallway. I yelled that he deployed smoke and we exfiltrated the residence because of our inability to see and with the smoke being an unknown chemical, Mr. Ray's son and granddaughter were evacuated before we left the residence." (9:05)

Once outside the residence, the deputies took cover, and [REDACTED] requested assistance from the SWAT team over the radio. Lloyd continued to shoot at the deputies while they were outside the residence.

[REDACTED] said that he did not feel that he had any other option than deadly force based on what he encountered:

"I used lethal force in this incident by discharging my firearm because I do not believe there was any less lethal force that I could have used that would have been effective in stopping the immediate and direct threat Mr. Ray posed to me and Ms. Beltz when he returned with a rifle

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after I spoke with him and disregarded my commands. Mr. Ray continued to pose an immediate and direct threat, not only to me and Ms. Beltz, but also to the other deputies, Mr. Ray's own son and granddaughter, after it became apparent he had shot Ms. Beltz and when he repeatedly discharged his rifle in my direction as well as that of other deputies and his son and granddaughter." (10:59)

SA Valente asked [REDACTED] what kind of emotions he experienced when Lloyd produced the firearm. [REDACTED] explained that he was immediately concerned about the safety of Beltz as he felt that Lloyd intended to hurt her. [REDACTED] said that he was also scared as he thought that Lloyd might shoot and kill him.

Video Recordings

A total of sixteen BWC videos were reviewed in relation to this investigation. Four of the videos were captured by the initial responding officers. Twelve of the videos were captured by deputies that responded to the SWAT callout or conducted post incident investigations. A full synopsis can be reviewed under the individual reports for each heading. Only the most pertinent information from each video is provided below.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BWC recording captured the best angle and footage of the incident. SA Valente conducted a review of [REDACTED] BWC utilizing a video review software called "AMPED." The software allows for some enhancements to be made to the footage that was captured. A full review of [REDACTED] BWC, and the AMPED replay production is recommended to accurately portray the incident that the deputies encountered.

[REDACTED] BWC started with his arrival at the residence. He examined the exterior of the residence and eventually contacted Jerrad. [REDACTED] identified himself as a deputy and advised Jerrad of his reason for being at the residence. Jerrad eventually went inside to check on the status of Lloyd and Laurretta. While he was inside [REDACTED] disregarded his backup deputies as he had contacted a resident.

Jerrad returned to the door and appeared flustered, struggling to convey his statements. [REDACTED] put out a radio transmission requesting the backup deputies to return to the residence. Jerrad eventually explained that he knocked on Lloyd's door, told him that a deputy was at the house, and Lloyd told him that everything was fine. [REDACTED] told Jerrad that he had to check on the residents to ensure that everything was okay before he could leave. Jerrad went back into the residence, and while Jerrad was inside [REDACTED] camera captured the faint

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sound of someone screaming. After the sound was heard [REDACTED] opened the front door and stated, "Hey, what's going on in there!" He then made another radio transmission stating, "96, step it up, I don't know what's going on over here." Jerrad returned to the front door and explained that he was not sure exactly what was happening in the residence, but that Lloyd and Laretta were arguing.

[REDACTED] entered the residence and instructed Jerrad to stay in front of him. They then walked towards Lloyd's bedroom. [REDACTED] called out and identified himself as a member of the Sheriff's Office and asked what was going on. [REDACTED] ordered the occupants of the bedroom to open the door, and a short time later Lloyd started to exit the bedroom. While Lloyd was exiting, Laretta could be heard stating, "He tried to kill me." Lloyd responded by stating, "I did not."

[REDACTED] told Lloyd to show him his hands, and around the same time Laretta yelled, "Help me!" [REDACTED] said, "What's going on?" and Laretta could be heard saying, "He's beat the hell out of me." A short back and forth occurred between Lloyd and Laretta.

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██████████ attempted to interview Lloyd, but he turned away from him and walked back towards the bedroom. When he reached the doorway of the bedroom and was facing away from ██████████ he began to grab/manipulate an object, pictured below:



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██████████ said, "what do you have in your hand?" and Laurretta yelled, "A gun!" ██████████ drew his firearm, pointed it at Lloyd, and commanded him to drop the firearm. Lloyd turned his head and looked over his shoulder towards ██████████ pictured below:



Lloyd didn't comply with the order to drop the firearm, even after turning his head to look at ██████████. A short time later a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot (henceforth referred to as a suspected gunshot) can be heard. Following the gunshot, Lloyd retreated into the bedroom, which was unlit and dark.

██████████ also fell back to a position of cover and called out over the radio that shots had been fired. Jerrad was still standing in the hallway between ██████████ and Lloyd until ██████████ ordered him to get behind him, effectively taking him out of the line of fire.

██████████ gave numerous commands for Lloyd to show him his hands and drop the gun. Lloyd eventually stuck one hand out of the hallway and showed it to ██████████ but he did not display both of his hands. An enhanced image is shown below:

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Lloyd became argumentative as [REDACTED] continued to give him orders to drop the gun and come out with his hands up. Lloyd claimed that he didn't have a gun and eventually stated that he would come out. Around the same time, a clicking noise could be heard, possibly a gunshot, and [REDACTED] jolted away from the open

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hallway. [REDACTED] then yelled out, "I got one shot." As [REDACTED] walked towards the bedroom, another suspected gunshot was heard. When the shot was heard, Lloyd appeared on the BWC footage in a manner consistent with someone kneeling and aiming a rifle. An enhanced image from the BWC is included below:



Following the suspected gunshot, [REDACTED] leaned into the hallway and yelled, "shots, drop the fucking gun!" Based on the video, it could not be determined who fired the shot.

At roughly this time, [REDACTED] begins to speak to other officers who have arrived on scene but are outside the camera's field of view. He informed them that Lloyd had already shot at him and that he was aiming at the deputy's location.

[REDACTED] continued to give loud commands for Lloyd to drop the gun and intermittently leaned into the hallway towards Lloyd's room. At one point, three suspected gunshots are heard, and a short time later Lloyd yelled, "Imma give up." Immediately after claiming he was going to give up, another two gunshots can be heard in the video. [REDACTED] gave even more commands for Lloyd to surrender and drop the gun. However, Lloyd did not comply, and an additional suspected gunshot was heard.

[REDACTED] continued to give Lloyd orders, and then a faint clicking sound was heard, at which point [REDACTED] stated, "he's reloading." Another voice was heard

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shortly after attempting to convince Lloyd to give up because his granddaughter was in the residence. [REDACTED] then told the other deputies to get the granddaughter out of the residence.

Additional commands were given to Lloyd, and then a hissing sound was heard. A large plume of smoke started to fill the residence.



When the smoke began to appear, all the deputies, along with Jerrad and his daughter, evacuated the residence. Once outside, [REDACTED] took cover in a pole barn on the property and requested a SWAT team via the radio. Several additional suspected gunshots were heard while [REDACTED] was outside, and he also advised over the radio, "He's still shooting out the trailer windows at us."

[REDACTED] remained on scene and eventually met with members of the SWAT team. He provided information on the layout of the residence and made a sketch of the floorplan. He then went to the rear of the residence with another deputy and covered the rear perimeter. Sometime later [REDACTED] returned to the driveway where a large contingent of SWAT officers had staged. The recording was then ceased.

Deputy Joshua Snodgrass

Deputy Snodgrass' BWC footage was just under two hours in length and consisted of two recordings. As he mentioned in his interview, the recording did not start until after the deputies had exited the residence, as such much of the incident was not captured.

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For the majority of the first video, Deputy Snodgrass was taking cover behind a marked KCSO patrol vehicle. The second video appeared to have been accidental and captured Deputy Snodgrass bringing a case of water to the deputies on scene at the conclusion of the incident.

Deputy Thomas Queen

The BWC footage captured by Deputy Queen began upon his arrival at the scene. He obtained his patrol rifle and made his way into the residence. Once inside, he maneuvered to [REDACTED] left and took cover behind a kitchen countertop. While inside the residence, an assortment of suspected gunshots was heard, as well as Deputy Queen and [REDACTED] yelling commands for Lloyd to set down his gun and surrender. A chemical substance was eventually deployed in the hallway, which resulted in the deputies evacuating the residence.

Once outside, Deputy Queen took cover behind a patrol vehicle. Additional rounds were fired, and at one point the vehicle that Deputy Queen was using as cover was struck by several bullets. Deputy Queen interviewed Jerrad multiple times to obtain information about Lloyd's actions/plans. Jerrad expressed concern that Lloyd would attempt to exit the residence and make his way to a hunting blind.

Deputy Queen remained on scene until the residence was secured. He was in various locations around the perimeter and entered the residence again after it was secured.

Additional Body Worn Camera Recordings

The various videos captured by the SWAT team provided insight into the actions taken to secure the residence. Many of the videos were dark due to the time of day, lighting conditions, and location of the residence.

An additional recording was created the morning after the incident during a death notification. Deputies accompanied a KCSO chaplain and contacted Lloyd's estranged wife to inform her about the incident. Lloyd's wife stated that he suffered from mental health issues while speaking with the deputies.

Conclusion

Based upon documents reviewed, physical evidence recovered, and interviews conducted, investigation 2025-1783 supports the following conclusions, facts, and/or information.

In the early hours of June 5, 2025, deputies from the Knox County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a 911 open line call received from 10180 Busenburg Road. [REDACTED] was the first officer to arrive on scene. He spoke with Jerrad Ray, who

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reported that other occupants of the residence were home. While conducting his investigation, [REDACTED] reportedly heard a scream coming from the residence. He entered and contacted Lloyd Ray near his bedroom. While attempting to speak with Lloyd, a female, Laurretta Beltz, yelled from the room that she had been injured by Lloyd. Lloyd failed to cooperate with [REDACTED], turned his back to him, walked into the doorway of his bedroom where he grabbed a Savage Arms model 64 .22 caliber rifle. Laurretta yelled from the bedroom that Lloyd had a gun. [REDACTED] drew his Glock 17 9mm pistol, ordered Lloyd to drop the gun, and when Lloyd did not comply, fired one round at him, missing. Lloyd retreated into the bedroom and a protracted standoff ensued.

Lloyd fired multiple times in the direction of [REDACTED], Jerrad, and his granddaughter. He also likely fired one round which struck Beltz, ultimately resulting in her death. During the standoff, [REDACTED] fired an additional round, missing Lloyd. Additional deputies arrived on scene to assist. Lloyd was given numerous commands to drop the firearm and surrender, none of which he complied with. Lloyd went so far as to feign surrender only to fire additional rounds towards [REDACTED].

Subsequent to the prolonged standoff, a chemical substance which created smoke was deployed into the residence, obstructing the abilities of the responding deputies to assess the situation. As a result, the residence was evacuated by all parties. While outside taking cover, the deputies continued to take fire from Lloyd, who was shooting from the windows of the residence. Lloyd ultimately fired one final round, with which he shot himself in the head, resulting in his death.

During [REDACTED] interview he stated that he felt that not only his life was in danger, but also the lives of the other responding deputies, Beltz, Jerrad, and Jerrad's daughter. He felt that there was no other viable option to employ that would have been as effective as deadly force to preserve the lives of those present.

Ballistic testing conducted by the BCI Firearms Laboratory determined that the rounds that struck Lloyd and Beltz were not from [REDACTED] firearm.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Lamping. SA

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Lamping can be reached via email at Joseph.Lamping@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at (330) 289-7256.

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