



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

Jeffrey Marks, Ross County Prosecutor	
Aja Chung, Special Agent, Ohio BCI	
March 27, 2025	
Daniel Wayne Long and	
Officer Involved Critical Incident -14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH	
45601 (L)	
Special Investigations (SIU) & Crime Scene (CSU): 2025-0513	
BCI Laboratory: 25-15246	

### **Investigative Request**

On Monday, February 17, 2025, Captain Max Adair of the Ross County Sheriff's Office requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) 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 in the area of 14000 OH-104, Chillicothe, OH and resulted in the death of Daniel Wayne Long.

#### Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the February 17, 2025 officerinvolved shooting in Ross 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 is 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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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

# Investigative Team

Lead BCI Special Agent:

• Aja Chung

Assisting Investigative BCI Special Agents:

- James Gore
- James Poole
- Carrie Ryan

BCI Crime Scene Personnel:

- Special Agent Brittany VanBibber (lead)
- Crime Scene Technician Amy Cruey

**BCI** Investigative Supervisor

• Special Agent Supervisor Kevin Barbeau

### 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 interviews of two witnessing deputies who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information.
- Interviews of four civilian witnesses to the incident.
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports.
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subjects, to include criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- 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 surveillance video which captured any portion of the incident.





Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

- 3D scans of incident area
- Audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident were reviewed.
- Review of 911/phone communications.
- Review of dispatch/CAD records.
- Review of the department's reports, 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.
    - 3. DNA
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the deputy involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any).
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for the involved deputy.
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the deputy who discharged his weapon.
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review.
- Reviewed medical records for the deceased subject, obtained through a formal request via form submission.
- Reviewed EMS records response and the treatment administered regarding the incident.

#### Incident Summary/Overview

On Monday, February 17, 2025, at approximately 1730 hours, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) were requested by Captain Max Adair of the Ross County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) to conduct an independent investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the officer-involved critical incident that occurred in the area of 14000 OH-104 in Chillicothe, Ohio.

It was reported to BCI that a 911 caller reported a subject, later identified as a Daniel Long (Long), had broken into her house and took her pistol. A Ross County deputy responded to the area and located the subject in the Chillicothe Baptist Church driveway. After a brief confrontation, the deputy discharged his weapon, striking Long. Long was transported to a local hospital and was pronounced deceased.

#### RCSO

discharged his firearm during the incident.

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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



# <u>Decedent</u>

Daniel Wayne Long, a 39-year-old White male who allegedly had a history of drug use and documented overdoses. In 2024, he eloped from Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, resulting in Hamilton Sheriff's Office generating a missing person's report. He was reported to have multiple warrants out of surrounding counties and agencies near Ross County.

### Autopsy and Toxicology Reports

The autopsy report for Daniel Wayne Long was obtained from the Ross County Coroner's Office. Those documents revealed the following information:

The cause of Long's death was d	etermined to be	. The
manner of death	. The toxicology report ind	icated that there was a
	The following table provides	

Analyte Name	Concentration
-	
-	

# 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. SA VanBibber and CST Cruey responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and 3D mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence.



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



SA VanBibber completed a crime scene report that has a detailed description and location of the items collected either at the main shooting scene or from Adena Hospital. In SA VanBibber's report, she provided an overhead view identifying the location of the incident.



(Overhead view of incident location)

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





Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

Of the items SA VanBibber collected, the following items were submitted to the lab for testing. Two firearms (one located near Long and **sector sector**'s duty weapon), two casings, one projectile, and one pistol magazine.

The firearm located near Long was labeled as item 1. The firearm was first submitted to the BCI DNA section to collect samples for future DNA analysis and then was analyzed by the BCI Firearms section. The following information was found throughout the investigation:

- The firearm was a Taurus, G3c, 9mm semi-automatic pistol and had a serial number: ADL885316.
- An ATF E-trace was conducted and was
- The firearm was found to be operable per BCI Forensic Scientist Lab Technician Alexander Salmons.
- No NIBIN leads were generated through the NIBIN database search.

The finalized BCI firearms lab report for **exercise and**'s firearm and two casings have yet to be completed. SA Chung will provide a report as soon as it becomes available.

### <u>Witnesses</u>

Four witnesses were interviewed, Haley Woods, Dee Karshner, Jennifer Hicks, and Phillip Hicks. The following paragraphs are shortened summaries of their accounts as reported to SA Chung. More detailed accounts can be found by reading their separate reports written by SA Chung and by listening to the audio recordings of those individual interviews.

### Haley Woods

Woods returned home after taking her dog on a walk around 1645 hours. Upon her return from home, she noticed wet footprints in her house that were not from her or her dog. She also noticed that her firearm, a 9mm Taurus G3c was missing from the table she left it on. Woods stated that something did not feel right and at that same time, her dog growled in the direction of her bedroom.

Woods said a White male wearing a camouflage jacket, multiple hooded sweatshirts and black pants walked out of her bedroom, pointed her firearm at her and said, "*Give* 

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BC1

Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

*me money*." Woods went on saying she did not recognize the subject and immediately ran out of her house.

Woods explained that she ran across Pleasant Valley Road to her neighbor's property and called 911. Woods said she reported a burglary, provided a description of the subject and where he was last seen. Woods remained on the phone with 911 and provided the dispatcher with live updates with what she was observing.

Woods reported that she watched the subject run across SR 104 and could see a RCSO cruiser pull into the Chillicothe Baptist Church driveway and exit his cruiser. Woods confirmed the deputy was standing on the driver's side of the cruiser, near the front mirror and there was roughly fifteen (15) to twenty (20) feet between the deputy and the male subject. Woods observed the male turn around and point a gun at the deputy. Woods stated she did not hear any gunshots but observed the man drop to the ground. Woods told agents after the man dropped, she saw the deputy move back to the rear of his cruiser. Once Woods told the dispatcher she thought there may have been gunfire, the dispatcher got off the line with her.

### Dee Karshner

Karshner said shortly before 1700 hours she was on the exit ramp from westbound US35 onto southbound SR 104 when she witnessed the incident. Karshner advised she looked to her right and observed a police cruiser with the emergency lights activated.

Karshner said she saw a deputy standing outside the police cruiser, with his gun aimed at a subject. Karshner provided a clothing description the subject was wearing as a camouflage jacket and either had black hair or was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt. Karshner was not able to identify the subject as male or female as she only saw the subject's back. Karshner indicated there was approximately 25-30 yards between the deputy and the subject, and there appeared to a verbal exchange going on.

As Karshner continued to watch the verbal exchange go on, she suddenly heard two gunshots. Karshner indicated she could see the "*residue from the gun*." She then reportedly saw the subject fall to the ground.

Karshner indicated after the gunshots, the deputy retreated towards the rear of his cruiser to "*create a barricade*" and further stated the deputy still had his firearm aimed at the subject on the ground.

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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

# Jennifer Hicks

Hicks said she and her husband, Phillip Hicks, were on the exit ramp from westbound US 35 onto SR 104, heading towards the Pleasant Valley area. Hicks indicated they were not stopped, they were completing the turn on to northbound SR 104. Hicks confirmed that her husband, Phillip, was driving when she witnessed the incident.

Hicks said she observed a Ross County Sheriff's deputy standing outside of his cruiser, on the driver's side, and a male subject standing in front of the deputy's cruiser. Hicks went on saying she saw the deputy "*in full stance with his gun aimed at the subject.*"

Hicks described the male subject as having his hands up, looked over both of his shoulders (side to side), turn around, take 2-3 steps away from the deputy and then drop to the ground. Hicks said the male was walking away when the deputy shot him. Hicks explained to agents that she observed the recoil of the gun when the deputy shot his weapon. Hicks went on to say the male fell on his right side and his left leg fell on over his right leg.

It was at that point, Hicks indicated her husband pulled over in the median of SR 104, near Camp Sherman Park, in case he needed to turn around and help the deputy.

#### **Phillip Hicks**

Phillip said he was driving on northbound SR 104 from US 35 heading towards the Pleasant Valley area. As he was driving northbound on SR 104, he and his wife saw a deputy standing outside a police cruiser on the front driver's side, in a "*full stance, like you would with a pistol.*" Phillip indicated his wife saw the deputy with a gun aimed at a subject. Phillip described the subject he saw as a man with "shaggy" hair, wearing a camouflage jacket and jeans standing with his hands up in the air.

Phillip explained he continued on driving thinking that the deputy had a taser aimed at the subject. Phillip indicated he continued to watch the incident from his rearview mirror as he drove further away from the church. Phillip's wife told him that she saw the subject fall. Phillip confirmed he did not see the subject fall, but he did see the subject put his hands down and walk away from the deputy.

Phillip advised once his wife said she saw he subject fall, he pulled into the middle of SR 104, near the prisons, intending to turn around and go back to see if the deputy needed help. Phillp looked in his rearview mirror and saw another police cruiser turn around and drive back towards the church parking lot. Phillip indicated since there was another police unit going to the scene, he continued on to his destination.

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Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



# Follow up Investigation

SA Chung met with both Haley Woods and Jennifer Hicks on March 24, 2025, to obtain an exact location of where they were when they witnessed the incident. To serve as a reference point for both witnesses, a full-sized black pick-up truck was parked in the approximate location of where **Serve 200**'s cruiser at the time of the incident. GPS coordinates and other property indicators from crime scene photographs were used for the location of **Serve 200**'s cruiser.

The following paragraphs are shortened summaries of their accounts as reported to SA Chung. Specific details can be found by reading SA Chung's report labeled: 2025-03-24: Follow up witness interviews.

Hicks was able to provide her exact location using road signage and passing vehicles. With that information, SA Chung went to the location she was shown by Hicks, took photographs and documented the GPS coordinates. The photographs and GPS coordinates were taken from the center median of SR 104, facing the Chillicothe Baptist Church driveway. The GPS coordinates were: 39.35563° N, 82.99994° W.

Woods was able to provide where she was standing when she was on the phone with RCSO dispatch and also where she witnessed the shooting. Photographs were taken and the GPS coordinates were documented by SA Chung. Woods advised that the property owner of 15306 Pleasant Valley Road has since removed and added some items from the property. The property is best described as a personal scrap yard that contained some non-operating vehicles, a skid-steer and other miscellaneous items.

Those photographs of Hicks' and Woods' point of view are below.



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



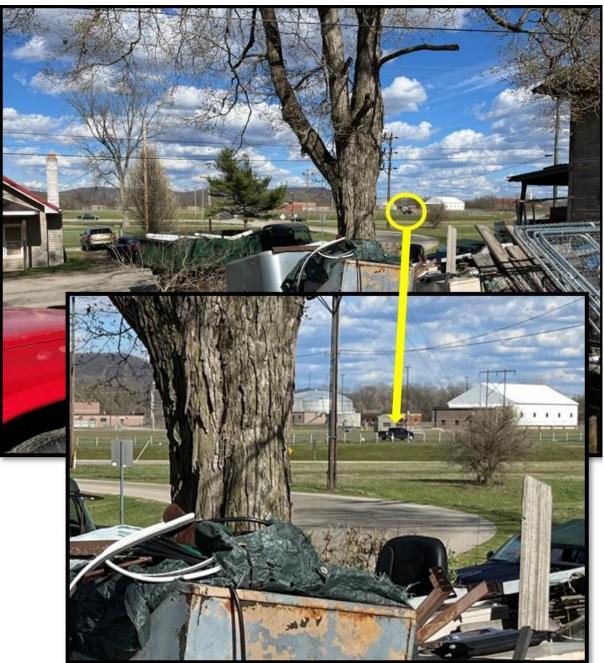


(Hicks point of view)



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)





(Woods' point of view)





Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

## **Deputy Interviews**

The following paragraphs are abbreviated versions of each deputy's account of his actions pertaining to this incident. Their individual recollection of the incident can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by listening to the audio recordings of each interview.

### Deputy Ryker Nott

Deputy (Dep.) Ryker Nott (Dep. Nott) was interviewed by SA Gore on the night of the incident. The following paragraphs are excerpts from SA Gore's report in reference to Dep. Nott's involvement and events surrounding the shooting.

Dep. Nott explained when the initial call (burglary in progress, 15000 block of Pleasant Valley) was broadcast, he was at the RCSO patrol office at Adena Medical Center. Dep. Nott recalled that dispatch referenced something about a male at the home, and the male suspect had a gun. Dep. Nott said he did not make it to Pleasant Valley. Instead, he stated the caller watched the suspect cross State Route 104 on foot toward the church entrance.

Dep. Nott stated that while he was enroute, another deputy **1998**. **Constant** advised that he was on scene, and he had the suspect at gunpoint. The deputy then advised that shots were fired. Deputy Nott estimated that he was around the interchange of State Routes 207 and 104 (approximately 3 miles north of scene) when the shots fired was broadcast. Dep. Nott said he blocked the entrance to the church on 104 with his vehicle when he arrived at the scene, then he ran up the driveway to assist.

Dep. Nott said the suspect was already in handcuffs and on his back when he arrived. Dep. Nott described him as a thin White male wearing heavy layers of clothing. He said the suspect's eyes and mouth were open, but he did not appear to be breathing. Dep. Nott said he and the other deputies removed the suspect's clothing as they rendered aid. Dep. Nott recalled seeing a gunshot wound to the suspect's upper left chest, but he did not see an exit wound, and the wound bled very little. Dep. Nott estimated that medics showed up around a minute after the chest seal was applied. He advised that the handcuffs were removed from the suspect so that the medics could apply their automated chest compression machine.

#### Deputy Luke Ramsey

Deputy (Dep.) Luke Ramsey (Dep. Ramsey) was interviewed by SA Ryan on the night of the incident. The following paragraphs are excerpts from SA Ryan's report in reference to Dep. Ramsey's involvement and events surrounding the shooting.





Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

Dep. Ramsey explained tonight (February 17, 2025) he was driving cruiser #76 preparing to start his shift when a call came over the radio by dispatch. Dep. Ramsey explained a 911 caller had reported a burglary in progress "with a firearm involved" on Pleasant Valley Road. Dep. Ramsey explained the caller was the homeowner.

Dep. Ramsey further explained he heard **and the second second**, Badge **and**, mark that he was responding to the area of the burglary in progress and that he was nearby. Dep. Ramsey also marked on duty and advised he would respond to the area because he was close as well. Dep. Ramsey estimated the time was approximately 1700 hours. Dep. Ramsey stated, "literally seconds after I keyed up to dispatch, um, I heard uh mark on the radio that he had one at gunpoint." Dep. Ramsey activated his lights, while heading to the area. Dep. Ramsey stated, "no more than probably 10, 20 seconds later I heard subject down." Approximately "10, 15 seconds" later, Dep. Ramsey explained he accidently drove past 14000 OH-104, where was with Long. radioed that Dep. Ramsey had passed him and explained where he was located. Dep. Ramsey turned around and then pulled up "right next" to 's marked RCSO we vehicle. Dep. Ramsey explained he witnessed behind cover, at his passenger side door, with his firearm out "pointed" at "a subject laying down on the ground." Dep. Ramsey clarified the subject (Long) was lying on "his back."

Dep. Ramsey then exited his cruiser "*pulled out my firearm, pointed it at the subject.*" then "mentioned he's got a firearm, uh, in his left hand." Dep. Ramsey explained he told **account of** he was going to approach the subject and "to cover me" and **account of** also started approaching, while covering Dep. Ramsey, around the "perimeter." When Dep. Ramsey approached Long, he noticed "*a small black handgun*" within reach of his left hand and "*kicked it away.*" At that point, Dep. Ramsey, accompanied by **account**, "*rolled*" Long away from them on his "*stomach*" and secured him with handcuffs.

At that time, Dep. Ramsey explained RCSO Dep. Tatman and Dep. Ryker Nott (Dep. Nott) arrived. Dep. Tatman then took "away from the subject, due to the circumstances." Dep. Ramsey explained he went over to "pick up the firearm to secure it and that's when I realized it was an empty magazine and there was nothing in the chamber." SA Ryan asked Dep. Ramsey if there was a magazine present, just not in the firearm and Dep. Ramsey responded, "there was no magazine present." SA Ryan asked Dep. Ramsey if he ever found a magazine and he responded "no." Dep. Ramsey said Dep. Tatman advised to leave the firearm and Dep. Ramsey "put" the firearm "back down" to start helping with CPR.



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



# **Dispatch-Related Information**

The Call For Service (CFS) report documented the call for service number the call taker (Chloe Howard), location (15329 Pleasant Valley Rd.), primary incident code (burglary), priority (2), call time (16:51:05 hours) and completed time (22:32:57 hours). Haley Woods was listed as the initial reporter. All Ross County Sheriff's Office responding units as well as the EMS responding units (Union Township and Scioto Township) were identified with their call signs.

## 911 Call

A female caller, later identified as Haley Woods (Woods), called 911 and reported an unknown male broke into her house and took her pistol. She reported she lived at 15329 Pleasant Valley Road. Woods told the dispatcher, "*There's a man with my gun. He was inside my house.*" Woods further stated she did not know who the man was and then provided a clothing description of a camouflage jacket, black pants and a black hooded sweatshirt.

Woods relayed that she was across the street at her neighbor's house, and she was watching the unknown male attempting to locate her. The unknown male was later identified as Daniel Long (Long). Woods told the dispatcher, Long started to walk towards her as she was still behind her neighbor's house. She went on advising RCSO dispatch, Long turned around and was now walking towards SR 104.

The dispatcher kept Woods on the phone as she aired informational updates to responding RCSO units. Woods told the dispatcher Long had crossed over SR 104 and was walking back towards the Chillicothe Baptist church.

Woods remained on the line with the dispatcher and provided more information regarding the burglary to her home.

Approximately three (3) minutes into the 911 call, Woods told the dispatcher, "*Ok, the cops here*."

Three (3) minutes and forty-one (41) seconds into the 911 call, Woods was heard saying, "*Ut oh, the cops just shot him. The cop just shot him.*" No other words were exchanged until the dispatcher told Woods she was disconnecting call. Inaudible radio traffic could be heard in the background during the call.

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Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)



# Radio Traffic Recordings

The following radio traffic recordings below only document the transmissions of RCSO dispatch providing a subject description, police units advising dispatch they're enroute and arrival to the scene. The total duration of the radio traffic recordings was 6 minutes and 30 seconds. Please refer to the report labeled: *2025-03-17: Dispatch Related Information* for specific radio traffic details.

**16\_51\_56; 1:06** - The dispatcher provided a subject description to unit 69. Unit 94 and unit 79 Ross marked enroute. Unit **aired**, "I'm nearly there. You could mark I don't have a body cam."

**16\_54\_04; 00:17** - Unit 65 aired he was enroute and advised he did not have a body camera.

16\_54\_25; 00:10 - Unit aired, "I have one at gun point."

**16\_54\_40; 00:34** – Unit aired, "Shots fired, Ross, shots fired." "Suspect down, get me a 29. A unit just went by me, come back. 99 traffic Ross, I got subject down."

16\_55\_44; 00:13 - An unknown unit aired, "I'm with him."

**16\_56\_46; 00:14** – An unknown unit aired, "Ross you got a 29 coming?" Dispatch confirmed, "A-firm. They're enroute.

### Video Recordings

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) camera footage was obtained. The position of the camera was located on the entrance ramp to westbound US 35 from SR 104 and intermittently changes positions from its stationary vantage point every 10-15 minutes. The camera happened to turn and face northbound SR 104 to capture a portion of the incident.

The footage obtained showed a subject briskly walking from the rear of 15329 Pleasant Valley Road and eventually across SR 104 to the driveway of the Chillicothe Baptist Church. As the subject was walking southbound, a cruiser with the emergency lights activated was seen pulling into the church driveway.

The cruiser came to a stop and the deputy could be seen exiting his cruiser. The subject walking was no longer in the video frame. The deputy could be seen holding his firearm with both hands. The deputy can be seen moving between the front of his cruiser and the rear of his cruiser until other deputies arrived to the scene.

The shooting was not captured on this video camera.





Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 14000 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601 (L)

## **Conclusion**

All persons known to have relevant information regarding this investigation have been interviewed and all known pertinent records and evidence have been obtained and reviewed. BCI will continue to offer investigative assistance into any newly identified witnesses or information related to this criminal investigation. BCI's investigation into this officer-involved critical incident is concluded unless such new information/witnesses is/are identified through grand jury or other means.

### **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 Aja Chung. SA Chung can be reached via email at Aja.Chung@OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at 614-208-3121.