

Clermont County Sheriff's Detective William Lee Brewer, Jr.

Age: 42

Served: 20¼ years

October 19, 1998 to February 2, 2019



OFFICER

Bill was born January 14, 1977 to William Lee and Angie Brewer, Sr. He attended Williamsburg High School and became one of the top athletes in the area. Starting his sophomore year, designated as a defensive back on the varsity team, the coach decided after losing his first two games to change to a run-and-shoot offense with Bill as quarterback. He ended up passing for almost 1200 yards in their first eight games and he excelled through his senior year. As a sophomore, the Associate Press gave him an honorable mention in the Region's Division V All District Teams competition. As a junior, he was named quarterback of the Division VI First Team. He was also an outstanding basketball and baseball player. He graduated in 1996 and was later inducted into the Williamsburg High School sports Hall of Fame.

Bill joined the Clermont County Sheriff's Office on October 19, 1998. He was assigned to road patrol on December 29, 2015 when, while trying to arrest a Theft suspect who was resisting, he was struck by a car traveling about 30 miles per hour. He was hospitalized but returned to full duty. On May 15, 2017, Deputy Brewer was awarded a Merit/Bravery Award by the Clermont Chamber of Commerce Foundation. On December 3, 2018, Deputy Brewer was transferred to the Investigations Section. By 2019, Detective Brewer had served Clermont County for 20 Years.

MURDERER

Wade Edward Winn was born September 12, 1995 to William and Tammy (Vaught) Winn of 4248 Langley Avenue in Saint Bernard. He attended the School of Creative and Performing Arts in Cincinnati.

We are unaware of his juvenile record, but as an adult he started out at 19-years-old with misdemeanor marijuana convictions. A couple of years later, he was charged with Robbery in Hamilton County, but the Grand Jury did not indict him. He was arrested in May 2018 on charges of carrying a concealed weapon, drug possession, and driving with a suspended license, but those charges were also dropped. He was convicted in August 2018 on a charge of improperly handling firearms in motor vehicle.

INCIDENT

Pierce Township officers were dispatched for a welfare check at 6:56 p.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2019 to Winn's apartment on St. Andrews Drive. He had called 9-1-1 and stated that there was a man inside who refused to leave, that he had weapons in the apartment, and that he was suicidal. Officers from multiple agencies responded. They were unable to make contact with the caller. After the fact, it seems like that he hoped that officers would force entry to check on his welfare. When they did not, at 8:15 p.m. he fired shots from inside the apartment. Pierce Township Police Department personnel requested that the multiagency Clermont County Special Response Team (SRT) respond; which it did at 9:25 p.m. They negotiated with Winn and Winn was live on Instagram during the negotiation.

Negotiations seemed to deteriorate and, at 10:37 p.m. shots were fired again. Officers were convinced he had shot himself and they rushed in to provide emergency medical assistance. Winn fired a fusillade of bullets through the walls in an attempt

to kill the deputies. Detective Brewer and Lieutenant Nicholas DeRose were hit. Detective Brewer was hit twice, once in the lower leg and the other below his ballistic vest. The latter would prove to be fatal.

Officers on the scene broadcast, “Officer down! Officer down!” They rushed to Detective Brewer and yelled, “Bill, stay with us! Bill, stay with us!” Officers requested that Air Care respond, but they were unable due to the weather. He was transported to Mercy Hospital in Anderson where he died from his injuries – becoming the only Clermont County deputy to have been murdered in the line of duty.

Lieutenant DeRose was taken to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, treated, and several hours later released. He returned to Clermont County to assist in the investigation.

Gunshots continued throughout the night and early morning hours. With two of their team missing and having the standoff approaching its seventh hour, the SRT, at 4 a.m., requested the assistance of Cincinnati Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams. Shots continued to be fired as late as 5 a.m. Simultaneous to a fire erupting in the apartment, a SWAT team moved in about 6:30 a.m. and the suspect surrendered. At 6:36, law enforcement announced that they had the suspect in custody. Firefighters were called to put out the fire, which officials advised broke out as a result of the standoff.

The Ohio State Fire Marshal has been asked to investigate the fires. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) will investigate the criminal offenses.

JUSTICE

Winn was held overnight without bond at the Clermont County jail on charges of aggravated murder and attempted aggravated murder. He appeared at 10 a.m. in Clermont County Municipal Court and denied the charges. Prosecutor Miller advised they would seek the death penalty. Bond was set at \$10 Million. Winn was represented by Attorney Clark. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for February 13, 2019.

FUNERAL

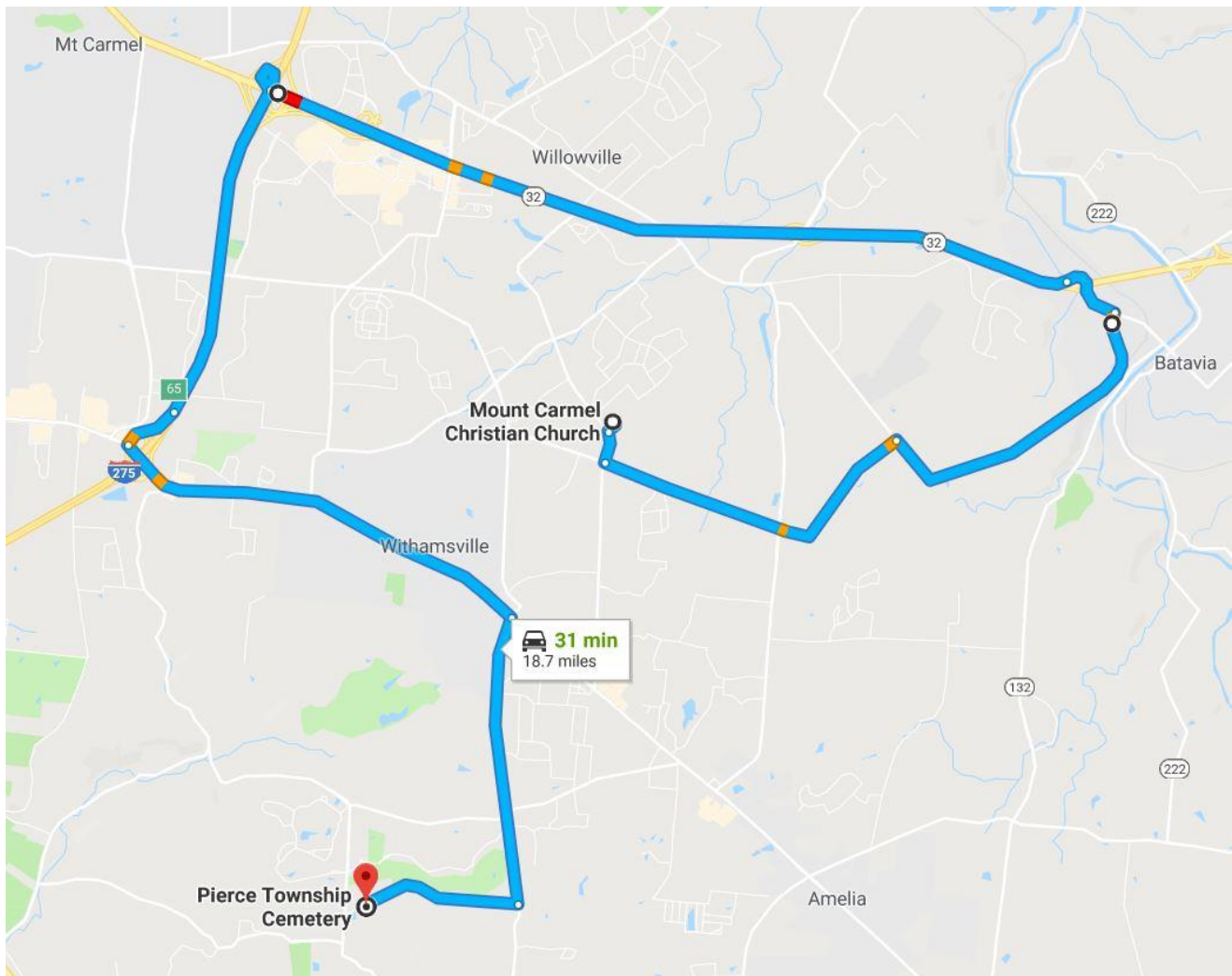
Detective Brewer is survived by his wife of 13 years, Jamie (Hensley) Brewer; son, Braxton Brewer (5); parents, William and Angie Brewer; brother, Michael Brewer; and parents-in-law, James and Mary Noll.

A procession of police vehicles from many jurisdictions escorted Detective Brewer from the Mercy Hospital to the Hamilton County Morgue for an autopsy. Another similar procession, later in the morning, took him to E. C. Nurre Funeral Home in Amelia. Hundreds lined the route along the way.

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, on Sunday, February 3, 2019, ordered flags to be lowered to half-staff at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus and Clermont County to honor Brewer's service until sunset the day of his interment. Many Greater Cincinnati businesses and homes have lowered their flags as well.

A public visitation will be held 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at [Mt. Carmel Christian Church](#) at 4110 Bach Buxton Road in Batavia. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, February 8, 2019

After church services, the cortege will proceed south on Bach-Buxton Road to east on Clough Pike; north on Main Street (Batavia); west on James Rhodes Appalachian Highway (SR 32); south on I-275; east on Beechmont Avenue (SR 125); south on Merwin 10 Mile Road; west on Locust Corner Road; and left into the Pierce Township Cemetery.



Donations may be sent to "The Bill Brewer Memorial Fund," c/o Park National Bank, 1187 Ohio Pike, Amelia, OH 45102.