



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



2019-3029

Officer-Involved Critical Incident – Richland County Jail

**Investigative Activity:** Video Review

**Involves:** Alexander J. Rios (S), [REDACTED] (O), Mark Dwayne Cooper (O), [REDACTED] (O), [REDACTED] (O), [REDACTED] (O), [REDACTED] (O), [REDACTED] (O)

**Date of Activity:** 09/20/2019

**Activity Location:** Richland County Jail – 73 East 2nd Street, Mansfield, OH 44902, Richland County

**Author:** SA Eric Lehnhart, #84

**Narrative:**

On Tuesday, October 1, 2019, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Eric Lehnhart (SA Lehnhart) received video footage from Deputy Captain Donald Zehner of the Richland County Sheriff's Office. SA Lehnhart was informed that the videos contained footage from the surveillance cameras recorded by the Richland County Sheriff's Office Jail.

SA Lehnhart reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

Special Agent Eric Lehnhart was provided six (6) video recordings from the in custody death of Alexander J. Rios on Friday, September 20, 2019. One (1) recording was from a Sony handheld camera utilized by the jail staff for use to document sensitive events similar to jail cell extractions. The other five (5) recordings were from closed circuit proprietary video system utilized by the Richland County Sheriff's Office to monitor the hour by hour operation of the jail and its property. Each video was transcribed by Special Agent Eric Lehnhart utilizing Microsoft Excel to document the date, time, and events observed.

Sony Handheld Camera

This video began at cell 1B10 where Richland County Jail Inmate Alexander J. Rios (Rios) was being held on a suicide watch. Rios is seen standing on a concrete divider in his cell. Rios refused commands from the jail staff to remove himself from that divider, prepare to "cuff up," and be moved into a restraint chair. As the door was opened to remove Rios from that cell, Rios broke away from correctional staff and began to run around the booking room. Rios was eventually met by correctional staff and a struggle ensued. During the struggle, Rios and

one (1) correctional officer received Taser deployments. Rios lost consciousness and received aid from the correctional staff.

Sally Port Camera #6

This video shows the entrance and exit of Mansfield Fire Department Engine 1 and Rescue 1.

Sally Port Camera #10

This video shows the entrance and exit of Mansfield Fire Department Engine 1 and Rescue 1.

Booking Camera #11

This video show the opening of cell 1B10, Rios running from the cell and being met by correctional staff near segregation holding cell 1B15.

Booking Camera #13

This video shows the opening of cell 1B10, Rios running from the cell and out of camera view. The remainder of the video shows unidentified correctional staff entering and exiting the camera view.

Booking Camera #110 (Sally Port Connector)

This video shows the entrance and exit of Mansfield Fire Department Engine 1 and Rescue 1.

The transcripts for the above mentioned videos was attached to this investigative report. Please refer to the attachment for further details.

The DVD containing the video footage was provided to Forrest Thompson, Richland County Special Prosecutor.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01:2019-09-20 Sony Handheld Camera Timeline

Attachment # 02:2019-09-20 Sally Port Camera #6

Attachment # 03:2019-09-20 Sally Port Camera #10

Attachment # 04:2019-09-20 Booking Camera #11

Attachment # 05:2019-09-20 Booking Camera #13

Attachment # 06:2019-09-20 Booking Camera #110

RCSO  
Sony Handheld Camera

Time	Event
0:00:00	Extraction of Rios begins with CO's advising Rios that he need to get down from the divider.
0:00:02	Gartner standing to the right of the door (B10) and to the right of the video oprator.
0:00:53	Door to (1B10) is opened by control.
0:01:08	Rios is on the floor in the supine position with two (2) CO's on top of him.
0:01:19	"Com'on Man." - Rios
0:01:23	Use your Taser. - [REDACTED]
0:01:24	"I'm not fighting." - Rios
0:01:25	"Tase him." - [REDACTED]
0:01:26	"I'm not fighting." - Rios
0:01:29	"Taser, Taser, Taser!" - Unkown CO
0:01:32	"I'm not even fighting him." - Rios
0:01:34	Cooper leave the struggle with Taser Probe in his hand (Right)
0:01:39	"Glasses, someone get my god damed glasses off." - [REDACTED]
0:01:52	"Drive tase him." - [REDACTED]
0:01:53	"Can you explain to me." - Rios
0:01:54	"Cause you're a dumb ass." - Unknown
0:01:55	"No you're the dumbass." - [REDACTED]
0:01:58	"I didn't say you were." - Rios
0:02:02	"Fuck'in took off out of his cell." - [REDACTED]
0:02:03	"Really." - [REDACTED]
0:02:09	Rios is seen moving his right arm towards his head.
0:02:10	"Give me your hand behind your back." - Unknown CO
0:02:11	"Ah, Shit" - [REDACTED]
0:02:19	"He's on some type of drugs, I believe." - [REDACTED]
0:02:20	"Nah, he's playing." - Unknown CO
0:02:21	"Do we tase him again?" - Unknown CO
0:02:22	"you need to." - [REDACTED] (Rios is heard with labored breathing.)
0:02:27	"Do we have anyone else available?" - [REDACTED] (Rios is heard wheezing)
0:02:39	"Rios, Alexander Rios." - [REDACTED]
0:02:44	"That's the one we served the warrant on last night wasn't it?" - [REDACTED]
0:02:45	"Yes, he thinks he supossed to be out of here, and (Illegible) (Rios is still Wheezing)
0:02:47	CO strikes Rios in the head with his right palm. ([REDACTED])
0:02:50	Rios is struggling to breath, CO Cooper lifts his supporting foot off the ground putting full weight onto Rios back.
0:02:57	"Ah, they tased me." - Unknown CO as a taser deployment is heard in the background.
0:03:00	"Turn it off, Turn it off!" - two differnt CO voices.
0:03:01	<b>Last significant movement that Rios exhibits</b>
0:03:07	Two more closed fist strikes to Rios head by CO. ([REDACTED])
0:03:08	"I'd like to help." - Unknown CO ([REDACTED])
0:03:11	"Let go of the cuff, I'll fucking (Illegible)." - Unknown CO
0:03:16	"Let go of the cuff." - Unknown CO

RCSO  
Sony Handheld Camera

0:03:27 "I tried to pull that thing out, It wouldn't come out." - Cooper  
0:03:28 "Get a pair of shakles." - [REDACTED]  
0:03:31 "We have another (Illegible), handcuff  
0:03:33 "Where's the other hand at?" - Unknown CO  
0:03:35 "I got it." - Unknown CO  
0:03:37 Illegible  
0:03:38 **No movement out of Rios at this time (Turning an ash color)**  
0:03:46 "you want a pair of shackles?" - [REDACTED]  
0:03:53 CO Cooper takes foot off Rios' back  
0:03:55 CO Cooper applies his left knee to Rios back.  
0:03:57 CO's discussing shackling Rios' ankles.  
0:04:28 Sound of ratcheting restraints are heard.  
0:04:30 "Keep going." - Unknown CO  
0:04:36 "Hey [REDACTED] come on the other side of [REDACTED] when we come up, we are going  
straight into the chair."  
0:04:42 "Cooper, I'm behind you, (illegible)  
0:04:53 "I've got the chair so it doesn't move." - Unknown CO  
0:04:57 "You two ready?" - Unknown CO  
0:04:58 [REDACTED] & Cooper discuss picking Rios up and placing him in the chair.  
  
0:05:00 "he's turing blue." - Unknown CO  
0:05:01 As Rios is lifted off of the floor he is limp.  
0:05:05 "He's turning Blue." - [REDACTED]  
0:05:06 "He's Blue." - Unknown CO  
0:05:12 "Master Control, Call the Squad." - [REDACTED]  
0:05:17 "Put him on his side." - Unknown CO  
0:05:23 "Try to get him some oxygen, make sure everything is going okay for him." - Unknown  
CO  
0:05:27 "Get the AED." - Unknown CO  
0:05:28 Video is terminated.

RCSO  
Sally Port Camera #6

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:00	Camera #6 showing an empty Sally Port.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:24	Shadow moves across the concrete floor.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:52	Lights appear on westside wall.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:57	Rescue 1 appears, moving towards the westside wall.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:07	Rescue 1 crew exiting the apparatus and gathering equipment.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:11	Unidentified Fire Fighter appears in Sally Port.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:32	Unidentified male appears in Sally Port.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:07:19	Shadow moves across the concrete floor.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:23	Shadow moves across the concrete floor.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:37	CO [REDACTED] appears, opens door to Rescue and lowers step bumper.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:51	Rescue 1 crew appears with Rio's on cot.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:32	Doors are closed on Rescue 1.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:51	Rescue 1 is leaving Sally Port with emergency lights activated.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:12:00	Sally Port Camera # 6 video stopped.

RCSO  
Sally Port Camera #10

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:00	Camera # 10 shows an empty Sally Port.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:19	Eastside Sally Port door begins to rise.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:30	Engine 1 is seen driving south on S. Adams Street near E. 1st Street.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:00	Rescue 1 entering the Sally Port through the eastside door.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:17	Rescue 1 crew exiting the apparatus and gathering equipment.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:07:14	Eastside Sally Port door is closing.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:21	Eastside Sally Port door is opening.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:49	Eastside Sally Port door is closing.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:51	Rescue 1 crew returning to the apparatus.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:55	Southside Sally Port door is opening.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:01	Cot being secured in the back of Rescue 1.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:42	Rescue 1 driver is behind steering wheel and door is closed.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:58	Rescue 1 is out of the Sally Port with emergency lights activated.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:12:00	Sally Port Camera # 10 video stopped.

RCSO  
Booking Camera #11

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57	Camera #11 video begins.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:32	Door 1B10 is opened.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:34	Rios is seen turning west and running in front of the booking desk area.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:37	Rios turns north at shower room 1 and continues running.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:39	Rios is met to the right of Segregations Holding 1B15 by unidentified persons.

RCSO  
Booking Camera #13

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:00	RCSO Jail staff gathering at 1B10.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:32	Door to 1B10 is opened.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:33	Rios exits 1B10 and breaks free from CO's towards the south of the booking area.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:35	Rios turns east and out of the camera view. Two (2) CO's in pursuit.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:37	Lt. [REDACTED] is seen holding the Sony Handheld camera. CO [REDACTED] is also seen walking north and turning west to the rear of the booking desk.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:37	Lt. [REDACTED] is seen reversing course and walking through the booking desk area
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:43	Camera #13 shows no images other than an inmate in 1B9.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:58	Unidentified person entering booking area through 1B2 door and turns west walking behind the booking desk area.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:58:25	Unidentified person entering booking area through 1B2 door and turns west walking through the booking desk area. [REDACTED]
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:59:15	Unidentified person walking east behind the booking desk to the restraint chair and pushes restraint chair back west.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:00:14	Unidentified person walking east through the booking desk area, is obscured by the support pillar and then walks back east out of Camera #13 view.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:03:42	Unidentified person walking east through the booking desk area, turned south in front of 1B9, then turns east towards door 1B16.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:05:34	Unidentified person walking west from the area of 1B16, turning north, then west through the booking desk area. Individual stops, reverses course twice and then continues on west out of Camera #13 view.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:19	Unidentified person walking east through the booking desk area, turning south, then turning west again towards door 1B6.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:09:15	Unidentified person walking east through the booking desk area, turning north, and exiting through door 1B1. As another unidentified person walking east through the booking desk area, turns south in front of door 1B9, then turns west and out of Camera #13 view.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:09:54	Leggs and feet appear at the bottom left corner of Camera #13 view.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:13	Lt. [REDACTED] walking east through the booking desk area. Turning south then west until out of Camera #13 view.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:47	Unidentified arm and hand raising in the booking desk area. Person appears to be sitting down in a chair.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:12:00	Camera #13 video stops.

RCSO  
Booking Camera #110

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:00	Camera #110 showing the Sally Port connector with a pair of inmate slides.
Thursday, September 19, 2019	23:57:35	Rios legs seen passing door 1B6. Unidentified person's legs seen passing same area.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:03	Rescue 1 is seen entering the Sally Port Garage.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:14	Rescue 1 crew exiting apparatus.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:29	Unidentified person enters 1B6 towards the Sally Port.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:06:37	Rescue 1 crew enters jail through door 1B6.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:09:27	Unidentified person enters through door 1B6 and prepares the second door to the Sally Port for Rescue 1 crew.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:27	Lt. [REDACTED] passes through door 1B6 towards the Sally Port Garage. Rescue 1 crew follows with Rios on cot.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:10:52	Lt. [REDACTED] returns to booking area through door 1B6.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:11:50	Rescue 1 exits the Sally Port with Emergency Lights activated.
Friday, September 20, 2019	0:12:00	Camera #110 video stops.