



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



2022-0727

Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 914 Salt Springs Road, Youngstown,  
Ohio 44509

Investigative Activity: Video Review  
Activity Date: April 1, 2022  
Activity Location: Salt Springs Road  
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Al Bansky #115

**Narrative:**

On Friday, April 08, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Al Bansky (Bansky) received video footage from Struthers Police Department Chief Tim Roddy. SA Bansky was informed that the videos contained footage from the body camera recorded by Struthers Police Officer (Ofc.) Tom Schneeman (Schneeman).

SA Bansky reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

Note: Ofc. Schneeman was identified as the only officer who fired his weapon regarding the officer-involved critical incident on April 1, 2022.

Ofc. Schneeman's body-camera recording is labeled: CM-2022040810110078.

Ofc. Schneeman's body camera start time showed 17:08:09, and an ending time of 13:38:10.

The following times listed came from Ofc. Schneeman's body cam time bar, dated April 1, 2022:

- Approximately 17:08:09: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman operating his police cruiser, following Struthers Police Captain (Capt.) Matt Haus (Haus).
- Approximately 17:13:28: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman arriving on Salt Springs Road. You can hear a loud sound caused by Ofc. Schneeman's police cruiser striking James Sheets' tan-colored Chevrolet Malibu on the driver's side. Note: Video also shows Capt. Haus' police cruiser on the passenger side of Sheets' vehicle.
- Approximately 17:13:32: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman exiting his cruiser.
- Approximately 17:13:34: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman, with his duty weapon in his right hand and his taser in his left hand, approaching the driver's side of the tan Chevrolet Malibu. You can hear Ofc. Schneeman yelling, "Show me your hands." You can also see Sheets sitting upright in the driver's seat (cannot see Sheets' hands).
- Approximately 17:13:36: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman yelling, "Show me your hands."
- Approximately 17:13:39: Video/shows Ofc. Schneeman yelling, "Got gun, gun."



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- Approximately 17:13:41: Video shows/hears shots being fired. Note: Police sirens were still activated at this time and were overwhelming the audio of Ofc. Scheeman's body camera during the discharge of his duty weapon.
- Approximately 17:13:43: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Gun."
- Approximately 17:13:46: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Gun, reloading, reloading."
- Approximately 17:13:52: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Get back, back, he got a gun."
- Approximately 17:13:58: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Show us your hands."
- Approximately 17:14:01: Video shows Capt. Haus with his duty weapon in his right hand, approaching James Sheets' vehicle on the passenger side.
- Approximately 17:14:05: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman asking Capt. Haus if he "okay."
- Approximately 17:14:08: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Show us your hands."
- Approximately 17:14:11: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Put your hands up."
- Approximately 17:14:14: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Put your hands up."
- Approximately 17:14:39: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman going back to his cruiser, setting his taser inside the cruiser.
- Approximately 17:14:40: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman pointing his duty weapon towards the driver-side window.
- Approximately 17:14:51: Video shows/hears Capt. Haus asking Ofc. Schneeman if he was "shot."
- Approximately 17:15:51: Video shows/hears sirens from other officers arriving on scene, while Ofc. Schneeman has his duty weapon pointed towards the driver's window of James Sheets' vehicle.
- Approximately 17:15:51: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman with his weapon in his right hand, moving closer to the driver's side window of James Sheets' vehicle.
- Approximately 17:16:28: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman yelling, "Show us your hands."
- Approximately 17:16:43: Video shows two Youngstown police officers who arrived on scene with their weapons pointed towards James Sheets' vehicle.
- Approximately 17:16:58: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman retrieving a bullet-proof shield from the trunk of his police cruiser.



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- Approximately 17:16:19: Video shows Ofc. Schneeman with his bullet-proof shield approaching James Sheets' vehicle, towards the driver's side.
- Approximately 17:17:19: Video shows James Sheets slumped over towards the passenger side, not moving.
- Approximately 17:17:19: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman saying, "Gun in the floor board."
- Approximately 17:17:26: Video shows/hears a Youngstown City police officer, who is positioned on the passenger side of James Sheets' vehicle, advising Ofc. Schneeman that he is going to reach in (inaudible at this time). Ofc. Schneeman can be heard saying, "Go ahead." Note: The Youngstown police officer mentioned at this time was later identified as Officer Gregg Tackett (Tackett). According to Ofc. Tackett, he shut the engine off.
- Approximately 17:17:37: Video shows/hears Ofc. Schneeman walking away from James Sheets' vehicle saying, "On the floor board."
- Approximately 17:22:35: Video shows the arrival of Youngstown Police Captain Jason Simon, who took command of the scene.

**ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR EVALUATING THE VIDEO RECORDINGS**

There are numerous other factors that need to be considered when reviewing and evaluating the videos and audio recordings of this incident. Those factors are:

**A.** Video recording devices record within the video and sound capabilities available, and they record objectively. Video recordings lack the history, perspective and interest of the people involved. The positions, angles, obstacles, lighting and distance from the incident are also factors that need serious consideration.

**B.** Video recording devices also record more information about a particular scene or incident than the person(s) involved in the incident can process during the critical incident. Video recording devices rarely record an event from the same perspective of the officer. It captures the action but not the perception, decision making, focus or intent of the officer. Video recordings often miss tactile cues or other actions of a subject.

**C.** The speed of the incident is remarkable. The speed and complexity of rapidly evolving situation(s) that occur during use of force encounters are difficult concepts to comprehend by only watching the video.

DVD containing Struthers Police Officer Tom Schneeman's body camera was placed into the case file.