

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: May 23, 2022

Activity Location: BCI Youngstown Office

Authoring Agent: Special Agent Al Bansky #115

Narrative:

On April 25, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Al Bansky (Bansky) received video footage from Youngstown Police Department (YPD) Captain (Capt.) Jason Simon. SA Bansky was informed that the videos contained footage from the body camera recorded by YPD Police Officer (Ofc.) Ken Blair (Blair).

SA Bansky reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

Note: Ofc. Blair was not involved nor took part in any actions regarding the officer-involved critical incident. Ofc. Blair arrived on scene after the shooting incident occurred.

Ofc. Blair's body camera recording is labeled: Axon Body: 3 X 60A00730.

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

- Approximately 17:16:14, video shows Ofc. Blair operating his police cruiser going to Salt Spring Road and Steel Street. (Note: No sound could be heard at this time.)
- Approximately 17:16:42, video shows Ofc. Blair arriving on scene. (Note: Sound resumed.)
- Approximately 17:17:45, video shows/hears Struthers Police Capt. Matt Haus (Haus) saying to several YPD officers, "He came up and fucking pointed right at us."
- Approximately 17:18:27, video shows several YPD officers in the area of the crime scene.
- Approximately 17:18:48, video shows/hears, "He has a gun."
- Approximately 17:19:14, video shows/hears Ofc. Blair going back to his cruiser. Cruiser radio can be heard saying, "Code 6, slow it down."
- Approximately 17:19:43, video shows Ofc. Blair walking back to the scene.
- Approximately 17:21:09, video shows the close up of the actual crime scene. The crime scene shows a tan Chevrolet Malibu in between two Struthers Police cruisers.
- Approximately 17:21:39, video shows several YPD officers securing the crime scene.
- Approximately 17:21:51, video shows Capt. Haus and Ofc. Schneeman waking around outside the crime scene.
- Approximately 17:24:19, video shows/hears YPD Capt. Jason Simon advising radio, "We don't need anyone else right now, I think we are code 6 for that."



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- Approximately 17:25:16, video shows one of the YPD officers looking into the driver's door window (broken out).
- Approximately 17:26:05, video ended.

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.

The CD containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item #77 for reference only.