



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



2024-1474
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 16100 Van Aken Blvd.,
Shaker Heights, OH

Investigative Activity: Review Body Worn Camera Video
Involves: Ohio State Highway Patrol OSHP Sergeant Chris Castellanos (W)
Activity Date: 07/03/2024
Activity Location: BCI Richfield
Authoring Agent: SA Jesse Bynum #179

Narrative:

On July 3, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jesse Bynum (Bynum) began to review video footage related to the officer involved critical incident that occurred in the city of Shaker Heights. This report contains video files captured from body worn camera (BWC) video files of an Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Sergeant Chris Castellanos, that were also able to capture some video from multiple robot and drone surveillance units. The robots used a display on the controller for the operator to view live audio and video, but it does not retain the files. The video files were originally received from the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

BWC - Axon Body 3 Video 2024-05-12 1243_X60A2291U

Total Length of video: 4:43:54 with a time stamp at the beginning: 2024-05-12 12:41:52 -0400 AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U.

Upon further review of the BWC video file, the video captured did not contain any views of the officer involved shooting incident. The video file depicts the Officers in the hallway and stairwells outside the subject’s residence located at 16100 Van Aken Boulevard, Apartment 1, Shaker Heights, OH 44120. Image #1 depicts the outside of the residence. Image #2 depicts the inside of the hallway near the residence.



(Image #1)



(Image #2)

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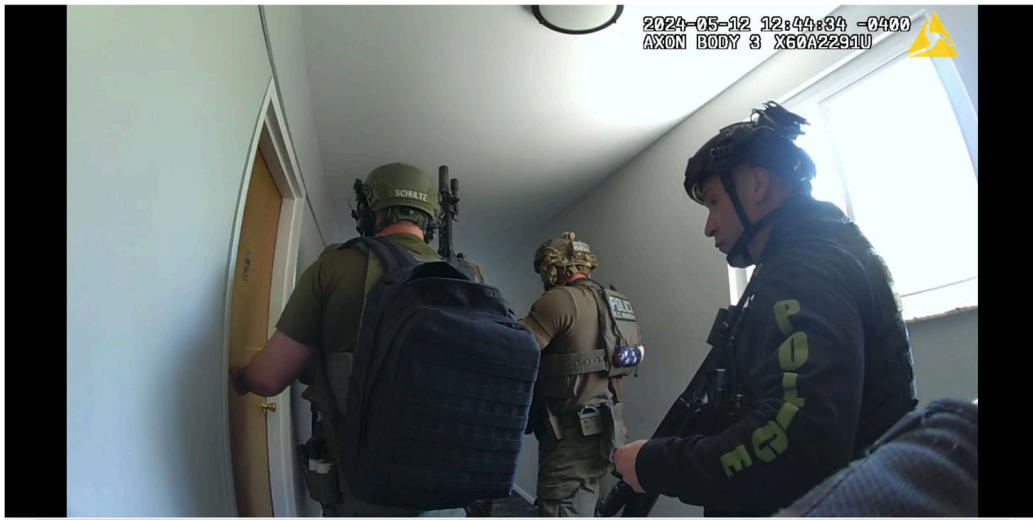
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At the 02:26 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos hands another officer a bag and advised that it contained gas rounds. Image #3 depicts this handing off of less lethal ammunition.



(Image #3)

At the 02:42 mark of the video, Euclid Police Department Officer Joshua Schultz (Shultz) was observed knocking on neighbor's door as shown in Image #4.



(Image #4)

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At the 04:47 mark of the video, Officers can be heard announcing "Police US Marshals" and knocking on the subject's door. Ashley Crenshaw exited the residence and was secured by officers as shown in Image #5.



(Image #5)

At the 07:02 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos asked the female if there was anybody else in there, to which the female shakes her head and says no, as depicted in Image #6. Sergeant Castellanos then says, "just Deshawn".



(Image #6)

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At the 09:38 mark of the video, an unknown officer was heard describing the layout of the residence using a robot or drone surveillance system. Then it was called out that Vaughn was by the bed.

At the 12:52 mark of the video, another officer was shown using the robot controller depicted in Image #7.



(Image #7)

The other officer using the robot controller describes and points to the subject's location on the ICOR robot controller video screen. Due to the glare, an image of Vaughn cannot be observed on the controller screen as depicted in Image #8.



(Image #8)

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At the 13:01 mark of the video, a distraction device was heard being used inside the residence. After the device was deployed, another officer watching the robot camera system advised that there was no movement, and that Vaughn did not get up.

At the 18:18 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos advised the neighbor in apartment 303 to evacuate while another officer was requesting the neighbor on the opposite side of the hallway to evacuate, as depicted in Image #9.



(Image #9)

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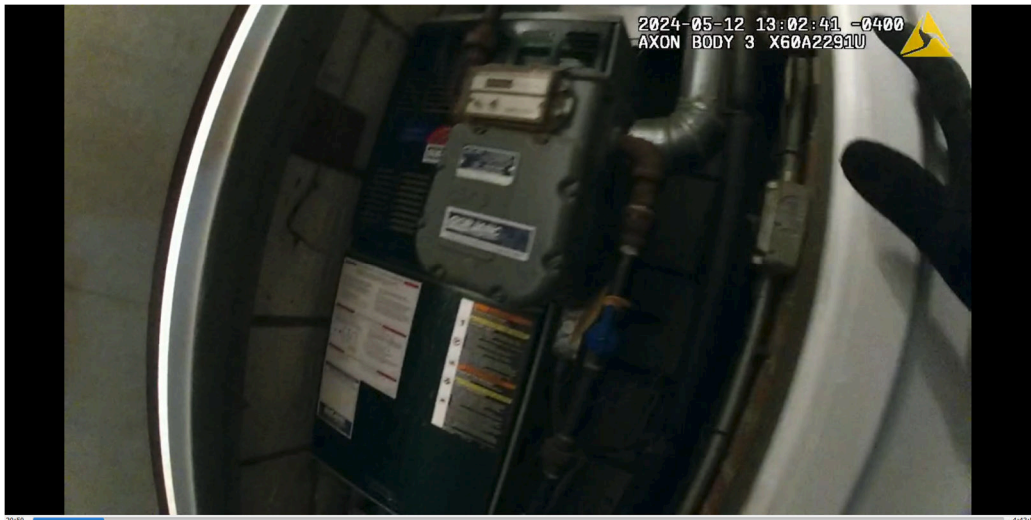
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At the 18:49 mark of the video, the location of the neighbors' residence in relation to Vaughn's can be seen as depicted in Image #9.



(Image #9)

At the 20:50 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos checked the closets and found them to be utility closets and not to have additional access to Vaughn's residence as depicted in Image #10.



(Image #10)

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At the 34:54 mark of the video, other officers were heard asking if he was drinking and there was a reply stating that he (Vaughn) put the bottle down.

At the 37:03 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos was given a recon scout control with the robot positioned inside the bedroom under the bed. Image #11 depicts the controller and the image from the live video as it was able to be captured on the BWC. Sergeant Castellanos was heard giving a description of where Vaughn was in the room.



(Image #11)

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At the 44:00 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos said that he was unable to see Vaughn in the live feed from the Recon Robot. At the 44:51 mark and the 44:58 mark of the video, a shot was heard on the BWC video and other officers are heard stating that Vaughn was shooting at the drone. At the 46:30 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos advised that Vaughn was prone near the foot of the bed and that he could see his head in the live view of the Recon Robot. Sergeant Castellanos pointed at the screen to show another officer Vaughn's head, arm, and hand. Image #12 depicts the screen of the controller when Sergeant Castellanos was showing the other officer Vaughn. Image #13 is a zoomed-in version of Image #12 showing just the controller.



(Image #12)



(Image #13 Zoomed in on controller)

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At the 46:39 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos advised that he could see Vaughn's arm depicted in Image #14 and then at the 46:54 mark of the video, there was movement on the screen, and something moved closer to the camera of the Recon Robot. Due to the glare, it is not easily identifiable, but it is depicted in Image #15.



(Image #14)



(Image #15)

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At the 46:58 mark of the video, a gunshot was heard, and officers advise that Vaughn was shooting at the robot. A second gunshot was heard at the 47:04 mark of the video, and the Recon Robot's screen shows static as depicted in Image #16. Sergeant Castellanos advised the officers that Vaughn had shot the robot.



(Image #16)

Sergeant Castellanos connected to another OSHP Trooper's headset that was flying a drone inside the residence with his phone and the image displayed was shown on Sergeant Castellanos' phone in the view of his BWC as depicted in Image #17.



(Image #17)

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Sergeant Castellanos does not operate any other robots or drones during the incident after the Recon robot was shot, but his BWC continues to operate. Other officers are overheard during the incident and shown occasionally on Sergeant Castellanos' BWC. Announcements can be heard from officers requesting Vaughn to come to the door, and they wanted a peaceful resolution. For many of these relevant audio portions captured on Sergeant Castellanos' BWC there was not a relevant image captured, so no screenshot will be provided in those instances. At the 57:59 mark of the video, an officer was heard describing Vaughn's movements in the bedroom as seen on the other robot. The officer advised that Vaughn crawled to the foot of the mattress and was moving stuff around to take a position at the foot of the bed.

At the 59:52 mark of the video, Vaughn was reported to have shut the bedroom door. Then, at the 1:03:57 mark of the video, Vaughn was reported to be peeking through the doorknob hole. At the 1:06:55 mark of the video, Officers are heard advising Vaughn to answer the phone.

At the 1:11:11 mark of the video, a gunshot was heard, followed by approximately 10 additional shots. Due to the block walls and reverberations, it was difficult to determine the exact number of gunshots. At the 1:11:58 mark of the video, another Officer asked if police had shot and someone answered at the 1:12:38 mark of the video, "Yeah they might have had a hit". At the 1:15:21 mark of the video, an Officer stated, "more shots" and a muffled gunshot could be heard.

At the 1:34:27 mark of the video, an Officer was heard advising "No movement door still closed". There were additional announcements made and then at the 2:06:48 mark of the video, an Officer was heard discussing that the lack of movement could be Vaughn "baiting" them to enter. At the 2:46:37 mark of the video, University Heights Sergeant Marc Imbrogno was shown on Sergeant Castellanos' BWC using the Recon robot controller as depicted in Image #18.



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(Image #18)

At the 3:10:28 mark of the video, an Officer was heard stating that the “suspect has a gun has a Mac 10 next to him”. A plan was made to use an explosive charge to breach the closed bedroom door. At the 3:46:28 mark of the video, a robot with an explosive charge was seen in the hallway as depicted in image #19.



(Image #19)

At the 3:31:52 mark of the video, an Officer was heard stating, “they are talking to him. He is convinced we are going to shoot him.” A distraction was requested while officers set the charge with the robot. At the 3:58:00 mark of the video, an Officer was heard saying “slow and steady fire with the rifle” and then “Sniper shot”. At the 4:01:10 mark of the video, an Officer was heard giving commands advising the explosive breach was going to be detonated and then at the 4:01:14 mark of the video an explosion was heard. Officers advised that there was a positive breach and at the 4:02:47 mark of the video a gunshot was heard.

At the 4:15:34 mark of the video, a robot controller was in the frame of Sergeant Castellanos' BWC. At the 4:19:33 mark of the video, a gunshot was heard, followed by additional announcements being given at the 4:24:57 mark of the video.

At the 4:35:44 mark of the video, Sergeant Castellanos was observed walking up the stairs and then into a similar apartment to gain knowledge of the layout.

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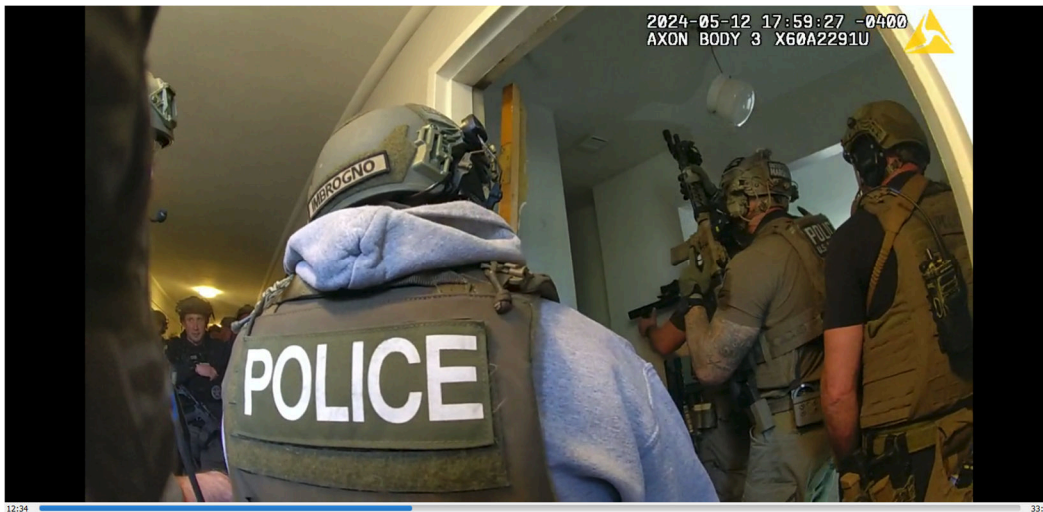
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BWC - Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-05-12_1748_X60A2291U

Total Length of video: 33:05 with a time stamp at the beginning: 2024-05-12 17:4:55 - 0400 AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U.

At the 1:30 mark of the video, the audio starts. At the 2:39 mark of the video, an Officer was heard stating "looks like some blood spatter in the bathroom." It's unknown which device was being used to gain the intel at this time, but at the 3:30 mark of the video an Officer said, "Nothing by hands". There was then a discussion of Vaughn's phone being on FaceTime and discussions of a plan to park an UAV on or near Vaughn to illicit a reaction. In addition, a discussion was had related to introducing gas projectiles into the area that Vaughn was in.

At the 12:30 mark of the video, a CS gas projectile was observed being shot into the bedroom area by Officer Shultz as depicted in Image #20.



(Image #20)

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At the 12:59 mark of the video another gas projectile was handed to Officer Shultz as depicted in Image #21.



(Image #21)

At the 20:56 mark of the video, an Officer was heard advising that a canine was on the way up to the apartment. A short time later, at the 21:11 mark of the video, another drone controller was shown being used by another Officer on Sergeant Castellanos' BWC as depicted in Image #22.



(Image #22)

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At the 29:34 mark of the video, another gas projectile was fired into the residence. After which, an officer was heard saying no movement. At the 30:00 mark of the video, officers advance to where Vaughn was located. Sergeant Castellanos advised dispatch at the 30:39 mark of the video to "Disregard, the suspect is down, signal 30."

For further information, please review reference item H that includes OSHP BWC video.

References:

Reference Item H OSHP BWC Footage

Attachments:

1. 2024-07-16 Screenshots from Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-05-12_1243_X60A2291U
2. 2024-07-16 Screenshots from Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-05-12_1748_X60A2291U

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Screenshots from Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-05-12_1243_X60A2291U







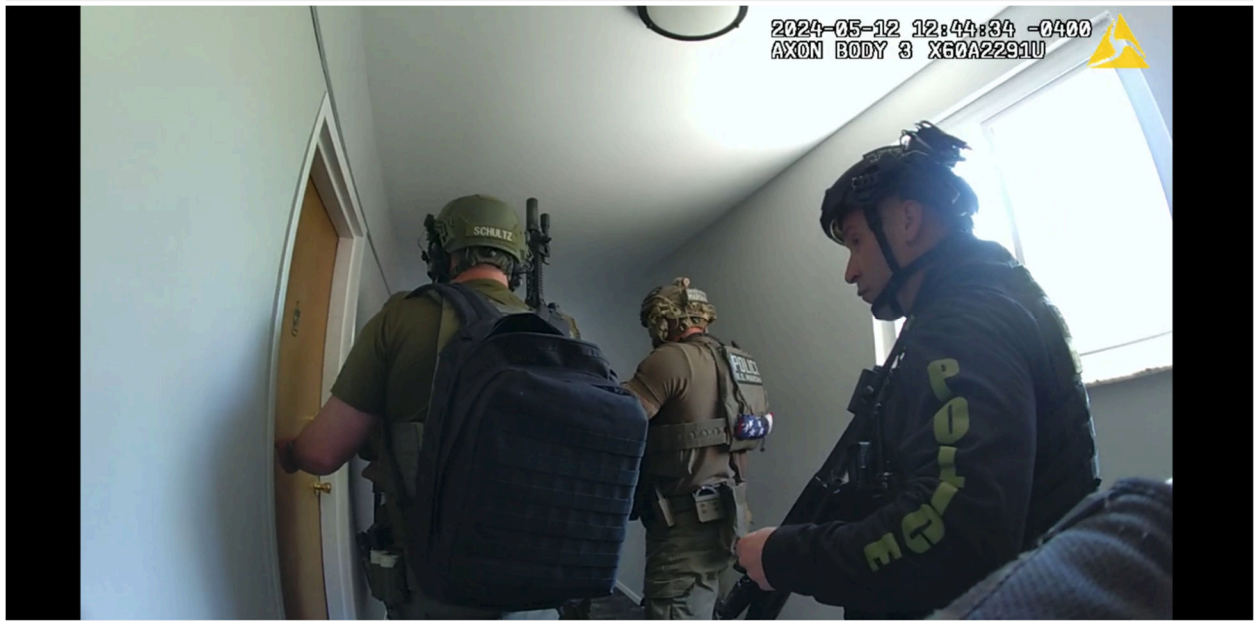
3:46:28

4:43:54



00:00

4:43:54







2024-05-12 12:54:46 -0400
AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U





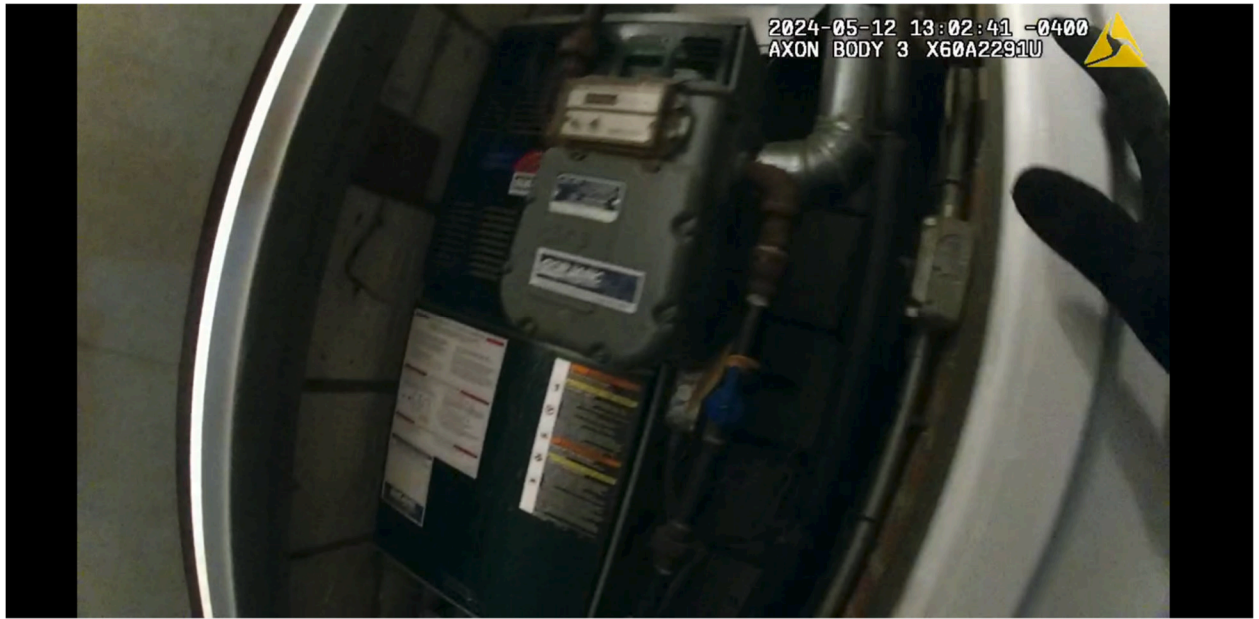


2024-05-12 13:00:41 -0400
AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U



18:49

4:43:54



2024-05-12 13:02:41 -0400
AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U



20:50

4:43:54



2024-05-12 13:04:48 -0400
AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U



22:57

4:43:54



2024-05-12 13:19:11 -0400
AXON BODY 3 X60A2291U



37:20

4:43:54





46:39

4:43:54

Screenshots from Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-05-12_1748_X60A2291U



12:34

33:05



12:59

33:05



21:11

33:05