

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



2022-1316 Officer Involved Critical Incident - Ackerman Izak (V)

Investigative Activity: Body Camera Review, Dash Camera Review

Involves: Stephen Torres (W)

Date of Activity: 06/30/2022

Author: SA Tiffany Vollmer, #49

Narrative:

On 06/24/2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Tiffany Vollmer (Vollmer) received video footage from the Lima Police Department Records Bureau. SA Vollmer was informed that the videos contained footage from Patrolman Stephen Torres' (Torres) body and dash cam. SA Vollmer reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

Dash-Cam Video - Torres responded to the scene in a police cruiser. He parked the vehicle in a driveway and ran into the scene. There was a tree blocking much of the view, but law enforcement officers and medics can be seen walking in the background. At approximately 9 minutes and 15 seconds into the video, Deputy Ackerman can be seen walking in view of the camera, being assisted by officers. Nothing close up to the scene can be seen because of the positioning of the cruiser.

There is no audio to the video. The video is approximately 1 hour, 24 minutes and 57 seconds long.

Body-Cam Video - Torres can be seen driving to the location. Upon arrival, he runs to the location of the subject laying in grass area. He was told the subject was Sig 1 (deceased). Torres is heard discussing the subject having a gun on his chest. He coordinated securing the scene and obtained the location address, being 1107 E. Second Street. He instructed Weekly to take pictures. Torres was told BCI will be handling the investigation.

The video is approximately 9 minutes 15 seconds long.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Exhibit 1

ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR EVALUATING THE VIDEO RECORDINGS

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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.

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File No.: 22-1316
Submitted By: S/A Vollmer
Date: 06/30/2022
From: LPD
To be returned
Not to be returned
Description: 6 Discs containing body cam and cruiser video from Officers Torres, Weekly, Patton, Martin