



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



2022-1734
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 27724 Zuck Road, Howard,
Ohio 43028

Investigative Activity: Body Camera Review
Involves: Michael Collins (S)
Date of Activity: 08/22/2022
Activity Location: Ohio BCI&I Richfield, Northeast Regional Office – 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, OH 44286, Summit County
Author: SA Eric Lehnhart, #84

Narrative:

On Thursday, September 1, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Eric Lehnhart (Lehnhart) received video footage from Knox County Sheriff's Office. SA Lehnhart was informed that the videos contained footage from the body-worn camera video recorded by the Knox County Sheriff's Office.

SA Lehnhart reviewed and noted the following:

2022-08-22 21:01:40 -0400
Axon Body 3 X60A46364

Video is 22 minutes and 28 seconds (00:22:28) long. The body-worn camera (BWC) video is that of Deputy Michael Collins (Collins).

The video opens with an extremely dark screen and a partially obstructed view from behind a utility pole. Two to three lights appearing in the background are window lights from the Delano residence.

An unidentified officer is overheard yelling toward the residence, "Elizabeth, come out and talk with us." A woman, later identified as Elizabeth Delano (Delano), replied to the officers' questions with a forceful "Fuck You, <indecipherable> Mother Fuckers."

As the video continues, Delano is heard speaking, but her actual words are indecipherable, as it appears she is still in the residence. Deputy Collins believes Delano is calling out his name. Approximately, five loud noises are heard, which are believed to have been Delano destroying the inside of the residence.

External police lights are seen flashing at different intervals on the front of the residence.

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At the following times: (05:47), (06:41), (09:27), (10:14), (12:21), (13:18), Delano fires the shotgun from a position outside the residence. At the (12:21) mark, Deputy Collins says, "That one came at us."

Delano's indecipherable comments continue until she says, "Is my husband here?"

While Deputy Scoles and Deputy Collins are positioned near the carport, Deputy Scoles asked, "You smell propane?" (04:47); which prompted Sergeant Ramsier to pull all officers back away from the residence.

At (12:36), Delano confronts officers again by yelling, "Get off my property," followed up with "Where's my husband?"

Deputy Collins orders Delano to "Drop the gun now" (13:28).

At (13:29), Deputy Collins fires his patrol rifle, waits a few seconds, turns on his tactical light and informs the others on scene that "She's down" (13:39).

Officers are observed moving from the right towards Delano. An unidentified officer calls out on the radio to "Send the medic in" (14:27).

While Deputy Collins moved back away from Delano's position, an unknown officer begins asking questions; Deputy Collins replies, "She turned with that shotgun or I wouldn't have taken the shot."

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 USB drive containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item A, for reference only.

References:

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A – USB Thumbdrive

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