



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



2022-1356

Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 1659 S. Main Street, Akron, Ohio
44301

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Jarett Heatwall-Cuyahoga Falls Police
Department-Body Camera, Dash Camera and Radio Traffic Review

Activity Date: July 1, 2022

Authoring Agent: Special Agent Cory Momchilov #64

Narrative:

On June 30, 2022, Special Agent (SA) Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) was advised by Akron Police personnel that Officer Jarett Heatwall (Heatwall) of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department was in the area of Tallmadge Avenue and Route 8 when Akron officers were pursuing Jayland Walker's vehicle. SA Momchilov was also provided Officer Heatwall's cellular phone number.

On June 30, 2022, at approximately 1531 hours, SA Momchilov made contact with Officer Heatwall, via phone. SA Momchilov advised Officer Heatwall that it was his understanding that he was working at the time of the Akron officer-involved shooting and may have some information regarding the incident.

Officer Heatwall advised that was correct and explained that he conducted a traffic stop on Route 8 south, past the Howe Avenue exit. Officer Heatwall stated, when he finished that traffic stop, he continued down Route 8 south and exited onto Tallmadge Avenue to turn around onto Route 8 north to head back to Cuyahoga Falls.

Officer Heatwall stated he was on the Tallmadge Avenue exit from Route 8 south, stopped at the traffic light, when he heard lights and sirens coming from police cruisers. Officer Heatwall advised that the police cruisers were traveling eastbound on east Tallmadge Avenue. Officer Heatwall stated, he then observed an "early 2000s" silver, grey or tan-colored vehicle turn onto the Route 8 southbound ramp from East Tallmadge Avenue. The vehicle was being followed by an Akron Police Department cruiser. Officer Heatwall explained, when the Akron Police Department cruiser made the turn onto the Route 8 southbound ramp from Tallmadge, he heard a shot being fired from the vehicle that the Akron Police Department cruiser was pursuing. Officer Heatwall stated he then observed the Akron Police Department cruiser swerve, "Trying to get out of its line of fire."

Officer Heatwall stated he then radioed asking for permission to "tag along" with the Akron Police Department cruiser until other Akron officers arrived. Officer Heatwall stated he followed the Akron Police Department cruiser "At a good distance" for about a minute or so. Officer

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Heatwall stated that three additional Akron Police Department cruisers showed up around Perkins Avenue. Officer Heatwall stated he then exited Route 8 south on Perkins Avenue and headed back to Cuyahoga Falls.

SA Momchilov asked Officer Heatwall how he knew what he heard was gunfire. Officer Heatwall stated, "I don't think there is anything quite like it that sound. At first I may of thought, like, it could be a popped tire on the vehicle, like the tires going to pop but seeing the vehicle swerve (police cruiser) and just hearing the loud crack, there is nothing like, you know, that is going to make that sort of noise."

SA Momchilov then asked Officer Heatwall how he knew the gunfire came from that vehicle. Officer Heatwall stated, "Just the direction of the sound I heard it from, I mean, I didn't see anyone poke out the window, cause all I saw was, the APD cruiser kind of blocked its, my line of sight of that vehicle, so I never saw an actual firearm being brandished from that vehicle but I heard from that direction, as soon as that vehicle passed that corner, that's when I heard that shot go off."

SA Momchilov was later provided the following items from the Cuyahoga Police Department:

- Cuyahoga Falls Police Department report 2022-00018271
- Cuyahoga Falls Radio Traffic from incident
- Officer Heatwall's dash camera footage from the incident.
- Officer Heatwall's body camera footage from the incident

Cuyahoga Falls Police Department report 2022-00018271

Officer Heatwall's supplemental narrative states:

INCIDENT - SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE
<p>After clearing a traffic stop RT8S/Howe Ave, I traveled to RT8S/Tallmadge Ave to return to Cuyahoga Falls city limits. While at the red light after exiting the off ramp to Tallmadge Ave, a single Akron PD unit was in pursuit of vehicle. Akron PD and the suspect vehicle turned onto RT8S entrance ramp from Tallmadge Ave and while on the entrance ramp a sound of a gunshot came out and the Akron PD unit appeared to attempt to swerve away from the suspect vehicle's line of fire. Due to their only being a single unit in pursuit I requested permission to follow behind the pursuit, at a distance, for officer safety concerns until more Akron PD units would arrive. Shortly after two more APD units joined in the pursuit and I terminated myself from the incident.</p>

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Cuyahoga Falls Radio Traffic from incident

Officer Heatwall: Radio 5

Dispatch: 5

Officer Heatwall: 5 to front desk, Akron's in a pursuit right now, sounded like a gunshot just got fired at that unit. Am I clear to fall behind that unit the get another Akron unit with them.

Dispatch: Front desk, did you copy?

Unknown: Car, can you advise again all I heard was Akron and gunshots

Officer Heatwall: I was getting off at Tallmadge an Akron units in pursuit of a vehicle, it sounded like a fire, a gunshot was -inaudible- at their cruiser from the suspect vehicle, there the only unit with that car, request permission to follow behind at this time until they get more Akron units with it.

Unknown: So, suspect shot at Akron's cruiser?

Officer Heatwall: It sounded like a gunshot, cruiser then ah, tried to, tried to get away from it, they moved across the roadway to dodge the vehicle's gunshots

Officer Heatwall: There going to have 3 other units with them now.

Unknown: Disregard if there is other units with them now.

Officer Heatwall: Affirm, I'm getting off now.

Dispatch: Radio copied.

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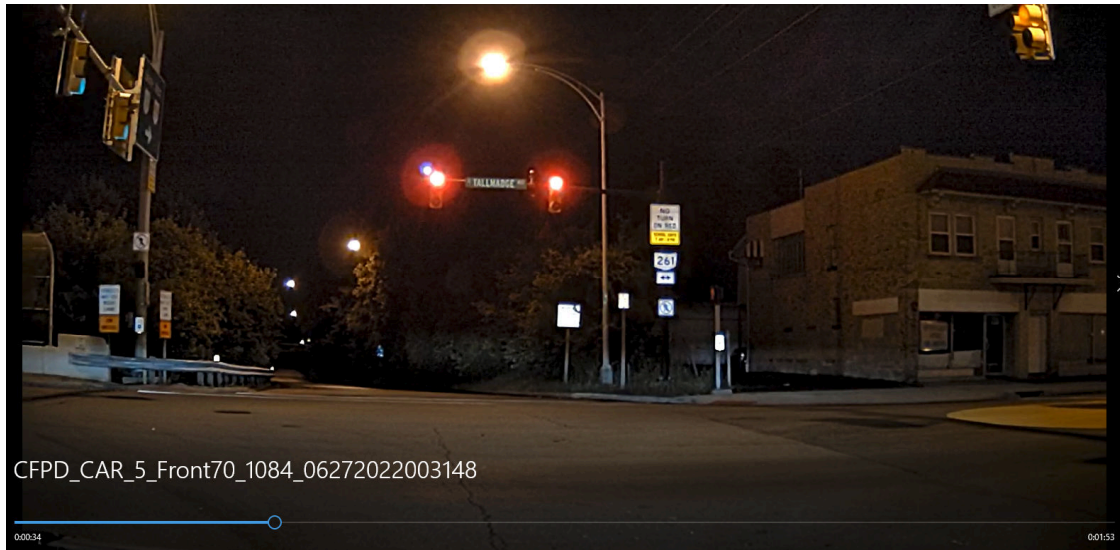
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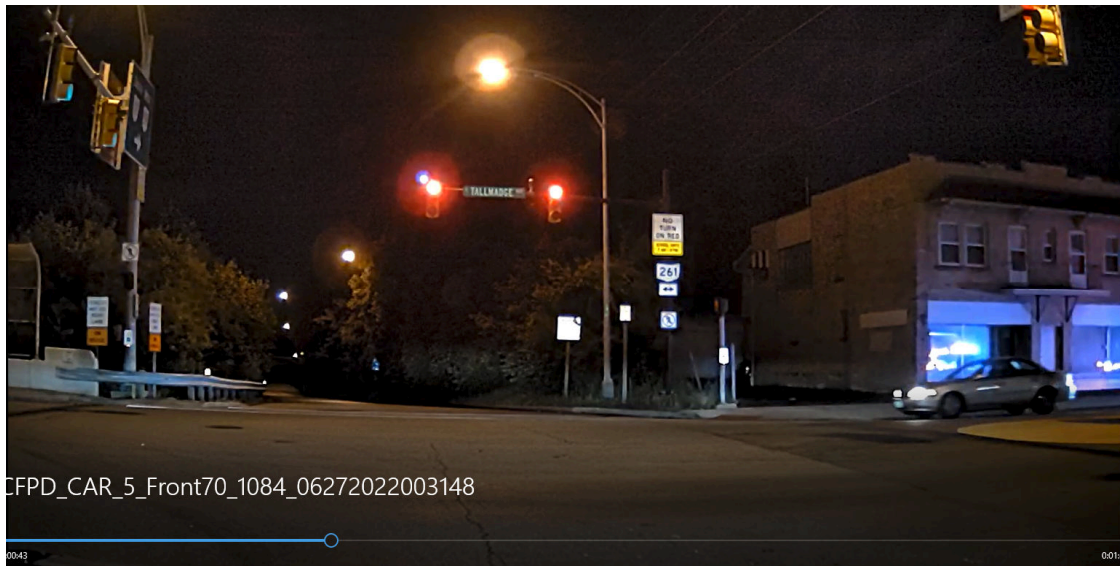
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Officer Heatwall's Dash Camera Footage



Approximately 34 seconds into the video, Officer Heatwall's cruiser is observed stopped at the traffic light at the intersection of Tallmadge Avenue and Route 8 south.



Approximately 43 seconds into the video, Jayland Walker's vehicle is observed entering the frame.

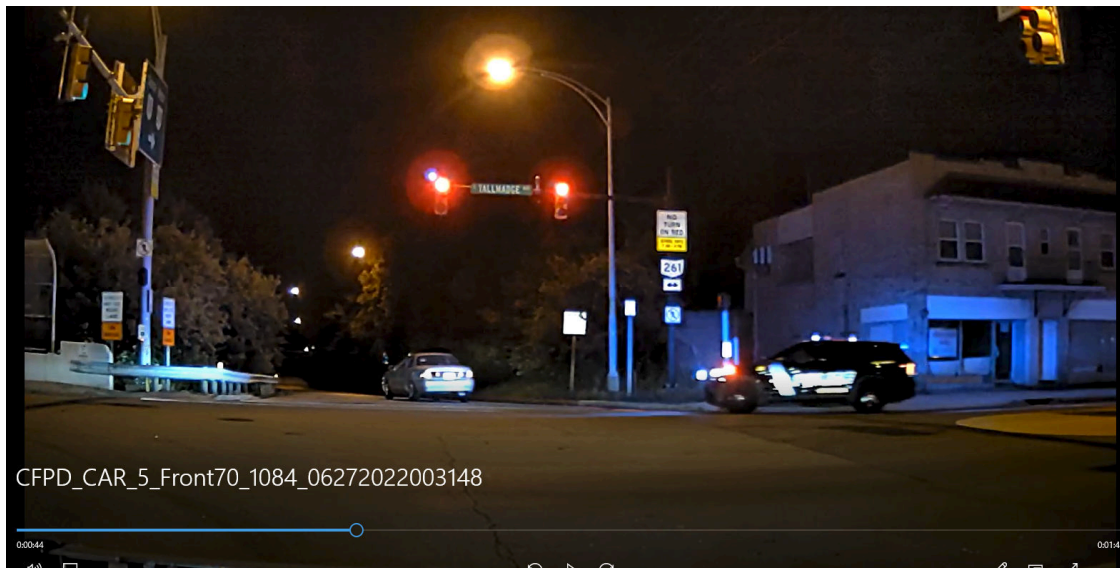
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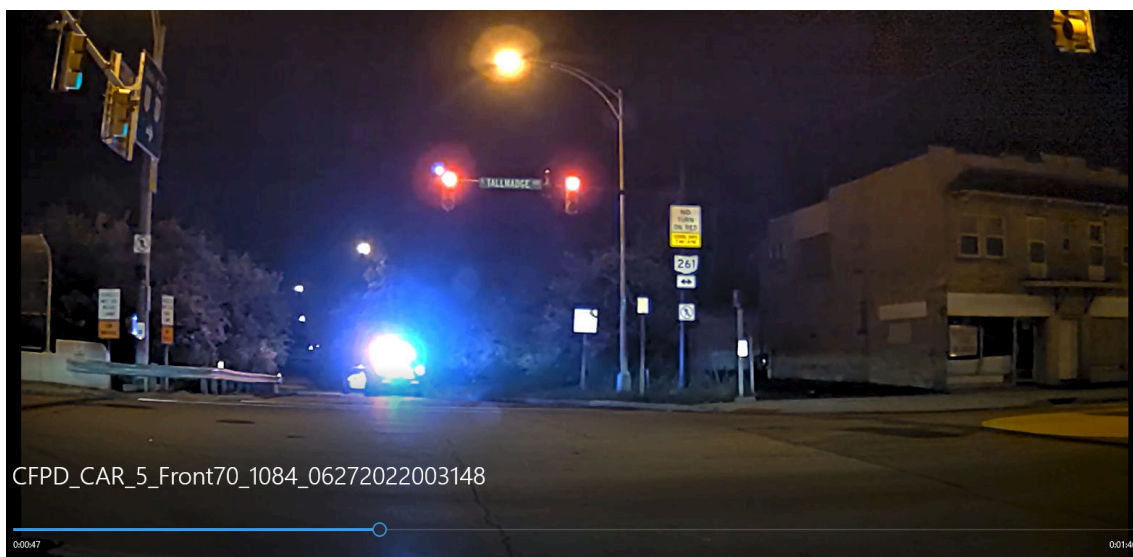
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Approximately 44 seconds into the vehicle, Jayland Walker's (Walker) vehicle is observed turning onto the entrance ramp to Route 8 south from Tallmadge Avenue. Walker's vehicle is being pursued by an Akron Police cruiser.



Approximately 47 seconds into the video, Jayland Walker's vehicle continues to travel towards Route 8 south, followed by an Akron Police cruiser.

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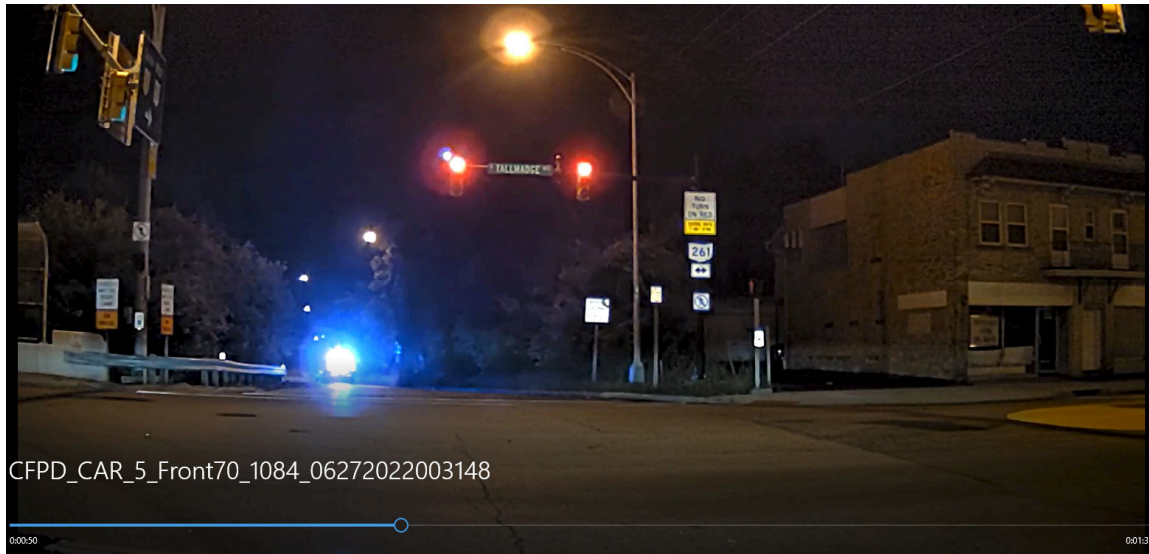


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Approximately 50 seconds into the video, as Jayland Walker's vehicle continues towards Route 8 south, a debris cloud is observed to the left of Walker's vehicle and the Akron Police cruiser. When watching the video in real speed, the debris cloud is consistent with a bullet impacting the pavement.



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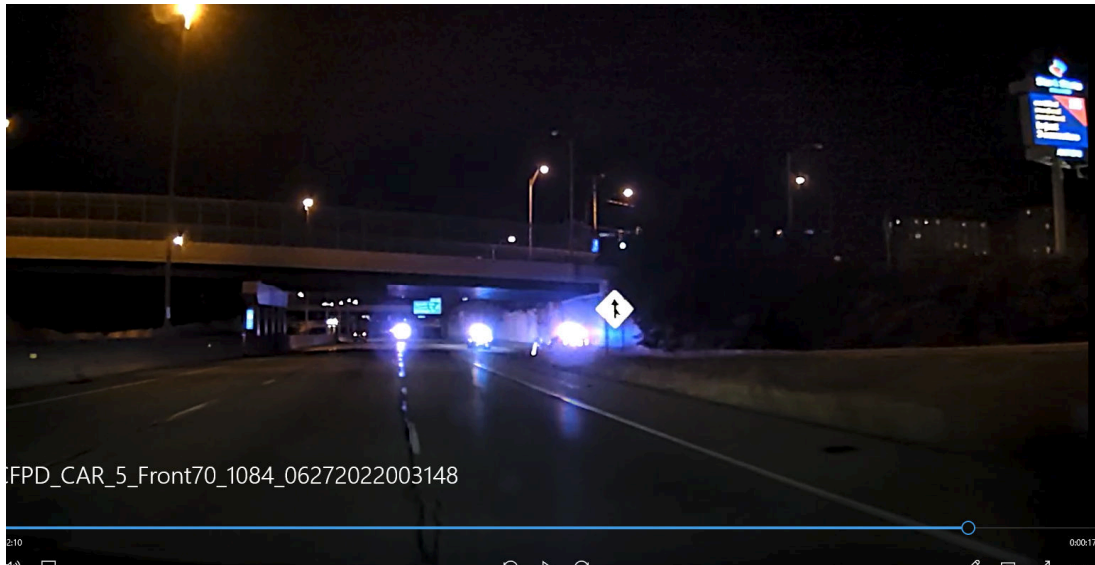


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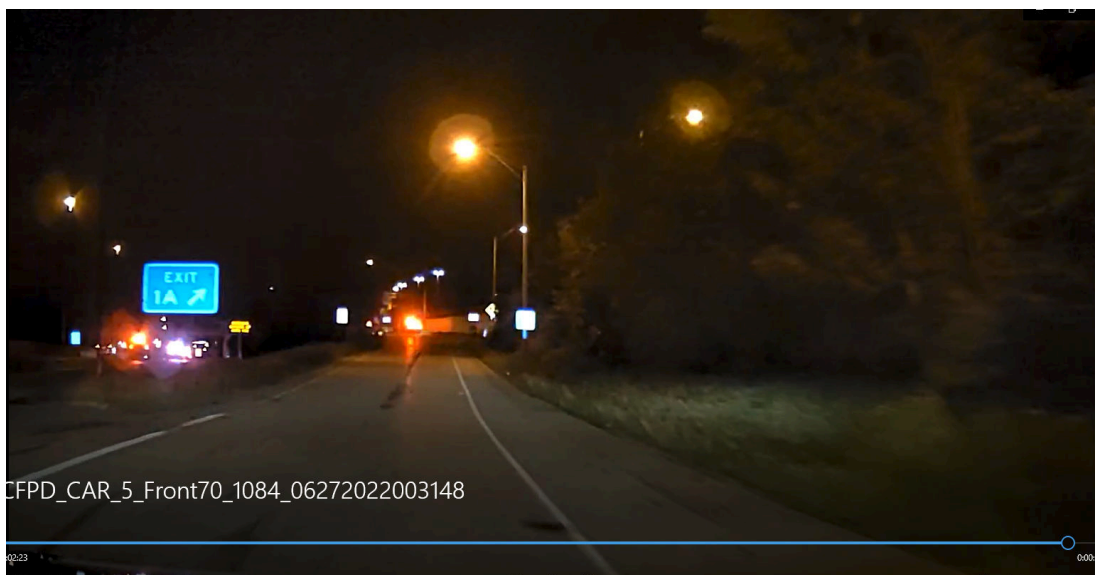


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Approximately 2 minutes and 10 seconds into the video, two additional Akron Police cruisers are observed joining the pursuit.



Approximately 2 minutes and 23 seconds into the video, Officer Heatwall is observed exiting Route 8 south.

Officer Heatwall's dash camera footage was sent to the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission for enhancement.

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Officer Heatwall Dash Body Camera Footage



Officer Heatwall's body camera footage is approximately 1 minute and 32 seconds in length. Nothing relevant to the incident is observed. However, radio traffic can be heard on the body camera.

The following items are attached to this Investigative Report:

- Audio interview of Officer Heatwall
- Cuyahoga Falls Police Department report 2022-00018271
- Cuyahoga Falls Radio Traffic from incident

The following items were placed onto a DVD; the DVD was placed into the physical case file, labeled as Item I:

- Officer Heatwall's dash camera footage from the incident
- Officer Heatwall's body camera footage from the incident

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CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENT(CALL) SUPPLEMENT REPORT INCIDENT# **2022-00018271**

EVENT	INCIDENT TYPE Assist Other Agency	INCIDENT DATE/TIME 06/27/2022 00:32	DISPATCH DATE/TIME 06/27/2022 00:47	ARRIVED DATE/TIME
	LOCATION S SR 8 S E TALLMADGE AVE Akron, OH 44310			

SUBJECT	SUBJECT JACKET/ROLE		NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE SUFFIX)			
	DOB	AGE	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)			
	RACE	SEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HAIR	EYE
	DL NUMBER/STATE		PRIMARY PHONE		EMAIL	

SUBJECT	SUBJECT JACKET/ROLE		NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE SUFFIX)			
	DOB	AGE	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)			
	RACE	SEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HAIR	EYE
	DL NUMBER/STATE		PRIMARY PHONE		EMAIL	

VEHICLE	VEHICLE ROLE				
	VEH YR	TYPE/MAKE/MODEL			STYLE
	PLATE / STATE		VIN	TOP COLOR	BOTTOM COLOR
	ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION				

INCIDENT - SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

After clearing a traffic stop RT8S/Howe Ave, I traveled to RT8S/Tallmadge Ave to return to Cuyahoga Falls city limits. While at the red light after exiting the off ramp to Tallmadge Ave, a single Akron PD unit was in pursuit of vehicle. Akron PD and the suspect vehicle turned onto RT8S entrance ramp from Tallmadge Ave and while on the entrance ramp a sound of a gunshot came out and the Akron PD unit appeared to attempt to swerve away from the suspect vehicle's line of fire. Due to their only being a single unit in pursuit I requested permission to follow behind the pursuit, at a distance, for officer safety concerns until more Akron PD units would arrive. Shortly after two more APD units joined in the pursuit and I terminated myself from the incident.

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS, VEHICLES MAY BE PRINTED ON FOLLOWING PAGES

REPORTING OFFICER 7290 Heatwall	DATE 06/27/2022	REVIEWED BY McIlvain, Dawn	06/27/2022
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