



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



2024-3775
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1055 East Avenue,
Akron, Ohio 44307, Summit County

Investigative Activity: Video review – Officer Michael Shaffer’s BWC
Involves: Officer Michael Shaffer (W)
Activity Date: 01/09/2025
Activity Location: BCI Richfield
Authoring Agent: SA Jonathan Lieber

Narrative:

On Friday, November 29, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) received video footage from Lieutenant Matt Whitmire of the Akron Police Department (APD). SA Lieber was informed that the video contained footage from the body camera recorded by Officer Michael Shaffer (Shaffer).

SA Lieber reviewed the video recording and noted the following:

Video file title: **Emergency_Traffic_1055_EAST_AVE**

The video is 17 minutes and 41 seconds in duration. The timestamp at the start of the video showed “2024-11-28 23:00:32.” The times referenced in this report will refer to the elapsed time of the video.

The video began showing the inside of a vehicle and a computer screen. The vehicle appeared to be stationary. At 00:06, the vehicle began to move. At 00:14, red and blue flashing lights can be seen in the passenger side review mirror and reflecting off of nearby residences. At 00:23, the vehicle began to make a U-turn. No sound could be heard until 00:29. At 00:33, Shaffer began to exit the vehicle. Upon exiting the vehicle, Shaffer’s BWC pointed toward a subject (Jazmir Tucker) lying on the ground. See screenshot below taken at 00:34.

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Several officers could be heard giving verbal commands to include “Stop moving,” “Get your hands out to your side,” and “Put your hands up.”

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Due to the brightness of the flashlights being used by officers, much of the details around where Tucker is lying is washed out. See an example below of the wash-out effect taken at 01:05.



At 01:18, an officer said, "He was reaching, he was reaching right with his right hand." An officer could be heard radioing that they have one male down, he is unresponsive, he is not following commands, and they are on East Avenue in front of the Miller-South school. At 01:30, an officer said "Again, he was reaching, reaching with his right hand." The officer then said, "We need someone to check the parking lot behind us, that's where he was shooting." At 01:45, an officer yelled "Suspect, hands out to the side." At 02:01, an officer said "Again, he was reaching with his right hand." Additional verbal commands were given to Tucker. At 02:15, an officer said, "Hey two of you break away and go check that parking lot behind us for suspects or victims." Additional verbal commands were given to Tucker.

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At 03:35, for less than one second, Tucker could be seen lying on the grass. At that time, it appeared that the flashlights pointing toward Tucker moved allowing Tucker to be seen without the wash-out effect. See screenshot below.



Officers continued to give commands to Tucker. At 04:28, an officer said that they should get cover. The officers then began to move toward an APD vehicle parked on East Avenue.

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The screenshot below, taken at 04:44, showed Tucker while the officers were in the process of moving to cover.



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At 05:00, an officer said that it looked like he (Tucker) had a firearm near his right hip. At 06:47, a group of officers began to move toward Tucker. At 07:14, officers began to secure Tucker's hands. See screenshot below.



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After Tucker was placed in handcuffs, Tucker was rolled to his side. At 07:35, Officer Dylan Ostrander (Ostrander) has his hand on the exterior of Tucker's right jacket pocket. Ostrander said "Something right, right here. I'm not sure what it is."



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Shaffer unzipped Tucker's jacket pocket. See screenshot below taken at 07:40.



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At 07:48, an extended pistol magazine wrapped in blue color tape became visible.



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See screenshot below taken at 07:52, showing the pistol that was removed from Tucker's jacket pocket.



Officers then opened Tucker's jacket and sweatshirt and cut open his t-shirt. As officers were locating and opening a chest seal, an EMS worker arrived [09:14]. At 09:41, Shaffer began to remove the handcuffs from Tucker. At 11:15, Tucker was placed on a gurney.

At approximately 11:46, Shaffer and other officers began to search the area for additional evidence. At 11:50, the video was muted. No sound could be heard for the remainder of the video.

The BWC video of Officer Shaffer is stored on Evidence.com in the Reference Item B folder.

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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.

References:

Ref Item B – Akron PD BWC videos

Attachments:

None

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