



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



2023-3223

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 807 Alan Page Dr SE,
Canton, OH 44707

Investigative Activity: Video Review - CPD Ofc. Zachary Coblentz
Activity Date: 1/25/2024
Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

Narrative:

On Friday, January 05, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) received video footage from BCI SA Al Bansky. SA Bansky was informed that the videos contained footage from the body cameras recorded by the Canton Police Department (CPD).

SA Lieber reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

[00_0077380230_96_17_f9_d4-0076631202_0077361696_0077361703_video0.mp4](#)

This video is 2 hours, 34 minutes, and 27 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the body-worn camera (BWC) of Canton Police Department Officer (Ofc.) Zachary Coblentz (Coblentz). The time stamp at the beginning of the video is 12/05/2023 at 22:08:44.

The video begins showing Coblentz sitting in his cruiser. Coblentz begins to drive. At 22:09:15, sound can now be heard. At 22:11:07, Coblentz begins to exit his vehicle. As Coblentz begins to walk toward the area where the shooting occurred, multiple officers are already on scene. See screenshot below. Note that the area where the shooting occurred can be seen in the background.

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As Coblenz walks closer to the scene, multiple officers can be seen providing aid to Zachary Fornash (Fornash). See screenshot below.



At 22:12:53, Coblenz retrieves a medic bag from his vehicle and takes it to where officers are providing aid to Fornash. Coblenz then provides perimeter security. At 22:27:02, Coblenz retrieves the medic bag that he had previously left near Fornash. It

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should be noted that Fornash is no longer on scene as he has been transported by Canton EMS.

From 22:30:00 to the end of the video at 00:43:12, SA Lieber spot checked this portion of the video.

[tick37470373-tick37494763-video1.mp4](#)

This video is 3 hours, 23 minutes, and 15 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by vehicle dash camera of Canton Police Department Officer Zachary Coblentz. There is no time stamp on the video, therefore, any times referenced will be in elapsed time.

The video begins showing the exterior of a building. The vehicle begins to drive. Sound can be heard starting at 0:32. At 2:24, Coblentz arrives on scene. See screenshot below.



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At 7:31, an ambulance arrives. See screenshot below.



At 9:49, Fornash is loaded into the ambulance. At 11:01, the ambulance begins to drive away from the scene.

From 15:00 to the end of the video at 3:23:15, SA Lieber spot checked this portion of the video.

At 23:20, Coblentz moves his vehicle to a different location. The view from that location can be seen below.

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At 2:10:04, a BCI Crime Scene vehicle arrives on scene.

[tick37470373-tick37494763-video2.mp4](#)

This video is 3 hours, 23 minutes, and 15 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the vehicle dash camera of Canton Police Department Officer Zachary Coblentz. There is no time stamp on this video. This video appears to be the same as the video detailed above, only this version is in a panoramic view.

[tick37470373-tick37494763-video3.mp4](#)

This video is 3 hours, 23 minutes, and 15 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the interior vehicle camera of Canton Police Department Officer Zachary Coblentz. There is no time stamp on this video. The entirety of the video shows the view below.

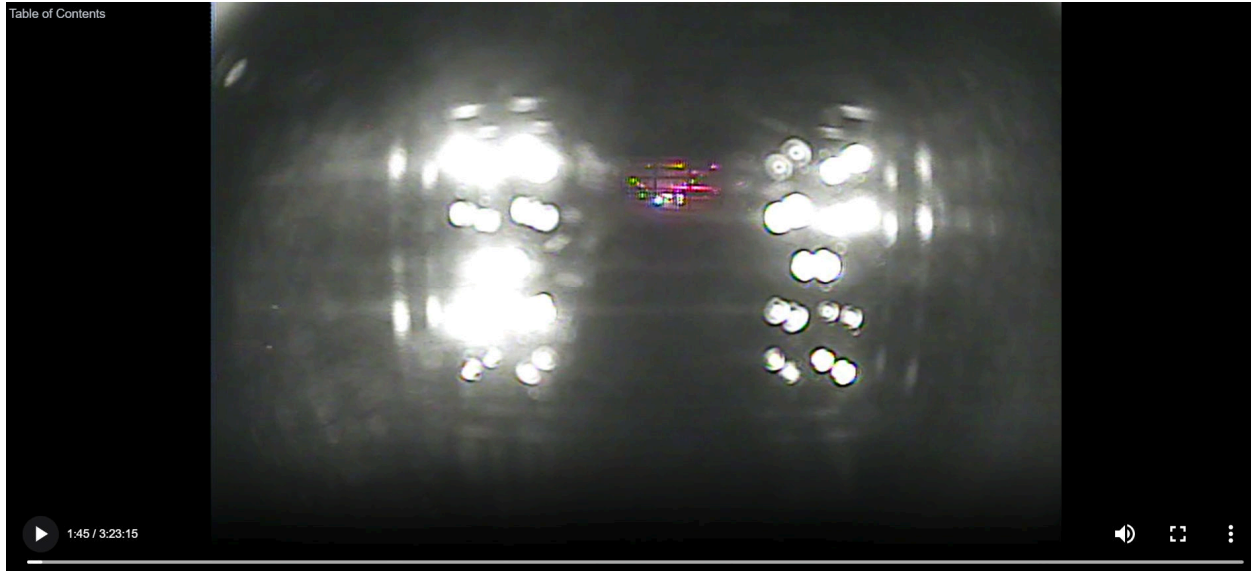
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ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR EVALUATING THE VIDEO RECORDINGS

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.

The thumb drive containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item B for reference only.

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