



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer Involved Critical Incident - 350 South Arch Avenue,
Alliance, Ohio 44601, Stark County

To: Kyle Stone, Stark County Prosecutor
Cc: SAS Charles Moran, Special Agent Supervisor, Ohio BCI
From: SA Nicholas Valente, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: July 14, 2025
Involves: [REDACTED] (S), [REDACTED] (S), Mason French
(S), Stacy Pride (V)
Case Title: Officer Involved Critical Incident - 350 South Arch Avenue, Alliance,
Ohio 44601, Stark County
BCI Case Numbers: Special Investigations (SIU): 2025-0151
Crime Scene (CSU): 2025-0151
Cyber Crime (CCU): 2025-0151
BCI Laboratory: 2025-30587

Investigative Request

On Thursday, January 16, 2025, Captain Don Wensel of the Alliance Police Department requested assistance from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident. The incident occurred on January 16, 2025. The incident took place in the common hallway of the fifth floor of the Alliance Towers, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Senior Housing, 350 South Arch Avenue, Alliance, Ohio. The incident resulted in the death of Mason French (French) and Stacy Pride (Pride).

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the January 16, 2025, shooting and subsequent officer-involved shooting in Stark County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail are not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the

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legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

Investigative Team

BCI Special Agent Nicholas Valente (SA Valente) was assigned as the lead SIU case agent. SA Valente received assistance in the investigation from SA Jessie Bynum, SA Allison Fletcher, SA John Tingley, SA Andrew Harasimchuk, and SA Jack Shea. BCI Special Agents Larry Hootman and Chad Doran of the Crime Scene Unit processed the scene of the incident, documenting, preserving, and collecting possible evidence. The investigation was supervised by Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran. Additionally, various personnel from the BCI crime laboratory performed scientific analyses on submitted items of potential physical evidence.

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the two officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of two officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Neighborhood canvass of the area surrounding the scene
- Interviews of multiple civilian witnesses to the incident
- Interviews of family members or associates of French.
- Special agent attendance to post-mortem examination (autopsy) of both French and Pride
- Obtained and reviewed post-mortem examination (autopsy) and toxicology reports
- Obtained and reviewed police reports of prior law enforcement contacts with the subject
- Obtained and reviewed open and closed-source biographical information on the involved subject, including criminal history reports, OHLEG, driving records, etc.
- FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) checks on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine if reported stolen)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) trace on any non-law enforcement weapons involved in the incident (to determine ownership history)
- Review of all available body cameras involved in the incident

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- Review of all available surveillance video which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- 3D scans / model of incident area
- Bloodstain pattern analysis
- Shooting reconstruction and trajectory analysis
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident
- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 1. Firearm identification testing of involved firearms, casings, and bullets
 2. Firearm operability testing
- Reviewed social medial accounts of Pride and French.
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Verified the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification status of the officer(s) who discharged their weapons
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Enhancement of audio/video recordings through the assistance of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission
- Enhancement and production of video files for further demonstrative purposes
- Reviewed EMS records pertaining to their response and the treatment administered
- Reviewed tips, social media posts, and pertinent statements made in the media regarding the incident

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Incident Summary/Overview

On the morning of January 16, 2025, two 911 calls were placed to the Alliance Police Department (APD) requesting officers respond to the fifth-floor common hallway of the Alliance Towers, 350 South Arch Avenue. The first caller reported fighting and commotion in the hallway. The second caller reported hearing gunshots and a female voice stating that she had been shot.

Alliance Police Officers Kevin Brown (Ofc. Brown), Paul Vesco (Ofc. Vesco), [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] all responded to the scene. These four officers entered the building and rode up the elevator to the fifth floor together. As the officers exited the elevator, an uninvolved witness cautioned the officers, "He's got a gun on her. He shot her."

Ofc. Brown exited the elevator first and was followed by the other three officers. Almost immediately after exiting the elevator and entering the hallway, Ofc. Brown observed the subject and victim at the end of the hallway. Ofc. Brown raised his duty pistol and pointed it in the direction of the end of the hallway where the subject, (French), and the victim (Pride), were located. Ofc. Brown yelled, "He's got a gun. Put it down! On the ground now!" A voice could be heard in the distance and appeared to respond, "No."

Body-worn- camera (BWC) recordings of the incident appeared to show French pointing his arm and hand down towards Pride as Ofc. Brown approached him. French then momentarily backed out of the hallway and into Pride's apartment. Pride's apartment was the last door at the end of the hallway on the right. French briefly exited the view of Ofc. Brown's BWC before quickly reappearing. Upon reappearing in view of Ofc. Brown's BWC, French again leaned down and towards Pride with at least one arm extended out and towards her.

As Ofc. Brown finished yelling the order "Put it down! On the ground now!", a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began. As the sound of this first gunshot began to fade away, a voice that appeared to come from the end of the hallway, presumed to be that of Pride, began yelling out "Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh." This first loud percussive sound is believed to be the sound of French's gun as he shot Pride while the officers began to approach him.

The group of four officers continued to walk down the hallway towards the subject and victim after French appeared to have just shot Pride in the officers' presence. A second loud percussive sound followed seconds later. This second loud percussive sound is also believed to have originated from French's pistol as he shot (or shot at) the victim a second time in the officer's presence.

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Ofc. Brown, who was in the lead position of the approaching officers, momentarily stopped, allowing [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to take the lead positions. While doing so, Ofc. Brown yelled, "Go, go, go. Get up here. Get up here motherfuckers, go." Ofc. Brown reached out and grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] in an apparent attempt to expedite [REDACTED] into a lead position. Ofc. Brown then grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] to pull him forward more quickly as well.

Ofc. Brown then placed his hand on the back shoulder of [REDACTED]. At this same time, French partially reappeared from Pride's apartment into the common hallway. French faced the group of officers and appeared to raise his right arm and hand upward. [REDACTED] then yelled to French, "Drop the weapon."

French then fell onto the hallway floor as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire their rifles in the direction of French. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire almost simultaneously. Both officers began and stopped firing in under two seconds' elapsed time.

Immediately after the gunfire stopped, Ofc. Brown and Ofc. Vesco walked to the end of the hallway where French and Pride were located. Both French and Pride were found lying face up. A small black pistol, with its slide locked back, was found on the ground between the two. Both Pride and French were pronounced dead in the hallway and were determined to have died as a result of the gunshot wounds they sustained.

Decedents

1. Stacy Pride

Pride was a 57-year-old African American female at the time of her death. She was reported to be the on-again, off-again girlfriend of French. Pride lived in the last apartment on the fifth floor, directly in front of the common hallway where the shooting occurred.

2. Mason French

French was a 63-year-old African American male at the time of his death. He did not live in the apartment building, and it could not be determined when he entered the building.

A relative of Pride told agents that French frequently abused Pride and had "pulled a gun on her" a couple of weeks prior to this incident. A relative of French told agents he believed the two began a relationship approximately two years ago, when French was released from prison and began selling crack cocaine to Pride. French's relative knew

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the two had used drugs together. French was a daily drinker and the relative felt that the pair's relationship was toxic.

French had a lengthy criminal history, including an arrest for attempted murder and other charges in which French was ultimately sentenced to seven years in prison for felonious assault and burglary with weapons specifications.

French also had a history of crimes of violence against former romantic partners. The APD had 32 prior documented interactions with French including an incident where French reportedly pushed his then-girlfriend (not Pride) out of a moving car and attempted to strike her with the vehicle. In another unrelated event, French struck a different ex-girlfriend (also not Pride) to the point that the woman needed medical treatment from a hospital.

Autopsy Reports

The autopsy report for French was obtained from the Stark County Coroner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

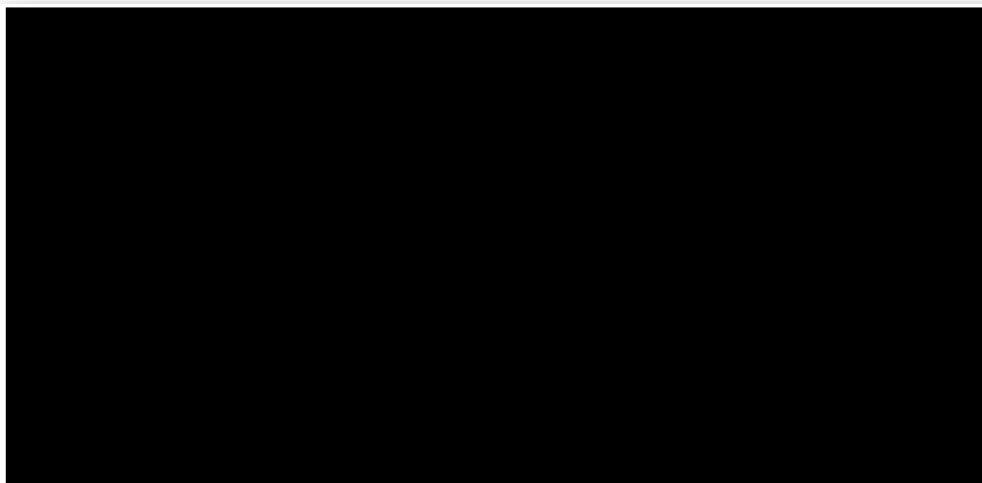
The "FINAL CAUSE AND MANNER OF DEATH" was listed as '[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

French's toxicology report indicated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

French's injuries included the following:



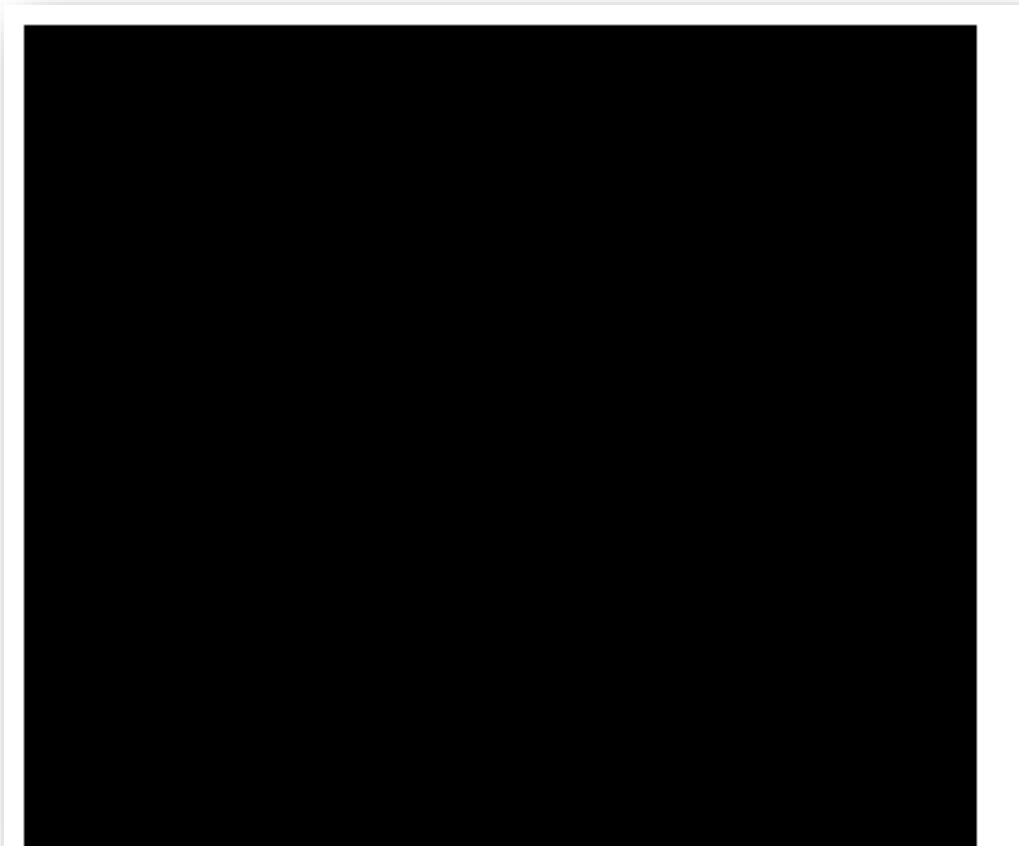
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The autopsy report for Pride was also obtained from the Stark County Coroner's Office. A review of those documents revealed the following information:

The "FINAL CAUSE AND MANNER OF DEATH" for Pride was listed as [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pride's injuries included the following:

[REDACTED]

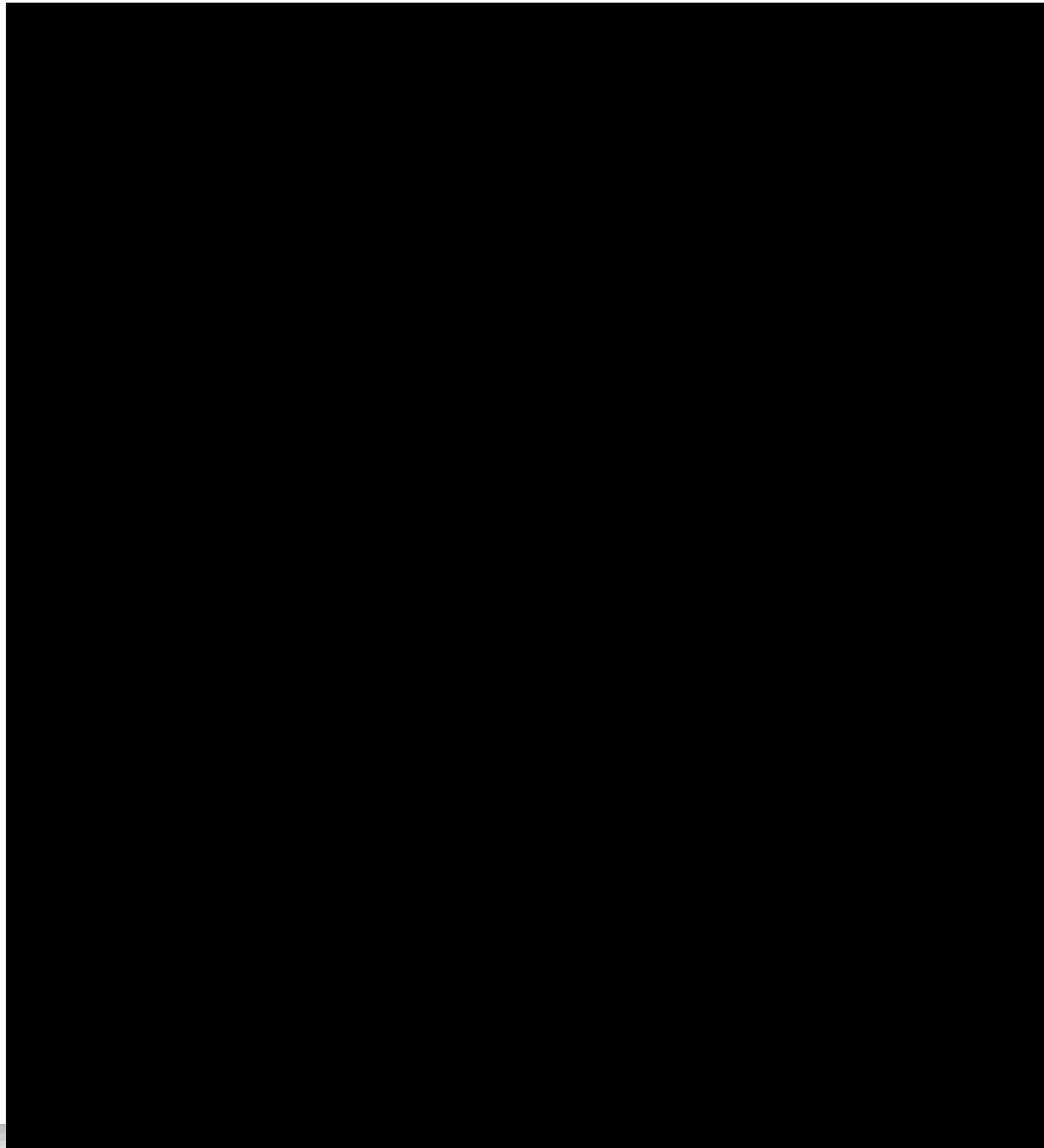
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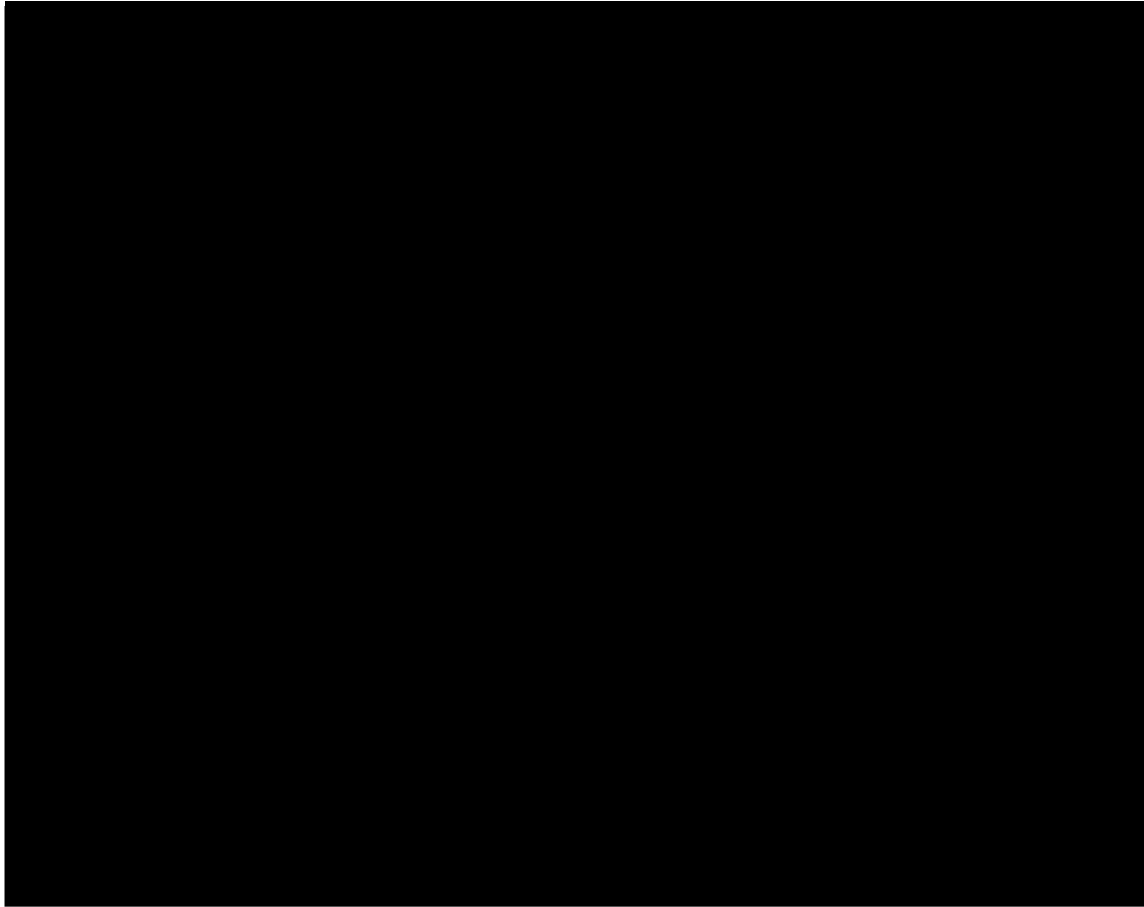
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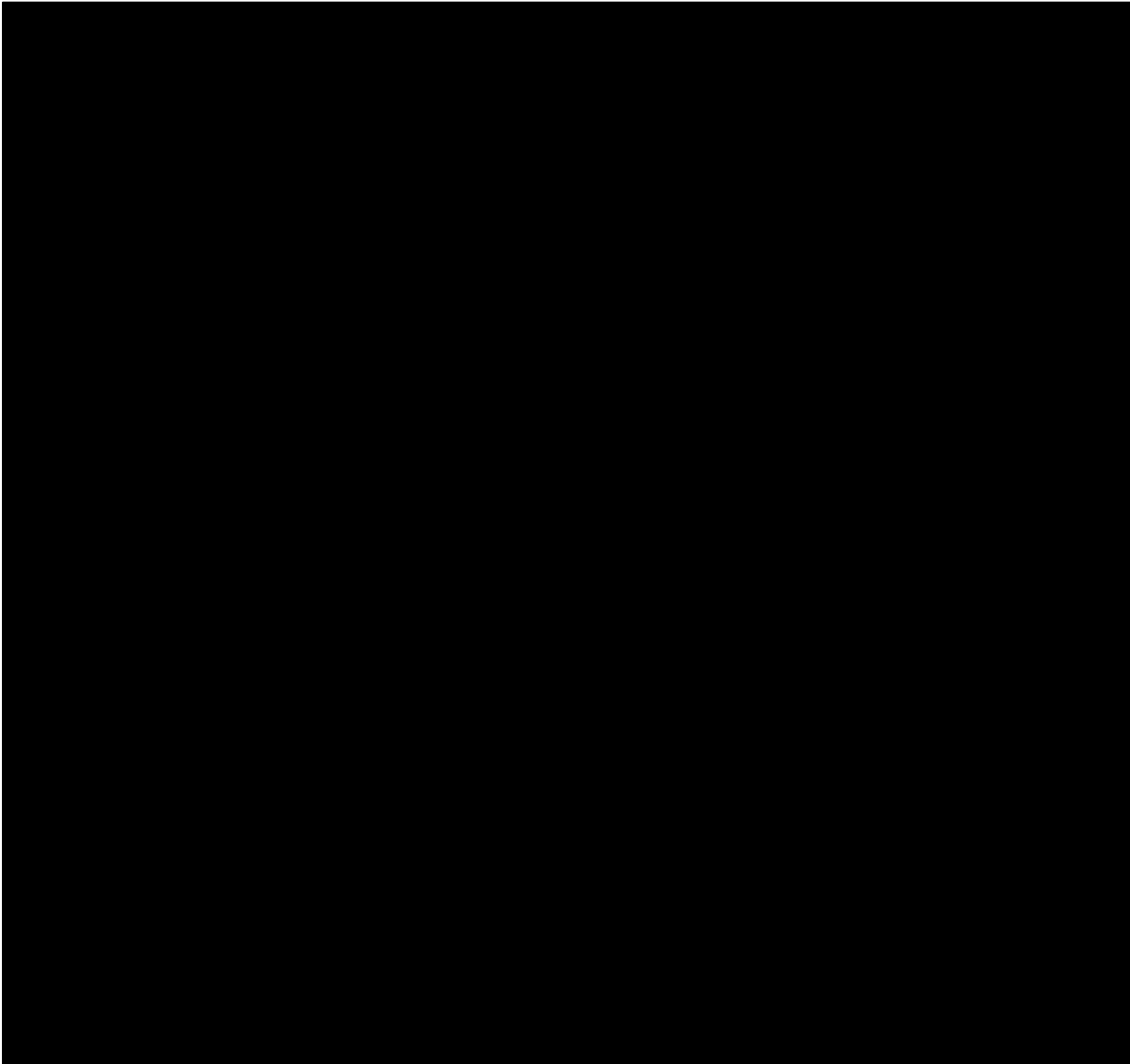
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Note that Pride did not appear to have her back visible to either officer who fired at any point while the officers fired their rifles. Pride, however, did clearly have her back visible to French during the time he is believed to have shot her in front of the officers.

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Physical Evidence

The BCI Crime Scene Unit was requested to respond to the scene of the shooting to document and preserve any items of potential evidence. Multiple agents responded and processed the scene, to include photographing and mapping the area, as well as the search for, documentation, and collection of items of possible evidence. Detailed crime scene reports were completed with the below information only summarizing some of the more significant findings.



Collection of 14 rifle cartridge casings fired by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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Fourteen rifle cartridge casings were photographed and individually collected from the apartment hallway.



A 9mm cartridge casing was found on the hallway floor near the door to Pride's apartment. A second 9mm cartridge casing was found near the door to the stairwell exit in the hallway. A 9mm cartridge casing was found inside the doorway of Pride's apartment, and a final 9mm cartridge casing was found on the kitchen floor of Pride's apartment. Two additional 9mm cartridge casings were found underneath the victim once her person was removed. In total, six 9mm cartridge casings were located near the entranceway to Pride's apartment.

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A measurement was taken from French's center mass to the rifle cartridge casings. This measurement was recorded as approximately 49 feet.

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon, identifications were able to be made in some instances as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

The Beretta pistol used by French during the incident was linked to six 9mm luger cartridge cases and six fired bullets and bullet jacket fragments. Lab item #28 / Matrix item #30, a small bullet jacket fragment found in the scalp/head hair of the victim, Pride, was matched to French's pistol.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #17: One (1) Beretta pistol	N/A	Operable
	Items #16, 19-21, 26 & 27: A total of six (6) fired 9mm Luger cartridge cases.	Source Identification
	Items #15, 18, 23-25 & 28: A total of six (6) fired bullets and bullet jacket fragments	Source Identification
	Item #29EB1: One (1) bullet jacket fragment.	Inconclusive*

*Similar class characteristics but insufficient corresponding individual characteristics to identify or exclude.

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The Palmetto State Armory rifle used by [REDACTED] was linked to seven fired cartridge cases, one fired bullet, and had similar class characteristics but was not conclusively linked to another bullet fragment. Note that the fired bullet linked to [REDACTED] rifle was the bullet removed from the right shoulder of Pride.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #30: One (1) Palmetto State Armory rifle	N/A	Operable
	Items #3-6, 8, 9 & 14: A total of seven (7) fired 223 Rem cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Item #35: One (1) fired bullet	Source Identification
	Item #22: One (1) bullet fragment (22EB1)	Inconclusive*

*Similar class characteristics but insufficient corresponding individual characteristics to identify or exclude.

The Bravo Company Mfg. Rifle used by [REDACTED] was linked to seven fired cartridge cases, one fired bullet and one bullet jacket. Note the bullet jacket linked to [REDACTED] rifle was recovered from the right abdomen of French. The bullet linked to [REDACTED] rifle was recovered from French's left abdomen wall.

Item Description	Comparison	Conclusion
Item #31: One (1) Bravo Company Mfg. rifle	N/A	Operable
	Items #1, 2, 7 & 10-13: A total of seven (7) fired 223 Rem cartridge cases	Source Identification
	Items #32 & 33: One (1) bullet jacket (32EB1) & one (1) fired bullet	Source Identification
	Item #22: One (1) bullet fragment (22EB1)	Source Exclusion

Note the projectile recovered from French's peritoneal cavity was found to be unsuitable for comparison purposes due to a lack of sufficient reproducible individual detail or other identifying marks.

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Witnesses

Multiple witnesses and neighbors were interviewed. Many reported they heard suspected gunfire. However, agents did not locate any non-law enforcement witnesses to the actual officer involved shooting.

Peggy Zeppernick (Zeppernick), who is deaf, shared with agents through her interpreter, Carolyn Dugan, that she was alerted to something happening outside of her apartment by her dog. When Zeppernick looked down the hallway, she saw a black man hitting what she then believed to be a second black male with some sort of cane or stick. Zeppernick observed the victim of the assault grab their head after being struck by the aggressor. Zeppernick believed she also saw a third party, a female, at the end of the hallway while the fight between the two men was taking place. Zeppernick then shut her door. When Zeppernick next opened her door, the fire alarm was going off, and she looked down the hallway again and noticed smoke in the hallway. Police were then in the hallway and told her to close her door. Zeppernick then shut her door.

Twila Wareham (Wareham) lives in the apartment directly across from Pride. The officer involved shooting occurred directly in front of Wareham's front door. Wareham heard yelling and screaming coming from the hallway in front of her apartment. Upon hearing the commotion, Wareham momentarily looked through the peephole but could not make out who was outside or what was happening. Wareham then backed away from her door and called 911 to report hearing the yelling coming from outside her door. Wareham next heard an unknown number of gunshots and took cover in her bathroom. Wareham did not exit her apartment, look through the peephole again, or otherwise see or hear anything relative to the incident after that point.

Scott Wilson (Wilson) lives in apartment 714 and stated that he woke up at approximately 0735 hours and began to watch the news, when he thought he heard a gunshot. Wilson stated that he then heard two more gunshots, causing him to walk down the stairs. When Wilson arrived on the fifth floor, he looked through the window in the door to the fifth-floor hallway and observed Pride on the opposite side of the door bleeding from her head. Wilson said French was trying to pull Pride inside the apartment by her arms. Wilson further explained that he heard Pride say something about being shot and French replied, "Yeah, I shot you twice". Wilson stated that he ran up the stairs and to an elevator where he told the police that French had a gun.

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Officer Interviews

The following paragraphs are abbreviated versions of each officer's account of his or her actions pertaining to this incident and/or discharging their weapon. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview.

Officer Vesco:

Ofc. Vesco was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the January 16, 2025, officer involved shooting.

Ofc. Vesco arrived at the apartment building around the same time as Ofc. Brown, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

The four officers rode in the apartment elevator together to the fifth floor. As the other officers exited the elevator, Ofc. Vesco's attention was focused on an elderly gentleman who was standing at the elevator doors. This elderly man told the officers that the subject was at the end of the hallway and had just shot the victim.

Ofc. Vesco told agents, "And as I'm getting, the last one off the elevator, I hear Brown say, 'Oh shit, he's got a gun.' And then Brown's giving orders to drop it, get on the ground. So, as I'm coming up online, um, Brown's to my left, um, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. And then I'm kind of like, it's not long enough, the hallway, to get all four of us across. So, I'm kind of like in the, in the back of it. And that's when, um, yelling commands for him to get down, drop it. Um, I could see like the, like a football field was the way I looked at it. I could see like a quarterback. I could see everything that was going on. Um, as I'm getting off the elevator, I could, as we're yelling this, you know, drop the gun, get off, he shoots the victim, the suspect shoots the victim at point blank. Um, and then that's when we're like, tell him to get down, drop it. Um, and that's when he failed to comply. And the, um, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], um, took shots at the suspect."

When asked, Ofc. Brown stated that he was confident he observed the subject shoot the victim and recalled seeing the muzzle flash of the subject's gun after the subject shot the victim.

When asked if he observed the subject point the gun or fire at anyone else beside the victim, Ofc. Brown stated (11:55 mark of recording) "No, he still had it in his hand pointing at the victim." Ofc. Brown added that he believed the subject was still pointing his pistol at the victim lying on the hallway floor when the officers began to shoot at the subject.

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Ofc. Vesco stated the officer's gunfire towards the subject was very quick and lasted "less than a few seconds." Once the officers stopped firing, Ofc. Vesco's view down the hallway was obstructed by the smoke created from the gunfire. Once the shooting stopped, Ofc. Brown began to walk down the hallway towards the subject and victim. Ofc. Vesco followed behind Ofc. Brown as he approached the subject and victim.

Ofc. Vesco reported upon reaching the end of the hallway, "I see the, um, female victim. Now I can tell she's on her back. Um, the, the male suspect was now on his back and now he had pretty much fallen over top of her. He was just in front of her now she was kind of behind him. Now he was in front of her, um, at which time I could see the pistol with the, the slide open laying on the ground. So, I wanted to make sure that the pistol was somewhat secure, that now we know the slide locked back. It's not, you know. Um, so I reached in my, um, cargo pockets, pulled out rubber gloves, checked for a pulse on the suspect, um, at which time Brown, uh, was trying to see if there was a pulse on the female victim. I immediately got on the radio and called for an ambulance, I believe once or twice. Um, I said, uh, we need a 46, or I might have even said ambulance. We said we need a 46 or an ambulance here asap. And I know I said it more than once, um, to get him there. Um, so then we just kind of locked down this crime scene to see. I could see that the male suspect was, um, deceased at that time."

When asked why he did not fire his weapon, Ofc. Vesco said, "Uh, due to my, uh, the hallway, like I said, we couldn't get everybody online and through my training and experience, number one, I'm not gonna shoot behind an officer just for the safety reasons, you know? We've all been through my training. I was on SRT and all this stuff. You just drilled in your head, you gotta get online to fire. I mean, and I would never shoot behind an officer's head or something like that, taking the chance of shooting them in the back of the head. And at the same time when the smoke was going off from the powder from the, uh, cartridges, I'm not gonna shoot blindly into a cloud of, that's the way I felt. It was more of a safety issue. And there was nowhere for me to get up online with those guys."

When asked what he thought was going to happen after the subject shot the victim, Ofc. Vesco said, "I can tell you what I thought. What could happen next? Um, A, we have to protect her from getting shot again. B, he's gonna turn around and shoot us, at us, or C, an innocent person comes out of the apartments that has no idea what's going on and now he's in this whatever state of mind he's in and he decides to shoot a, um, an innocent civilian. So those were the three things that kind of played out in my mind very quickly."

When asked if he feared for his safety, the safety of the other officers, or the victim during the incident, Ofc. Vesco stated, "Well, for the woman's safety, um, we don't

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know what condition she was in. I don't know if she was alive. I had to treat her like she's alive. I would never, you know, not protect somebody that's being a victim of, of being shot and basically executed in front of us. I mean, we're going to protect her first. Um, and I don't know what, like I stated, I don't know what his intentions were or is he gonna turn the gun on us next? Desperate people do desperate things. So, I don't, you know, we have to treat everything as the situation until we can make sure that the threat is no longer."

When asked if he observed any actions of the other involved officers he felt was inappropriate or potentially criminal in nature, Ofc. Vesco said "No, sir."

Officer Brown:

Ofc. Brown was identified as a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the officer-involved shooting.

When Ofc. Brown arrived at the apartment building, he observed two officers holding rifles [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Based on that observation, Ofc. Brown chose not to bring his rifle into the building. The group of officers all entered the building elevator together and rode up to the fifth floor. Ofc. Brown stated, "Uh, we were supposed, they were supposed to be in the hallway, which is what I told the guys. Uh, when we opened the door, a guy's pointing down the hallway, 'dude's got a gun.' Um, I popped out, I was the front the minute I popped out, I moved to the left side of the hallway, uh, weapon out, light on, on the gun. And I could see the dude standing down there. He was looking down at her and he had a gun sticking out of his hand, kind of like, uh, pointing down towards her. Uh, I yelled at the boys, he had a gun and I started ordering commands at him. 'Drop the gun. Drop the gun.' He raised the gun at her and fired. I cannot tell you where he hit her at, but he was, she was laying on the ground with her head. Some of her back probably against the opposite wall in the hallway on the left side. He was on the right side."

Ofc. Brown continued, "I'm not 100 percent sure. I don't know if he, what apartment they were in at that time or nothing like that. Uh, he kind of stepped to the right, disappeared. Um, I don't know if he walked into the apartment, but there's a little, I guess he could kind of step back with the walls, have the doors reset a little bit, and he kind of disappeared from my view. Uh, I told the rifles to get up front. We started going down the hallway. Uh, once we started moving down the hallway, we didn't get very far. He reappeared again and the guys engaged him."

When asked, Ofc. Brown clarified that when he stated, "the guys engaged him", he was referring to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] firing their rifles at the subject.

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Ofc. Brown believed at the moment [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] fired their rifles he was standing behind these officers and had a hand on each of their shoulders.

When asked to describe moving or assisting the two officers who fired into position in front of him, Ofc. Brown stated, "Uh, it seemed like a long shot to me if I had to take it with a handgun. Uh, not to mention he kind of ducked outta my view for a second. Um, I did not feel comfortable with a handgun to do that. So, I said rifles up front. Uh, the way we're taught is you have to be online or lateral distance to engage somebody. And I knew behind me, I did not want them shooting with me in front of them. And I, so I shoved the one guy I don't even know which one I grabbed. I didn't get to look, I pushed him in front of me and then I, whoever was next to him, I pushed him online together. So, they would be about shoulder to shoulder together. So, they would be online."

When asked if he believed the two officers began to fire before he reached back to help move them or after that, Ofc. Brown stated he believed the two officers did not begin to fire until they were in front of him.

When asked, Ofc. Brown stated he had "no idea" how many times the two officers fired. Ofc. Brown described the officer's gunfire as a quick volley rather than a long or sustained exchange or one having any pauses or breaks in shooting.

Ofc. Brown stated that he did not get a good look at the subject at the moment the two officers began to fire at the subject. At that time, Ofc. Brown's focus of attention was the two officers themselves. Once the two officers stopped firing there was a large cloud of smoke in the air. Ofc. Brown's view down the hallway became obstructed due to the smoke.

When Ofc. Brown looked down the hallway he observed the subject and the victim lying on the hallway floor. Ofc. Brown told the officers to stop firing and lower their weapons. Ofc. Brown then began to walk in front of the two officers who fired and towards the subject and victim.

Ofc. Brown could not recall what he did first when he reached the end of the hallway. However, Ofc. Brown did recall he and the other officers checked the subject and victim for a pulse and cleared the open apartment at the end of the hallway when they reached that point. Ofc. Brown stated he personally checked the female victim at the end of the hallway. When asked what specifically he did to check her, Ofc. Brown stated, "Uh, when I first got there, it looked like she was still alive, so I yelled, uh, to whoever was behind me as I was getting my gloves out before I touched her, to uh, gimme an ambulance. Uh, just as I got I think one or both of my gloves on. I looked at her, and it appeared that she, she, she was looking at me, and it appeared, uh, her

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breath left, and her head turned to the left, and that was the end of it for her." Ofc. Brown believed Ofc. Vesco called for EMS. The fire department responded, put monitors on the subject and victim, and found no signs of life for either party.

When asked what he thought was going to happen after he observed the subject shoot the victim, Ofc. Brown stated "Uh, wasn't a hundred percent sure. I thought maybe, uh, he would fight us, but at that point I didn't care. It was a rescue mission. We were there to make sure she was okay or, or, do our best to save her at that point in time. So, I considered her basically to be a rescue."

Ofc. Brown stated he did not fear for his own safety, citing he did not even have time to think about that. Ofc. Brown stated he feared for the safety of the other officers and victim. Those fears were based on, "Uh, didn't know (if) he was gonna start shooting at us, obviously. Uh, I did push the two guys in front of me. Um, 'cause they had long guns. Uh, but way I look at it is we're here to save the public, not, so join, the time to giddy up. And, uh, I was concerned for her. I just wishing, her, get shot. I don't know if she'd been shot previously or if any other injuries had occurred to her physically or anything like that. So, once I saw him raise a gun and shoot her, we were, it was a rescue operation to, to save her if it was possible."

When asked what led to his decision to exit the elevator first, Ofc. Brown stated that the choice was probably made because he had the most experience of the group of officers.

When asked, Ofc. Brown clarified that at the moment he had his hands on the shoulders of the two officers who fired he was not actively pushing them. Rather he was holding them in position and felt they started to lean back against him. Ofc. Brown described when the two officers who fired began to lean or push back against him, "I looked at 'em and I said, guys, we're in the middle of a fucking hallway, we got nowhere to go."

Ofc. Brown did not believe any of the actions of the involved officers were inappropriate or potentially criminal in nature.

██████████:

██████████ had watched a news piece covering the shooting that included body-worn camera (BWC) video of the incident. ██████████ believed he watched this video approximately 20 times. ██████████ reported that he intentionally watched the video without sound. ██████████ stated he did not learn anything about the incident of significance from watching the video. He did not recall from memory apart from not recalling the fire alarm going off after the shooting. ██████████ stated his

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recollection of the incident was similar to what he observed when he watched the news piece that included the BWC video.

██████████ did not recall ever responding to a call or interacting with the subject, (French), or the victim, (Pride) prior to this incident.

██████████ was ██████████ at the time of the incident. ██████████ told agents APD has a "Live 911" system that allows officers to listen in on 911 calls as they are received by dispatchers. ██████████ recalled he was in the police station and away from ██████████ when ██████████ called him. ██████████ answered the call and ██████████ told him he was actively listening to a new 911 call that involved a woman being shot. ██████████ quickly relayed this information to other officers in the police station. ██████████ then joined ██████████ in their cruiser and began to respond to the scene based on the 911 call. ██████████ and ██████████ continued listening to the live 911 call as they responded to the scene. ██████████ believed he heard the caller tell the dispatcher that they heard arguing followed by the sound of a gunshot but could not recall any specific details of what was said during the 911 call.

Upon arrival, ██████████ and ██████████ both took their rifles with them into the apartment building. Ofc. Brown and Ofc. Vesco arrived almost immediately after ██████████ and ██████████. The four officers entered the building and rode up the elevator together to the fifth floor. Once the elevator doors opened, ██████████ observed a man standing at the elevator with his hand extended out as if to stop the group of officers from exiting the elevator. ██████████ believed this person told them the subject had a gun but could not recall the specific statement made to officers by this man.

Ofc. Brown was the first to exit the elevator. Ofc. Brown turned to the right as he exited the elevator and began yelling commands. Ofc. Brown had his pistol unholstered at that time. ██████████ was second to exit the elevator. ██████████ was third to exit the elevator. Ofc. Vesco was the last to exit the elevator and was at the rear of the group of officers as they began to walk down the hallway.

██████████ stated, "Um, and then I remember that guy, uh, shooting her, uh, in the hallway and, uh, Kevin Brown has me switch positions with him, uh, assuming because I had my long gun with me. Um, and he had popped into like, there's like a little nook there where he could like kind of hide behind. Um, and he came back out and, uh, he still had his gun in his hand. I saw him raise his hand up or his arm up, and I just remember getting a sight picture and shooting. And then I remember, uh, Kevin Brown says, uh, like ceasefire or something to that effect, and then, um, we're walking down

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the hallway, and I just remember there was smoke and then, uh, he told us to go in the car and wait for somebody to talk to us."

When asked at what point he first saw the subject with the gun in his hand, [REDACTED] stated it was after Ofc. Brown stated aloud that the subject had a gun.

When asked if he knew where the subject's attention was focused during the incident, Ofc. Brown stated, "So I remember the, uh, gunshot, he was looking at her. And then, um, when we fired, uh, I remember him look, looking towards us, and then I just remember his arm kind of like moving, and that's when I thought that he was going to shoot at us. So that's when we fired."

When asked to describe in more detail the positioning of French and Pride at the moment French shot Pride, [REDACTED] stated, "I, um, just, so if this is the hallway, she was laying horizontally if, if I remember correctly. And, uh, I don't remember how his body was oriented, but he was like, right here and like, you know, if this is the nook or whatever, that he ended up hiding behind, but I don't remember if he went like this or if his body was like this. But that's his position in relation to hers." As [REDACTED] explained the moment he observed French shoot Pride he demonstrated by pointing his arm fully extended out and downward.

[REDACTED] recalled hearing the gunshot when French shot Pride.

When asked to describe how he switched places with Ofc. Brown, [REDACTED] stated, "Um, yeah, he, I mean, if he said get up here essentially, and I just went up in front of him."

When asked if he felt Ofc. Brown pushed or interfered with his movement at the time, [REDACTED] stated he was aware of Ofc. Brown having an impact on his ability to shoot. When asked if he recalled anything happening around the time he fired that would have prevented him from shooting accurately, [REDACTED] stated "no."

[REDACTED] stated at the moment the subject reappeared in his line of sight, the subject began to raise his arm and weapon towards the officers and that was the moment he began to fire at the subject [REDACTED] stated he was kneeling at the time he fired and believed he took the kneeling position because he had slipped.

When asked why he chose to fire at the moment he did so, [REDACTED] stated, "Um, uh, he had clearly demonstrated that he was, you know, I, I didn't know if she was alive or dead at this point, that he, he was a hundred percent committed to harming her and her life and that I was very concerned that he was going to harm us or kill us."

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When asked what he thought the subject was going to do as he raised his arm and pistol in the direction of officers, [REDACTED] stated, "I thought he was going to shoot us."

[REDACTED] indicated that he feared for his safety, the safety of other officers and the safety of Pride during the incident, [REDACTED] did not feel he had any other options available to him other than the use of deadly force at the moment he fired.

[REDACTED] stated his point of aim was the subject's upper torso, and he believed his rounds struck that same general area.

[REDACTED] stated after the gunfire stopped the group of officers approached the victim and subject. [REDACTED] did not see either party move as the group approached their position or anytime thereafter.

[REDACTED] did not recall the subject or victim ever saying anything during the incident.

[REDACTED] felt his actions were consistent with his training. [REDACTED] did not believe any of the actions of the other involved officers were inappropriate or potentially criminal in nature.

[REDACTED]:

[REDACTED] reported he had not watched any body-worn camera recordings of the incident prior to his interview with agents.

[REDACTED] told agents that APD has a "Live 911" system that allows officers to listen to incoming/active 911 calls as they are received. Utilizing this system, [REDACTED] heard a call come in and began to travel to the scene utilizing his emergency lights and siren.

[REDACTED] responded to the scene with his field training officer, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] did not recall being specifically dispatched to the call. [REDACTED] recalled that while responding to the scene and listening to the 911 call, he heard the caller tell the call taker that she heard a gunshot and woman screaming that someone had shot her. [REDACTED] could not recall having ever interacted with the subject, French or the victim, Pride prior to this incident.

[REDACTED] reported that Ofc. Brown and Ofc. Vesco also responded to the scene. [REDACTED], Brown, and Vesco all rode up the elevator together. [REDACTED] stated, "Um, all four of us, me, [REDACTED], Vesco and Brown, we went up the elevator. Um, when the doors open, there was a guy standing out to the left kind of with his arm out and he was kind of warning us like, hey, there's a guy at the end of the hall with a gun. He already shot her. Um, I checked his hands instinctively, to make sure he didn't

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have a weapon on him. And I remember kind of looking around, um, and we all started walking to the right because, um, Brown was up ahead of me at the time and I saw him pointing his gun down then, uh, the hall, I believe, to be the north side of the hall, um, giving a command to 'drop the gun.' And he, you know, said 'gun' to kind of let us know. And so immediately my attention went towards that potential threat. And when I saw, when I turned and kind of got up with him to look down the hall, um, I saw, um, somebody laying on the ground at the end of the hall. Um, and I saw a man standing over top of her, um, with a gun pointed at her. And, and I, I saw, I saw him shoot her. Um, I saw the muzzle flash, I saw her body, I saw him do it. Um, at this time I was giving commands to drop the gun, um, I guess while simultaneously, you know, getting on target and getting a sight picture. And, um, I remember, um, Brown getting [REDACTED] the other officer with a long rifle up next to me. And, um, I saw him kind of like duck back and it looks like, kind of like the wall cuts in a little bit. Um, he like kind of, he seemed, it, it was a little dark, but he seemed to kind of duck back. And then he popped back out like pretty quickly, like facing us. And um, and that's when, that's when I remember I started shooting. Um, and then I, I stopped shooting when I saw him on the, I saw him hit the ground and I kind of stopped shooting 'cause he didn't seem to be a threat anymore. Um, I kind of checked our surroundings. Um, we were still advancing up and um, I saw her laying there. I remember she had some maybe purple on. Um, and I saw him laying on the ground and it, and, and the gun next to his hand looks like a small black gun. Um, and I immediately wanted to go get a med kit for her. Um, and so I was gonna go to the cruiser to get my med kit and, uh, Ofc. Brown just kind of told us to go down and, and stay downstairs."

When asked to describe in more detail what he saw when the subject shot the victim, [REDACTED] stated, "So, he was standing, uh, to her right, her left our right, um, with his arm extended, pointing it down at her. So, it was pretty clear and pronounced." [REDACTED] stated he heard and saw the gunshot as well as the muzzle flash after the subject shot the victim.

[REDACTED] stated after the subject shot the victim he recalled giving the subject a command to drop his pistol and the subject did not comply or react to this command.

When asked if Ofc. Brown was touching or moving him while he was firing, [REDACTED] stated he did not recall. When asked if he could recall anything that would have prevented him from taking an accurate shot, [REDACTED] replied, "No."

[REDACTED] believed he fired his rifle for approximately five to ten seconds. When asked to estimate a range of how many rounds he fired, [REDACTED] stated one to eight rounds.

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When asked what led to his decision to fire at the moment he did, [REDACTED] stated "Uh, I was scared, fearful of, um my life, uh, my other patrolmen's and, and, and the victim. Uh, and other people in the hallways." [REDACTED] stated those fears were based on the subject's actions he previously described.

When asked what he thought was going to happen after the subject shot the victim, [REDACTED] replied "I, I thought, you know, I, I thought he was either gonna turn it on us or try to finish, finish her off. I don't know if at that time, I didn't know if she was alive or dead yet."

When asked if he saw the subject shot or point the gun at anyone other than the female victim the time he observed the subject shoot the victim, [REDACTED] stated he could not recall.

When asked, [REDACTED] stated he did not feel he had any other options available to him other than to use deadly force at the moment he fired.

[REDACTED] reported he did not believe any actions by the other involved officers were inappropriate or potentially criminal in nature.

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Dispatch-Related Information

The CAD report noted the following:

- Date, time, and location of the incident.
- Unit numbers of responding officers and the times the officers were dispatched, arrived on scene and cleared.
- An erroneous notation that EMTs were transporting one person to Aultman Main Hospital.
- Notation that BCI was notified of the incident at 0805 hours.
- A narrative detailing information from two 911 callers as noted in the clipping below taken from the record.

Narrative

CALLER HEARD A MALE AND FEMALE FIGHTING ON THE FIFTH FLOOR THEN 2 SHOTS FIRED THEN SHE HEARD A FEMALE SAY "HE SHOT ME" -

APARTMENT TO THE LEFT OF CALLERS APARTMENT

-- From 01/16/2025 07:42:36 To 01/16/2025 07:42:46 Disp D461 --

2nd caller from apt 516 advised large disturbance on the 5th floor in the hallway @0743

-- From 01/16/2025 07:46:48 To 01/16/2025 07:46:55 Disp D461 --

shots fired @0746

get a 46 ASAP @0746

5th floor

Two 911 calls were placed regarding this incident.

The first call received and saved as "[REDACTED] 911 Call Neighbor" included a person reporting they lived in unit 516 and "There's a big commotion out in the hallway. A guy and a girl out there fighting. I don't know what's going on." The dispatcher advised the caller that she would send police and the call ended.

The second call received and saved as "[REDACTED] 911 Call 2nd Caller" included a caller reporting that they lived on the fifth floor, heard fighting, then gunshots followed by a woman yelling that she had been shot. The caller refused to identify themselves and stated they did not open their door or look outside/down the hallway. After hearing the gunshots, the caller reported that she called 911 and hid in her bathroom. The caller told the dispatcher, "I heard the shots fired and I heard her say 'He shot me, he shot me!' Okay, that's all I heard. I am hiding in my apartment, and I am not moving, so get up here to the fifth floor."

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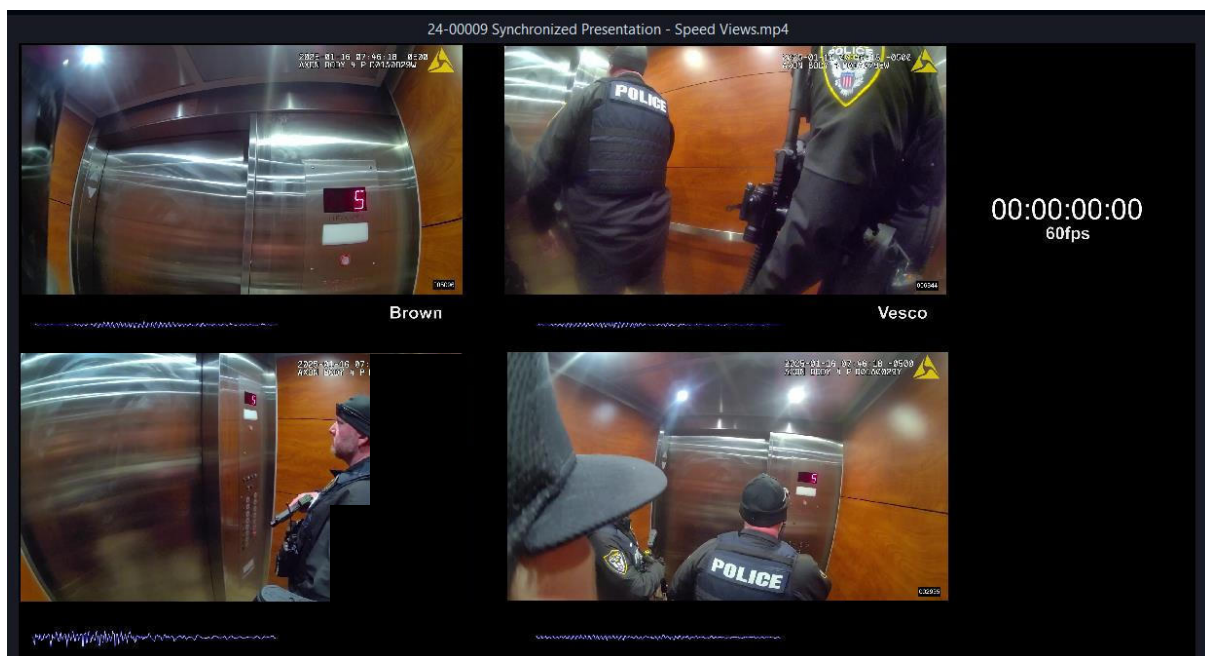


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Video Recordings

SA Valente sent copies of the BWC videos created by the involved and witness officers to the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC). OOCIC created video productions from these original videos that included audio wave form bars, frame counters, a time code and synced productions at full and half speed. SA Valente also created video productions of Officers Brown, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] BWC perspectives at one-third speed with a magnification annotation added for demonstrative purposes to better show the subject and victim's actions at the time of the shooting.

The following snippets were taken from the OCIC video productions. The first frame, included below, depicts all four officers' BWC perspectives as the officers rode an elevator together to the fifth floor of the victim's apartment building.



24-00009 Synchronized Presentation - Speed Views Snippet #1

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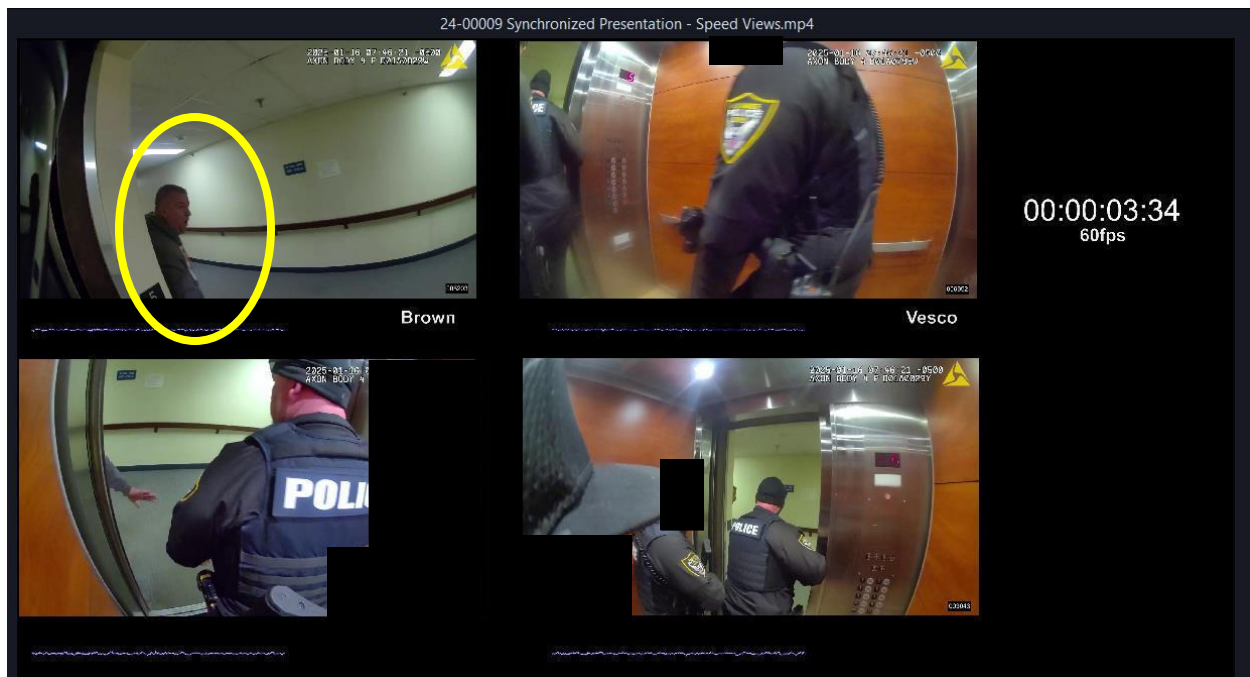


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Ofc. Brown was the first officer to exit the elevator onto the fifth floor. As Ofc. Brown exited the elevator, a man standing in the hallway just to the side of the elevator door placed his right hand and arm out in front of Ofc. Brown. The man then cautioned the officers, "He's got a gun on her. He shot her." A yellow oval annotation was added over this party in the top right of the image below. Ofc. Brown was followed out of the elevator by [REDACTED] was third to exit the elevator. Ofc. Vesco was last to exit the elevator.



24-00009 Synchronized Presentation – Speed Views Snippet #2
Ofc. Brown exiting the elevator.

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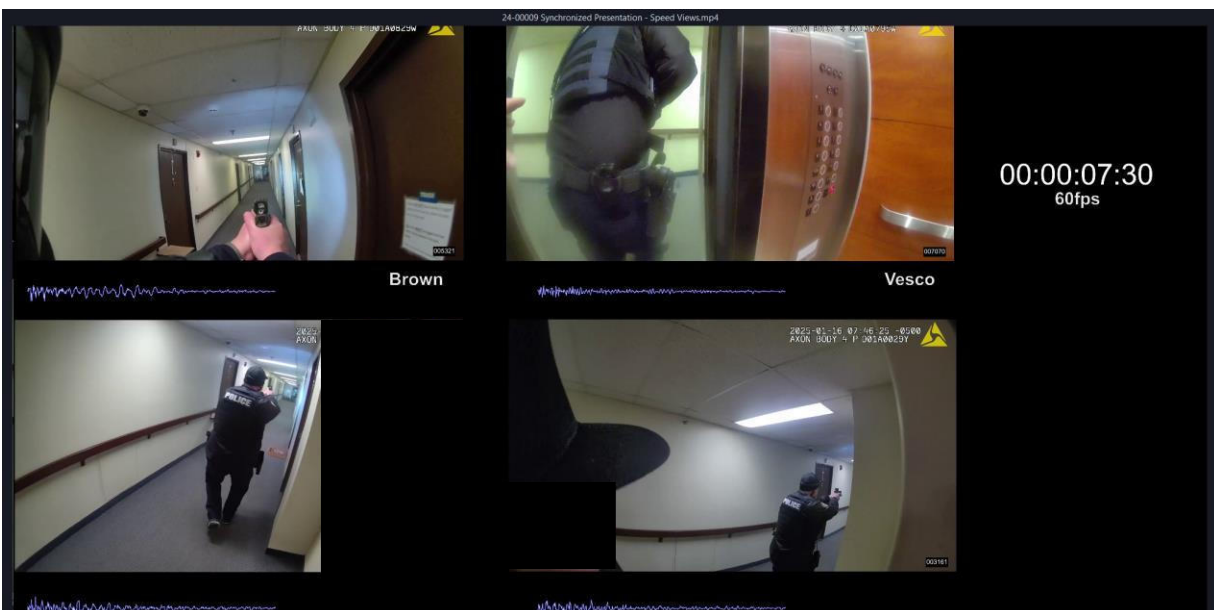


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The following two frames depict the positioning of the four officers at the approximate moment [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] exited the elevator.



24-00009 Synchronized Presentation – Speed Views Snippet #3
[REDACTED] exiting the elevator.



24-00009 Synchronized Presentation – Speed Views Snippet #4
[REDACTED] exiting the elevator.

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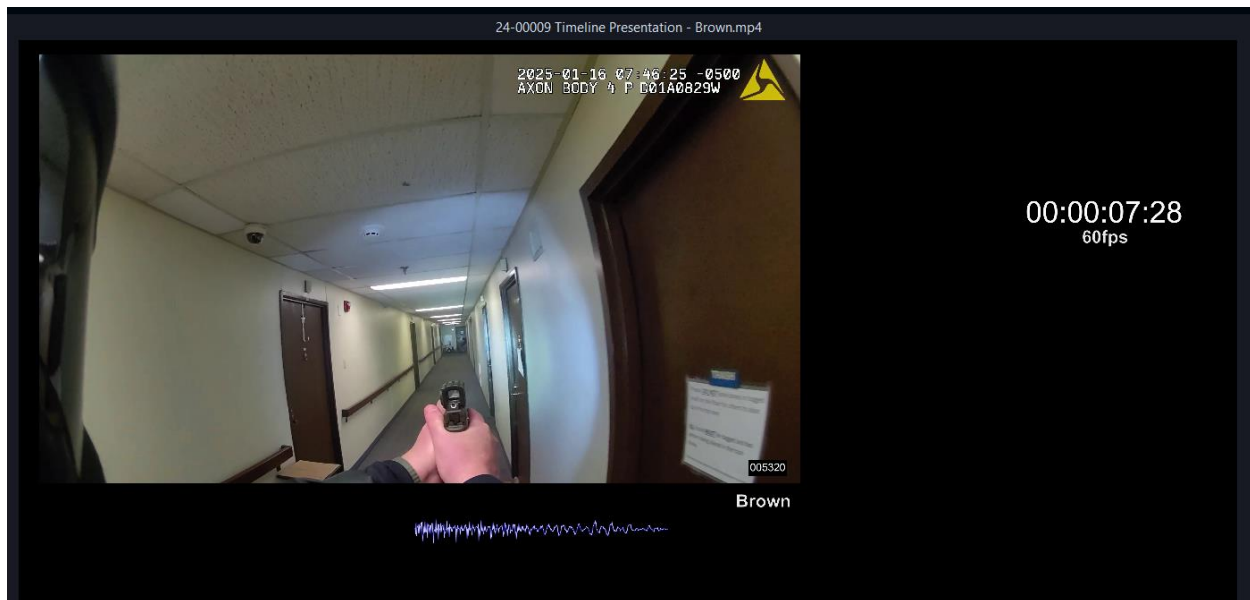


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Ofc. Brown led the group of officers down the hallway to the right of the elevator. Ofc. Brown raised his duty pistol and pointed it in the direction of the end of the hallway where the subject, Mason French (French), and the victim, Stacy Pride (Pride) were located. Almost immediately after exiting the elevator, Ofc. Brown yelled, "He's got a gun. Put it down! On the ground now!" A voice can be heard in the distance and appeared to respond, "No."



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #1
Ofc. Brown pointing his pistol in the direction of French and Pride.

French appeared to point his arm and hand down towards Pride as Ofc. Brown approached him. French then momentarily backed out of the hallway and into Pride's apartment. Pride's apartment was the last door at the end of the hallway on the right. French briefly exited the view of Ofc. Brown's BWC before quickly reappearing.

Upon reappearing in view of Ofc. Brown's BWC, French again leaned down and towards Pride with at least one arm extended out and towards her.

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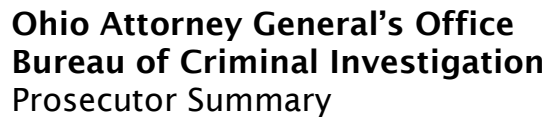
The following image is a cropped view of the previous frame. A yellow rectangle annotation was placed over French and Pride.



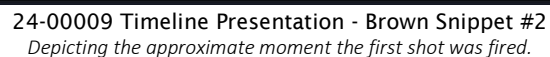
24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #1 Cropped

Cropped view of the above image. Pride appeared to be lying on her back with her head to the right, legs elevated and bent at the knees, with feet to the left. French's upper body is visible extending out of the doorway to Pride's apartment. French is leaning down, facing Pride, with at least one arm pointed down and towards Pride. Yellow outline added around French and Pride.

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This first gunshot began around frame 5,375 of Ofc. Brown's BWC production. This gunshot began approximately 5.07 seconds after Ofc. Brown was crossing through the threshold of the elevator door, 2.25 seconds after [REDACTED] was crossing the threshold of the elevator door, and 1.75 seconds after [REDACTED] was crossing the threshold of the elevator door.



The group of four officers continued to walk down the hallway towards the subject and victim after French appeared to have just shot Pride in the officers' presence.

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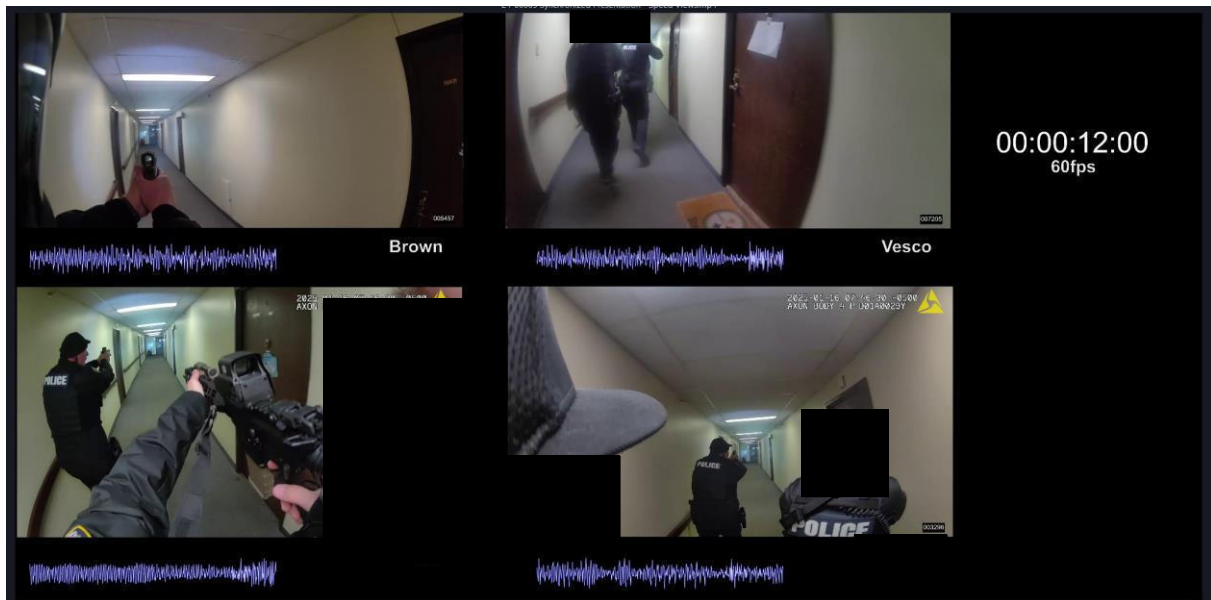


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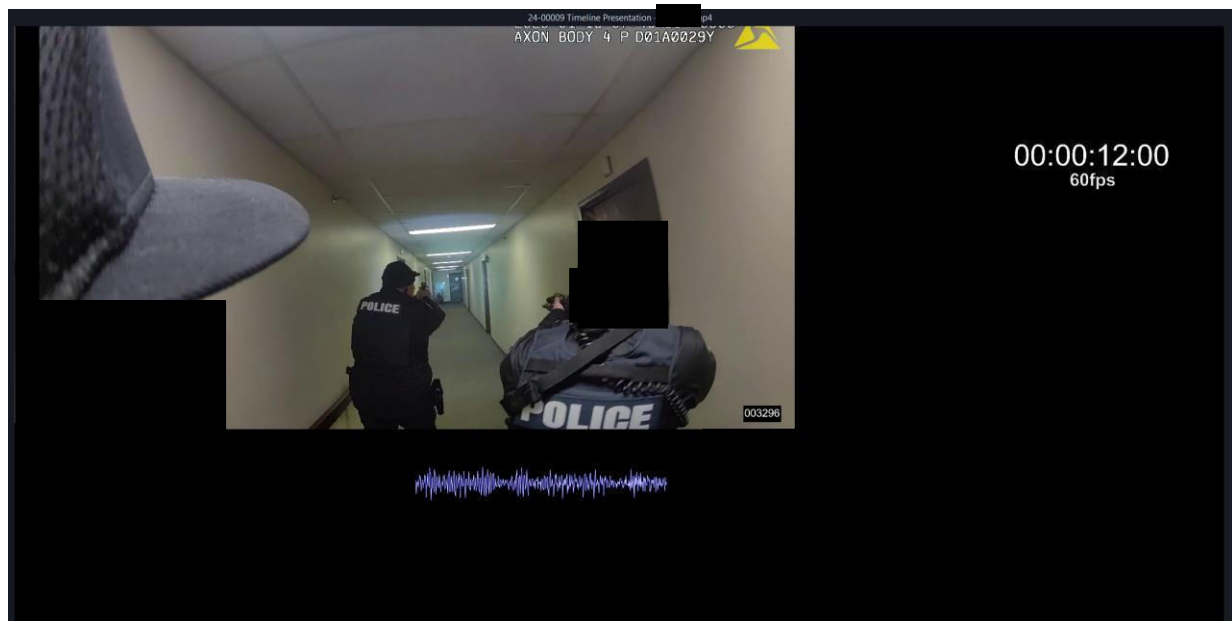


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A second possible gunshot is heard beginning around the 00:00:12:00 timecode of the synchronized production. This shot also appeared to have been fired by French.



24-00009 Synchronized Presentation - Speed Views Snippet #5
Depicting the approximate moment the second shot was fired.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - [REDACTED] Snippet #1
Depicting the approximate moment the second shot was fired.

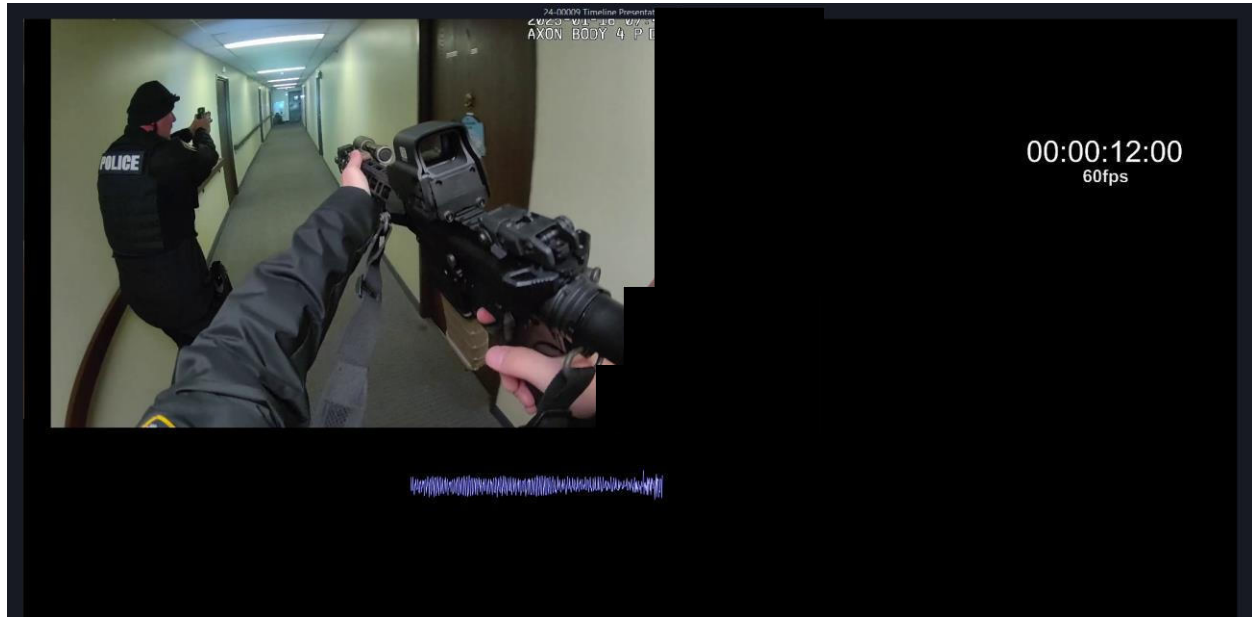
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24-00009 Timeline Presentation – [REDACTED] Snippet #1
Depicting the approximate moment the second shot was fired.

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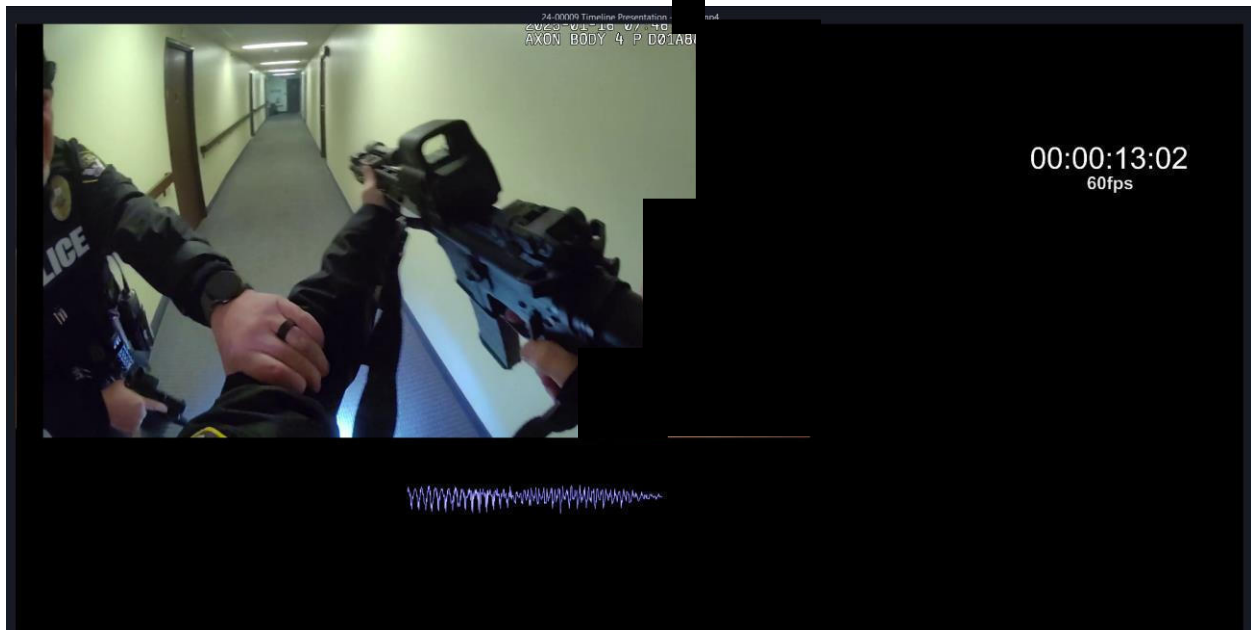


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Ofc. Brown momentarily stopped, allowing [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to take the lead positions in front of him. While doing so, Ofc. Brown yelled, "Go, go, go. Get up here. Get up here motherfuckers, go." Ofc. Brown reached out and grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] in an apparent attempt to expedite [REDACTED] into a lead position.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - [REDACTED] Snippet #2
Depicting Ofc. Brown grabbing the left arm of [REDACTED]

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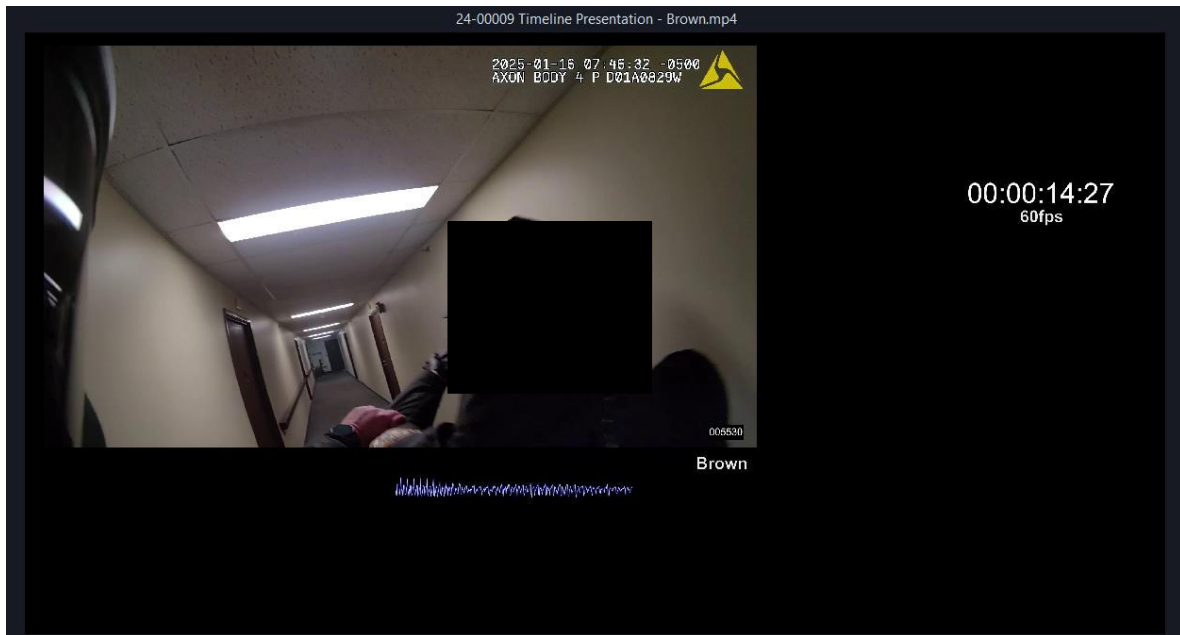


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Ofc. Brown then grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] to pull him forward more quickly as well.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #3
Ofc. Brown appearing to pull the left arm of [REDACTED] forward.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #4
Ofc. Brown's hand on [REDACTED] right shoulder.

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24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #4 Cropped

Pride lying on her back with her head to the right and one leg up. French partially visible in the threshold of Pride's apartment with his right arm partially extended away from his body and upward. Orange circle placed around Pride. Yellow oval placed around French.

Ofc. Brown then placed his hand on the back shoulder of [REDACTED]. At this same time, French partially reappeared from Pride's apartment into the common hallway. French faced the group of officers and appeared to raise his right arm and hand upward as can be seen in the cropped image of the above frame. A yellow oval annotation was added over French and an orange oval annotation was added over Pride.

[REDACTED] then yelled to French, "Drop the weapon."

The video quality is not clear enough to determine exactly what French did next. However, in the following frames French was observed falling onto the hallway floor as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire their rifles in the direction of French. Ofc. Brown's hand remained on the back right shoulder of [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] began to kneel forward and fire. [REDACTED] also knelt down as he began to fire. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire almost simultaneously.

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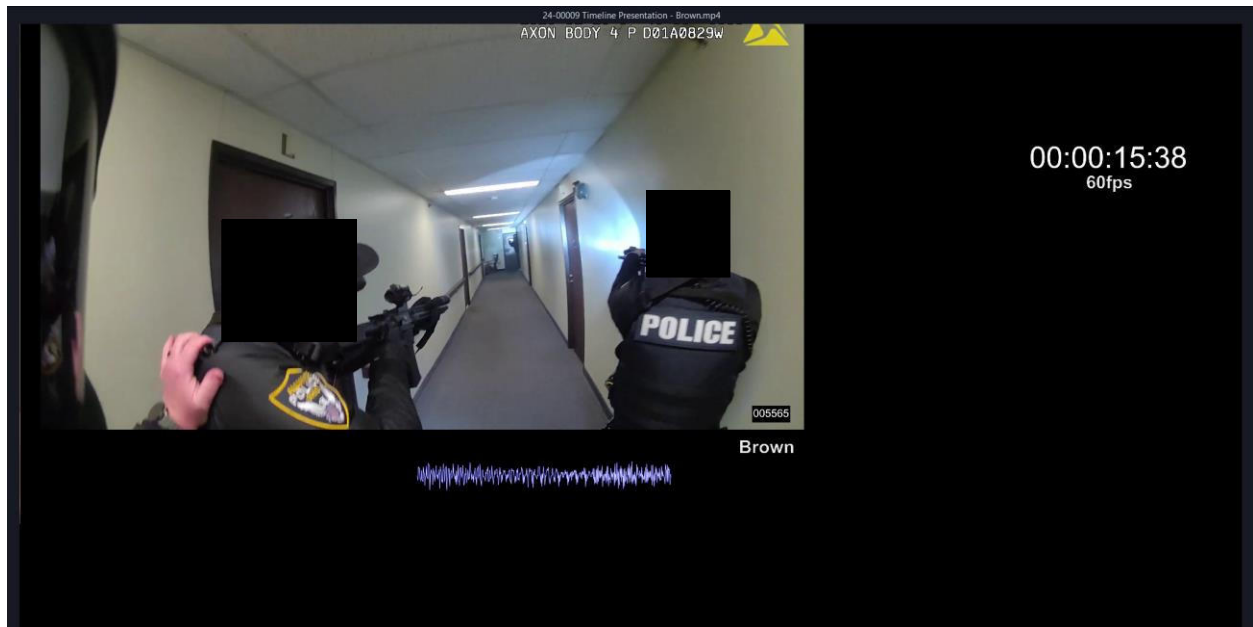


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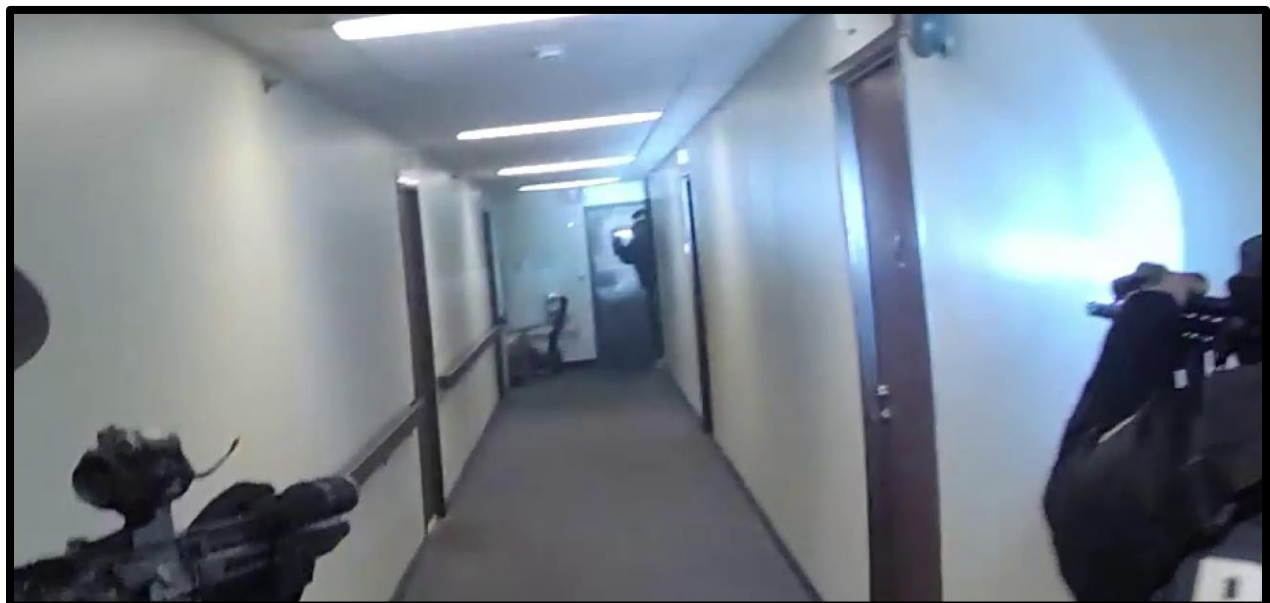


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The following three images demonstrate the various BWC perspectives at the approximate time [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #5
Ofc. Brown's POV at the approximate time officer began to fire in the direction of French.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #5
Cropped view of the above frame.

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24-00009 Synchronized Presentation – Speed Views Snippet #5
Perspective of all four officers at the moment officers began to fire.

It could not be determined from the video productions which officer fired first or last. It is, however, clear that both officers began to fire and stopped firing within a fraction of a second of each other. Both officers began to fire approximately 8 seconds after crossing the threshold of the elevator doors.

██████████ and ██████████ began to fire at approximately the 00:00:15:37 timecode. The last shot fired by the officers occurred approximately 1.87 seconds after they began to fire.

It could not be determined from the video how many times each officer fired.

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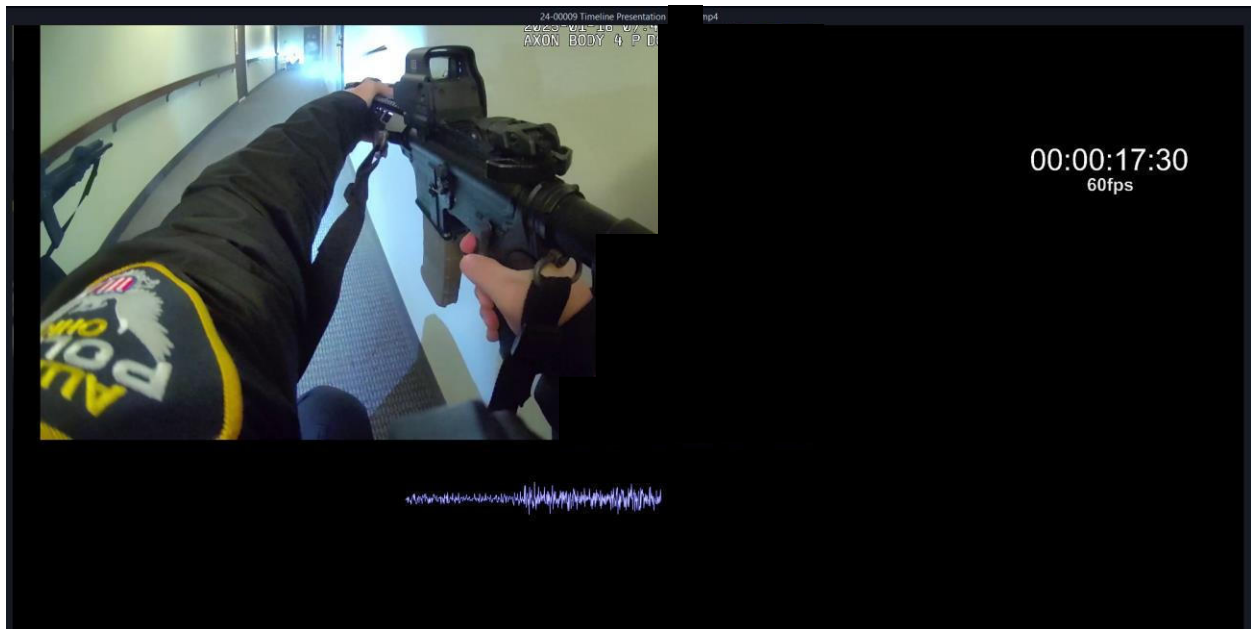


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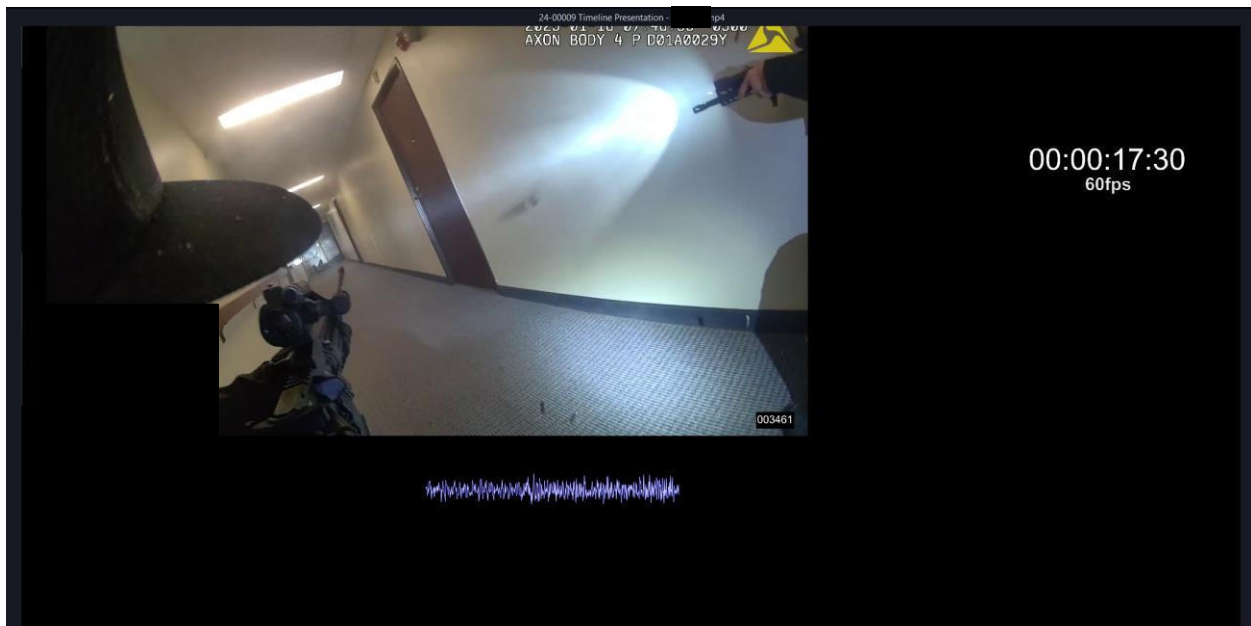
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The following frames demonstrate the BWC perspectives of the involved officers at the approximate moment the final shot was fired.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - [REDACTED] Snippet #3

[REDACTED] perspective at the moment the last shot was fired by officers.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - [REDACTED] Snippet #2

[REDACTED] perspective at the moment the last shot was fired by officers.

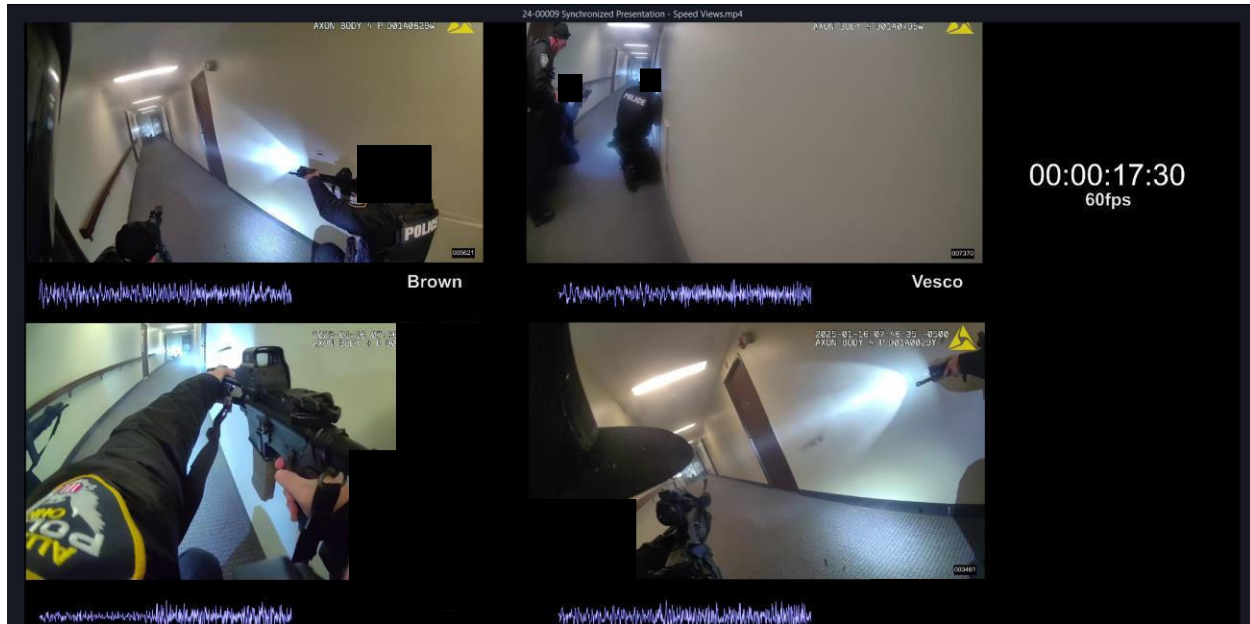
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24-00009 Synchronized Presentation - Speed Views Snippet #6
Combined view of all four officers at the approximate moment the last shot was fired.

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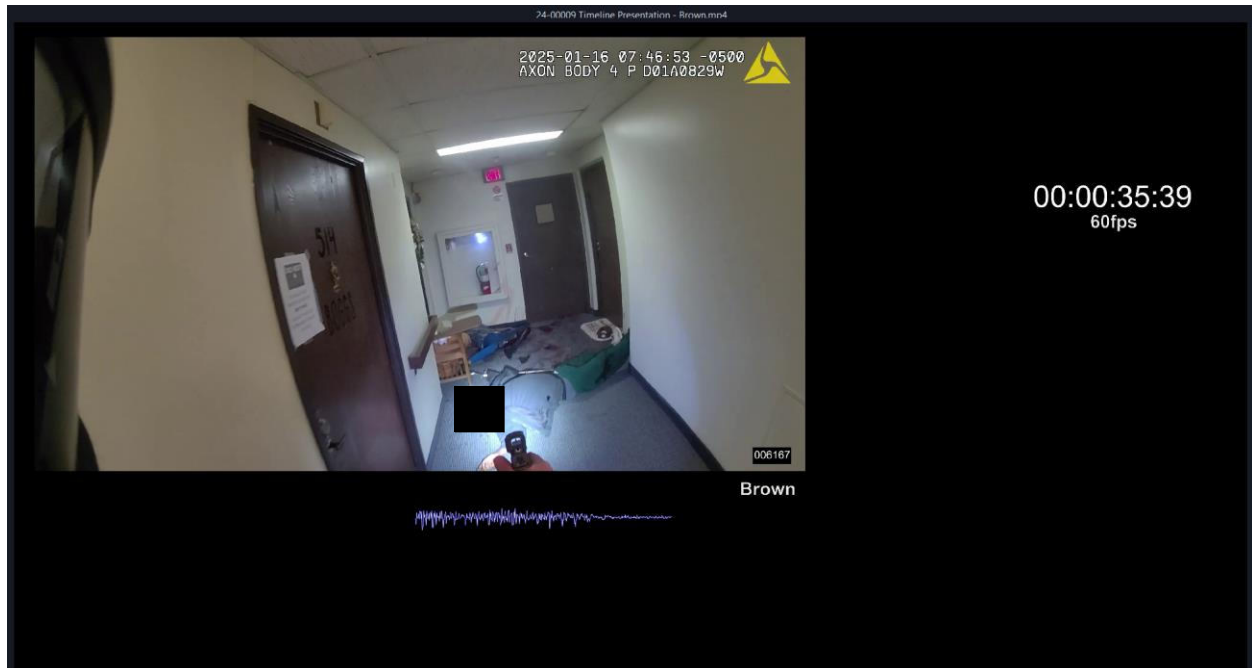


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Immediately after the gunfire stopped, Ofc. Brown yelled out "stop." Ofc. Brown then stepped in front of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Ofc. Brown and Ofc. Vesco walked to the end of the hallway where French and Pride were located. Both French and Pride were found lying face up. A small black pistol was visible on the ground between the two.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #6
Ofc. Brown's BWC perspective as he approached the subject and victim.

Once Ofc. Brown reached Pride's general location, he stated, "She's still breathing get me an ambulance now."

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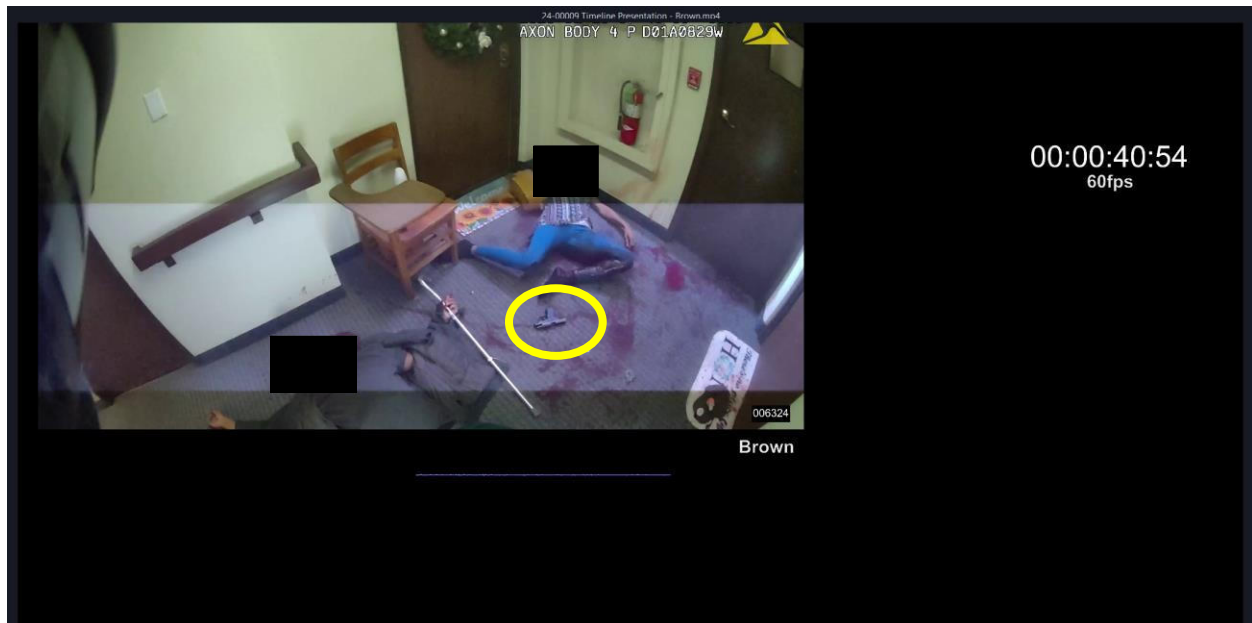


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The slide on the small black pistol located between French and Pride appeared to be locked back, indicative of the weapon having fired all the cartridges contained in the magazine. A yellow oval annotation was added to the image below noting the location and condition of the pistol upon the officers' approach.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #7
Pistol as found by officers upon their approach. Note the slide appeared to be locked back.



24-00009 Timeline Presentation - Brown Snippet #7 Cropped
Pistol as found by officers upon their approach. Note the slide appeared to be locked back. Yellow oval annotation added to image.

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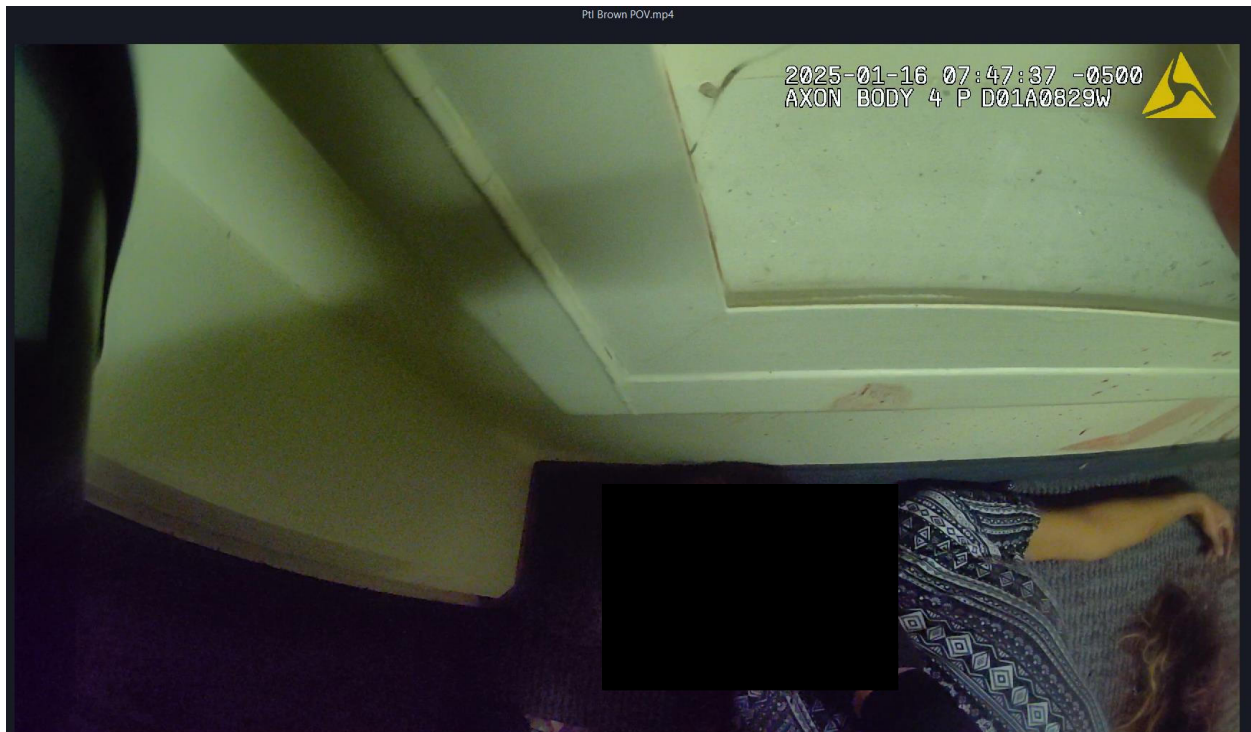


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SA Valente also reviewed the original BWC recordings and noted the following, which were not part of the OOCIC production:

Approximately 38 seconds after the OOCIC productions ended, Ofc. Brown told [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to secure their rifles in their vehicle and wait there. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] then walked to the elevator and the two involved officers stopped their BWC recordings.

Ofc. Brown then appeared to check Pride's carotid artery for a pulse.



24-00009 Ofc. Brown POV Snippet #1
Ofc. Brown touching the neck of Pride.

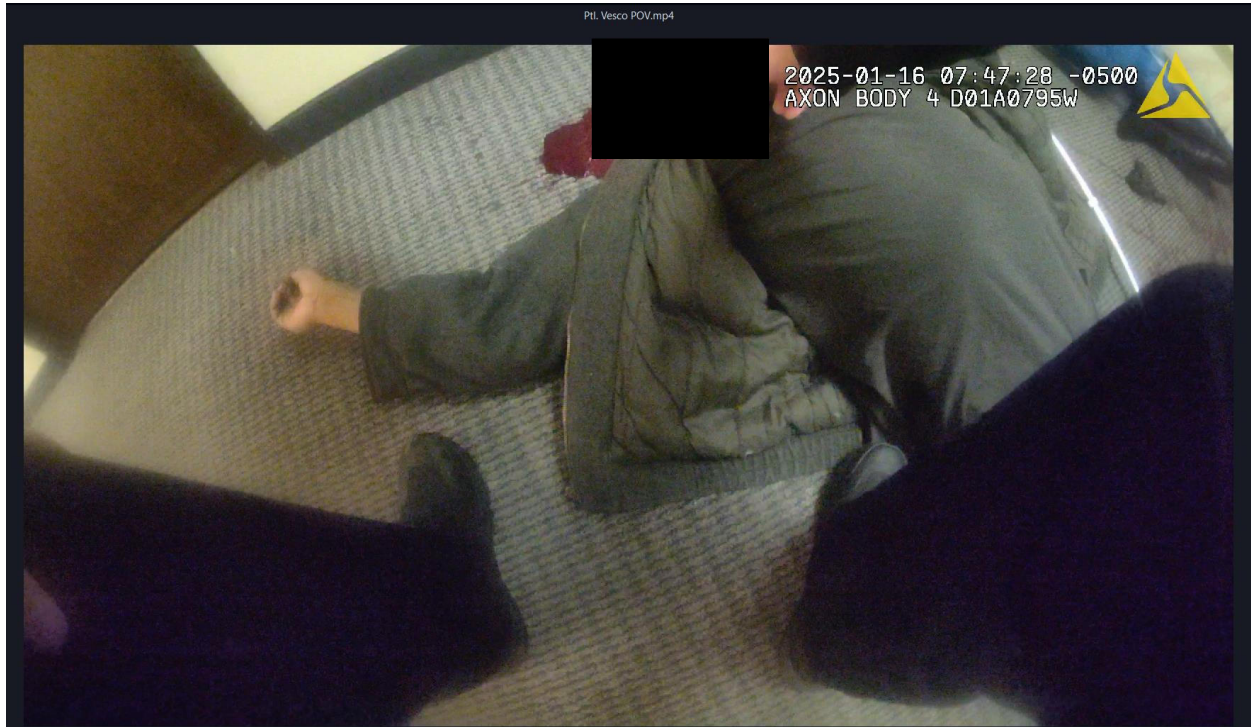
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24-00009 Ofc. Vesco POV Snippet #1
Ofc. Vesco touching the neck of French.

Ofc. Vesco then appeared to check French's carotid artery for a pulse.

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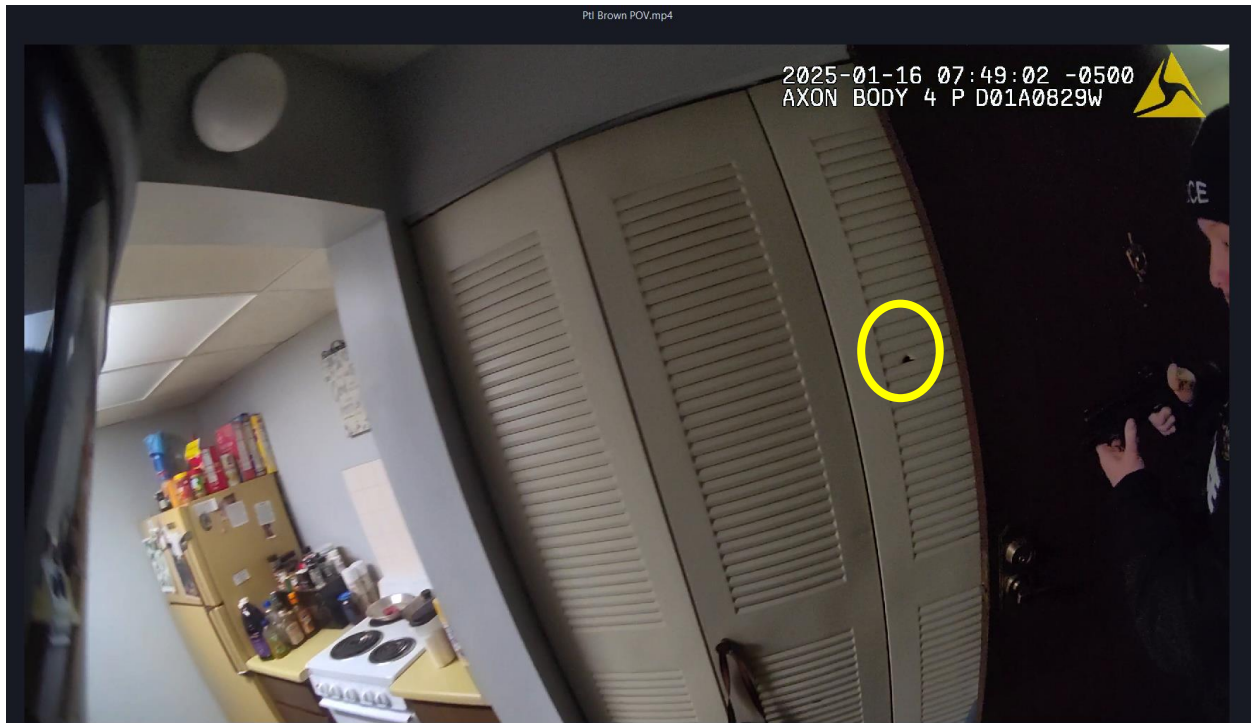


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Ofc. Brown and another officer who had just arrived on scene then checked Pride's open apartment for signs of anyone else inside. The officers did not locate anyone inside Pride's apartment. While checking the apartment, Ofc. Brown's BWC captured a defect in the paneling on Pride's closet door, just inside the main entranceway of the apartment.



24-00009 Ofc. Brown POV Snippet #2
Defect in closet door. Yellow oval annotation added to image.

While Ofc. Brown checked Pride's apartment Ofc. Vesco cleared the stairwell at the end of the hallway.

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Conclusion

On the morning of January 16, 2025, two 911 calls were placed to APD requesting officers respond to the fifth-floor common hallway of the Alliance Towers, 350 South Arch Avenue. The first caller reported fighting and commotion in the hallway. The second caller reported hearing gunshots and a female voice stating she had been shot. Multiple tenants of the building also reported hearing commotion and gunshots coming from the general area of the end of the fifth-floor hallway just outside Pride's apartment. Based on a review of BWC video, interviews conducted with witnesses and involved officers, evidence collected from the scene itself, laboratory testing and the review of autopsies it is believed French shot Pride at least once prior to the arrival of police.

Alliance Police Officers Brown, Vesco, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] all responded to the scene. [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] on this day. These four officers entered the building and rode up the elevator to the fifth floor together. As the officers exited the elevator an uninvolved witness cautioned the officers, "He's got a gun on her. He shot her."

Body-worn camera (BWC) videos showed that Ofc. Brown exited the elevator first and was followed by the other three officers. Almost immediately after exiting the elevator and entering the hallway, Ofc. Brown observed the subject and victim at the end of the hallway. Ofc. Brown raised his duty pistol and pointed it in the direction of the end of the hallway where the subject, (French), and the victim (Pride), were located. Ofc. Brown yelled, "He's got a gun. Put it down! On the ground now!" A voice could be heard in the distance and appeared to respond, "No."

BWC videos of the incident appeared to show French point his arm and hand down towards Pride as Ofc. Brown approached him. French then momentarily backed out of the hallway and into Pride's apartment. Pride's apartment was the last door at the end of the hallway on the right. French briefly exited the view of Ofc. Brown's BWC before quickly reappearing. Upon reappearing in view of Ofc. Brown's BWC, French again leaned down and towards Pride with at least one arm extended out and towards her.

BWC videos showed Ofc. Brown finished yelling the order "Put it down! On the ground now!", a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began. As the sound of this first gunshot began to fade away, a voice that appeared to come from the end of the hallway, presumed to be that of Pride, began yelling out "Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh." This first loud percussive sound is believed to be the sound of French's gun as he shot Pride while the officers began to approach him.

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BWC videos showed the group of four officers continuing to walk down the hallway towards the subject and victim after French appeared to have just shot Pride in the officers' presence. A second loud percussive sound followed seconds later. This second loud percussive sound is also believed to have originated from French's pistol as he shot (or shot at) the victim a second time in officer's presence.

BWC videos showed Ofc. Brown, who was in the lead position of the approaching officers, momentarily stopped, allowing [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to take the lead positions. While doing so, Ofc. Brown yelled, "Go, go, go. Get up here. Get up here motherfuckers, go." Ofc. Brown reached out and grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] in an apparent attempt to expedite [REDACTED] into a lead position. Ofc. Brown then grabbed the left arm of [REDACTED] to pull him forward more quickly as well.

BWC videos showed Ofc. Brown placed his hand on the back shoulder of [REDACTED]. At this same time, French partially reappeared from Pride's apartment into the common hallway. French faced the group of officers and appeared to raise his right arm and hand upward. [REDACTED] then yelled to French, "Drop the weapon."

Based upon the available evidence, French is believed to have then shot himself in the head with his own pistol. French then fell onto the hallway floor as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire their rifles in his direction. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] began to fire almost simultaneously.

Based upon the available evidence, it could not be determined which officer fired first or last. It is, however, clear that both officers began to fire and stopped firing within a fraction of a second of each other. Both officers began to fire approximately 8 seconds after crossing the threshold of the elevator doors after witnessing Pride having just shot French, who lay helpless on the hallway floor.

BWC videos showed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stopped firing approximately 1.87 seconds after they began to fire.

All available evidence showed that [REDACTED] fired seven times. One bullet fired by [REDACTED] was recovered from the right shoulder of Pride. [REDACTED] also fired seven times. Two bullets recovered from French's abdomen were matched to [REDACTED] rifle. French is believed to have shot at Pride or inside her apartment four times prior to police arrival. French is believed to have then shot or shot at Pride twice in the officer's presence.

The available evidence showed one of the bullets French is believed to have fired into Pride entered the upper left side of her back. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

BWC videos showed that immediately after the gunfire stopped, Ofc. Brown and Ofc. Vesco walked to the end of the hallway and checked Pride and French for signs of life and requested EMS respond. Both French and Pride were pronounced deceased at the scene.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved critical incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Nick Valente. SA Valente can be reached via email at Nicholas.Valente@OhioAGO.gov.

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