



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



2022-0727

Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 914 Salt Springs Road, Youngstown,  
Ohio 44509

Investigative Activity: Video Review, Document Review

Involves: Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission

Activity Date: August 3, 2022

Activity Location: BCI Youngstown Office

Authoring Agent: Special Agent AI Banský #115

**Narrative:**

On June 2, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) AI Banský (Banský) received discs, a flash drive and documents from the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OCIC).

On April 26, 2022, SA Banský sent OCIC a video containing Struthers Police Officer Thomas Schneeman's (Schneeman) body camera. On May 16 2022, SA John Tingley sent OCIC a flash drive containing video taken from Crafcó Inc. (912 Salt Springs Road).

OCIC was requested to perform various enhancements on both the video and flash drive. Both videos contained footage regarding the April 1, 2022, officer-involved critical incident.

SA Banský reviewed the following documents from OCIC:

- OCIC Chain of Custody Report 22-00032.
- This document was the chain of custody for OCIC.
- This document was the curriculum vitae for OCIC Analyst Davis Loomis.
- The report was authored by OCIC Analyst Davis Loomis.

SA Banský reviewed the creation of the data discs and flash drive created by OCIC and noted the following:



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Figure 1: The above image captures Officer Schneeman on the driver's side of James Sheets' vehicle. At approximately 17:13:35, on the timer, Officer Schneeman can be seen with his weapon in his right hand and his taser in his left hand, giving several commands to James Sheets to "show me your hands."



Figure 2: At approximately 17:13:39, the above image captures Officer Schneeman saying, "gun," several times.

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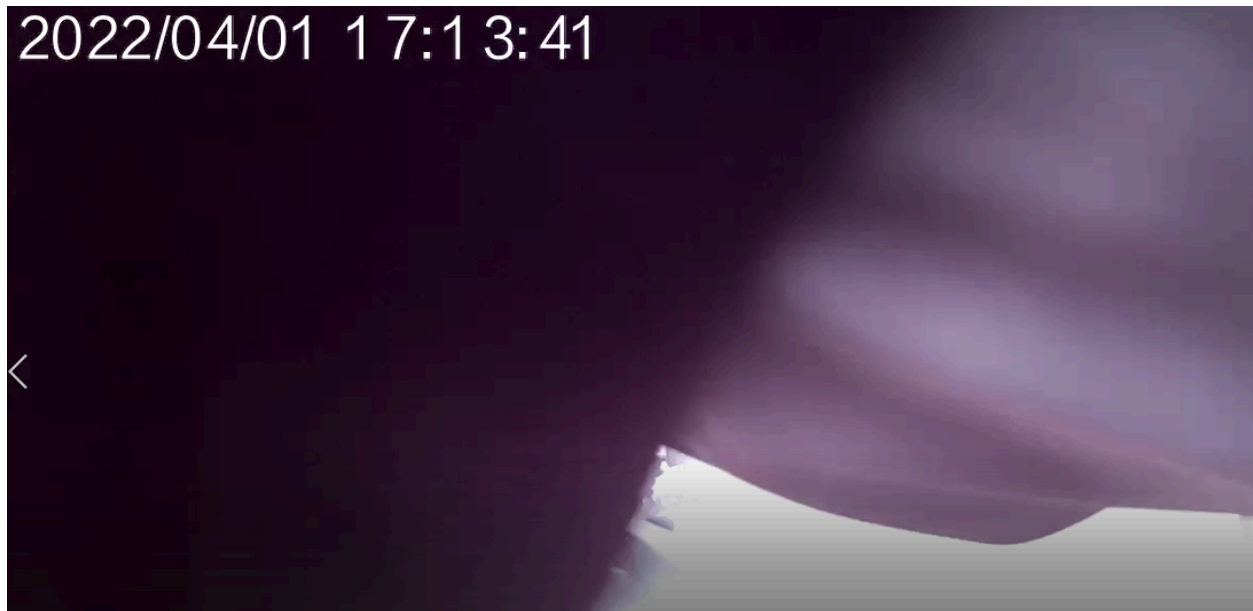


Figure 3: At approximately 17:13:41, on the timer, Officer Schneeman starts firing his service weapon.



Figure 4: At approximately 17:13:49, the above image captures Officer Schneeman reloading his weapon and saying, "gun."





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Figure 5: The above image captures the initial traffic stop by Struthers police officers. Video came from an outside surveillance camera from Crafcro Inc., located across the street from the incident.

Note: Both of the above video presentations were placed on one data CD by Analyst Davis Loomis.

### **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.

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C. The speed of the incident is remarkable. The speed and complexity of rapidly evolving situation(s) that occur during use of force encounters are difficult concepts to comprehend by only watching the video.

The discs received from OCIC were submitted to the physical BCI case file as item #79 for reference only.