



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



2022-2813

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 673 Stale Hollow Ct, Powell

Investigative Activity: Video Review

Activity Date: 3/6/2023

Activity Location: BCI

Authoring Agent: SA Matt Collins, #151

Narrative:

On Thursday, December 22, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Collins (SA Collins) received video footage from Captain Savage. SA Collins was informed that the videos contained footage from the body cameras and dash cameras recorded by the Delaware County Sheriff's Office (DCSO).

SA Collins documented the portions of the audio/video he believed to be the most relevant in obtaining facts necessary to provide an understanding of the events that took place during the incident. SA Collins documented what he believed each subject was saying. For both these reasons mentioned, the reader is encouraged to review the video in its entirety.

During the course of the investigation the names of individuals involved were identified. While individuals may not be identified solely in the video, SA Collins utilized their respective names for clarity purposes. There were three DCSO deputies on scene during the shooting incident. Dep Cline (Witness Officer), Dep Ambrozich (Witness Officer) and Dep Brandon Gaunt (Involved-Officer). There were three (3) adult civilians who were present. Those individuals were, Sean Hinton (Involved-Subject), Kelly Hinton (Witness) and Michael Hinton (Witness).

SA Collins utilized Axon Investigate (AI) to evaluate and work with the video files to aid in the review. SA Collins brought the following files into AI;

"B Gaunt bwc";

"N Ambrozich BWC"; Files 1-10

"J Cline bwc";

"C Jenkins BWC"; Files 1-9

"S Bobb bwc";

"T Carey bwc"; Files 1-10

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By doing so, the program identifies the metadata included within the video. See *Figure 1* for the respective camera being referenced. "Figure" numbers will be respective to each camera. All times are reflective of the times within the video clips and not the time of day, unless otherwise indicated.

SA Collins created sub-clips and marked images during the review. SA Collins marked a total of twelve (12) frames/images from the video clips. The images were named by the frame number identified by iA (F=Frame, F####). SA Collins reviewed the videos and noted the following:

Dep Brandon Gaunt BWC-

The video begins with Dep Gaunt exiting his patrol car. When reviewing the metadata (see *Figure 1*), it indicated there were a total of 16,776 frames and was playing at approximately thirty frames per second (30fps). The total length of the video was 09:19.20. There is approximately a thirty second (:30) delay before audio begins.

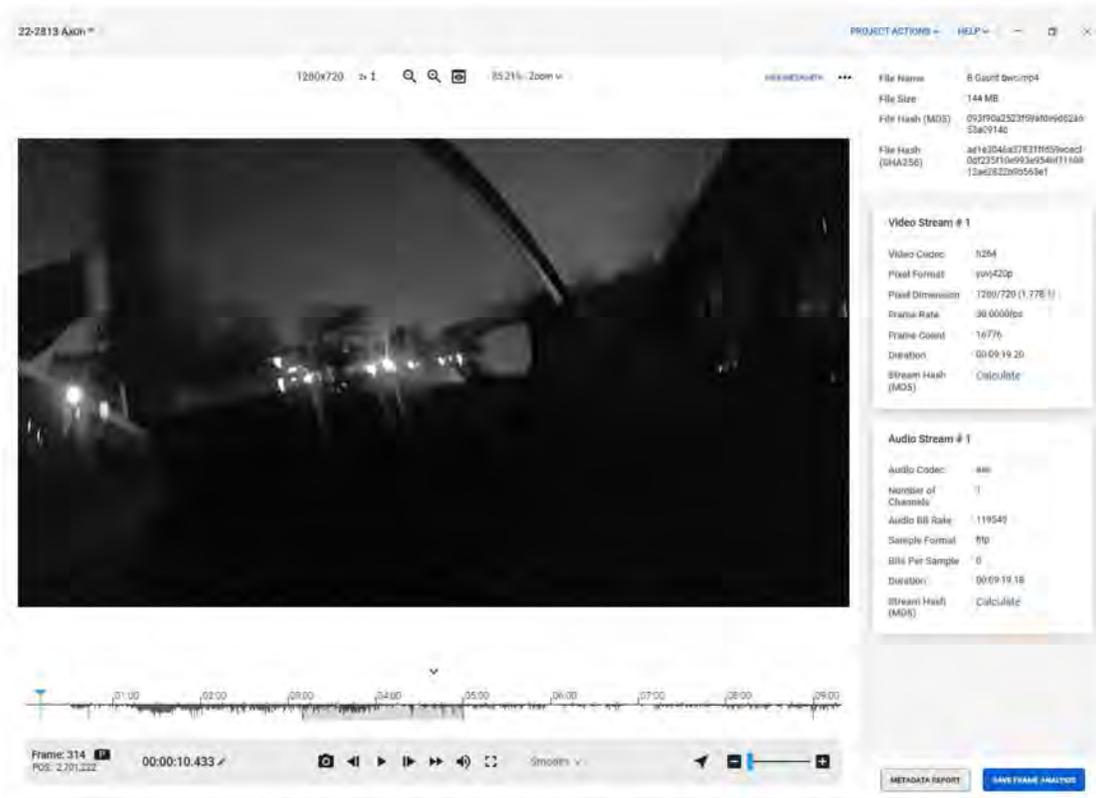


Figure 1: Dep Brandon Gaunt's BWC Metadata_Screenshot

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The video began with Gaunt exiting his patrol car and approaching apartment buildings. When Gaunt arrived to 673 Stale Hollow, there was a male subject, Michael Hinton, exiting the apartment while holding a child. Following behind him was Kelly Hinton, who was holding her daughter. When Gaunt entered, there were two other DCSO deputies already inside, Dep Ambrozich and Dep Cline. At approximately 0:50 into the recording, Dep Ambrozich was heard having a dialog with Sean Hinton (Hinton). Hinton was heard multiple times saying, "I'm having a bad fucking day man! How bout that, how's your day going!" The dialog is more clearly picked up in Dep. Ambrozich's BWC and will be further detailed in his respective BWC review. Dep Ambrozich was the closest deputy to the stairway, Dep Gaunt was closest to the back door and Dep Cline was in between them.

At approximately 01:10 into the recording, Dep Ambrozich was heard saying, "somebody get a shield." Dep Gaunt left the apartment, returned to his patrol car, obtained a shield and then his patrol rifle from the front gun lock. Dep. Gaunt returned and Kelly was heard continuing to yell from the front yard. Kelly was pleading with Dep Gaunt, saying, "he's just drunk." At approximately 03:10 into the recording, while deputies were trying to make sure everyone was safely away from the apartment, Dep. Ambrozich said they needed to do something with "her," Kelly. Kelly was heard yelling, "No, you can't leave him. You can't leave him like this."

At approximately 03:22 into the recording, Dep Gaunt returned to the apartment door. See *Figure 2*.



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Figure 2: F6078_Gaunt returns to apartment door

At approximately 03:33 into the recording, Dep Gaunt opened the door and Hinton was seen in the distance, near the stairs to the basement. See Figure 3 (yellow markings added by SA Collins). Dep Gaunt was heard saying, "Sean," before five (5) consecutive gunshots could be heard. Hinton went to the ground immediately after the shots were fired. An unknown male voice could be heard asking, "We good? We good?" Dep. Gaunt responded, "Yeah, yeah, we're good, he's down, he's down. He had a rifle, he had a rifle." It appeared the first shot was fired at approximately 03:34.9 into the recording and the last shot was fired at approximately 3:36.1 into the recording. Based on the times, the shooting incident occurred in approximately one second (1.2).



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Figure 3 (Above): F6448_Moment shots were fired. Debris cloud above Hinton's head

Figure 4 (Right): F6448_Cropped and resized image above.





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Deputies Ambrozich and Gaunt approached Hinton to secure him. When doing so, Hinton was viewed wearing a black ballistic vest or body armor and he had a handgun secured in his back waist. Hinton was also viewed having multiple rifle magazines. See *Figures 5, 6 and 7* (yellow markings added by SA Collins).



Figure 5: F8743_Hinton wearing body armor



Figure 6: F8841_Handgun removed from Hinton's waist

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Figure 7: F9699_Multiple rifle mags removed from Hinton

Dep Ambrozich BWC-

The video began with Dep Ambrozich exiting his patrol car. There was a date/time stamp in the upper, left hand corner of the screen; which indicated it was "12/12/2022 20:58:28." See Figure 1. The audio began at approximately thirty seconds into to the recording.



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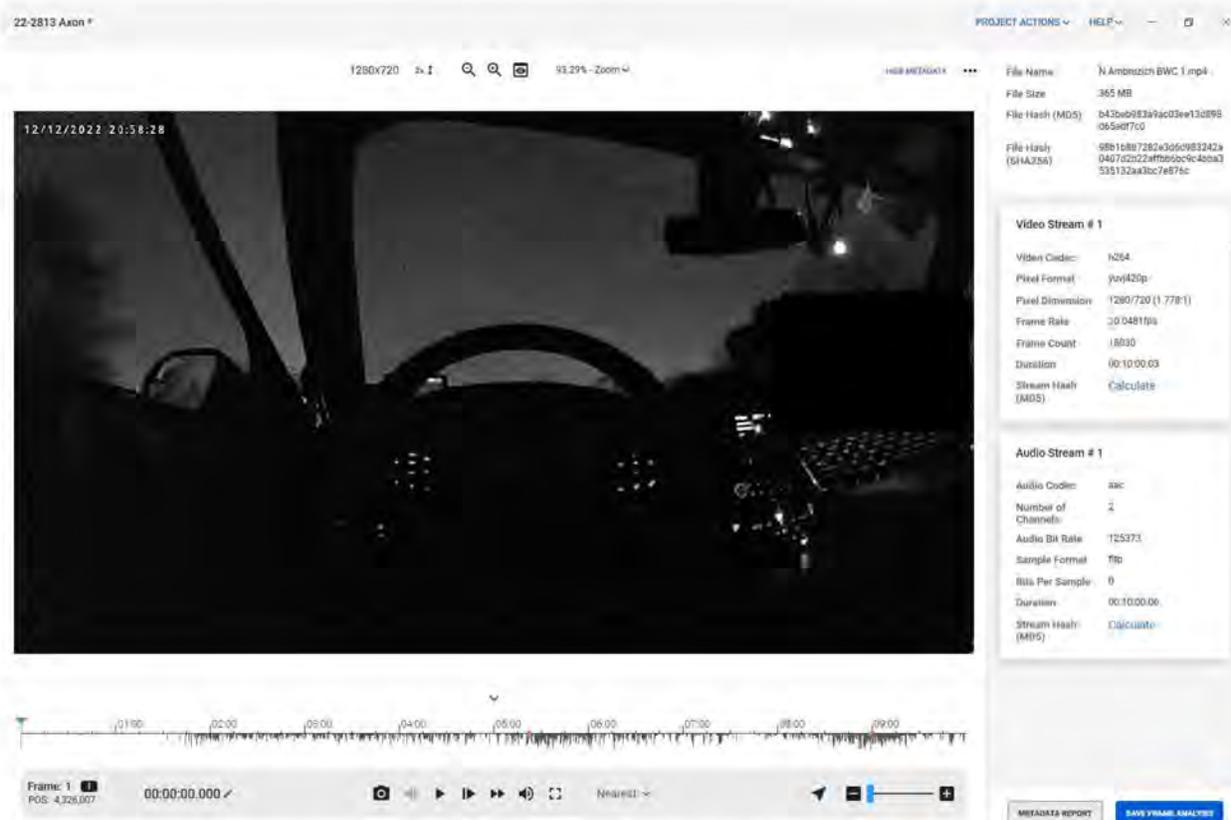


Figure 1: Dep Ambrozich's BWC Metadata_Screenshot

At approximately 01:20 into the recording, Dep. Ambrozich arrived to the door where the numbers 673 were visible on the right side. A female voice, from inside the apartment could be heard saying, "the cops are here." A male voice from inside the apartment could be heard yelling "Good." Kelly Hinton (Kelly) could be seen inside the doorway, on a cellphone. Kelly was visibly upset and appeared to be crying and breathing heavy. Just inside the doorway, a young boy was also visible.

At approximately 02:00 into the recording, Dep Ambrozich asked who all was inside. Kelly indicated it was just her husband, her father in-law, and her son. Dep Ambrozich was asking Kelly if "he" had a gun. Kelly first stated no and then hesitated before saying yes. Kelly said she wanted to give Dep Ambrozich a backstory before he went in there. Dep Ambrozich asked if there was anyone in immediate danger and Kelly responded by saying, "It's not out or anything. It's on him. It's behind him." Kelly said this as she was demonstrating with her left hand as though something was in her back waist or pocket area. When asked if it was loaded, Kelly stated she did not know.

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Kelly indicated her father-in-law, Mike, was downstairs trying to talk to Hinton. At approximately 02:50 into the recording, Kelly was speaking of Hinton struggling with alcoholism and on the night of this incident she'd threatened to call the police. Kelly said Hinton "called her bluff" and he instead called the police. Kelly opined Hinton was looking for a fight or "he wants to brawl." Dep Ambrozich asked who Hinton wanted to fight and she stated, "anybody. Not me, or you know--. But he's just having a really hard time right now."

At approximately 05:24 into the recording, Mike was heard saying, "Watch it! He's got, he's got live guns dude!" Dep Ambrozich was descending the stairs and Mike began coming up the stairs. As Dep Ambrozich was turning around to go back up the stairs his BWC captured Hinton standing in the basement with what appeared to be either a rifle, shotgun, or other long black object, parallel with Hinton's right side. The object was consistent through multiple frames. See *Figures 2, 3 and 4*. Mike could be heard pleading with Hinton, saying, "Do not shoot, Sean. Do not shoot, Sean."



Figure 2: F9704_Hinton in Basement with long black object to his right side. Yellow arrow added by SA Collins

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Figure 3: F9711_Hinton in basement with long black object to his right side_2. Yellow arrow added by SA Collins

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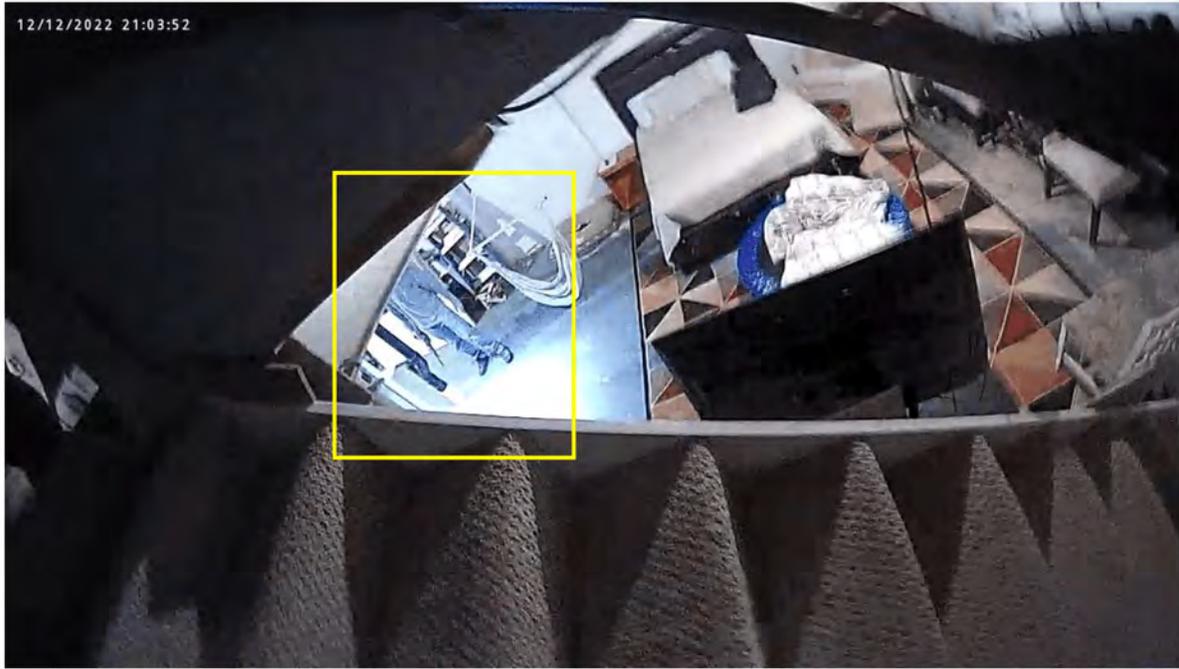


Figure 4: F9718_Hinton in basement with long black object to his right side_3. Yellow markings added by SA Collins



Cropped and resized images of Figure 4; markings added by SA Collins

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At 05:45 into the recording, after both Mike and Dep Ambrozich were upstairs, Mike said, "He's got an AR-15 or what ever the fuck it is, a pistol--." Dep Ambrozich attempted to enter into a dialog with Hinton. However, Hinton appeared to be agitated. Specifically, when Dep Ambrozich inquired if Hinton had a firearm on him. Dep Ambrozich was heard speaking with Unit 101 on his police radio and advised them of the situation. It was determined they were going to establish a perimeter and call in "the team."

At approximately 08:30 into the recording, Dep Ambrozich was seen backing out the doorway and Dep Gaunt was seen standing at the door. Dep Ambrozich stated they needed to do something with Kelly and he asked Dep Gaunt if he was "good." Dep Gaunt stated yes.

Dep Ambrozich then went to Kelly. He attempted to calm her down and get her into the back of a silver SUV. At approximately 09:00.467 into the recording, shots could be heard firing. *Figure 5* captured the BWC view when shots began. The final shot appeared to be fired at approximately 09:01.432. *Figure 6* captured the BWC view the last shot was fired. Again, based on the times, the shooting incident occurred in approximately one second (.965). The reader may acknowledge the time difference from what was noted in Gaunt's BWC review (1.2 shooting duration) versus what was noted in Ambrozich's BWC review (.965). The approximate :0.2 second variance may be attributed to the respective officer's location/s, echoing around buildings, etc.

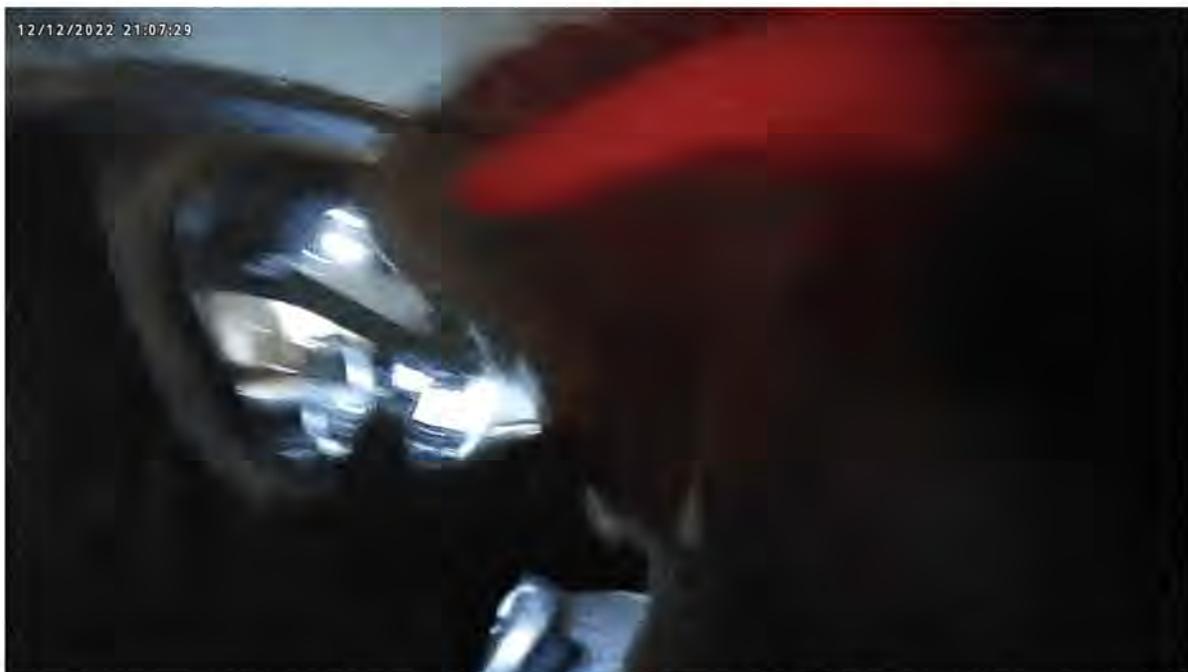


Figure 5: F16241_ Approximate moment shots fired

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Figure 6: F16270_Approximate moment last shot fired

Dep Cline BWC-

The video begins with Dep Cline exiting his patrol car. When reviewing the metadata (see Figure 1), it indicated there were a total of 165,961 frames and was playing at approximately thirty frames per second (30fps). The total length of the video was 01:32:12.03. There is approximately a thirty second (:30) delay before audio begins.



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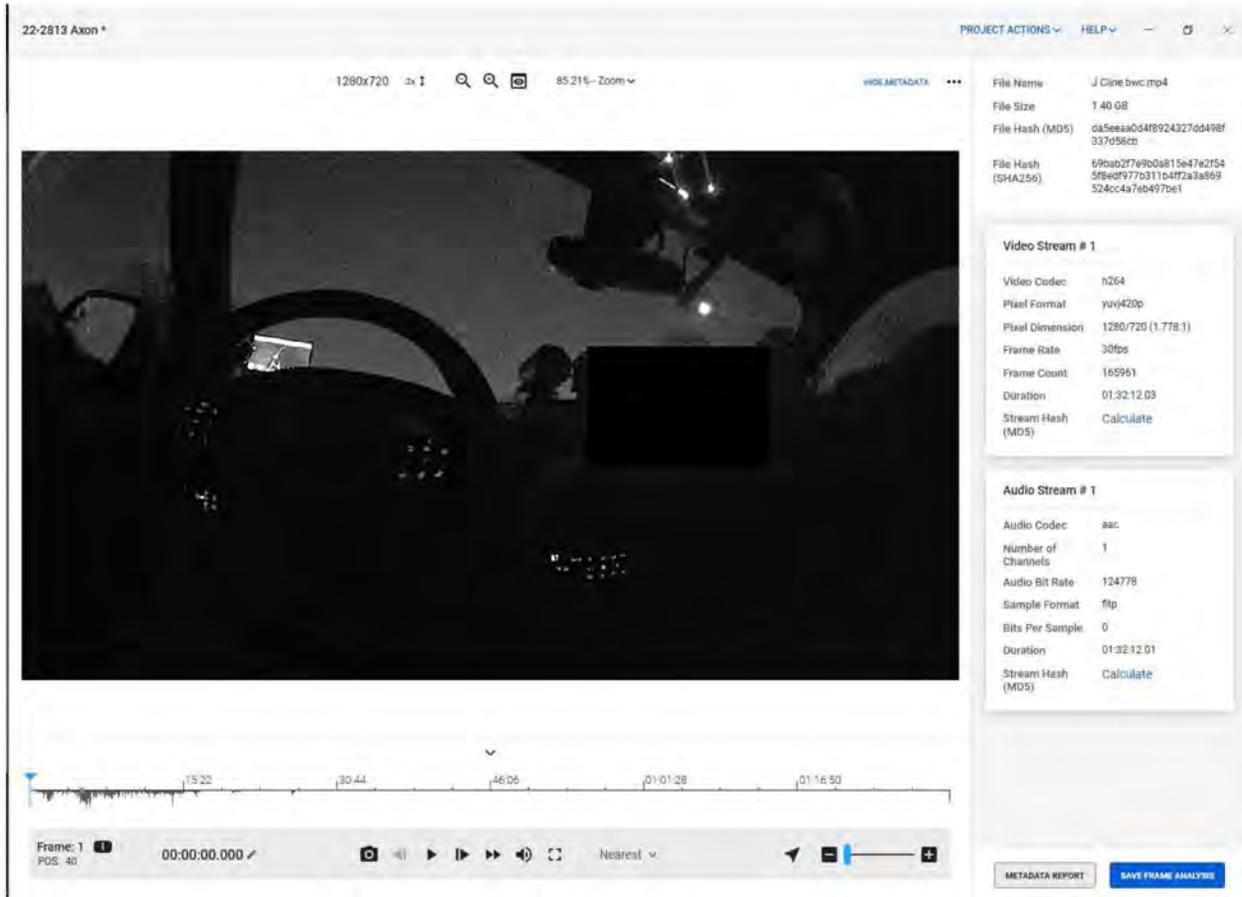


Figure 1: Dep Ambrozich's BWC Metadata_Screenshot

Dep Cline arrived to the apartment after Dep Ambrozich. Majority of what Dep Cline's BWC captured was duplicated by Dep. Ambrozich. At least prior to the shooting incident. Figure 2 and Figure 3 are moments capturing Cline's BWC at the approximate moment shots were heard beginning to fire and stopped firing, respectively.



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Figure 2: F9549_ Approximate moment shots fired.



Figure 3: F9580_ Approximate moment last shot fired

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At approximately 00:17:09 into the recording, it appeared Dep Cline muted his BWC and there was no further audio. While there were moments audio was reactivated throughout the remaining one hour, there was no audio which provided additional information relevant to the shooting incident.

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 any one particular party. It captures the action but not the perception, decision making, focus, or intent of the parties involved. Video recordings can 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.

The thumb drive containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item #2 for reference only.