

Investigative Report





Investigative Activity: Video Review

Involves: Massillon Police Department (O)

05/01/2025 **Activity Date: Activity Location:** BCI - Richfield

Authoring Agent: SA Allison Fletcher

Narrative:

On Thursday, May 1, 2025, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Allison Fletcher (Fletcher) began reviewing body worn camera (BWC) provided by the Massillon Police Department (MPD). The video recordings were created from BWCs utilized by MPD personnel during the November 18, 2024, officer-involved shooting in Jackson Township, Ohio.

One video was provided electronically by the MPD on December 4, 2024, by Lieutenant Nick Antonides. The video was added to the evidence.com case file and has been stored as Reference Item O.

The following video was reviewed:

Title	Officer	Recorded on	Duration	Source
U-		11/18/2024	1h 7m	Axon Body 3
129_Roadway_Inn_shooting(12:45:14		
nantonides@massillonohio.g				
ov).mp4				

The camera angle was obstructed throughout the video due to various factors including, but not limited to, vehicles, law enforcement personnel, and rifle. Room #220, where the involved subject, James Vanest (Vanest), was located, was not visible on BWC until 01:05:00. Percussive sounds could be heard throughout the entirety of the video. The most noteworthy percussive sounds as determined by this author will be indicated. Additionally, various communication and tactical strategies could be heard throughout the video from various law enforcement personnel on scene. Again, the most notable statements as deemed by this author will be annotated below. The video should be reviewed in its entirety for additional information.

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appeared to fire his rifle at two separate times throughout the incident. The first time was at 06:13 and he appeared to fire 12 times. The second time was at 08:31 and he appeared to fire approximately 15 times. His BWC did not visually capture the actions of Vanest leading up to or during the time fired.

Details associated with the video were documented in the following table:

Title	Officer	Source	Comments
U-	,	Axon Body	At 4:30 percussive sounds could be
129_Roadway_In		3	heard and someone said, "shots fired."
n_shooting(nant			Someone then said that the "suspect"
onides@massillo			(Vanest) was shooting from inside the
nohio.gov).mp4			"apartment" towards officers. At 05:18
			percussive sounds could be heard and
			someone said, "still shooting." At 05:49
			someone said, "he's reloading." At 05:58
			percussive sounds could be heard and
			someone said, "shots fired." At 06:09
			asked an unknown
			person (likely Captain Marino) if they
			wanted "suppressive fire"; Somone then
			replied that if he had a shot, "to take it."
			At 06:13 fired his rifle
			12 times from behind what appeared to
			be the SWAT armored vehicle (MPD
			Image 1). At 07:04 someone said, "he's
			shooting at me." At 07:50 someone said,
			"he's reloading." At 08:31 numerous
			percussive sounds could be heard
			followed by firing his
			rifle approximately 15 times from
			behind the SWAT armored vehicle (MPD
			Image 2). Percussive sounds could be
			heard after stopped firing. then moved his
			firing. then moved his position further behind the armored
			·
			vehicle and he appeared to reload his
			rifle with a new magazine (MPD Image

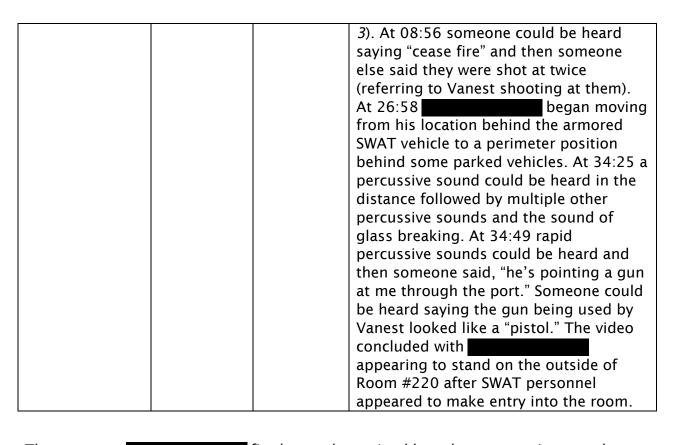
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fired were determined based on percussive sounds, The moments rifle, and the reflection of visual recoil from armored SWAT vehicle he stood adjacent to.

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MPD Image 1

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MPD Image 2

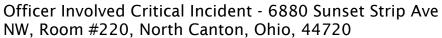
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Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

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MPD Image 3

Screenshots from	BWC have been saved to the case file as Reference
Item O.	

References:

Reference Item O - BWC Video - Massillon PD - in Evidence.com

Attachments:

None

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