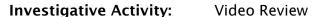


Investigative Report

2024-3649

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 6880 Sunset Strip Ave NW, Room #220, North Canton, Ohio, 44720



Involves: Canton Police Department (O)

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

Authoring Agent: SA Allison Fletcher

#### Narrative:

On Monday May 5, 2025, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Allison Fletcher (Fletcher) began reviewing body worn camera (BWC) provided by the Canton Police Department (CPD). The video recordings were created from BWCs utilized by CPD personnel during the November 18, 2024, officer-involved shooting in Jackson Township, Ohio.

Nine videos were provided electronically by the CPD on December 19, 2024, by Lieutenant Mike Talkington. The video was added to the evidence.com case file and has been stored as Reference Item L.

The following videos were reviewed:

Title	Officer	Recorded On	Duration	Source
EricLee_202411181 659_BWC2101947- 0.mp4	Lee, Eric	11/18/202 4 11:59:58	1h 59m	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 101947
_202 411181850_BWC20 37617-0.mp4		11/18/202 4 13:50:06	4m 7s	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 037617
_202 411181856_BWC20 37617-0.mp4		11/18/202 4 13:56:09	1m 11s	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 037617
_2024 11181802_BWC213 4873-0.mp4		11/18/202 4 13:02:37	50m 34s	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 134873



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Title	Officer	Recorded	Duration	Source
		On		
_2024		11/18/202	1h 17m	Motorola Solutions
11181650_BWC204		4 11:50:14		BWC2 - 042202
2202-0.mp4				
_2024		11/18/202	5m 33s	Motorola Solutions
11181811_BWC204		4 13:11:25		BWC2 - 042202
2202-0.mp4				
_2024		11/18/202	33m 48s	Motorola Solutions
11181823_BWC204		4 13:23:41		BWC2 - 042202
2202-0.mp4				
_20		11/18/202	1h 59m	Motorola Solutions
2411181700_BWC2		4 12:00:39		BWC2 - 2056953
056953-0.mp4				
_202		11/18/202	1h 25m	Motorola Solutions
411181737_BWC21		4 12:37:11		BWC2 - 101634
01634-0.mp4				

The camera angle was obstructed throughout the videos due to various factors including, but not limited to, vehicles, law enforcement personnel, and firearms utilized by officers. 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. Both firearms and less-lethal devices were utilized throughout this incident. Where possible, the type of firearm utilized will be noted. This information was verified throughout the investigative process, interviews with officers, and statements captured in the bodycam footage. The video should be reviewed in its entirety for additional information.

Sergeant Eric Lee previously stated during his interview that he only deployed less-lethal devices and ammunition during the incident. It appeared Sergeant Lee utilized four different devices throughout the incident and fired approximately 83 rounds of less-lethal ammunition. His BWC did not visually capture the actions of Vanest leading up to or during the time Sergeant Lee deployed the less-lethal devices, however, based on statements and the general context at the times he fired, it appeared he was not directly engaging with Vanest.



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did not have his BWC activated at the time he fired during the incident. The videos from BWC captured the period after the shooting incident and did not capture any of Vanest's actions.
appeared to fire his rifle one time during the incident. At 17:22 appeared to fire nine times. Cartridge casings that were likely being ejected from firearm were captured in the video in addition to the recoil from his firearm. His BWC did not visually capture the actions of Vanest leading up to or during the time fired.
did not have his BWC activated at the time he fired during the incident. The videos from BWC captured various points throughout the incident but did not capture any of Vanest's actions.
appeared to fire a rifle at two separate times throughout the incident. The first time was at 49:17, and he appeared to fire five times. The second time was at 51:48, and he appeared to fire approximately one time. His BWC did not
visually capture the actions of Vanest leading up to or during the time fired.
appeared to fire his rifle one time during the incident. At 16:52 appeared to fire his rifle seven 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
EricLee_20 24111816 59_BWC21 01947- 0.mp4	Lee, Eric	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 101947	The video began with Sergeant Lee standing near an armored SWAT vehicle holding what appeared to be bags of less-lethal ammunition in his hands. At 05:36 Sergeant Lee and another (unknown) officer began moving and eventually stood
			adjacent to a gray truck (likely the truck belonging to Vanest). From their position, the window to Room #220 could be observed. At 05:40 a percussive sound could be heard, and recoil from Sergeant Lee's less lethal device could be observed ( <i>CPD - Lee BWC 1</i> ). Additionally, the curtain in the window appeared to move



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> simultaneously with the percussive sound (CPD -Lee BWC 2). At 05:46 Sergeant Lee could be observed loading another round of ammunition into his less lethal device. Sergeant Lee proceeded to fire two more less-lethal rounds. Movement in the window of Room #220 could be observed. At 06:09 another officer could be observed firing a shot gun (likely a less-lethal shot gun) three times in the direction of Room #220. Sergeant Lee returned to the armored vehicle and selected another less lethal device. He then moved his position and was now behind a black SUV. Someone could be heard saying "I'm ready for some glass breakers when you guys are.". At 11:00 Sergeant Lee and another officer moved closer to Room #220 and stood next to a gray truck. Sergeant Lee then fired his less-lethal device 17 times towards the window of Room #220. Defects in the glass window of Room #220 could be observed after the numerous percussive sounds (CPD - Lee BWC 3). At 14:56 Sergeant Lee could be observed loading another less-lethal firearm with ammunition (CPD - Lee BWC 4). Sergeant Lee appeared to take a position near the front of the armored SWAT vehicle. At 15:10 a percussive sound could be heard, and the recoil of Sergeant Lee's less lethal device could be observed. Sergeant Lee then loaded a second less-lethal round into the device and moved to the rear of the armored vehicle. At 15:36 a faint percussive sound could be heard and Sergeant Lee's camera angle shifted slightly likely due to recoil from his less lethal device. Sergeant Lee then discarded a cartridge casing, loaded a new round of ammunition and fired one more round of less-lethal ammunition. At 16:40 Sergeant Lee could be observed loading another round of less lethal ammunition into his less lethal device. At



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> 18:15 the door to Room #220 became visible. The door appeared to be open and defects in the window could also be observed. Moments later, Sergeant Lee discharged his less lethal device three times. Sergeant Lee appeared to be aiming for the open doorway of Room #220 observed (CPD - Lee BWC 5). At 19:21 Sergeant Lee discharged his less lethal device three more times. His reflection could be observed in the window of the black SUV he was standing next to. At 20:44 Sergeant Lee appeared to utilize a different less lethal device and fired approximately 40 rounds. At 23:45 Sergeant Lee fired approximately 13 more rounds from his position next to the black SUV. At 25:36 a loud percussive sound could be heard and then someone began yelling. This appeared to be the was shot. The moment camera angle at the time of the percussive sound was pointed toward the ground. Numerous percussive sounds could be heard after this: however, the camera angle was obstructed and did not visually capture anyone who had fired. At 54:02 the camera angle captured an unknown officer discharging their firearm an unknown number of times (CPD - Lee BWC 6). At 01:51:12 Vanest was captured in the video lying on the ground in Room #220. A small dark figure could be seen lying next to his leg as officers could be heard discussing firearms lying under Vanest (CPD - Lee BWC 7). A firearm could also be observed lying on the bed (CPD - Lee BWC 8). The video concludes with Sergeant Lee assisting with scene management.



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202411 181850_B WC203761 7-0.mp4	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 037617	The video captured the period after the shooting incident where it appeared scene management was taking place. At 00:59 someone said, "he's got an obvious gunshot wound to the head." Nothing else relevant was observed.
202411 181856_B WC203761 7-0.mp4	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 037617	The video did not begin recording audio until 00:30. It showed speaking to other officers on scene after the shooting incident. Nothing relevant to the shooting incident was observed.
_2024111 81802_BW C2134873- 0.mp4	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 134873	The video began with the incident location where he entered an armed SWAT vehicle. The camera angle was obstructed by the interior of the armored vehicle and by gun throughout the duration of the video resulting in Room #220 not being visible. At 17:03 the sound of glass breaking could be heard. At 17:22 someone could be heard saying "I have a shot, I have a shot" followed by nine percussive sounds. Recoil from firearm could be observed in addition to a cartridge casing that was ejected from his firearm (CPD - BWC 1). At 17:34 someone could be heard stating, "alright he just pointed a gun at me through the port [unintelligible] it looked like a pistol." The sound of glass breaking continued while officers could be heard discussing breaking out at window. At 39:40 a smoke detector alarm could be heard. The video ends with exiting the armored vehicle.
202411 181650_B WC204220	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 042202	The video captured the arrival of the first Canton PD armored SWAT vehicle to the scene. At 08:45 verbal commands could be heard ordering the occupants of Room #220 to exit. The



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2-0.mp4 202411 181811_B WC204220 2-0.mp4	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 042202	announcement also stated that chemical munitions were going to be utilized if the occupants (of Room #220) did not comply. At 15:24 someone could be heard saying "gas out, we're ready" and five faint percussive sounds could be heard (CPD – BWC 1). Someone then said, "glass break with the pepper ball gun." At 16:40 another faint percussive sound could be heard. After the faint percussive sounds, glass breaking could be heard on and off over the course of the following few minutes. The video did not capture the actual breaking of glass.  The video captured standing behind the armored SWAT vehicle and discussing various tactical plans with other officers on scene. No portion of the shooting incident was captured in the video.
	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 042202	The video captured standing behind the armored SWAT vehicle. Throughout the video multiple conversations about tactical operations took place. At 20:09 someone said, "he had no reaction from the flashbang, no reaction at all." At 20:31 someone said, "they're cuffing him." At 24:48, it appeared as though and multiple other officers began moving towards the entrance to Room #220. then appeared to stand behind multiple officers and then make entry into Room #220 (25:28). At 26:05 was handed what appeared to be a fire extinguisher. A small fire could then be observed in Room #220. The fire extinguisher handled by appeared to malfunction. At 28:21 someone said, "he's got a gun in his hand." Someone then said, "he's still got his finger on the trigger." At 29:14 Vanest was briefly captured in the video. He appeared to be lying on the ground on his left side with a red substance surrounding him (likely blood). At



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		32:00, exited Room #220. The video ended with walking in the parking lot approaching other officers on scene.
	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 2056953	The video captured the incident location in his marked patrol vehicle. At 02:00 someone could be heard giving commands for "James" to exit the room with his hands up. At 03:15 commands could be heard again for "James" to exit the room with his hands up. In addition, the person giving commands stated tear gas would be utilized if he (Vanest) did not comply. At 05:07, someone said, "gas out, be ready" followed by six percussive sounds. Took a position behind a black SUV and the blue entry door of Room #220 was briefly visible. Additional commands were given throughout the duration of the video. At 09:00, a buzzing sound could be heard, and a small black figure could be observed moving laterally towards the entrance to Room #220. This was likely a drone that was utilized during the incident ( <i>CPD</i> – <i>BWC 1</i> ). The drone could be observed moving away from Room #220 at 09:27. At 10:44 someone could be heard saying "it's going to be a while, they're going to take the window out" followed by multiple faint percussive sounds and the sound of glass breaking. At 12:53 a buzzing sound could be heard again, and a small black figure (drone) could be observed moving laterally towards Room #220. From position behind the black SUV, the blue entry door of Room #220 became visible. The door appeared to be closed and at 13:15 and then began to open ( <i>CPD</i> – <i>BWC 2</i> ). At 13:29 a percussive sound could be heard followed by six additional. Officers could then be heard saying "is he shooting?", "shots fired", and "he's shooting the drone." At 14:20 someone could be



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then grabbed the rifle that was affixed	BWC 3). The unknown officer who fired the then appeared to eject a cartridge casing from firearm (CPD - BWC 4). At 15:24 at percussive sound could be heard, and the sofficer could be observed firing one round towards Room #220. A small cloud of light smoke and recoil could also be observed. At 15:37 another unknown officer could be observed into position behind the armored ve The officer pointed his firearm at Room #22 ejected one round, then appeared to fire two rounds based on the apparent recoil of the gand the light gray cloud that appeared in from the firearm. The visual cues coincided with the percussive sounds that could be heard. At 2 appeared to switch position with another officer who was holding a rifle tripod (likely Both and the black SUV. At 25:05 apercussive sound could be heard, and an of could be heard yelling. The camera captured on the ground with an apparer injury to his right arm (visible blood). Office began rendering aid to sassisted with removing from the scene and then took a position behind a black SUV. Numerous percussive sound back to his position behind black SUV. At 27:51 someone could be hear saying "I'm getting on that sniper rifle." then grabbed the rifle that was affitted the property of the start was affitted to the saying "I'm getting on that sniper rifle."
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to a tripod. then appeared to
move to various locations throughout the scene in
an effort to get a visual on Room #220 (based on
statements made; CPD - BWC 7). At
49:17 a percussive sound could be heard
followed by a second percussive sound that
appeared to be the result of
firing his sniper rifle. Recoil of the gun could be
observed in the video (CPD – BWC 8). A
third percussive sound could be heard followed
by firing his rifle a fourth time.
The pattern was repeated with
firing his rifle a fifth time. At 49:51 someone
could be heard saying "shots fired by the police at
the suspect." Additional percussive sounds could
be heard in the background. Someone then
provided information that "he" (likely Vanest) was
located in the back left corner of the room.
Someone then said, "copy that, you are green if
you have a shot." At 51:48 a percussive sound
could be heard, and recoil could be observed
from firearm. Someone then
said (likely "he's shooting at
me." Another officer could then be heard saying,
"hey, he's shooting at the sniper, get out of
there." At 53:18 the sound of rapid percussive
sounds could be heard. At 53:52
could be observed talking on a radio stating he
needed to move his position due to being shot at
twice by Vanest. moves to
various locations throughout the video setting up
his rifle in different locations. At 01:41:48 an
alarm could be heard. Near the end of the video,
entered Room #220 where
medics could be observed rendering aid. At
01:57:22 someone could be heard stating,
"suspect was confirmed dead at 1:57."



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	Motorola Solutions BWC2 - 101634	The video began with armored vehicle speaking with other officers. At 16:52 appeared to move to the front of the armored vehicle and point his firearm towards a building. Percussive sounds could be heard and the recoil from firearm could be observed. If the approximately 7 rounds. At 01:12:52 appeared to have officers. There was a firearm that could be observed lying on the bed (the same firearm observed in Sergeant Lee's BWC – see figure CPD – Lee BWC 8). A portion of the room appeared to be on fire. Officers could be observed extinguishing the fire. At 14:59 someone could be heard stating, "his finger is still on the trigger." At 01:15:48 appeared to have removed something from the area near Vanest. Moments later a second firearm could be observed lying on the bed (CPD – BWC 1). At 01:16:45 appeared to be holding a pillow with two firearms sitting on top
		observed lying on the bed ( <i>CPD</i> – <i>BWC 1</i> ).



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CPD - Lee BWC 1



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CPD - Lee BWC 2



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CPD - Lee BWC 3



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CPD - Lee BWC 4



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CPD - Lee BWC 5



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CPD - Lee BWC 6



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CPD - Lee BWC 7



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CPD - Lee BWC 8



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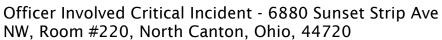


CPD - BWC 1



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CPD -BWC 1



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CPD - BWC 2



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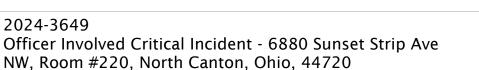
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CPD - BWC 1



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CPD - BWC 2



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CPD - BWC 3



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CPD - BWC 4



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CPD - BWC 5



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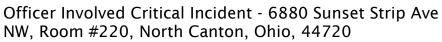


CPD - BWC 6



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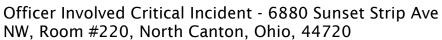


CPD - BWC 7



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CPD - BWC BWC 8



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CPD - BWC 1

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CPD - BWC 2

#### **References:**

Reference Item L - BWC Video - Canton PD - in Axon Justice/Evidence.com

#### Attachments:

- 1. CPD Lee BWC 1-8
- 2. CPD BWC 1
- 3. CPD BWC 1-2
- 4. CPD BWC 1-8
- 5. CPD BWC 1-2