

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
Date of Activity:	04/18/2022
Author:	SA John P. Tingley, #154

Narrative:

On April 18, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Tingley (Tingley) received security camera video footage from Crafco, Inc. (manufacturing plant near the scene of the officer-involved critical incident shooting).

SA Tingley was informed by the plant manager, John Ferry, that the video contained footage from the business's security camera system recorded on the day of the officer-involved critical incident shooting.

SA Tingley reviewed the video recording and noted the following:

The video was listed as "Critical Incident Converted Video" and is 04:14 in length. As there is no date or timestamp on the video, the times listed will be the elapsed time of the video from the beginning. Also, due to the angle and distance of the camera from the incident location, some of the actions at the scene cannot be clearly seen.

- 00:04-The tan Chevrolet Malibu being driven by James Sheets (Sheets) enters the intersection of Steel Street and Salt Springs Road.
- 00:05-The cruiser being driven by SPD Captain Haus (Haus) performs a "PIT" maneuver, which causes Sheets' vehicle to begin to spin.
- 00:08-The cruiser being driven by SPD Officer Schneeman also strikes the vehicle being driven by Sheets.
- 00:12-All three vehicles then come to a complete stop with Sheets' vehicle having done a complete 360 degree turn. Haus' cruiser stops on the passenger side of Sheets' vehicle, while Schneeman's cruiser stops on the driver's side of Sheets' vehicle.
- 00:13-Schneeman exits his cruiser and begins approaching Sheets' vehicle.
- 00:16-Haus exits his cruiser and begins to approach Sheets' vehicle.

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- 00:19-Schneeman retreats from his position beside Sheets' vehicle.
- 00:21-Schneeman turns and extends his arms, in what is commonly referred to as a "shooting stance."

A copy of the video is attached to this case file.

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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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