



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



2024-2738

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 345 Lincoln Ave.,
Lancaster, OH 43130 (L)

Investigative Activity: Body-Worn Camera Review

Involves: Franklin County Sheriff Deputy Richard Verhoeven

Activity Date: 09/07/2024

Activity Location: 720 W. Waterloo St., Canal Winchester, OH

Authoring Agent: SA Aja Chung, #86

Narrative:

On Monday, September 23, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Aja Chung (SA Chung) received video footage from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. SA Chung was informed that the video contained footage from the body camera recorded by Franklin County Sheriff Deputy Richard Verhoeven (Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven).

- The video was 8:48 minutes long. The footage began with Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven speaking other law enforcement officers and Evangelista was secured in the Franklin County cruiser.
- A deputy was heard saying, "He kept saying his name was Chad Evangelista."
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven can be heard breathing heavy as he reached inside his cruiser to retrieve a portable radio.
- The deputy identified as Fairfield Sheriff's Deputy [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was heard explaining to Lithopolis Police Department Chief Barton (Chief Barton) that he dropped some equipment. Part of that conversation was covered by loud radio traffic.
- [REDACTED] was heard asking Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven if, "He's good with that? If I go walk." Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard telling [REDACTED] to go retrieve his equipment and "We'll hang on to him."
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard telling other officers that he was on special duty on the freeway.
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard radioing in that the subject was detained in the back of his cruiser, "Until the Fairfield guy gets his car over here."

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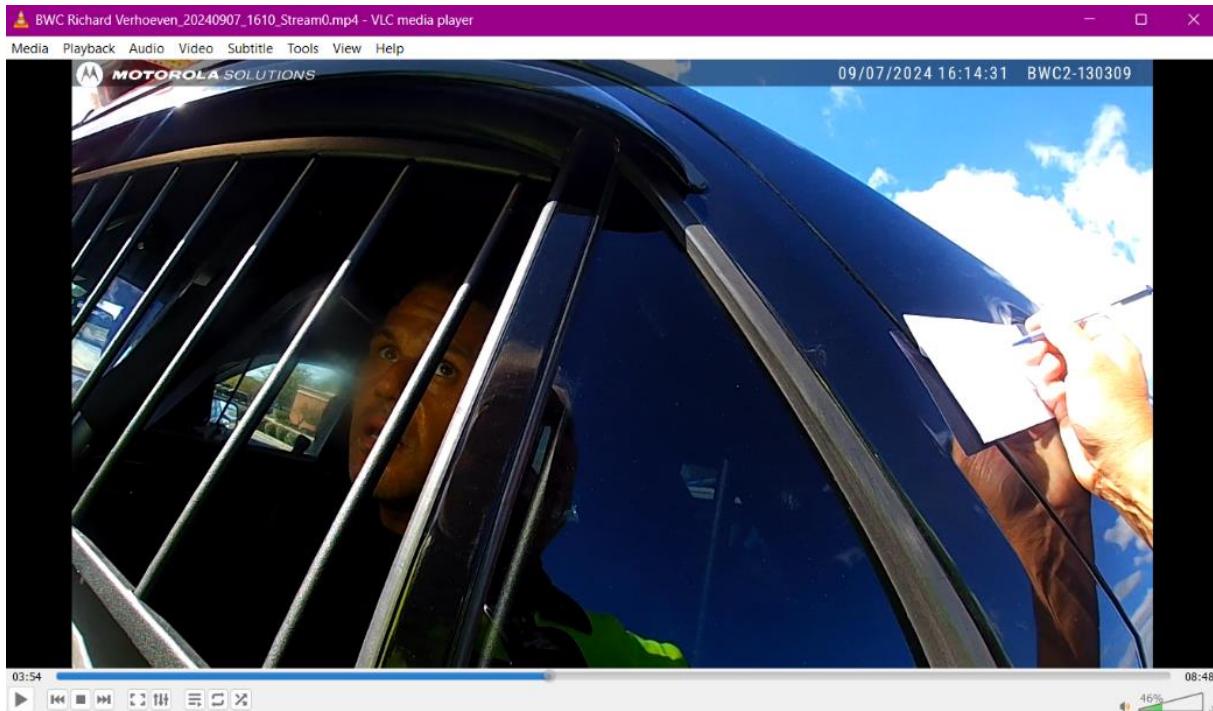
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- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard telling other police officers at the scene when he arrived, he saw two citizens helping the Fairfield deputy.
- At the 3:20 minute mark, Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven could be heard asking the subject in the back of his cruiser what his name is and was observed grabbing a piece of paper from underneath his in-car computer.
- The subject in the back seat states, "My name is Chad Evangelista" and Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven rolled down the rear driver's side window.
- At the 3:46 minute mark, Evangelista can be heard telling Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven that he has a heart condition.
- At the 3:54 minute mark, Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven asked Evangelista for his personal information, that included name, date of birth, social security number, and address.



- Sweat was observed on Evangelista's face.
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard asking Evangelista if he was injured. Evangelista stated he was not injured.

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- Evangelista was heard telling Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven, "My mom and my uncle was in there shopping in the Aldi and the thrift store there." "I was outside waiting because it was too hot in the car. I went down the road and I thought my mom and my uncle left and I was scared, sir."
- Evangelista's labored breathing was heard when he would speak.
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was heard asking Evangelista if he needed medical attention and Evangelista was heard saying, "No, sir. I need to get a hold of my..." (does not finish sentence).
- At the 6:33 minute mark, a Fairfield County cruiser was seen driving up to the scene, that was later confirmed to be [REDACTED]
- Franklin County Dep. Verhoeven was seen walking up to the Fairfield cruiser.
- [REDACTED] was heard saying "He has no warrants or anything. I don't know why he (inaudible). What he did was really just pull away from me the whole time. He just wouldn't stop for me. I tried to pull a taser, but it wouldn't turn on. He kept pushing us into the road (inaudible)."
- The conversation thereafter was not heard due to loud radio traffic.
- The video stopped during that conversation.

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.

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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 video footage was electronically saved to the BCI Shared F Drive.

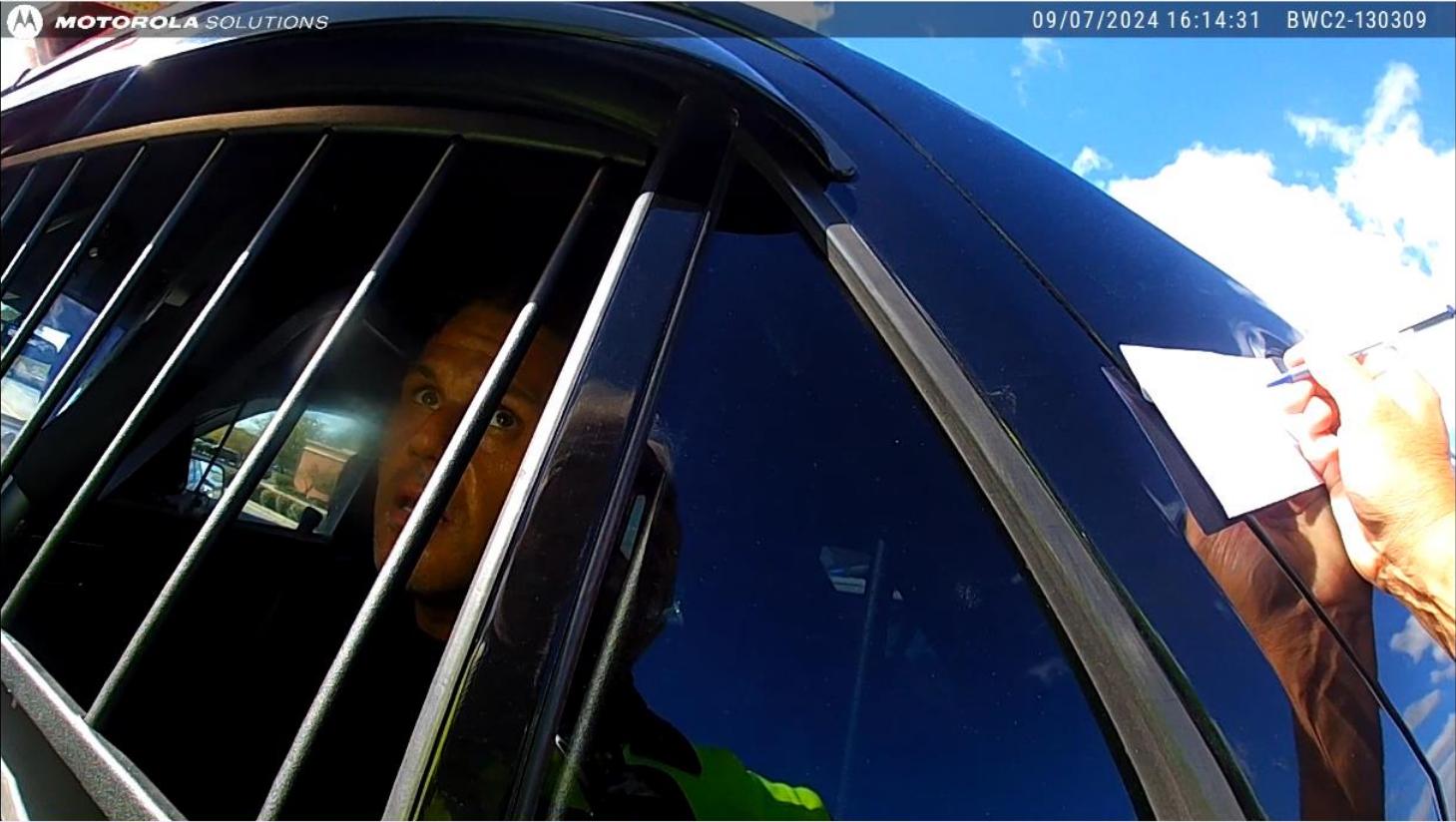
References:

D – Franklin County SO BWC

Attachments:

1 – Verhoeven BWC screenshot

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03:54

08:48

