



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



2024-1755
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4500 Block of Sullivant
Ave, Columbus, OH (L)

Investigative Activity: Video Review
Involves: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Activity Date: 01/06/2025
Activity Location: BCI
Authoring Agent: SA Matthew Collins, #151

Narrative:

On Tuesday, June 11, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matt Collins (SA Collins) received video footage from the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Sgt. Terry McConnell (Sgt. McConnell). SA Collins was informed that the videos contained footage from the body cameras recorded by the CPD [REDACTED]

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. It should also be noted, SA Ryan Emahiser also conducted a video review. Specifically, he reviewed the video and attempted translation of what Noel Cortez (Cortez) may have been saying in Spanish.

During the course of the investigation the names of individuals involved were identified. While they may not be identified solely in the video, SA Collins utilized their respective names for clarity purposes.

SA Collins utilized Amped Replay (AR) to evaluate and work with the video files to aid in the review. SA Collins brought the following files into AR;

"Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-06-10_2316_X60A8033H_- [REDACTED];

"Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-06-10_2325_X60A8716F_- [REDACTED];

"Axon_Body_3_Video_2024-06-10_2325_X60A75118_- [REDACTED];

"PERSON_WITH_A_KNIFE_2024-06-10_ [REDACTED];

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"PERSON_WITH_A_KNIFE_2024-06-10_██████████"

By doing so, the program identifies the metadata included within the video. See *Figure 1* for the respective Officer's BWC 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. Also, the times are approximates.

SA Collins created bookmarked images during the review. SA Collins marked a total of twenty-nine (29) frames/images from the video clips. The images were named by the frame number identified by AF (F=Frame, F####). SA Collins reviewed the videos and noted the following:

██████████ BWC-

Amped Replay software indicated the video had 35,002 frames and the duration was 19:27.866. The video began with ██████████ being positioned in the driver's seat of his patrol vehicle. See *Figure 1*. ██████████ was having a conversation with ██████████ who was in the passenger seat.

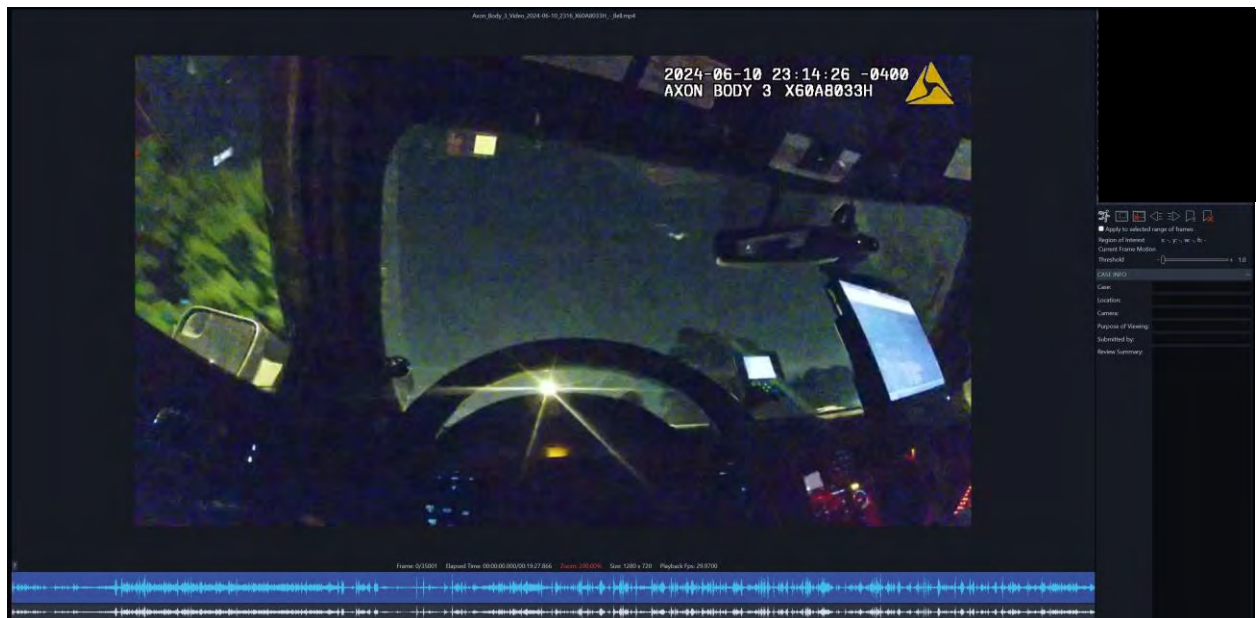


Figure 1: Screenshot of ██████████ BWC with metadata

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At 01:41 into the recording, [REDACTED] indicated there was a run; where the caller advised there was a subject with a knife, running up to cars, banging on their windows. [REDACTED] communicated with dispatch advising they would respond.

At 02:01 into the recording, the emergency lights would be seen active, including the siren could be heard. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] continued their emergency response, while dispatch could be heard in the background, providing updates.

At 02:27 into the recording, Officers [REDACTED] appear to be discussing their BWC's being activated and by doing so, it would create a new event. [REDACTED] was heard commenting, "Seventy-two minutes? Hopefully we don't shoot him, cause then Susan's definitely going (inaudible) to kill me."

At 02:46.900 into the recording, [REDACTED] is advising of the description being provided in the notes. [REDACTED] first said the description was that of a White male with black clothing. The second description was that of a Hispanic male with green shirt and khaki pants.

At 02:58 into the recording, [REDACTED] says, "I hope he doesn't run. I don't want to chase a dude with a knife."

At approximately 05:50, [REDACTED] arrive in the area. [REDACTED] advised the notes do not say if it was Georgesville Road or Clime Road. After not locating anyone, they went to the Turkey Hill gas station at approximately 07:00 into the recording.

At 09:55 into the recording, an officer was heard on the radio advising he was told the subject left the Turkey Hill heading southbound on Georgesville Road in a green Hyundai.

At 10:05 into the recording an officer was heard on the radio, advising the subject was now northbound on Georgesville Road.

At 10:33 into the recording, the patrol car appears to be slowing down and [REDACTED] was heard saying, "He's stopped in the middle of the road. He's just stopped here so--."

At 10:37 into the recording [REDACTED] could be heard yelling, "Hey, put the knife down!" [REDACTED] then yelled, "Put it down now!" [REDACTED] BWC was obstructed by the open driver's side door frame. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] continued to yell commands for the subject to stay back. [REDACTED] alerted dispatch to give them "a 3" (officer in trouble) while requesting additional units as well as shutting down traffic.

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At 11:09 into the recording, [REDACTED] was outside of his patrol vehicle, armed with his patrol rifle. Cortaza could be seen in the distance in front of the subject vehicle. See *Figure 2*



Figure 2: F20062_Cortaza (yellow arrow) in front of Subject Vehicle. Annotations added by SA Collins

At approximately 11:31 into the recording, Cortaza got back into the driver's side of the subject vehicle. [REDACTED] is heard advising Cortaza was traveling northbound on Georgesville Road and a described him traveling at a slow speed. [REDACTED] continued, advising they were going about fifteen miles per hour (15 MPH).

At 12:22 into the recording, [REDACTED] was describing Unit 103 trying to get in front of the subject vehicle. [REDACTED] commented that it appeared "he" was trying to hit him. Agent Note: During the interview, [REDACTED] indicated he believed Cortaza appeared to intentionally strike Unit 103's vehicle with the subject vehicle.

The subject vehicle was said to have turned westbound on "old" Sullivant.

At 13:02 into the recording, [REDACTED] exited his patrol vehicle and both he and [REDACTED] could be heard telling Cortaza to put his hands up. Including, "Manos Arriba" (Spanish for: Hands Up). Cortaza got back into his vehicle and continued westbound on Sullivant Avenue. [REDACTED]

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described Cortaza traveling on the wrong side of the roadway at twenty-five miles per hour (25 MPH).

At 13:55 into the recording, another officer is heard on the radio asking if Cortaza was threatening anyone else, or just himself. [REDACTED] who is believed to have his mic keyed-up, "Well he—s-- he was threatening some other people. He just pulled up to another car. We're stopped in the middle of the intersection of Industrial Mile and old Sullivant here."

At 14:07 into the recording, [REDACTED] again exited his patrol car. He and [REDACTED] could be heard telling Cortaza to get on the ground as they approached the subject vehicle.

At 14:21 into the recording, Cortaza could be seen walking away from officers while he was in front of the subject vehicle. See Figure 3.



Figure 3: F25819_Cortaza walking away from officers, in front of the subject vehicle. Annotations added by SA Collins

As [REDACTED] walked into the direction of Cortaza, there were other officers who were in view.

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At 14:30 into the recording, an officer could be heard saying, "Taser, Taser, Taser" followed by a "pop" sound.

At 14:33 into the recording, [REDACTED] could be heard saying, "Tase him again" followed by a 2nd "pop" sound. See Figure 4.



Figure 4: F26190_approx. moment of 2nd taser deployment. Annotations added by SA Collins

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At 14:34 Cortaza appeared to be holding an object in his right hand as he began moving into the direction of [REDACTED] and other officers. See Figure 5 and Figure 6.



Figure 5: F26205_Cortaza with what appeared to be an object in his right hand. Annotations added by SA Collins

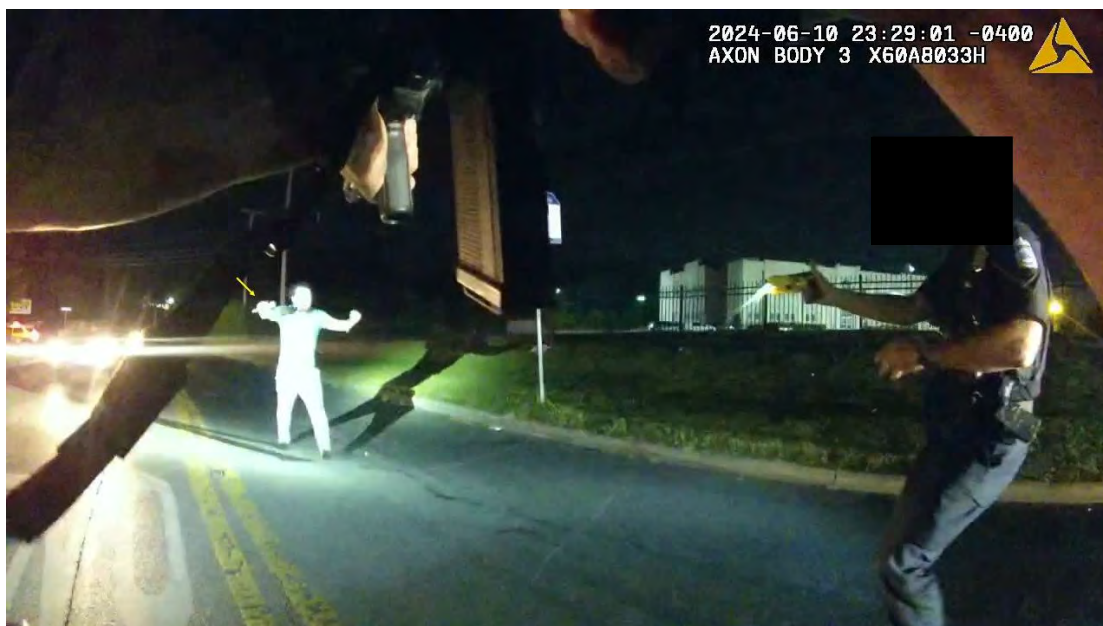


Figure 6: F26225_Cortaza coming into the direction of [REDACTED] and other officers

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At approximately 14:39.912, into the recording, shots are fired. Figures 7 and 8 depict the moments just before the shots and the approximate moment shots were fired, respectively.



Figure 7: F26366_Cortaza just before shots were fired



Figure 8: F26371_Approximate moment 1st shots are fired

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At approximately 14:42.948, into the recording the shots ended. During that same time an officer could be heard yelling, "Stop, stop, stop, cross-fire, cross-fire!" The remainder of the video depicts officers rendering aid to Cortaza.

At 18:08 medics arrived and continued treating Cortaza for his injuries.

At approximately 19:24 into the recording, [REDACTED] as well as other "involved-officers," were being relieved from the scene. A male voice could be heard instructing them to turn their cameras off and [REDACTED] video ended.

[REDACTED]

Amped Replay software indicated the video had 35,724 frames and the duration was 19:51.957. The video began with [REDACTED] being positioned in the passenger's seat of his patrol vehicle. See Figure 1. [REDACTED] was having a conversation with [REDACTED] who was in the driver's seat. Due to [REDACTED] being in the same vehicle, please refer to [REDACTED] section of this report. This section will attempt to provide an understanding of [REDACTED] BWC perspective during specific events.

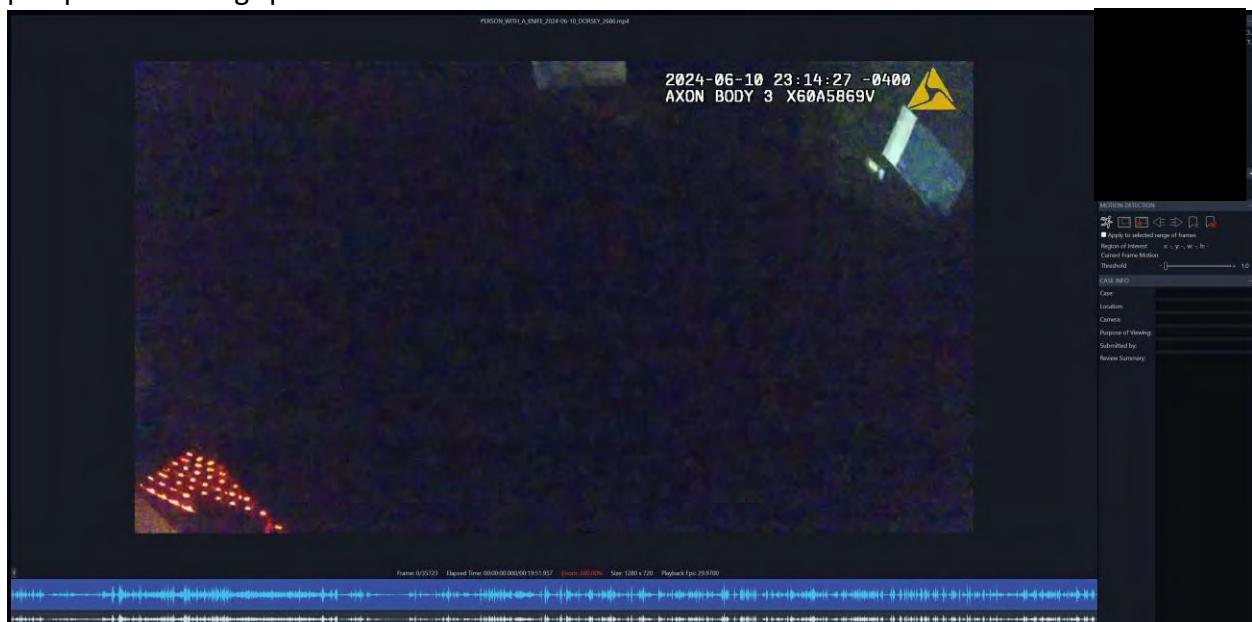


Figure 1: Screenshot of [REDACTED] BWC with metadata

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At 01:40 into the recording, [REDACTED] indicated there was a run; where the caller advised there was a subject with a knife, running up to cars, banging on their windows. [REDACTED] communicated with dispatch advising they would respond.

At 02:00 into the recording, the emergency lights would be seen active, including the siren could be heard. [REDACTED] continued their emergency response, while dispatch could be heard in the background, providing updates.

At 10:36 into the recording, [REDACTED] exited the passenger side of the patrol vehicle and yelled, "Hey, put the knife down!" He repeated these commands for Cortaza to put it down, as did [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised via radio, that Cortaza had a knife in his hand and was hitting his own vehicle. This can also be viewed on [REDACTED] BWC.



Figure 2: F19127_Cortaza with right arm up at the front of the subject vehicle. Annotations added by SA Collins

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At 13:03 into the recording, Cortaza again stopped and exited the subject vehicle. [REDACTED] exited a second time as well. See *Figure 3*. Both [REDACTED] issued commands of "Hands Up" both in English and in Spanish.



Figure 3: F23467_Dorsey exited patrol car 2nd time while Cortaza standing next to subj. vehicle.

At 14:08 into the recording, [REDACTED] again exited the passenger side of his patrol vehicle and Cortaza too exited his vehicle. [REDACTED] walk toward the subject vehicle as Cortaza walks away from the officers, in front of the subject vehicle.

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At approximately 14:30 into the recording, [REDACTED] was heard saying, "Taser, Taser, Taser" followed by a pop sound. The moment the Taser was deployed is captured in *Figure 4*.



Figure 4: F26083_ [REDACTED] deploys taser.

After the Taser was deployed, Cortaza was seen turning back around and facing [REDACTED] and other officers. See *Figures 5 and 6*

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Figure 5: F26122_Cortaza turning around after being tased



Figure 6: F26166_ 2nd Taser deployment

At approximately 14:29.078 into the recording, the first shots are fired. Based on what is believed to be smoke or powder burning off in frame# 26346. At approximately 14:42.047 into the recording, the last shots are fired.

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Figure 7: F26346_Approximate moment 1st shots were fired. Yellow arrow (added by SA Collins) above smoke or powder burning.

The remainder of the video is [REDACTED] and other officers rendering aid to Cortaza. At approximately 19:51 into the recording, [REDACTED] is being relieved from the scene and the video turns off.

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██████████

Amped Replay software indicated the video had 18,720 frames and the duration was 10:23.966. The video began with ██████████ being positioned in the passenger seat of his patrol vehicle. See *Figure 1*. ██████████ was the driver of the patrol vehicle.



Figure 1: Screenshot of ██████████ BWC with metadata

Initially, it appeared, ██████████ were looking for another vehicle on an unrelated matter. At 01:08 into the recording, ██████████ indicated there was a call on Georgesville Road and there was a guy with a knife. They indicated they were going to respond.

At 02:01 into the recording, the siren on their patrol vehicle was activated as they continued to respond. During their travel there was no radio traffic heard.

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At 05:05 into the recording, [REDACTED] exited the passenger side of his patrol car as he was saying, "He's getting' out." As [REDACTED] was getting out, [REDACTED] could be seen standing with his driver's side door open. [REDACTED] was heard saying, "Manos Arriba." Cortaza could be seen, standing on the driver's side of the subject vehicle. See *Figure 2*.



Figure 2: F9310 [REDACTED] exited patrol vehicles as Cortaza (yellow arrow) standing on dr side of subj veh.

As the video continued, [REDACTED] as well as other officers, could be heard giving Cortaza commands. Including, "get on the ground." Visually, the BWC is obstructed by [REDACTED] rifle.

At 05:26 into the recording, an officer could be heard saying, "Taser, Taser, Taser." Cortaza could be seen, as well as other officers, in front of [REDACTED]

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At approximately 05:34 into the recording, shots are heard being fired. See *Figure 3*.



Figure 3: F10048_Approximate moment shots are heard being fired.

At approximately 05:37 into the recording, shots ended and [REDACTED] continued covering the subject, while other officers began rendering aid. It appeared [REDACTED] advised dispatch of "shots fired."

At approximately 05:58 into the recording, [REDACTED] was heard advising the other officers that Cortaza was moving. [REDACTED] asked where the knife was and another officer said, "It's over there, we threw it away."

At 07:04 [REDACTED] placed his patrol rifle into the front passenger area of patrol vehicle R-80 and returned back to Cortaza.

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As officers were continuing to treat Cortaza, [REDACTED] again asked where the knife was, so they knew where it was. [REDACTED] was directed to an area and he shined his light in that area. See *Figure 4*.



Figure 4: F13706_Area [REDACTED] was directed to, when he asked where the knife was.

At 10:21 into the recording, a male voice could be heard instructing them to turn off their cameras and shortly after, [REDACTED] video ended.

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At 05:07 into the recording, [REDACTED] exits the driver's side of his patrol vehicle. Cortaza could be seen on the driver's side of the subject vehicle. See *Figure 2*. Multiple officers could be heard giving Cortaza commands. Including, "get on the ground." Cortaza could be heard responding, "No, No, No!"



Figure 2: F9291_Cortaza on Driver's side of the subject vehicle.

At 05:26 into the recording, an officer could be heard saying, "Taser, Taser, Taser" followed by a faint pop sound. Cortaza immediately turns back towards officers with his arms out to his side and began moving into the direction of the officers. See *Figures 2 and 3*.

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Figure 2: 9920_ Cortaza standing with what appeared to be something in his right hand



Figure 3: Cortaza moving toward officers

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At approximately 05:33 into the recording. As Cortaza continued to move into the direction of the officer, the object in Cortaza's right hand became more visible in the camera view. See *Figure 4*.



Figure 4: F9995_ Cortaza continuing into direction of officers with something sticking out of both side of his right hand

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Figure 5: F10061_Moment before shots fired

At approximately 05:35.802 into the recording, shots began being fired. The shots stopped at approximately 05:38.705. [REDACTED] approached Cortaza and removed the object from his right hand. Figures 6, 7, 8 depict what the object looked like as it was being removed.



Figure 6: F104226_Item in Cortaza's right hand_removed by [REDACTED]

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Figure 7: F10507_ [REDACTED] removing item from Cortaza's hand



Figure 8: F10512_ [REDACTED] removing object from Cortaza's hand

As other officers rendered medical aid to Cortaza, [REDACTED] began securing the scene with yellow crime scene tape.

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At approximately 10:20 into the recording a male voice is heard telling them to turn off their cameras. A short time later, the video ended.

Amped Replay software indicated the video had 1,464 frames and the duration was 08:08.1. The video began with [REDACTED] sitting in an office area. As another officer is viewed working on a computer, radio traffic could be heard of officers describing the subject having a knife in his hand, banging it into his own vehicle. See *Figure 1*.

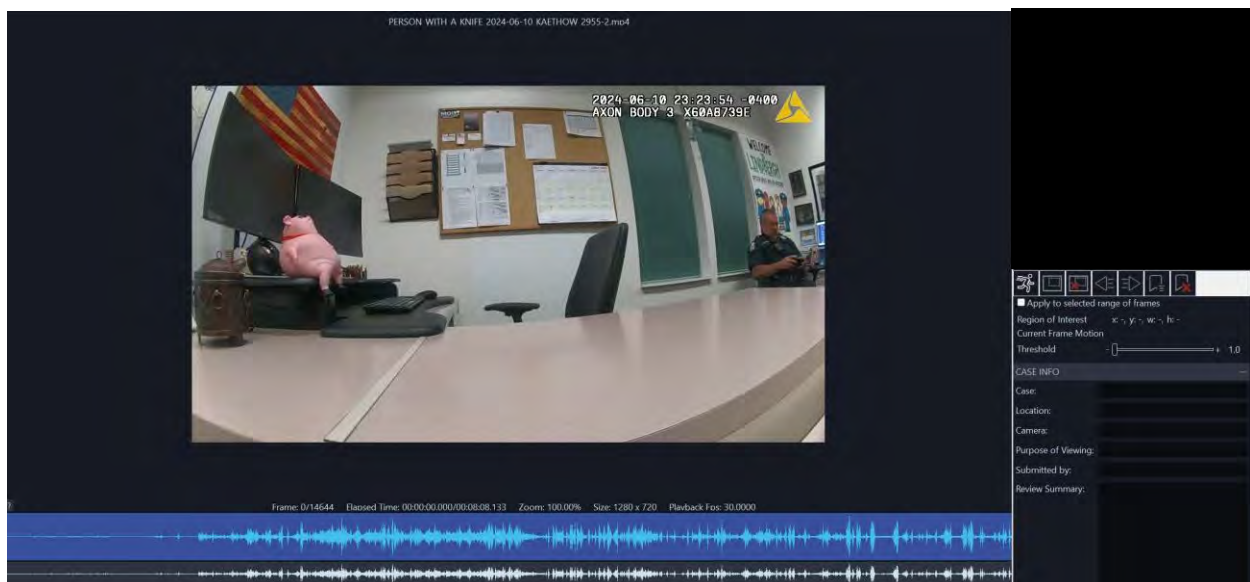


Figure 1: Screenshot of [REDACTED] BWC with metadata.

At approximately 01:35 into the recording, radio traffic could be heard from officers requesting “a 3” (officer in trouble) and additional units to assist with shutting traffic down. The other officer and [REDACTED] immediately begin leaving the office area and head to their respective patrol cars.

At approximately 04:46 into the recording, [REDACTED] exited his patrol vehicle and [REDACTED] is to his left. As they approach, [REDACTED] could be heard suggesting a Taser. Also, other officers could be heard issuing commands. Including, “get on the ground” and “manos arriba.” Cortaza could be heard saying, “No, no, no.”

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At approximately 05:02 into the recording [REDACTED] could be heard saying, "Taser, Taser, Taser" followed by a pop sound. See *Figure 2*.



Figure 2: F9094_Moment taser was deployed

At 05:05 into the recording the Taser is deployed a second time by [REDACTED] See *Figure 3*.



Figure 3: F9177_2nd deployment of taser. Possible projectile (green arrow; added by SA Collins)

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Cortaza continued to move or advance into the direction of officers. Multiple officers could be heard saying either, "stop" or "do not move." However, Cortaza continued.

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At approximately 05:11.900 into the recording, the first shots are fired, as Cortaza appeared to continue to advance into the direction of the officers. At approximately 05:14.800 the last shots were fired. See *Figures 4 and 5*.



Figure 4: F9357_Approx moment 1st shots fired



Figure 5: F9444_Approx moment last shots were fired

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At 05:26 into the recording, as officers are approaching, [REDACTED] was viewed removing an object from the immediate area of Cortaza. See *Figure 6*.



Figure 6: F9795_ [REDACTED] removing an object from the immediate area of Cortaza. Annotations added by SA Collins

[REDACTED] assisted with handcuffing Cortaza. After realizing he had blood on his hand, he went to get decontaminated and sanitized. After wiping his hands, [REDACTED] went to a patrol car. Shortly after, his video ended.

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



2024-1755
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 4500 Block of Sullivant
Ave, Columbus, OH (L)

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 video footage was provided via evidence.com. The video will remain in evidence.com. It is listed in Matrix as Item C for reference only.

References:

Item C: BWC Video; All video from CPD; Current location *Evidence.com*

Attachments:

None

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