



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



2024-2614

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1309 Yellowstone Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Investigative Activity: Video Review: Officer Elizabeth Perez's BWC Reviewed, Amped Replay Used

Involves: Officer Elizabeth Perez (W)

Activity Date: 10/15/2024

Activity Location: BCI, 4055 Highlander Parkway, Richfield, OH 44286

Authoring Agent: SA Nicholas Valente #139

Narrative:

On October 30, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente (Valente) completed a review of the video captured from the body-worn camera (BWC) of Officer Elizabeth Perez (Officer Perez) during this incident. Officer Perez created seven separate BWC videos relevant to this investigation and all seven videos were reviewed as noted below.

Amped Replay was used to review the videos.

SA Valente made working copies of the seven BWC videos and placed the copied videos in a folder on his BCI issued laptop. The working copies of the videos were used for the review.

BWC VIDEO #1:

ElizabethPerez_202408292207_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 38,834 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:43:11.90 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024/ 22:07:40
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	146,114
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:50:52
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

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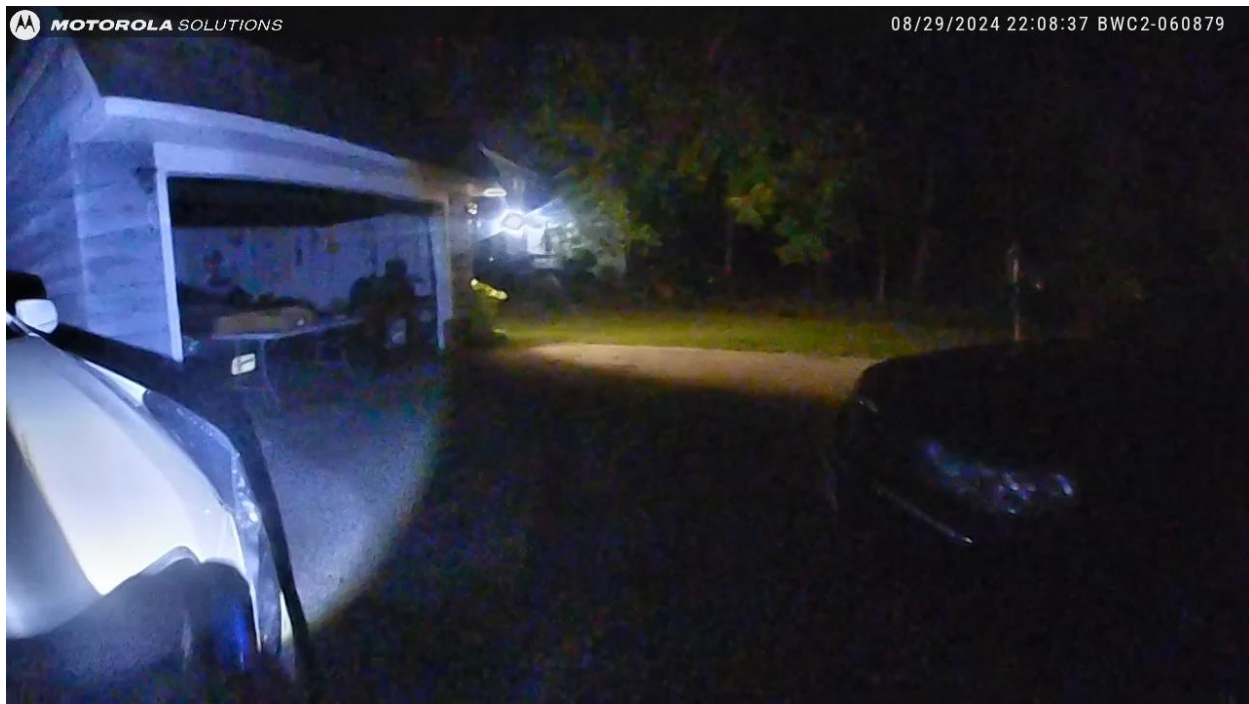
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The BWC video began as Officer Perez exited her patrol vehicle and began to approach the subject residence on foot. While walking towards the subject residence a voice can be heard saying "Go around back." Officer Perez walked along the south side of the subject property from west to east and took a position at the rear of the subject's home. While walking, Officer Perez asked, "Did you hear what they said?" A voice replied "mhmh." Officer Perz stated, "Um, so the guy apparently has, it's the brother, he has a finger on the trigger and dad's trying to um, calm him down. So, now were setting a perimeter because, um, he obviously has a gun and is ready to use it."



Frame	855
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:08:37
Activity/Notes	Officer Perez's flashlight is depicted partially illuminating the open garage at the rear of the subject's residence as Officer Perez approached the garage.

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Frame	1,025
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:08:48
Activity/Notes	As Officer Perez walked across the driveway in front of the open garage door, the man door leading from the garage into the center of the home was captured on her BWC. The man door was closed at the time. A yellow arrow annotation and text box were added to the frame to show the location of the man door.

As Officer Perez stood near the corner of the garage an officer stated over the radio the subject's father was inside the home and (1:28 mark of recording) "there was a gunshot earlier."

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Frame	2,102
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:10:00
Activity/Notes	Officer Perez used her flashlight to illuminate the screened in the three-seasons room at the back right/northeast corner of the home. Officer Perez was standing at the northeast corner of the garage at the time.

As Officer Perez maintained a position near the northeast corner of the garage, other officers could be heard on the radio stating they were attempting to tell the subject's father to exit the home, and they could hear the subject's father telling the subject to take his finger off the trigger (of the gun).

While standing at the back of the home near the garage, Officer Michael Dugan's voice was captured on Officer Perez's BWC clearly and loudly asking the subject's father to please come outside. Officer Dugan repeated this request multiple times without receiving a response. While Officer Dugan repeated his request, the subject and his father could be heard arguing inside the home.

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Frame	7,902
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:16:27
Activity/Notes	A voice, which appeared to be the subject's, could be heard beginning to say "I would never do that. Dude! I would never!" Officer Dugan replied, "Hey, come out with your hands up man." The voice, apparently coming from inside the home, replied, "I would never [unintelligible]." As this conversation occurred, Officer Perez changed position slightly from looking towards the three-season room to looking into the garage where the voice seemed to be coming from. As the conversation ended, Officer Perez stated over her police radio, "We have the male at the back door."

As Officer Perez continued to hold a position at the back of the home near the garage door, additional police radio traffic could be heard on her BWC. This additional traffic included:

- officers requesting a hostage negotiator
- officer requesting an EMS vehicle stage nearby
- officers requesting EDGE SWAT team members be notified and respond if available
- the subject's father exiting the home
- the subject possibly being under the influence of psychedelics
- and an officer reporting seeing the subject at the front door of the home with a gun in his hand.

Frame	11.651
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:20:37
Activity/Notes	Loud crashing type sounds begin to be heard on Officer Perez's BWC.

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Frame	11,719
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:20:42
Activity/Notes	Officer Perez began to loudly exclaim "Show me your hands! As Officer Perez finished giving this order a loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began.

As the sound of the first gunshot ended, Officer Perez again exclaimed, "Hands!" An officer is then heard on the radio stating "shots fired." An unknown voice then yelled out in surprise. Officer Perez then yelled out again, "Hands!"

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Frame	11,806
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:20:48
Activity/Notes	The first in a group of quickly spaced loud percussive sounds consistent with gunshots began. As the sound of apparent gunfire rang out, Officer Perez again repeated her command, "Show me your hands!" As the apparent gunfire continued, a voice consistent with Officer Dugan's can be heard asking, "Where the fuck, where the fuck is he?" A female voice replied to the question as it was being asked, "I have no idea." A female voice then exclaimed "Over there, over there!"

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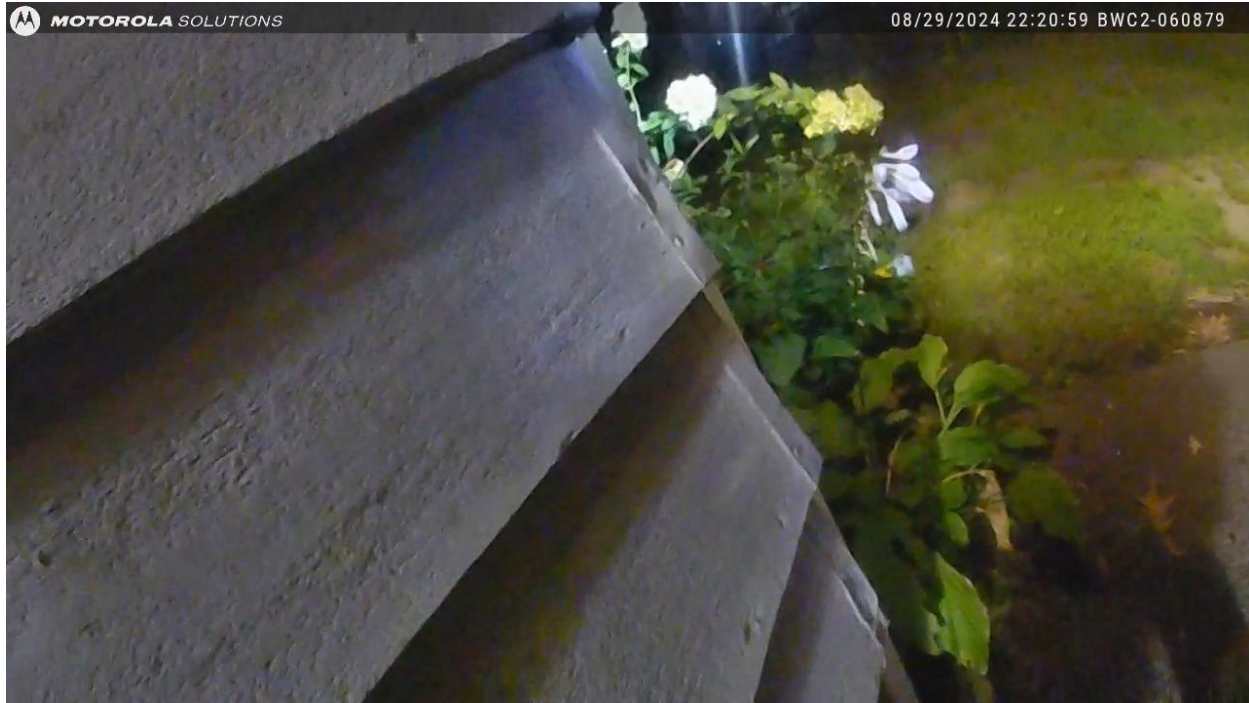


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Frame	11,969
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:20:59
Activity/Notes	The last loud percussive sound consistent with a gunshot began at/near this frame.

After an officer could be heard stating they were beginning to render aid to the subject, Officer Perez ran around the east side of the subject's home to the front yard. Once in the front yard of the home, Officer Perez was met by multiple other police officers and member of the subject's family. Officer Perez spoke with Ferrel Thomas (Ferrel), father of the subject. Officer Perez told Ferrel he could not enter the home at the time.

Around the 00:27:09 mark of the recording Ferrel stated aloud, "I done fuckin' failed." Ferrel then asked the group of officers near him, "Did y'all kill my son? Did y'all have to kill him? No one responded to Ferrel's questions. Ferrel began to walk away and said something unintelligible. Ferrel then turned around and angrily asked "Who the fuck told me to come outside? Who the fuck, who, which one of y'all told me to come outside? I wanna know. I'm literally asking a question that I think I deserve a fuckin' This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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answer to because he was fuckin' okay!" Officer Perez interrupted the end of Ferrel's statement and asked him what his question was. Ferrel yelled, "Who the fuck told me to come outside?" Officer Perez responded, "I think we all did. We wanted to get you outside, to talk to you, see what was going on inside." Ferrel interrupted, angrily asking, "So y'all could fuckin kill him?" Officer Perez responded, "absolutely not." Ferrel replied, "I know y'all didn't want to." Officer Perez then attempted to get Ferrel to sit with his daughters who were also in/near the front yard.

Officer Perez then escorted Genisis Thomas into the home and stood by with her as she removed some personal property from her bedroom.

All frames referenced above, except for the start time and end time frames, were bookmarked as images in Amped Replay. The images were exported to the folder "Ofc. Perez BWC 1 Derivatives and Reports."

An Amped Replay report was generated for Officer Perez's first BWC video review and bookmarked images. The report was exported to the same folder noted above. Please refer to the report for further details. The Amped Replay reports for the BWC videos were attached to this report. Refer to this report for further details.

The video file working copies, the Amped Replay bookmarked images, and the Amped Replay reports were copied to a USB thumb drive and were placed into the BCI physical case file as Reference Item N.

BWC VIDEO #2:

ElizabethPerez_202408292251_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 44,204 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:49:10.31 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 22:51:22
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	44,204
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/29/2024 23:40:33
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

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The video began 30 seconds after the conclusion of the previous BWC video. As this BWC video began, Officer Perez was still inside the Thomas family home and was awaiting Genesis Thomas to exit her room after changing clothes and packing a small number of personal items to take with her for the night.

Once back outside the home, Officer Perez briefly spoke with an individual who stated she was the grandmother of the subject and assisted in uniting family members of the subject.

Officer Perez then spoke with neighboring residents inquiring about possible video surveillance that may have captured the shooting.

No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

BWC VIDEO #3:

ElizabethPerez_202408300021_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 1,094 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:01:13.02 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:21:05
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	1,094
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:22:18
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

The video captured a brief interaction between Ferrel and Officer Ondercin. During the interaction, Ferrel requested to enter his home to urinate. The request was denied.

No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

BWC VIDEO #4:

ElizabethPerez_202408300051_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

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The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 1,484 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:01:39.0.5 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:51:40
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	1,484
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:53:30
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

The video captured a brief interaction of the resident next door to the subject's home asking Officer Perez how her daughter could get back to her home as the area was blocked off by police.

No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

BWC VIDEO #5:

ElizabethPerez_202408300054_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 1,769 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:01:58.07 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:54:02
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	1,769
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 00:56:00
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

The video captured Officer Perez as she escorted the resident of the property next door to the subject out of her home to meet her daughter.

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No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

BWC VIDEO #6:

ElizabethPerez_202408300106_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 2,849 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:03:10.15 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 01:06:03
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	2,849
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 01:09:13
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

The video captured Officer Perez as she and a fellow officer momentarily spoke with a small group of people who gathered outside the subject's home and inquired about what happened and if they could enter the subject's home.

No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

BWC VIDEO #7:

ElizabethPerez_202408300115_BWC2060879-0 - Working Copy

The Amped Replay software noted the following:

- The video was filmed at a rate of 14.98 frames per second.
- There was a total of 9,374 frames in the video.
- The video was 00:10:25.65 long.

Frame	0
Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 01:15:50
Activity/Notes	This is the first frame of the video.

Frame	9,374
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Video-Embedded Timestamp	8/30/2024 01:26:15
Activity/Notes	This is the last frame of the video.

The video captured Officer Perez as she was interviewed by BCI Agent Allison Fletcher (Fletcher) regarding the officer-involved shooting. Refer to the investigative report authored by SA Fletcher for details of what Officer Perez reported during the interview.

No frames from this video recording were saved nor were any derivatives or reports created for the review of this video.

References:

Item N - USB Thumbdrive - Amped Replay Report and Derivatives for BWC Videos

Attachments:

1. Officer Perez BWC #1 Working Copy Report

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