

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



2022-1115

Officer Involved Critical Incident - SR 339 near mile marker 3, Belpre (L)

Investigative Activity: Video Review

Involves: Deputy (S), Devon Lee Taylor (S)

Date of Activity: 05/19/2022

Activity Location: Scene – State Route 339 near miler marker 3., Belpre, OH 45714,

Washington County

Author: SA Shane R. Hanshaw, #102

Narrative:

On Friday, May 27, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Shane Hanshaw (SA Hanshaw) received a flash drive containing video footage from Washington County Sheriff's Office. SA Hanshaw was informed that the flash drive contained video footage from the body worn camera (BWC) of Deputy Throughout the review, Devon Taylor will be referred to as Taylor.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all actions and comments contained on the body worn camera of Deputy It is suggested that the full audio and video recording be reviewed to clarify any content regarding the information from the video review.

SA Hanshaw reviewed the video recordings of Deputy BWC and noted the following:

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- 00:00 The beginning of the video occurs on the Silver Moon parking lot off SR 339.
- 00:11 Deputy attempts to stop Taylor by activating his lights.
- 00:16 Deputy radios dispatch and pursues Taylor south on SR 339.
- 00:28 Deputy advises dispatch that he is in pursuit of a red passenger car.
 - Deputy s lights are visible and his siren is audibly heard.

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- 00:36 Deputy states it looked like a single occupant.
- 00:39 Deputy states the vehicle has no rear tail lights.
- 00:40 Deputy states speeds are approximately 105 MPH.
- 00:41 Deputy states no traffic.
- 00:58 Deputy states he's driving in the middle of the road.
- 01:26 Deputy states that speeds are 127 MPH.
- 01:34 Deputy states it looks like a male occupant with short black hair.
- 01:53 Deputy said he is driving in the on-coming lane.
- 02:54 Deputy states he just passed a motorcycle in the on-coming lane.
- 03:04 Deputy states they are coming up on the 7 and 339 intersection.
- 03:13 Deputy states speeds are about 114 MPH.
- 03:19 Deputy states he just caused and accident and they need a squad up here.
- 03:32 Deputy stops and exits his vehicle.
- 03:37 Deputy approaches the vehicle, draws his duty weapon, and tells Taylor to show his hands.
- 03:40 Deputy papears to jump across a ditch in front of Taylors vehicle, and tells Taylor to show his hands.
- 03:41 Multiple shots are being fired.
- 03:47 Deputy appears to reload his duty weapon. No additional shots are heard after the reload.
- 03:57 Deputy advises dispatch that shots were fired. Deputy takes cover near the rear passenger side of his vehicle.
- 04:00 Deputy said he pointed a gun at me, I believed he pointed a gun at me.
- 04:06 Deputy steps to the front passenger side of his vehicle and verbally tells Taylor to show his hands.
- 04:18 Deputy moves to the rear passenger side of his vehicle, advises dispatch there is no movement inside, and he can't tell
- 04:27 Deputy asked dispatch to give him another unit as soon as he can please.
- 04:37 Deputy tells the driver to stick your hands out.
- 05:04 Deputy advises dispatch he will need traffic shut down from Lauderman all the way up to Spence.
- 05:26 A revving vehicle engine is heard.
- 05:32 Deputy advises the driver to show his hands.
- 05:47 Deputy advises dispatch there is no movement inside the vehicle.
- 06:42 Deputy verbally says stay there while pointing toward an approaching vehicle.
- 07:00 Deputy tells the driver of the vehicle to go.
- 07:02 The driver said do you need help sir. Deputy said I think he's got a gun, I think he pointed a gun at me. We exchanged fire, I need you to get away from here.

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- 07:09 The driver of the vehicle said I was in the military. Deputy he understood, but he didn't want him to take a chance of getting hit. Just stay back.
- 07:14 Deputy returns his attention to Taylor's vehicle.
- 07:22 An off-duty officer, later identified as Officer Emerick, approaches and identifies himself as a police officer. Deputy askes who he is with. Officer Emerick advises Deputy he is with Athens city police.
- 07:30 Officer Emerick advises Deputy that he does have a gun and is with Athens city police.
- 07:40 Dispatch does a check on Deputy Deputy Deputy dvises he has an off-duty Athens city police officer with him.
- 07:43 Officer Emerick stated he didn't have a vest. Deputy pened the rear of his vehicle and gave officer Emerick a ballistic vest.
- 07:53 Officer Emerick asked Deputy if he was alright. Deputy stated he was good. Deputy said it looked like he pointed a gun at him. Just exchanged fire. I don't know if he shot at me or not. He pointed a light and what looked like a gun at me. Deputy said he fell on the ground, and he thought he heard a pop.
- 08:43 Deputy tells Officer Emerick that there was no good cover. Deputy said he couldn't see anything on this side because the airbag is deployed.
- 08:50 Officer Emerick said we should just wait. Deputy said yes it would be much safer for everybody of we wait.
- 08:57 Deputy asked dispatch to contact Belpre so they could shut the traffic down please.
- 09:59 Video udj00524_20220519082616e0_20220519082605_01_000w MP4 File ends.

Additional MP4 Files after the incident. Each clip is approximately ten minutes in duration with the exception of the last clip which is 01:07 minutes in length.

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- 00:30 Deputy six asks Officer Emerick to shift around to the driver side of his vehicle while keeping cover. Deputy indicates that he is trying to shift to the driver side of his vehicle to let the oncoming officer know what is going on.
- 00:56 Deputy attempts to contact Belpre P.D. by radio.
- 01:34 Deputy attempts to stop the driver of a large truck.
 02:09 Deputy states he can't see anything from this angle (front of his vehicle).
- 02:11 Unknown officer states there is full airbag deployment. Deputy says he could see him through the front and the passenger side.

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- 02:20 Deputy states there is no movement.
 02:34 Deputy moves back around to the rear passenger side of his vehicle. Deputy meets with another officer and they discuss a shield.
- 02:45 An unknown officer tells Deputy they will just hold until additional officers arrive.
- 02:54 The unknown officer asked Deputy to tell him what happened. Deputy begins to tell the unknown officer what occurred. At this point of the video review, SA Hanshaw immediately stopped the video review based on the fact that SA Hanshaw is unclear if the inquiring officer is a commanding officer, introducing the potential of Deputy and a sanswer being a compelled statement. SA Hanshaw will resume the video review with the next video.

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- 00:20 Deputy says he is going to try to swing his vehicle spotlight around to light up the front of the vehicle. Deputy proceeds to do so.
- 01:27 Deputy is asked by radio if he wants OSP aviation to come down. Deputy indicates that he is still in the car.
- 01:45 Deputy sis asked by radio if he has seen any movement in the vehicle. Deputy indicates he has seen no movement or sounds in the vehicle.
- 04:20 An unknown officer asked Deputy to tell him what happened. Deputy begins to tell the unknown officer what occurred. At this point of the video review, SA Hanshaw immediately stopped the video review based on the fact that SA Hanshaw is unclear if the inquiring officer is a commanding officer, introducing the potential of Deputy and a sanswer being a compelled statement. SA Hanshaw will resume the video review with the next video.

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- 00:38 Unknown radio traffic. Officer asked another officer by radio if he has a shield. The officer indicates that he does not have a shield.
- 02:58 Unknown officer advises Deputy to step back. Deputy moves to the rear driver side of his vehicle. Unknown officer takes position at the front driver side of Deputy s vehicle.
- 03:21 Unknown officer at the front of Deputy vehicle makes several verbal attempts to contact the driver (Taylor).
- 06:54 Unknow officer tells Deputy to step back and take a couple of breaths. Deputy moves away from his vehicle and takes cover behind another deputy's vehicle.
- 09:14 Deputy moves back to the driver side of his vehicle.

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• 00:01 Deputy stelling what occurred. At this point of the video review, SA Hanshaw immediately stopped the video review based on the fact that SA Hanshaw is unclear if the inquiring officer is a commanding officer, introducing the potential of Deputy answer being a compelled statement. SA Hanshaw will resume the video review with the next video.

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- 03:20 Deputy escorted away from his vehicle by state trooper.
- 03:44 State trooper retrieves water for Deputy

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• 10:00 Nothing remarkable.

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01:07 Nothing remarkable. BWC shut off.

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 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.
- 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 CD containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item Property Item number 2, for reference only.

References:

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