



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



2024-3052

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 10300 block Silvercreek Road, Doylestown, Ohio 44230, Medina County

Investigative Activity: Review of dash and body-worn cameras of MCSO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Involves: [REDACTED] (S)

Activity Date: 11/12/2024

Activity Location: BCI Richfield

Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

Narrative:

On Friday, October 11, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) received video footage from Medina County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Captain Kris Conwill. SA Lieber was informed that the videos contained footage from the dash and body-worn cameras (BWC) of [REDACTED].

The times referenced in this report will refer to the elapsed time of the video.

SA Lieber reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

File title: [REDACTED]_202410052204_Car[REDACTED]-1

This video shows the in-vehicle dash camera in the cruiser driven by [REDACTED]. The video is 13 minutes and 25 seconds in duration. Note that no sound can be heard on the video.

The video begins showing [REDACTED] vehicle turn onto Silvercreek Road from Broad Street. At 00:13, [REDACTED] drove by MCSO [REDACTED] and Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Sergeant Gasser (Gasser). [REDACTED] and Sergeant Gasser are standing outside of their vehicles at the intersection of Silvercreek Road and Grizzly Way. [REDACTED] continued to drive on Silvercreek Road.

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At approximately 00:37, [REDACTED] caught up to a pickup truck, driven by David Septer (Septer). See screenshot below.



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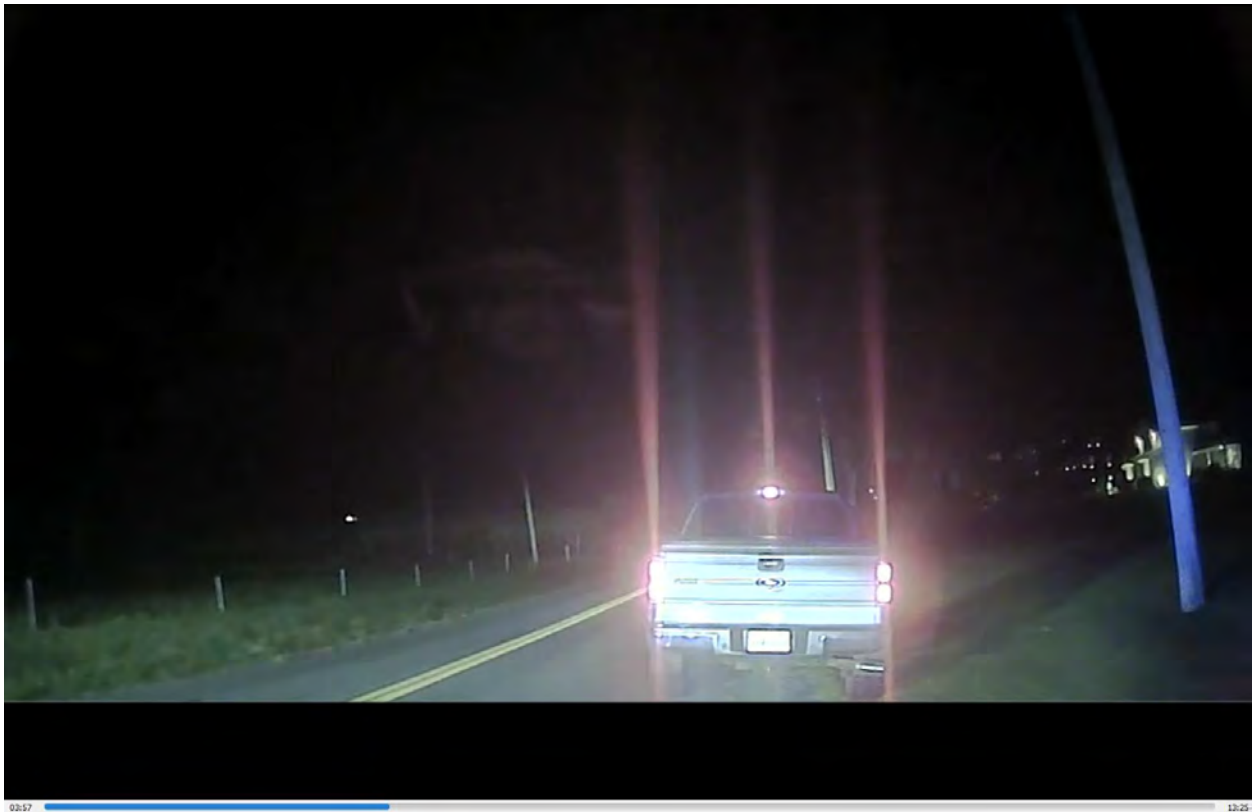
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████ continued to follow the truck and at 03:32, █████ activated his overhead emergency lights. The truck continued driving and ultimately stopped at 03:55. █████ stopped his vehicle at 03:57. See screenshot below showing the location of the vehicles.



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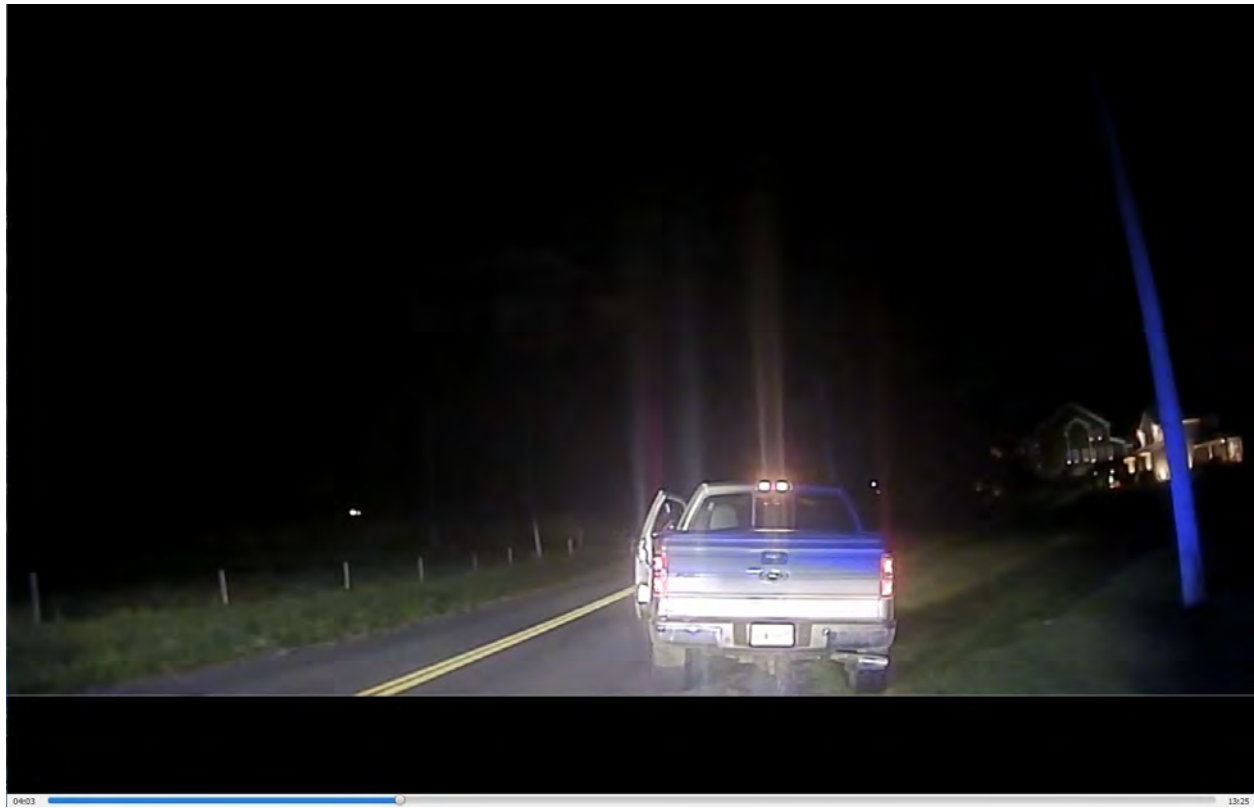
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At 04:02, [REDACTED] shined a spotlight on the driver side of the truck. At 04:03, Septer began to open the driver's side door. See screenshot below.



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At 04:11, Septer began to exit the vehicle. See screenshot below.



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At 04:13, Septer is standing outside of the vehicle, where he can be seen holding a large item (rifle). See screenshot below.



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At approximately 04:14, it is believed that the first shot was fired by [REDACTED]. This is noted by the appearance of powder/smoke discharge that could be seen on the left side of the image below. It also appeared as though Septer had the rifle oriented toward [REDACTED] was positioned to the left of [REDACTED] in the roadway.



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At 04:15, Septer turned and was still holding the rifle. See screenshot below.



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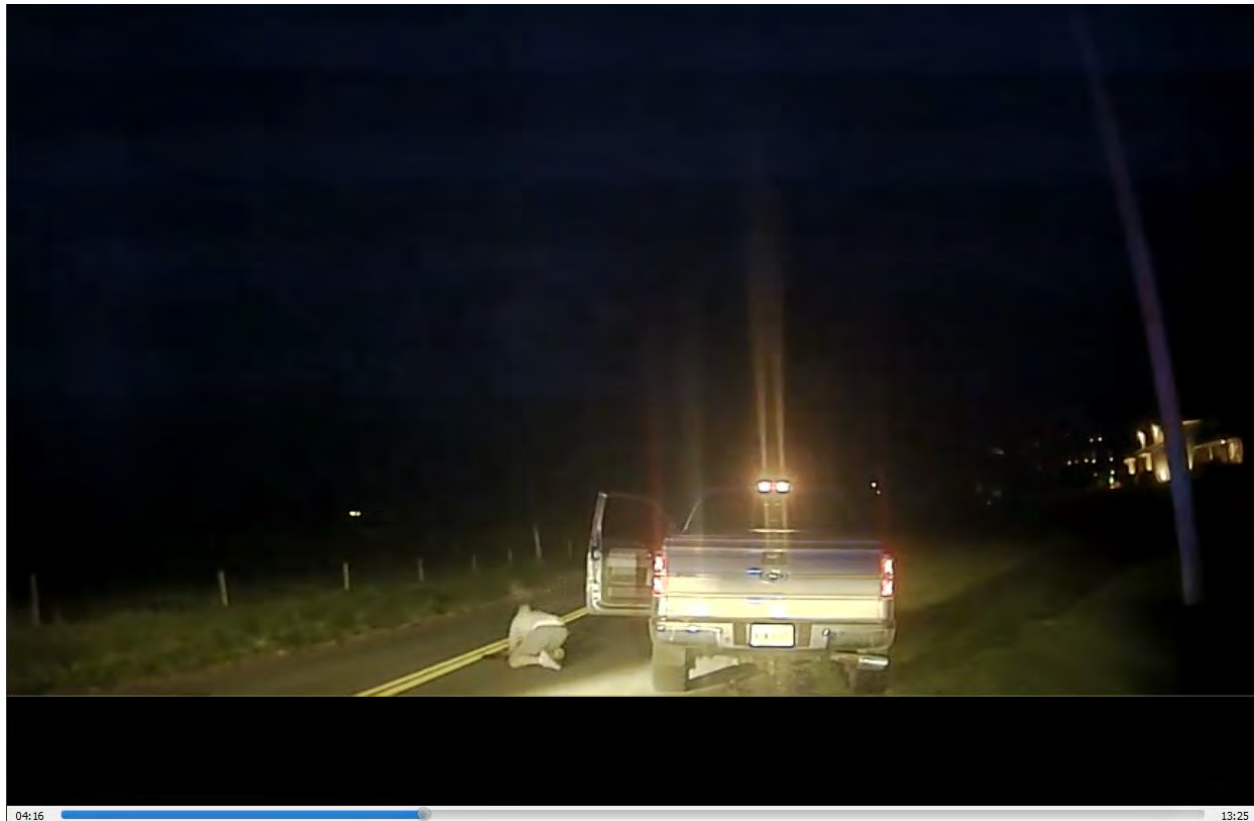
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At 04:16, Septer fell to the ground.



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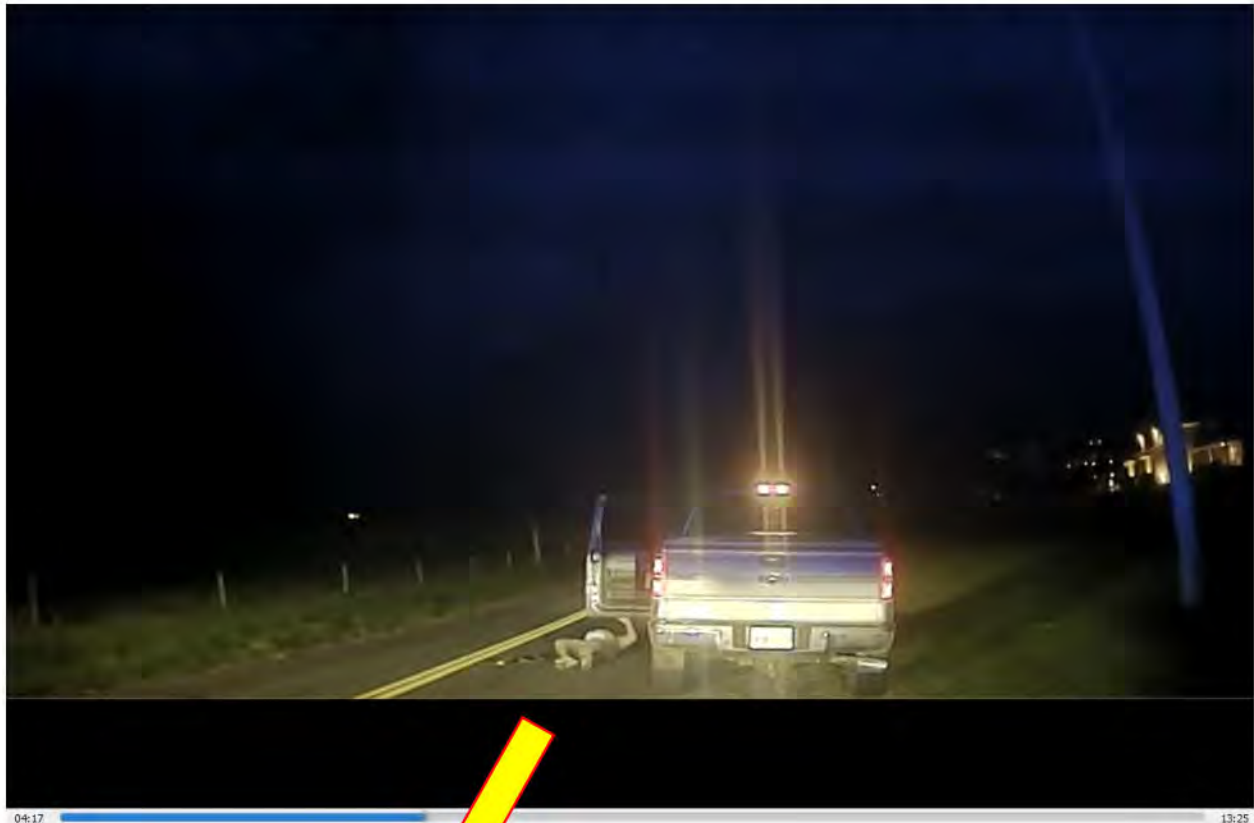
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At 04:17, Septer was lying supine with the rifle on the ground next to him.



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At 04:40, several officers could be seen moving toward Septer.



04:40 13:25

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At 04:58, [REDACTED] jogged out of the viewable camera area and returned at 05:20 carrying a medical kit. Sergeant Gasser cut/tore Septer's shirt and began to administer aid. At 08:58, an EMS worker approached officers. At 09:16, additional EMS personnel arrived with a gurney. At 11:38, a deputy could be seen putting up crime scene tape. EMS personnel continued to provide aid to Septer for the remainder of the video.

At 13:25, the video ends.

File title: [REDACTED]_202410052204_Car[REDACTED]-2

This video shows the in-vehicle dash camera in the cruiser driven by [REDACTED]. The video is 13 minutes and 25 seconds in duration. This video is the same as above only in the wide-angle version. It should be noted that in this version of the video the bottom half of the video cannot be seen. This video also does not contain sound. See screenshot below.



File title: [REDACTED]_202410052204_Car[REDACTED]-3

This video shows the in-vehicle rear seat camera in the cruiser driven by [REDACTED]. The video is 13 minutes and 25 seconds in duration. At no time was David Septer put into the rear seat of [REDACTED] vehicle. As a result, this video was spot checked and nothing noteworthy was observed.

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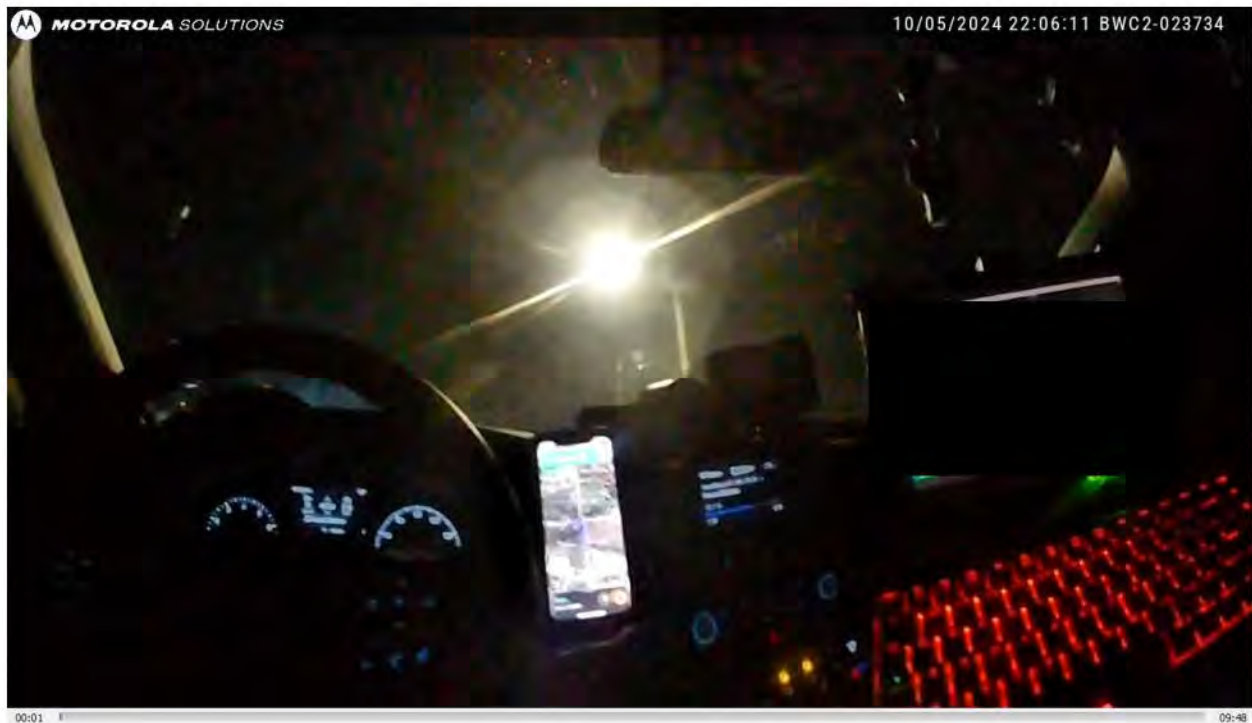


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File title: [REDACTED]_202410052206_BWC2023734-0

This video shows the body-worn camera (BWC) video of [REDACTED]. The video is 9 minutes and 48 seconds in duration. The video begins showing the inside of the police vehicle being driven by [REDACTED]. See screenshot below.



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No sound could be heard until 00:30. At 00:46, [REDACTED] radioed that he is continuing south on Silvercreek past Johnson Road. At 01:05, [REDACTED] radioed "Over, are you good with the two of us taking it down or do you want additional?" At 01:40, [REDACTED] radioed that they are passing Wall Road. At 01:54, [REDACTED] radioed that he would be making a traffic stop at Silvercreek and Madison Trail. [REDACTED] then radioed "High risk stop, high risk stop." At 02:04, a siren was heard briefly. At 02:11, [REDACTED] radioed "Continuing southbound, Silvercreek." At 02:14, a siren was again activated. At 02:20, [REDACTED] said "I think we're stopping." At 02:24, the siren was shut off. At 02:29, [REDACTED] exited his vehicle. See screenshot below.



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At 02:33, Septer began to open the driver's side door of the truck. At 02:35, [REDACTED] said "Put your hands out of the car." At that time, the driver side door of the truck was fully open. The spotlight on [REDACTED] cruiser blocked the view of the lower half of the door. See screenshot below.



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At 02:37, [REDACTED] said "Show me your hands. Do it now." At 02:42, [REDACTED] said "Hands up, hands up, hands up." At 02:44, sounds consistent with gunfire could be heard. See screenshot below showing powder/smoke discharge from [REDACTED] pistol.



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Septer was not visible in the camera view at any time when shots were fired. The A pillar of the cruiser and spotlight block the view. See screenshot below taken at 02:46.



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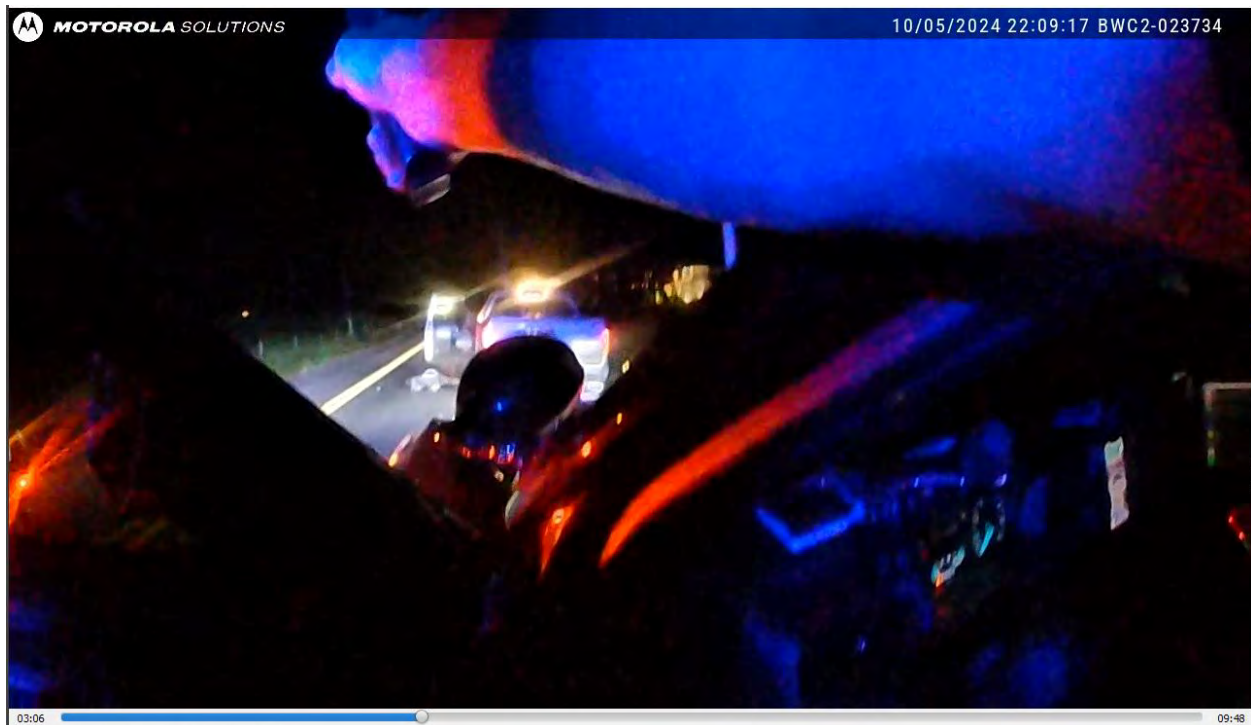


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At 02:47, [REDACTED] stopped firing his pistol. At 02:48, [REDACTED] radioed "Shots fired, shots fired." At 02:58, [REDACTED] asked "You good bro." [REDACTED] responded "Yeah, I'm good. You alright?" At 03:01, [REDACTED] said "God dammit."

The first time Septer could be seen is at 03:06. At that time Septer was lying on the ground near the driver side door. See screenshot below.



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At 03:07, [REDACTED] moved backward and around [REDACTED] cruiser. MCSO [REDACTED] MCSO Sergeant King, and OSHP Sergeant Gasser could be seen approaching Septer and the truck. See screenshot below.



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After approaching the vehicle and checking for additional people inside, Sergeant Gasser put on gloves and began to check Septer for injuries. Officers continued to provide aid. EMS arrived at 07:30. At 08:02, [REDACTED] said "I heard him racking it (unintelligible)." At 08:24, [REDACTED] walked toward his vehicle.

At 09:48, the video ends.

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 thumb drive containing the video footage was submitted to the physical BCI case file as item D for reference only.

References:

Item D - USB Thumbdrive - BWC and Dash camera videos from MCSO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], King, McGurk, Postlethwait, Cotrufo

Attachments:

None

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