



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



2023-3223  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 807 Alan Page Dr SE,  
 Canton, OH 44707

Investigative Activity: Video Review- CPD Ofc. Richard Zeren  
 Activity Date: 1/25/2024  
 Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

**Narrative:**

On Friday, January 05, 2024, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) received video footage from BCI SA Al Bansky. SA Bansky was informed that the videos contained footage from the body cameras recorded by the Canton Police Department (CPD).

SA Lieber reviewed the video recordings and noted the following:

[00\\_0107791903\\_96\\_17\\_f4\\_ca-0107752834\\_0107789355\\_0107789400\\_video0.mp4](#)

This video is 21 minutes and 14 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the body-worn camera (BWC) of Canton Police Department Officer (Ofc.) Richard Zeren (Zeren). The time stamp at the beginning of the video is 12/05/2023 at 22:08:36.

The video begins showing the inside of a building. Zeren immediately gets up and proceeds outside to a marked police vehicle. Zeren enters the vehicle and begins to drive. At 22:09:06, sound can now be heard. At 22:10:33, Zeren exits his vehicle. As Zeren approaches the scene of the shooting, multiple officers are already on scene. See screenshot below.



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At 22:10:49, Ofc. Anthony Loparo can be seen picking up a pistol, later identified to be a .177 caliber pellet pistol, off of the ground. See screenshot below.



At 22:11:06, an officer tells Zeren to take Ofc. Garrett Marino over to a car. While they are walking Marino says "Fuck." Zeren replies "You alright?" Marino then says, "Dude, I gave him so many fucking commands to not fucking come out with that gun dude."

At 22:11:52, as Zeren is walking toward a police cruiser, an unknown person says, "Walking away and they shot him." Zeren continues to walk to Marino's cruiser. As Zeren walks to the driver's side, the driver door is open. See screenshot below.

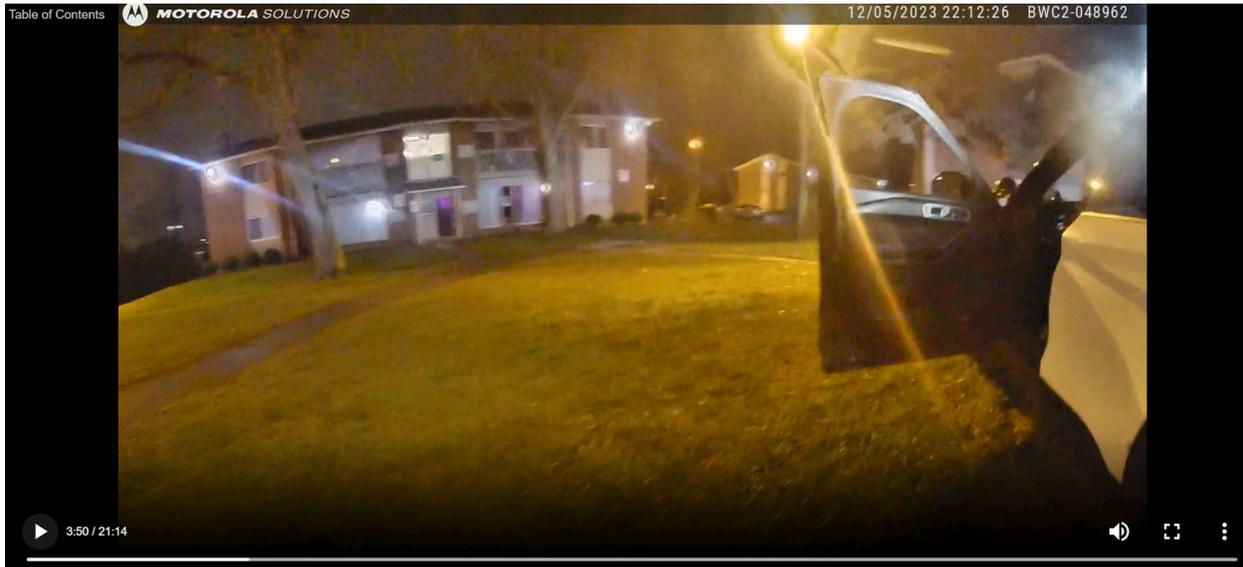
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Zeren removes the key from the ignition and closes the door. Zeren then walks back in the general direction in which he came. He proceeds over to a conversation between a male [REDACTED] and a plain clothes officer (Det. Romanin). See screenshot below.



The male [REDACTED] says that she [REDACTED] was going to break it off with Zachary Fornash tonight. He said that [REDACTED] and Fornash exchanged text messages and Fornash threatened [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that he and Fornash have been "battling it

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out for at least a year.” ██████ says that when he arrived, he saw Fornash standing only a few feet from ██████'s car window. ██████ says that as soon as he got out of his vehicle, he heard Fornash cock a gun and saw him put it in his pocket. ██████ stated that he said to Fornash “What the fuck are you doing? That’s my fucking wife and the mother of my fucking kids. You ain’t going to fucking pull a gun out on her and think it’s ok.” Fornash said that he wanted his clothes. ██████ said that when he retrieved some of the clothes that’s when they saw an officer. ██████ said that he told the officer that Fornash had a gun. At 22:15:52, an ambulance with sirens activated drives toward Zeren’s location. At that time, Det. Romanin and ██████ move toward the sidewalk.

At 22:16:41, ██████ walks with Zeren to a police cruiser. ██████ then gets in the back of the cruiser. At 22:20:40, Zeren begins to drive ██████ to the Canton Police Department. At 22:27:13, they arrive at the CPD. ██████ is taken to an interview room inside of the CPD. The video ends at 22:29:50.

[tick59572616-tick59577823-video1.mp4](#)

This video is 43 minutes and 24 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by vehicle dash camera of Canton Police Department Officer Richard Zeren. There is no time stamp on the video, therefore, any times referenced will be in elapsed time.

The video begins showing the exterior of a building. At 0:10, officers can be seen exiting the building, running toward their police cruisers, and taking off with emergency lights activated. At 0:32, sound can now be heard.

At approximately 1:55, Zeren arrives on scene. Below is a screenshot showing Ofc. Garrett Marino in the distance standing with his arms extended pointed toward a person lying on the ground (Zachary Fornash). Ofc. Anthony Loparo can also be seen standing to the right of Marino.

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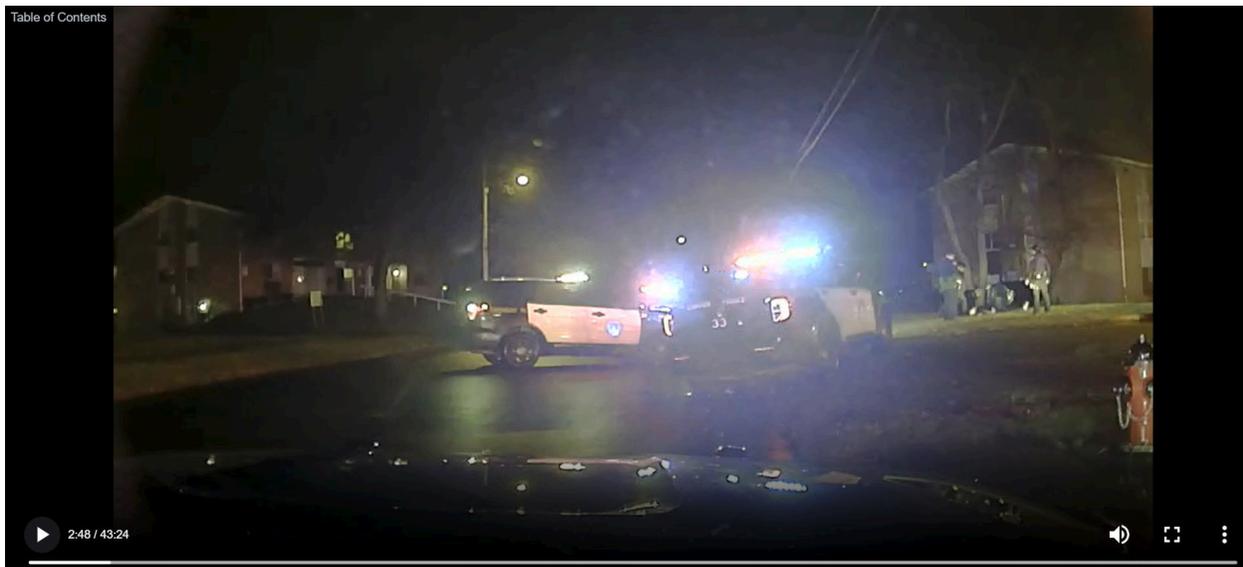
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Multiple officers approach Fornash. Officers provide aid to Fornash. See screenshot below.



At 7:41, an ambulance arrives on scene. At 8:40, [REDACTED] can be heard on the audio portion of the recording. [REDACTED] is on a telephone conversation while he is seated in the rear of Zeren's police vehicle.

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At 10:09, Fornash is loaded into the ambulance. At 11:11, the ambulance leaves the scene. At 12:09, Zeren begins to drive away from the scene to CPD. At 18:38, they arrive at the CPD. From 18:38 to the end of the video at 43:24, the camera shows the view below.



[tick59572616-tick59577823-video2.mp4](#)

This video is 43 minutes and 23 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the vehicle dash camera of Canton Police Department Officer Richard Zeren. There is no time stamp on this video. This video appears to be the same as the video detailed above, only this version is in a panoramic view.

[tick59572616-tick59577823-video3.mp4](#)

This video is 43 minutes and 23 seconds in duration. The video is recorded by the interior vehicle camera of Canton Police Department Officer Richard Zeren. There is no time stamp on this video. At approximately 8:40, [REDACTED] can be heard on the audio portion of the recording. See screenshot below. It should be noted that [REDACTED] cannot be seen in the video, but his voice can be heard.

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At no point during the recording is any person observed from this camera view.

**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.

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

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