

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



2022-1726 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 15266 Gilchrist Rd., Mt.

Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, 43050 (L)

Investigative Activity: Body Camera Review

Involves: Deputy DCSO (S)

Date of Activity: 10/14/2022

Author: SA John P. Tingley, #154

Narrative:

On October 14, 2022, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Tingley (Tingley) reviewed body-camera video footage from Delaware County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) Deputy (Dep.) (Language Language), who is also assigned to the Delaware Tactical Unit (DTU). The video footage is related to the officer-involved critical incident which took place on August 20, 2022, at 15266 Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, and involved Randy and Bradley Wilhelm and members of the DTU.

The listed narrative is a synopsis of the activities and conversations recorded on Dep. body camera and only documents those activities which the author deems to be the most relevant. Furthermore, the narrative does not cover all of the activities or conversations of Dep. and the other members of the DTU, which were recorded, nor is it a word-for-word translation of the conversations. It is suggested that the full recordings be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information documented in the narrative.

It should also be noted that due to the DTU members wearing earpieces, radio traffic cannot be heard except when inside the Bearcat, when the radio inside of the Bearcat can be heard.

SA Tingley reviewed the video listed as: qka01898_2022-08-20131909e0, and noted the following:

This video is 08:58 minutes in length and begins on August 20, 2022, at 09:19:09 hours, as Dep. is standing at the southwest corner of the outbuilding located at 15266 Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio, along with another DTU member. This outbuilding being to the east of the driveway leading into the property from Gilchrist Road and which goes to Saundra Wilhelm's residence after passing and turning in front of the west side of the outbuilding.

This video begins after the officer-involved critical incident has occurred, and Dep. is advising the other DTU members that: "My BWC (body worn camera) did not activate." The

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other DTU member states that his was on. There is limited conversation between the two until they move behind the west side of the building and leave the corner.

At 09:22:40 hours, the video is stopped so that the remainder of the video can be checked for potential Garrity issues.

As Dep. was within a few feet of DTU Ofc. Dep. s body camera was recording at the same time as Ofc. s body camera. It was determined that only one of the video recordings needed to be fully reviewed in regard to the potential Garrity issues. Accordingly, BCI SA Charles Moran (Moran) and BCI SA Nick Valente reviewed the remainder of the video footage from Ofc. s body camera, as it had been on for a longer period of time. At the end of their review, SA Moran advised that there was no potential Garrity content on the video. He also stated that there was no more important information directly related to the officer-involved critical incident on the remainder of the video.

This video recording is attached to this case file as Reference Item A.

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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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