



Phoenix Police Department

Critical Incident Transparency Protocol

This protocol contains guidelines for timely and standardized release of existing video, records, and information following a police critical incident. Public Information Officers will continue to provide initial, immediate information on all critical incidents.

Critical Incident is defined as:

- An officer involved shooting (does not include non-injury unintentional discharges or officer involved animal shootings).
- A use of force resulting in death or serious bodily injury requiring hospitalization.
- All deaths of arrestees/detainees when there is active resistance or where there was an attempt to evade arrest.
- Any other police encounter at the direction of the Police Chief.

The Department's goal is to release a Critical incident Briefing (CIB) video and related public records within 14 days. There may be circumstances under which the release of a CIB video must be delayed to protect the safety of involved individuals, the integrity of an active investigation, confidential sources or investigation techniques, and/or constitutional rights of an accused.

CIB Video Content and Sources

A CIB video will consist of available and relevant video and audio footage that depicts the actions and events leading up to and including the critical incident. It will be accompanied by additional information to provide context based on the evidence available at the time of release.

The sources of content that may be released include, but are not limited to, officer body-worn camera video, 9-1-1 emergency calls, police dispatch recordings, surveillance video, and other relevant video captured by third parties in the Police Department's possession.

Privacy Protections

The CIB video will not be released where prohibited by law or court order. Images and audio will be redacted to the extent necessary to:

- 1) Protect juveniles and crime victims;
- 2) Protect the privacy of individuals;
- 3) Comply with state law regarding images of officers' faces who have petitioned the Superior Court to redact personal identifying information.

Redactions may include removing sound or blurring images that would identify involved individuals, sensitive locations, legally protected information, or harm the completion of the investigation. Where possible, redactions will not compromise the depiction of what occurred during the incident.