

NYPD Releases Footage of Police Shooting Man Holding Knife

Man who was shot appeared to say ‘shoot me’ as he moved toward officers

New York City police released body-camera footage Wednesday of a 43-second confrontation that [ended in the fatal police shooting](#) of a man who had allegedly stabbed two security guards in a Bronx halfway house. [The footage of the police shooting](#) on Nov. 13 includes video from body-worn cameras on officers Shawn Loftus and Nicole Krauss. It is the third time the NYPD has released such footage since it started equipping officers with body-worn cameras earlier this year.

Prior to the officers arriving, 67-year-old Cornell Lockhart, a former resident of the Hughes House in the Bronx, was captured on security cameras talking to two security guards before pulling out a knife and stabbing both of them, according to NYPD spokesman Stephen Davis. Both of the security guards sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

The video shows the officers entering the lobby of the halfway house and walking past one of the guards, who police say had been stabbed in the arm.

Officer Loftus is shown on his camera standing about 10 feet away from Mr. Lockhart, who is holding a knife and waving his hands. Both officers yelled at the man to drop the knife a total of 28 times.

Mr. Lockhart appears to yell, “Shoot me” on the video. He then took a step toward the officers before they shot a total of nine times, killing him.

The NYPD declined to say whether the shooting was justified. It is under review by the Bronx District Attorney and the NYPD’s Force Investigation Division.

Neither of the two officers were trained in Crisis

Intervention Training, in which police practice defusing situations with unstable people.

Carla Rabinowitz, an advocacy coordinator at Community Access, a nonprofit organization that helps people with mental illness and has consulted with the NYPD on the training, said the extra experience could have de-escalated the incident.

“The NYPD have a difficult job, but there are new tools to help officers that the NYPD is training them in and I wish they had those tools and they employed those tools,” Ms. Rabinowitz said.

The NYPD has trained 6,721 officers in Crisis Intervention Training.

The halfway house is owned by the nonprofit Urban Pathways, which says on his website it provides services to “at-risk” New Yorkers.

NYPD Commissioner James O’Neill has said the release of the footage is an effort to further transparency. The department has been criticized by some advocates and legal officials for not having a written policy for releasing the footage. The NYPD currently reviews each shooting on a case-by-case basis.

“The release of footage like this from body cameras is crucial in order for them to be an effective tool for transparency,” NYCLU Executive Director Donna Lieberman said.

A spokesman for the Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark said the prosecutor believes the video shouldn’t have been released until the investigation is completed.