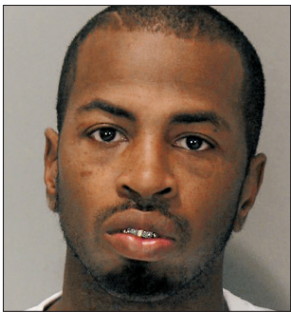


## HOW IT HAPPENED

After responding to a robbery earlier Tuesday night at a nearby restaurant, Omaha Detective Darren Cunningham responded to a robbery in progress at Wendy's at 4308 Dodge St. At 9:20 p.m., Cunningham called for backup. Officers Brooks Riley and Jason Wilhelm arrived, accompanied by two crew members of the television reality show "Cops." According to an Omaha Police Department report, here is the course of events that left two men fatally injured.



**Bryce Dion became the first "Cops" crew member to be killed while filming the long-running reality show.**



**Police say Cortez D. Washington fired first at officers, who didn't know until later that his gun wasn't real.**

- 1 Detective Cunningham and Officer Riley enter through the east doors.
  - 2 "Cops" cameraman Michael Lee and soundman Bryce Dion follow them. Dion remains inside the vestibule.
  - 3 Officer Wilhelm enters through the west door.
  - 4 At the time the officers enter, four people are in the restaurant: two employees, one off-duty employee and suspect Cortez Washington. Washington carries a pellet gun resembling a handgun.
  - 5 The officers confront Washington, while Lee films the events, holding a camera above his head while crouching on the floor.
- Washington fires his gun at Cunningham and
- 6 Riley. Witnesses later say the gun sounds like a handgun.
  - 7 Officers return fire. An unknown number of rounds are exchanged. Washington is hit multiple times before fleeing through the east doors.
  - 8 Dion is hit by a single gunshot from an officer's weapon and collapses inside the vestibule.
  - 9 Washington collapses in the east parking lot.

