



Office of the District Attorney

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
501 TEXAS STREET • FIFTH FLOOR
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71101

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October 18, 2022

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Chief Wayne Smith
Shreveport Police Department
1234 Texas Street
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

RE: Officer Involved Shooting of August 25, 2022, of Brad Schneider
At 652 Kings Hwy. Officer A. Gill, badge # 1640 and Officer S. Gwin, badge #
1648, involved.

Dear Chief Smith:

SPD Sgt. Mike Jones delivered police reports, dash cam video, and the 911 call of the captioned matter to this office for review on October 14, 2022. For reasons identified herein, the investigation by the Shreveport Police Department needs clarification due to conflicting information contained in the reports versus the body cam video of the officers use of firearms during the contact with Brad Schneider.

The probable cause for arrest affidavit states Schneider,...”actually lunged at officers while holding the machete.” However, the video reflects Schneider was some distance from the officers at the time of alleged actions and the officers did not fire their weapons at the point. No measurements indicate the distance Schneider was from the officers at this time. After this point in time, the video reflects Schneider appears to withdraw from the confrontation on the video and turns his back to officers as he walks back to the house. The officers fired their service weapon as Schneider neared the house. A police report states that Schneider sustained gunshot wounds to his lower extremities, and search warrants were issued for the medical records and the premises located at 632 Kings Highway. The affidavits to the search warrants contain a description of the events leading to the officers firing their service weapons not depicted in the video. The affidavits do not describe Schneider retreating from the officers at the time the shots were fired.

The on-scene officer reports written by different officers also contain discrepancies between information received at the scene about the actions of the suspect at the time of the shooting versus what is depicted in the video. The video shows the suspect walking away from the officers, towards the porch of the house, whereas the several reports suggest the suspect was advancing on the officers at the time of the shooting.

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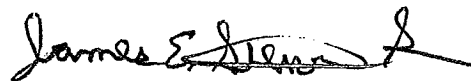
It appears that Sgt. M. Jones took it upon himself to contact the Louisiana State Police concerning an investigation. The State Police reportedly declined to investigate this case, and then Sgt. Jones conducted the investigation himself. The reports leave important questions unanswered. Sgt. Jones refers to the suspect as being within the 21-foot rule, but there is no reported documentation of distance between the suspect and the officers at the time the suspect was shot. None of the reports reference or cite the Shreveport Police Department General Orders or Policies regarding the use of force protocols in effect at the time of this investigation. Likewise, the investigation is very limited on information about the SPD protocol for de-escalation of this type of situation as well as whether the officers correctly followed the protocol. Each officer described their response as being based upon the training they had received, but the investigation presents nothing else to support whether the officers acted in compliance with their training.

Lastly, the investigative reports show that Sarah Giglio and Dhu Thompson, attorneys for the officers, contacted Sgt. Jones at the scene that night to assert their respective clients' right against self-incrimination. Ms. Giglio actually appeared at the crime scene. Without an explanation as to how the attorneys were able to contact Sgt. Jones at the scene during the investigation, questions are raised regarding the independence of the investigation. This is especially true when the reports show that the attorneys for the officers were allowed to view the body cam videos before their respective clients were even interviewed by Sgt. Jones. Allowing the viewing of the body cam video before any interviews of the officers involved compromises the integrity of the investigation. Sgt. Jones opined that the limited experience of the involved officers limited their options to lethal only presumably in support of taking no further action against the officers. No explanation or reference to general orders is provided in support of his opinion. Additionally, there are no reports indicating his actions were reviewed by higher authority within the department or by any outside expert on police use of force. Such a review is necessary in this instance.

Assuming you can clear up the contradictions and discrepancies, you should be able to make an objective determination as to whether a crime was committed.

If so, you can submit warrants for arrest and affidavits for our review.

Very truly yours,



James E. Stewart, Sr.
Caddo Parish District Attorney

cc: Henry Whitehorn
CAO, City of Shreveport

Brandon Brown
U.S. Attorney