



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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August 2, 2018 Police Officer-involved Shooting Ruled Justified

The 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the Colorado Springs Police Department's Officer-involved shooting that occurred on August 2, 2018, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 16-2.5-301, captioned Peace Officer-Involved Shooting investigations, all officer-involved shootings that result in injury or death shall be reviewed by a multi-agency team, a Deadly Force Investigation Team.

Colorado Revised Statute 20-1-114 states that a district attorney shall, if no criminal charges are filed following the completion of an investigation pursuant to section 16-2.5-301, C.R.S., release and publicly disclose a report explaining the district attorney's findings, including the basis for the decision not to charge the officer with any criminal conduct. This is an abbreviated report due to the open and pending case against Karrar Noaman Al Khammasi.

At 2:46 A.M. on Thursday, August 2, 2018, the Colorado Springs Police Communications Center received a call for service regarding gunshots being heard in the vicinity of 1902 Boulder Street. Officer Cem Duzel and Corporal Ron Carter responded separately to this area, and while en route, subsequent reports were received of additional shots being fired in this area. Both officers were in marked Colorado Springs Police Department patrol cars, wearing the standard duty uniform for Colorado Springs patrol officers.

At approximately 2:55 A.M., Officer Duzel travelled east of the intersection of Boulder and Swope and contacted a male heading west, later identified as 31-year old Karrar Al Khammasi. Officer Duzel exited his vehicle and there was an exchange of gunfire between himself and the suspect. Officer Duzel sustained a gunshot wound to the head during this exchange. Corporal Carter arrived on scene within seconds of this encounter and observed both Officer Duzel and Karrar Al Khammasi lying on the ground. Corporal Carter observed Karrar Al Khammasi to still have a firearm in his hand, so Corporal Carter discharged his firearm, ultimately concluding in Mr. Khammasi being disarmed. Corporal Carter, in the company of other responding officers, then initiated medical intervention for both the suspect and Officer Duzel.

At the scene, in the vicinity of where the suspect had fallen, police recovered a loaded Glock Model 27 .40 caliber firearm. Additional loose rounds of live .40 caliber ammunition were removed from the suspect's person prior to his transport for medical treatment. The suspect, who is presumed innocent until proven guilty, is currently facing multiple charges including criminal attempt to commit murder in the first degree. He is set to be arraigned November 30, 2018.

According to Colorado Revised Statutes §18-1-707 a peace officer is justified in using deadly physical force upon another person for a purpose specified in subsection (1) of this section only when he reasonably believes that it is necessary:

(a) To defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of deadly physical force; or

(b) To effect an arrest, or to prevent the escape from custody, of a person whom he reasonably believes:

(I) Has committed or attempted to commit a felony involving the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon; or

(II) Is attempting to escape by the use of a deadly weapon; or

(III) Otherwise indicates, except through a motor vehicle violation, that he is likely to endanger human life or to inflict serious bodily injury to another unless apprehended without delay.

Following a careful review of the facts and evidence, the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office has concluded that Colorado Springs Police Officers Cem Duzel and Ron Carter were justified when they fired their weapons on August 2, 2018. No criminal charges will be filed.