



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Officer-Involved Shooting Ruled Justified

The 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office has completed an investigation into the officer-involved shooting that occurred on July 27, 2011. Following careful review of the facts and evidence surrounding the incident, it has been determined that the officers' use of force against the suspect was reasonable, appropriate and justified.

At approximately 8:30pm, CSPD officers were dispatched to a call involving a domestic disturbance at the Camelot Apartments on S. Murray Blvd. The reporting party told police a man was fighting with his girlfriend and threatening to kill her. When officers arrived they spotted a man waving a handgun. He ran into his apartment after seeing the police. The individual was identified as twenty-one year old Robert Cole, Jr.

Numerous attempts to convince Cole to drop the handgun and surrender were unsuccessful. He appeared at the window, knocked out the screen and aimed the handgun at the officers in the parking lot. Officers Richard Hallman, Matthew Davis and Dale Peterson fired their service weapons at Cole, hitting him several times.

Robert Cole, Jr. remains hospitalized. He faces several charges when he is released from the hospital.

Colorado Revised Statutes § 18-1-707 provides that an officer is justified in using deadly force if he or she reasonably believes that it is necessary to defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the imminent use of deadly physical force.

The District Attorney's Office reviews all incidents involving a discharged weapon by an officer. The facts and evidence from this investigation show that the officers were acting reasonably at the time. Thus, based on the law and the facts, the investigation has determined that the officers were justified under the law of the state of Colorado. No criminal charges will be pursued.