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September 17, 2018

Detective H. Mosby
Kingman Police Department
Kingman, Arizona

RE: Review of LHCPD Officer Earl Chalfant, Officer Camaron Hollis and Officer Angus McCabe - Officer Involved Shooting of Brent Bowdon.

I reviewed the officer involved shooting by Officer Earl Chalfant, Officer Camaron Hollis and Officer Angus McCabe of the Lake Havasu City Police Department that resulted in the death of Brent Bowdon. The investigation was conducted by the Kingman Police Department as documented in KPD DR # 2018-022610, which included LHCPD DR# 18-05045, and also contained body camera video footage from various officers.

The Officers responded to an open line 911 call in which yelling could be heard between a male and female and what was later determined to be a domestic disturbance between Bowdon and his wife in a residential neighborhood of Lake Havasu City. Upon arrival, Officer McCabe is told that Bowdon will claim to have a gun. Officer McCabe reports that Bowdon does in fact state that Bowdon has a gun. A neighbor also reports hearing Bowdon announce that Bowdon has a gun. During the incident Bowdon has one hand behind his back while advancing towards officers in oppositions to repeated and direct commands to show his hands and to stop moving. During his advance Bowdon repeatedly refuses to comply and tells officers that they will have to "shoot me." The Officers only fire upon Bowdon in defense of themselves and others after Bowdon defiantly advances to within approximately 15 feet of the Officer's position. The ME opines that Bowdon died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds.

Law enforcement officers sometimes encounter subjects who have decided to corner the officers into shooting and even killing them. Some have coined this phenomenon with the phrase - "suicide by cop." Such a phrase discounts the

dangerousness of such encounters, and might suggest to some that the involved officers are voluntarily obliging the subject's desire to have his life ended by the officer. However, the Officers involved in this encounter were placed in a grave situation and only reacted, at the last moment, in a way that they reasonably felt was necessary to protect and preserve their own safety and the lives and safety of others.

Officer Chalfant's, Officer Hollis' and Officer McCabe's use of deadly physical force was justified pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 13-405, 13-406 and 13-410 as the Officers reasonably believed that it was necessary to defend themselves, each other and others from what the Officers believed to be the use or imminent use of deadly physical force from Brent Bowden. In a criminal prosecution, the State would have to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the Officers could not have reasonably believed that the use of deadly physical force was reasonably necessary for self-defense or the defense of another. The evidence reviewed in this case does not support such a conclusion and does not provide any support for prosecution of the Officers. Officer Chalfant, Officer Hollis and Officer McCabe committed no crime, under A.R.S. § 13-205, as their actions were justified.

Sincerely,



James M. Schoppmann
Chief Deputy

cc: Chief Devries, KPD
Chief Dan Doyle, LHCPD