



For Immediate Release

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Utah County Attorney David Leavitt Concludes Investigation and Findings in Officer-Involved Death.

David Leavitt, Utah County Attorney, announces that there will be no charges filed against the two officers from the Major Crimes Task Force that resulted in an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred on August 24, 2021.

The OICI investigation was completed on December 10th, 2021, led by the Lehi Police Department OICI team. Necessary follow-up was completed by the Utah County Attorney Bureau of Investigations.

On August 24, 2021 members of the Major Crimes Task Force were following Paul Fin Rasmussen, who was known to be in possession of a firearm and believed to be distributing narcotics. Officers attempted a traffic stop on Mr. Rasmussen on I-15 in Orem. Mr. Rasmussen initially appeared to comply, but then evaded officers by driving through a red traffic light and driving recklessly at high speeds. Officers chose to terminate the pursuit based on the dangerousness of Mr. Rasmussen's driving.

Officers later located Mr. Rasmussen at 935 West 300 North in Provo. Mr. Rasmussen had exited his vehicle and was walking away from his vehicle. When confronted by the first officer, Mr. Rasmussen turned and pointed a firearm at the officer. That officer took cover behind a nearby vehicle. Officer Peterson and Deputy Mortensen then fired multiple rounds at Mr. Rasmussen. Mr. Rasmussen was struck multiple times and died from a gunshot wound. A firearm was located near Mr. Rasmussen, and another firearm was located in Mr. Rasmussen's clothing.

“Upon review of the facts and all additional information contained in the various police reports compiled during the investigation, the Utah County Attorney’s office declines to file any criminal charges against either officer. Their departments have been notified of this decision.” stated David Leavitt, Utah County Attorney.

Persons accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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