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# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

DWAIN D. WOODLEY
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

# SUMMER STEPHAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY

June 11, 2021

Chief of Police David Nisleit San Diego Police Department 1401 Broadway San Diego, CA 92102

Re: Fatal shooting of Mr. Jose Alfredo Castro by San Diego Police Officer Isai Castillo on October 19, 2020; SDPD Case No. 20-051707; DA Special Operations Case No. 20-144PS; Deputy District Attorney assigned: Judy Taschner

Dear Chief Nisleit,

We have reviewed the reports and other materials compiled by the San Diego Police Department's Homicide Unit concerning the shooting of Jose Alfredo Castro. A District Attorney Investigator responded to the scene and was briefed by your detectives. This case was submitted to the District Attorney's Office for review on January 13, 2021.

#### Summary

On October 19, 2020, San Diego Police Communications received a call from a woman reporting her roommate, Alfredo Castro, was using a curtain rod to break out windows in their home. The caller believed Castro was under the influence of drugs and stated Castro tried to hit her with the curtain rod. Officer Castillo and five other officers were dispatched to the incident. They arrived and formulated a plan to contact Castro. The plan involved having less lethal options available, which included a canine unit, a Taser and a beanbag shotgun should the circumstances necessitate it. While the officers were on the sidewalk approaching the property, Castro ran out of the house holding a metal rod raised over his head and ran directly at the approaching officers. One officer fired a beanbag round, one officer fired a Taser and Castillo fired his handgun, striking Castro in the upper body. Castro fell to the ground and dropped the metal rod. Life saving measures were attempted and Castro was transported to the hospital where he later died. The cause of death was determined to be a penetrating gunshot wound of the torso and the manner of death was homicide. Amphetamine and Methamphetamine were found in a toxicology test.

#### Persons Involved

Castro was a 39-year-old resident of San Diego. Castillo has been employed by the San Diego Police Department for two years and was assigned to patrol at the time of this incident.

#### Civilian Witness One (CW1)

Around 8:30 PM, CW1 heard Castro calling out to her from his room. CW1 went to Castro's room and met him at the door. Castro was yelling loudly saying people were after him and trying

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to hurt him. Castro was very panicky and very scared, as if CW1 wanted to hurt him. CW1 and CW2 (CW1's husband) tried to reassure Castro, but he kept insisting people were trying to come through his window to kill him. CW1 and CW2 stayed with Castro in his room and attempted to console him for over an hour. Castro removed a curtain rod from its holder and held it up as though he was trying to defend himself. CW1 tried to get Castro to put the curtain rod down but he refused to do so. Castro appeared very frightened and kept saying people were trying to kill him. Castro used the curtain rod to break the window and if he heard any noise from outside the room, he said it was someone coming to kill him. CW1 was very afraid that Castro may hit her or CW2 with the curtain rod. CW1 and CW2 stayed at the door of Castro's room trying to calm him down for hours.

At about 5:00 AM, CW1 could see CW2 was shaking and was afraid he may faint. CW1 was afraid that if CW2 fainted, Castro may kill him. CW1 began texting her daughter, who lives in a small studio in the back of the property. CW1 told her daughter something was wrong with Castro and asked her to lock herself in her room and call the police. CW1 continued to plead with Castro to put the curtain rod down and Castro backed himself into a corner of the room. Castro began to come toward CW2 so CW2 shut the bedroom door and held it shut. CW1 could hear Castro calling for someone to help him open the door as CW2 held the door shut. CW1 ran outside and called the police. As she waited for the police, CW1 could see Castro through his bedroom window. He was using the curtain rod to hit things and continued calling out for help. When the police arrived, CW1 met the officers on the street. CW1 told the officers Castro's first name and they called out to him as they approached the house. CW1 saw Castro suddenly jump out his bedroom window holding the curtain rod. Castro quickly ran from the house through the open gate at the front of the property and out onto the sidewalk. CW1 said she had left the front gate open for the officers so they could come in immediately. CW1 described Castro as running as fast as he could straight at the officers while swinging the curtain rod and it looked like he was trying to hurt the officers. CW1 was afraid Castro was about to hit the officers when she saw the officers shoot at Castro and he fell to the ground. The officers immediately began CPR on Castro.

# Civilian Witness Two (CW2)

Around 9:00 PM, CW2 went to Castro's room to check on him after CW1 told him she heard Castro calling for help, that he was "seeing things" and thought CW1 wanted to harm him. CW2 assumed by the way Castro was yelling that he had taken "crystal." CW2 had a key to the door so he unlocked and opened it. CW2 saw Castro drenched in sweat and looked frightened and paranoid. Castro backed into a corner of the room and said people were coming for him and he could see them through the window. CW1 and CW2 tried to reassure Castro and calm him down, but if Castro heard any type of noise outside, he thought it was the people coming to get him.

CW2 stayed in the room with Castro from about 9:00 PM until 3:00 AM. Anytime CW2 tried to leave, Castro became very agitated, paranoid, and didn't want him to leave. At one point, Castro removed a curtain rod from the window and swung it around as though he was seeing visions. Castro continued swinging the curtain rod and broke the windows. CW2 asked Castro to put the curtain rod down but Castro refused, stating he needed it for protection because people were

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coming after him to kill him. CW2 said he did not approach Castro or try to take the curtain rod from him because he was afraid Castro could attack him at any time.

CW1 left to call the police earlier and CW2 saw red and blue police lights outside. While CW2 was waiting for the officers to come inside, Castro became enraged and started swinging the curtain rod around even more. CW2 left the room and shut the bedroom door while waiting for the police to come and held it shut while Castro kept trying to open it. CW2 could hear Castro on the other side of the door calling out to the neighbors for help. CW2 then heard what he believed was Castro crawling out one of the bedroom windows. As Castro was climbing out the window, CW2 ran to the front security door and closed it so Castro could not get inside.

CW2 saw Castro walking quickly through the front gate, which was open. Castro was holding the curtain rod up over his shoulder with both hands and screaming as he ran out toward the officers. CW2 walked toward the front gate following Castro as Castro charged toward the officers. CW2's view was blocked by some plants, but he heard the officers say something that sounded like a command but did not know what they were saying. CW2 heard two gunshots and saw Castro fall to the ground. CW2 estimated that Castro got within about five feet of the officers before he fell. CW2 saw the officers doing CPR.

# Civilian Witness Three (CW3)

CW3 was awakened by the sound of glass breaking at about 3:00 AM. CW3 looked outside and didn't see anything. Around 4:00 AM, CW3 heard glass breaking again, looked out her window, and saw a woman standing in the street who appeared to be on her cell phone. CW3 saw a police car arrive and the woman called out to the officer, telling him where to go. CW3 heard glass breaking again and saw Castro inside the house breaking things across the street through an open window. CW3 said Castro had something in his hand he was using to break the glass, but CW3 could not see what the object was. Castro was yelling for help in Spanish, saying he was locked inside and could not get out. CW3 saw a group of officers on foot approaching Castro's house. The officers announced their presence and called out to Castro and told him to come outside. As the officers walked toward Castro's house on the sidewalk in front of his house, CW3 saw Castro suddenly jump out a window. Castro ran from the property toward the officers quickly and CW3 heard about five gunshots. CW3 said she could not see if Castro had anything in his hands when he was running toward the officers.

#### Civilian Witness Four (CW4)

Around 4:00 AM, CW4 heard a man screaming for help saying he wanted to call the police, but his phone battery was dead. The man was speaking Spanish, which CW4 understands. CW4 heard glass breaking and saw Castro holding what looked like a long metal construction tool in his hand. Castro was using the object to break windows from inside his house. CW4 saw three officers arrive and call out to Castro and ask him to come outside. CW4 saw Castro run from the house through the gate holding the metal object in his hand. Castro ran at the officers holding the object over his head and CW4 saw the officers shoot Castro. CW4 said she did not hear the officers tell him to get down or drop the weapon. CW4 did not see anyone with a Taser.

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#### Law Enforcement Witness One (LE1)

LE1 volunteered to respond to a call regarding a vandalism, which was updated to a disturbance with a weapon. LE1 met Castillo and other officers approximately one block away from the call to formulate a response plan before going to the house. LE1 was assigned to be part of the arrest team. As they approached the house, LE1 was walking behind Castillo and heard Castro screaming for help in English and in Spanish. LE1 saw Castro breaking out a window of the house. Castro jumped out of the window and fell on the front porch. Castro got up and ran at the group of officers and LE1 while holding an object in his hand. Since LE1 was part of the arrest team, she did not have her gun out, so she took cover behind a parked truck on the street. LE1 heard a gunshot and the sound of the beanbag shotgun being fired and saw Castro on the ground. LE1 saw the Taser had been deployed and the Taser barbs were still embedded in Castro. LE1 saw the object Castro had was a curtain rod. LE1 began assisting other officers with providing medical aid to Castro. LE1 said everything happened too fast to be able to react or get additional resources because the subject charged at them within seconds.

### Law Enforcement Witness Two (LE2)

LE2 met with other officers nearby before proceeding to the call. Castillo gave assignments to each officer as to who would have lethal, less lethal and arrest team responsibilities. The officers drove to the scene, parked, and began walking toward Castro's house. LE2 walked behind Castillo and saw Castro at the front window of the residence breaking the glass with a metal rod. Castro was partially outside the window and screaming unintelligibly. One of the officers in the group called out to Castro identifying them as the police. Castro immediately ran straight at the group of officers with the metal rod in his hand raised over his head as though he was going to hit them. LE2 was standing to the right of Castillo and did not have her gun out since she was part of the arrest team. LE2 grabbed her Taser, saw Castillo grab his gun, and LE7 grab his Taser. LE2 did not fire her Taser because she heard everyone else shoot. After the shots were fired, Castro fell to the ground and LE2 could see the rod on the ground. Other officers handcuffed Castro and LE2 put him in a recovery position and assessed his injuries. LE2 and the other officers began medical aid and continued until paramedics arrived.

### Law Enforcement Witness Three (LE3)

LE3 responded to the call and was assigned as part of the arrest team. Once Castillo made the assignments, the officers drove to the house. When she arrived, LE3 ran towards the other officers who were with a female standing in the street. LE3 saw Castro standing outside the house hitting a window with a pole. LE3 heard LE7 announce to Castro they were the San Diego Police and told him to come over. Castro jumped a fence and quickly ran at Castillo and LE3. LE3 saw Castro was screaming and had the pole in one hand and believed he was about to attack her and the other officers. LE3 drew her Taser but did not deploy it because she did not have a clear line of sight. LE3 saw another Taser deploy and heard a gunshot. After the shooting, LE3 handcuffed Castro and began checking him for other weapons. LE3 could not detect Castro's pulse, so she began administering CPR.

#### Law Enforcement Witness Four (LE4)

LE4 arrived at the scene when Castillo and the rest of the officers were beginning to approach Castro's house. LE4 saw Castro run from the front yard of the house straight toward the group of

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officers. LE4's view of Castro was obscured by some of the officers so he could not see if Castro had anything in his hands. LE4 heard the officers yell something but could not make out what was said. LE4 saw Castro exit the yard and cut around the corner toward the officers. Castro was about six to seven feet away from them when LE4 heard about three shots and saw Castro go down. When LE4 got to Castro he helped roll him over and assisted the other officers with providing first aid for his injuries.

# Law Enforcement Witness Five (LE5)

LE5 was assigned to assist the arrest team. While the officers were walking toward Castro's house, LE5 heard LE7 calling out, "San Diego Police," Castro's name, and to come out with his hands up. LE5 heard Castro screaming and the sound of glass breaking but he could not understand what Castro was saying. LE5 could see Castro standing inside the gate of the property. Castro bent over and picked up an object which LE5 described as some type of stick. LE5 saw Castro run out of the property holding the stick up with both hands. LE5 described Castro as having a panicked look and it appeared to LE5 that Castro was going to charge and swing the stick at whomever was talking to him. LE6 moved into a position with a bean bag shotgun and LE5 moved with him to cover him. LE6 fired once with the beanbag shotgun, which impacted Castro and LE5 heard two more gunshots. LE5 approached Castro and saw he now had nothing in his hands, so he helped handcuff him. LE5 and the other officers began providing medical aid to Castro.

# Law Enforcement Witness Six (LE6)

LE6 and his partner, LE5, met other officers before proceeding to the house. While they awaited the arrival of a canine unit, they developed a plan, which included designating officers as the arrest team and other officers to have less lethal options available. LE6 was assigned to have a less lethal bean bag shotgun. Once the canine unit arrived, they all drove closer to Castro's house. When he got close to the house, LE6 got out of the car with the beanbag shot gun. LE6 saw the other officers ahead as they walked toward Castro's house, so LE6 jogged to catch up to them. LE6 heard a male screaming and glass breaking. He also heard one of the officers in the group calling out to Castro when they were approaching the house.

As the group of officers approached the house on the sidewalk, LE6 moved into the street. LE6 walked around a parked vehicle to gain a better line of sight to Castro's house and to provide himself cover. As LE6 did so, he saw Castro running at a high rate of speed toward the group of officers holding an object in his hand which was about 16 inches long. LE6 believed Castro was about to attack the officers with the object, which could potentially be a deadly weapon. LE6 was about 10 to 12 feet from Castro when he aimed the beanbag shotgun at Castro's abdominal area and fired one round. At the same time, LE6 heard two gunshots. Castro immediately fell to the ground and when LE6 approached him, he saw Castro no longer had the object in his hand. LE6 saw a bent metal rod about two to three feet from Castro on the ground. LE6 said he did not have time to announce a warning to Castro that he was going to fire his weapon because Castro was running so fast and he was about one second away. LE6 felt that in the time it would take him to make the announcement, Castro could have made it to the other officers and seriously injure or kill them with the object he was carrying.

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# Law Enforcement Witness Seven (LE7)

LE7 met with other officers assigned to the call. The intent was to develop a plan, since the subject may be armed with a weapon, so the officers could take the man into custody safely if needed. LE7 was assigned to have a Taser available during the contact should a less lethal force option be needed. They proceeded to the house where the incident was taking place. Castillo was met by the reporting party who ran up to the car. The officers parked their police cars, leaving the overhead emergency lights on, and got out to walk the rest of the way. As LE7 approached the house, he could hear Castro screaming, "Get me the police! Help!" and breaking glass. LE7 called out to Castro, who was hanging partially out of a window, which had been broken. LE7 told Castro to come out to them. Officer Castillo also gave Castro commands in Spanish to come out. Castro climbed out the window and stood up holding a rod and started walking toward LE7 and the other officers. Castro began running while flailing around and was coming directly at LE7 and the other officers. LE7 called out to Castro and told him to drop the rod. LE7 believed Castro was trying to cause harm to them. LE7 pulled his Taser as Castro was running toward him and fired his Taser. At the same time LE7 heard a single gunshot and Castro fell to the ground.

#### Officer Castillo's Statement

Castillo was working alone as a single officer unit and saw a radio call on his computer, which had been holding for a while on his beat. Castillo thought perhaps it may have been a homeless person walking down the street breaking glass bottles. Castillo called the original reporting person and asked where the noises were coming from. The caller could not tell Castillo where the noises were coming from, but she also could no longer hear them. Castillo decided to drive through the area and at first, he did not hear anything. As Castillo drove down the street he heard glass breaking. Castillo looked to his left and saw Castro breaking glass. Because he was a single-officer unit, Castillo did not stop and contact Castro citing safety concerns. Castillo called the reporting person back and told her to call 911 if she believed it was still an emergency. Castillo thought perhaps Castro was drunk or under the influence of drugs. Since no one else was calling 911 and Castro was likely in his own home, he did not feel it was an emergency. The caller said she could still hear the guy, but she was going to work at that time. Castillo ended the call and a few seconds later, the "hot call" came in. Castillo believed this call was coming from inside Castro's home, possibly from a roommate.

Castillo went to a nearby location to meet with other responding officers to develop a plan before going to Castro's home to contact him. Castillo assigned LE1, LE2, LE3 and LE5 to be an arrest team. He assigned LE6 to bring a beanbag shotgun for a less lethal option. Castillo said he would have considered requesting a PERT clinician respond but knew PERT was not staffed on the third watch shift. Castillo tried to call the reporting party but was unable to get in touch with her. A canine unit arrived so Castillo decided to head to Castro's house.

The officers stopped when they were about two houses away from the property. As they approached the house, the reporting party met them, and Castillo saw Castro inside his house through a window. Castro had what Castillo believed was a black prybar, which was bent at one end. LE7 called out to Castro and told him in English to drop the object. Castillo also called out to Castro in Spanish and told him to drop the stick. Castro climbed out a window onto the porch and began running toward him and the other officers. Castro was holding what Castillo believed

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was a prybar and Castillo thought Castro was going to hit him or LE7. Castillo immediately thought of turning to run but Castro was closing the distance so fast he did not think he could get away. When Castro got within about ten feet of him, he thought Castro was going to hit him in the head, so Castillo drew his gun and fired two times. Castro fell to the ground and no longer presented a threat. Castillo immediately called medics.

#### Investigation

The audio recordings from 911 dispatchers, private surveillance video, witness interviews, officer interviews, crime scene reports, and medical reports were reviewed. All these items were found to provide evidence which corroborates the officers' statements. Additionally, the officers involved in this incident were equipped with Body Worn Cameras (BWC) which were also reviewed.

The first 911 call from a neighbor was made to SDPD at 4:24 AM. CW1 called police at 4:43 AM. When officers approached the home at approximately 4:59 AM, it is dark outside. There is lighting on outside of CW1 and CW2's home, but the area of the sidewalk is not well lit even though a streetlight is on the opposite side of the street. One of the patrol unit's headlights illuminated the street in front of the vehicle. One officer shines a flashlight on Castro as he jumps onto a front porch, but as the officer begins to retreat after telling Castro to "drop it," the flashlight does not remain on Castro.

Investigators recovered surveillance video from the exterior of the home. A camera mounted above the front door was positioned to capture activity on the front porch in front of the door and out to the street. The video showed the front door opening and Castro exit the door holding a long thin object in his right hand. Castro quickly ran from the porch holding the object and exited the property through an open gate. When Castro exited the gate to the sidewalk, he turned left and went out of view.

Another camera mounted on the exterior of the home recorded activity on the sidewalk and street in front of Castro's home. Castillo and LE7 came into view on the left side of the screen as they were walking on the sidewalk. Both officers stopped beside a parked car on the street in front of the property. At the same time, LE6 could be seen carrying a beanbag shotgun on the opposite side of the parked car. Castillo and LE7 began to back away and Castillo began drawing his handgun as they moved out of the camera frame. At the same time, Castro came into view on the right side of the screen and LE6 began pointing his shotgun at Castro. Castro was holding the curtain rod in his right hand in an overhand striking position as he ran toward Castillo and LE7. Castillo's shots cannot be seen since he had moved out of the camera frame as Castro ran toward him and LE7. Due to the poor quality of the video, the discharge of LE6's beanbag shotgun cannot be seen.

LE7's BWC showed him walking toward the home on the sidewalk in front of the house. The sound of glass breaking could be heard and LE7 called out to Castro. LE7 identified himself as "San Diego Police" and told Castro to come outside. Castro could be seen jumping through a window onto the front porch. Castro stood on the front porch briefly and called out for help in Spanish. Castro ran from the porch through the pedestrian gate at the sidewalk. As Castro exited

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through the gate he turned and ran toward Castillo and LE7 with his right hand raised. LE7 pointed the Taser at Castro and the red laser dots could be seen on Castro's torso as he continued to run toward LE7 and Castillo. The sound of LE7's Taser being deployed was heard almost simultaneous to LE6 firing the beanbag shotgun and Castillo firing his handgun.

LE6's BWC showed him holding the beanbag shotgun and walking behind LE7 and Castillo. As they approached the home, LE7 and Castillo stayed on the sidewalk beside a parked truck and LE6 walked in the street on the opposite side of the truck. The sound of breaking glass could be heard and Castro could be heard calling for help in Spanish. As Castro came into view exiting the pedestrian gate, LE6 fired one shot from the beanbag shotgun at Castro as he ran toward Castillo and LE7. At nearly the same time, LE7's Taser deploying could be heard followed by the sound of Castillo's gunfire.

Castillo's BWC showed him approaching the house along with the other officers. Castillo began backing up as Castro exited the pedestrian gate of the property. Castro ran toward Castillo and went out of camera view as Castillo turned to the side as he backed up and then the sound of Castillo firing his gun twice is heard. After Castillo shot Castro, the officers began providing medical aid. A paramedic unit transported Castro to the hospital.

The weapon used by Castillo was a department-issued 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. Investigators recovered two cartridge casings, which is consistent with the number of rounds fired by Castillo. One shot fired by Castillo struck Castro in the lower abdominal area and became lodged there. The other round fired by Castillo missed Castro and was recovered approximately 100 feet south of Castillo's shooting position after having struck an unknown object.

The beanbag shotgun round fired by LE6 was recovered at the scene close to where Castro fell. The location of impact on Castro's body was not determined. One Taser barb was recovered at the scene and the other barb was recovered in Castro's clothing during the autopsy.

The object Castro had in his hand during the incident was found to be a hollow metal rod. It measured approximately 28 inches long and 5/8 inch in diameter. One end was bent to an approximate 45-degree angle.

#### Autopsy

On October 20, 2020 an autopsy of Castro was performed. One penetrating gunshot wound to Castro's abdomen was seen. Toxicology testing from Castro detected Amphetamine (0.15 mg/L) and Methamphetamine (2.5 mg/L). The cause of death was a penetrating gunshot wound to the torso and the manner of death was homicide.

# Legal Standards of Criminal Liability

Penal Code section 835a(c) sets forth the standard to evaluate a peace officer's use of deadly force. The law provides that "a peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person only when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of circumstances, that such force is necessary,...(A) To defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person." Penal Code section 835a(c)(1)(A).

- ""Deadly force" means any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including, but not limited to, the discharge of a firearm." Penal Code section 835a(e)(1).
- "A threat of death or serious bodily injury is "imminent" when based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or another person." Penal Code section 835a(e)(2).
- "An imminent harm is not merely a fear of future harm, no matter how great the fear and no matter how great the likelihood of the harm, but is one that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed." Penal Code section 835a(e)(2).
- ""Totality of the circumstances" means all facts known to the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force." Penal Code section 835a(e)(3).
- "In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstances of each case, and shall use other available resources and techniques, if reasonably safe and feasible to an objectively reasonable officer." Penal Code section 835a(2).
- "[T]he decision by a peace officer to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight. The totality of circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force." Penal Code section 835a(4).
- "A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from their efforts because of resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested. A peace officer shall not be deemed an aggressor or lose the right of self-defense by the use of objectively reasonable force in compliance with subdivisions (b) and (c) to effect the arrest or prevent escape or overcome resistance. For purposes of this section "retreat" does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation tactics." Penal Code section 835a(d).

Penal Code section 196 was also amended. The statute provides that homicide is justified when committed by peace officers and those acting by their command in their aid and assistance when the homicide results from a peace officer's use of force that is in compliance with Section 835a.

#### Conclusion

In this incident, officers were called to the location by CW1 after she became fearful that Castro, who was acting paranoid and delusional, may injure her or her husband with a curtain rod which he was using to break items in the room. Castillo and other officers were approaching the house when Castro climbed out the window. Castro ran quickly toward the officers screaming while

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holding the metal curtain rod over his head in a threatening manner. Officers backed away to create distance but Castro quickly closed the distance to them. LE7 fired a Taser, LE6 fired a beanbag shotgun and Castillo fired his handgun. All the officers fired nearly simultaneously believing they were defending themselves or the other officers from imminent threat of serious bodily injury. Castro indicated by his behavior that he was attempting to assault and cause injury to Castillo and the officers. Based on these circumstances, Officer Castillo acted reasonably and bears no state criminal liability. A copy of this letter, along with the materials submitted for our review, will be retained in our files.

Sincerely,

SUMMER STEPHAN District Attorney

SS:gm

cc: Captain Richard Freedman