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For Immediate Release

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District Attorney's Office Releases Reviews of Seven Officer-Involved Shootings

The San Diego County District Attorney has completed reviews of seven officer-involved shooting incidents, three fatal and four non-fatal.

Officer-involved shootings are reviewed by the District Attorney's Office's Special Operations Division for violations of state law, including murder and manslaughter. The loss of life no matter the circumstances is always serious and somber. The Special Operations Division consists of prosecutors and investigators experienced in evaluating these complex cases. The results of the review are documented in a detailed public letter that is provided to the law enforcement agencies and transparently posted on the DA's website. Substantial efforts are also made to share the results of the review with families of the deceased and to answer their questions.

The letters generally include a summary of the incident, names of persons involved, civilian witness and law enforcement statements, an overview of the investigation, the Medical Examiner's findings (including toxicology reports), a discussion of the legal standard used when evaluating these incidents for potential criminal liability and the DA's conclusion.

After a thorough review of the facts and evidence, it's been determined that the law enforcement officers involved in all seven of these incidents bear no criminal liability for their actions.

The DA's release includes its reviews of the following incidents:

- **Patrick Doherty** was observed speeding, running a red light and failing to stop at a stop sign. An officer initiated a traffic stop and approached Doherty's van. When he knocked on the vehicle's window, Doherty fired one shot at the officer who retreated to his patrol car and returned fire. Doherty attempted to drive away, but he was taken into custody nearby. Doherty was convicted of attempted murder and other charges and was sentenced to 20 years, four months in state prison.
- **Kyle McCord** ambushed and attacked a police officer with a skateboard, striking him on the head and causing a skull fracture and brain bleed. Believing McCord had shot the officer, a second officer chased McCord and fired at him, but no shots hit the suspect. McCord was arrested and convicted of attempted murder and other charges. Combined

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with a separate case of assault on an officer, was sentenced to 10 years, eight months in prison.

- **Stephon Nutall** entered his ex-girlfriend's residence armed with a ghost gun. The woman called 911 and Nutall threatened to shoot the woman, himself and any officers who might respond. He then took their one-year-old child and fled. Officers pursued Nutall through to an adjacent apartment complex. An officer located Nutall lying on his back and ordered him to show his hands. Nutall raised his right hand holding a dark object and the officer fired, striking Nutall several times. Nutall fled but left the infant on a retaining wall where officers safely recovered the child. Nutall was taken into custody and was convicted of assault, child abuse and other felony charges. He was sentenced to 14 years, and eight months in prison. Toxicology results showed Nutall had fentanyl, methamphetamine, THC and opiates in his system at the time of the incident.
- Officers responded to multiple reports that a vehicle was blocking traffic on La Jolla Boulevard and a man outside of the vehicle armed with a knife. Upon arrival, the officers were immediately confronted by **Dejon Heard** who shouted at the officers, saying, "Pull 'em out." Holding up the knife, he ran toward officers saying, "Let's do it." Officers repeatedly ordered Heard to drop the knife, however he did not comply. To de-escalate the tense situation and gain more time, the officers moved backward while continuing to order Heard to drop the weapon. As Heard continued to advance, one officer fired three rounds, fatally striking Heard.
- An officer responded to a solo vehicle accident around 1:00 a.m. and encountered **Moises Calunga, Jr.** attempting to drive away in a damaged car and behaving in a way that made the officer believe Calunga may be armed. Additional officers arrived and gave Calunga multiple commands—in English and Spanish—to leave the vehicle, which he ignored. Calunga began smoking cigarettes and throwing items from the vehicle. Officers fired multiple less-lethal pepper balls and bean bag rounds at Calunga to get him to exit the vehicle. Calunga eventually opened the car door, pointed a handgun at officers and fired. Officers returned fire, striking Calunga and fatally wounding him.
- Officers responded to a 911 call from a woman saying a man had pointed a gun at her at an Escondido transit center. The woman identified **Antonio Rosales** as the suspect and officers attempted to contact him, but Rosales fled on foot. Officers pursued Rosales, who eventually stopped and raised a handgun to his own neck. Rosales turned away from the officer and then turned back. Believing Rosales was going to shoot him, an officer opened fire, striking Rosales several times. At the scene, officers recovered a CO2 pellet revolver resembling a full-frame firearm. Rosales pleaded guilty to resisting an officer, was given a suspended sentence and placed on probation after serving one year in jail.
- **Victor Rendon's** ex-girlfriend called 911 after Rendon, armed with a handgun, trespassed into her house with her four children inside. Sheriff's deputies responded, and along with help from police helicopters monitoring Rendon's movements, were able to remove the four children safely from the home. Deputies made multiple attempts to get Rendon to surrender, but he did not comply. Deputies re-entered the home to take Rendon into custody but retreated after hearing three gunshots. Eventually, Rendon began walking outside, raising a handgun at deputies who had formed a perimeter. Deputies fired at Rendon, fatally striking him. Toxicology tests determined Rendon had methamphetamine, fentanyl, alcohol and amphetamines in his system.

The DA's detailed review letters regarding the above incidents can be found on the District Attorney's [public website here](#).

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About the San Diego County District Attorney's Office

The San Diego County DA's Office prosecutes all felony crimes in the county and misdemeanor crimes committed outside the City of San Diego. The office files about 40,000 criminal cases a year and balances prosecution with numerous crime prevention programs. District Attorney Summer Stephan leads the office of more than 1,000 dedicated employees who pursue fair and equal justice, and support victims daily across San Diego County.

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