

State of Connecticut DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LITCHFIELD

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December 10, 2020

Preliminary Status Report Concerning the Use of Deadly Force in Waterbury, Connecticut on December 8, 2020

On December 8, 2020, officers from the Waterbury Police Department located a stolen vehicle on Marley Place, Waterbury. At approximately 2:20 p.m., the officers called for patrol to recover the stolen vehicle. While awaiting patrol's arrival, the officer remaining at the scene observed a man walking on Marley Place who was the target of their investigation, and also a suspect in a felony that had occurred in New Britain on December 7, 2020. Waterbury officers responded back to Marley Place, and detained the male suspect. Preliminary reports indicate that just after police detained the suspect, they observed unknown individuals driving the stolen vehicle and another vehicle (later determined to also have been stolen) south on Marley Place, toward Wolcott Street, in an erratic manner. The operators drove these two vehicles directly and aggressively toward the police officers, the detained individual, and the police vehicles. The police officers took evasive action to avoid injury to themselves and their detainee. The vehicles forcefully crashed into police and civilian vehicles parked on Marley Place, causing injury to Officer Marc Sharoh, who was seated in one of the vehicles. As these events transpired, Officer Garrett Pagel discharged his firearm multiple times. Officer Charles Mauriello suffered a non-lethal bullet strike to the chest area of his body armor. Preliminary investigation indicates that Officer Mauriello was most likely struck by a shot fired by Officer Pagel. This factual synopsis has not been confirmed, and is the subject of a thorough and complete investigation by the Litchfield State's Attorney's Office and the Connecticut State Police.

On December 8, 2020, Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo assigned the undersigned State's Attorney to determine whether Officer Pagel's use of force was appropriate pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §53a-22. The assistance of the Western District Major Crime Unit was requested to investigate and determine the circumstances of the incident. Both the undersigned, as well as members of the Wester District Major Crime Unit, responded to the scene on the afternoon of December 8th. The Western District Major Crime Unit processed the scene, and is continuing its investigation.

The undersigned has been informed that the four Waterbury officers at this scene were not equipped with body worn cameras, and their vehicles were not equipped with dash cameras. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,

DAWN GALLO

State's Attorney, Judicial District of Litchfield