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For Immediate Release
December 31, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

NO CRIMINAL CHARGES IN AIRPORT BOULEVARD SHOOTING

Napa County District Attorney Allison Haley announced today:

The Napa County District Attorney's Office has completed a full review of the officer involved shooting that took place on April 24, 2020 in the area of Airport Boulevard in the County of Napa. The sole purpose of our examination was to determine if there is any criminal liability on behalf of any member of law enforcement. We find no criminal liability in these circumstances.

On April 24, 2020, Brandan Nylander was under the influence of alcohol and depressed with recent suicidal ideations. He took his Weatherby 12-gauge shotgun and drove to Walmart in the City of Napa. Mr. Nylander removed a concealed hammer, broke a display case for ammunition, stole one box of shotgun shells and threw the hammer at an employee. Walmart staff called 911 and Napa law enforcement was notified of a robbery suspect fleeing in a car with stolen ammunition. Napa County Sheriff's Office Deputy Gregg Lee heard the dispatch and spotted the vehicle minutes later near Highway 29 and Highway 221. Deputy Lee tracked the car on to Airport Boulevard where it came to an abrupt stop at a chain link fence on a service road. Within seconds, Mr. Nylander emerged with the shotgun, now loaded with two shells, in his hands. Outgunned and fearing for his life, Deputy Lee shot four times until Mr. Nylander went to the ground. A suicide note left to his family was later found in Mr. Nylander's home.

The use of deadly force by Deputy Lee was a reasonable and lawful response under the totality of the circumstances. Therefore, the actions were legally justified and criminal charges against him are neither warranted nor supported by the evidence.

The review by the District Attorney's Office is summarized in a comprehensive report being released today and is available on our website at <https://www.countyofnapa.org/1330/Documents>. The public deserves full transparency as how and why our office reaches a decision in an officer involved shooting.