

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INDEPENDENT REVIEW BOARD
425 QUEEN STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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July 12, 2021

Steven S. Alm
Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
City and County of Honolulu
1060 Richards Street, 9th floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Law Enforcement Officer Related Death of Steven Hyer, Jr.

Dear Prosecuting Attorney Alm,

Pursuant to section 28-153 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Law Enforcement Officer Independent Review Board (Board) reviewed the investigation. The Board finds that the police investigation was fairly conducted and recommends that prosecution be declined in this matter.

June 22, 2018, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at a residence, Mr. Hyer was armed with a knife and was tased by a Honolulu Police Department (HPD) officer. The taser was unable to neutralize Mr. Hyer, who then barricaded himself within the residence. Officers were present to take Mr. Hyer in for a mental health evaluation. HPD Specialized Services Division was called to the scene. During the ensuing encounter, Mr. Hyer actively harmed a police canine with an arrow. Mr. Hyer then loaded an arrow into an archery bow and attempted to pull it back to shoot in direction of the officers. Mr. Hyer ignored the officer's commands to drop the weapon. He was shot three times by one of the officers and died of gunshot injuries. The officers used multiple other methods first, including a taser and chemical agents. The toxicology report on Mr. Hyer showed the presence of methamphetamine. Based upon a thorough review of the police reports, and a discussion of sections 703-304 and 703-305 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board recommends that prosecution be declined.

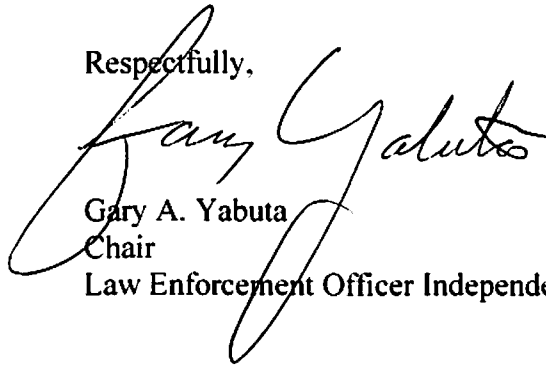
This recommendation is confidential until release by the Board pursuant to section 28-153(h), HRS, which provides that:

Steven S. Alm, Prosecuting Attorney
July 12, 2021
Page 2

Once the board has issued the board's recommendation pursuant to subsection (f) and any criminal prosecution or proceedings in the State related to the officer-involved death have been adjudicated, the board shall release the board's recommendations and any criminal prosecution or proceedings in the State related to the officer-involved death have been adjudicated, the board shall release the board's recommendations and any accompanying reports, documents, and information, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

Please inform the Board of your decision as to whether you will prosecute the officers involved in the death of Steven Hyer, Jr. to allow the Board to comply with its statutory obligation to disclose its recommendation under section 28-153(h), HRS.

Respectfully,



Gary A. Yabuta
Chair

Law Enforcement Officer Independent Review Board