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Orange and Osceola County, Florida

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Deputy Chief Assistant State Attorney
Kamilah L. Perry
Executive Director

DATE: September 28, 2017

TO: Jerry L. Demings, Sheriff, Orange County, Florida

FROM: Deborah Barra, Chief Assistant State Attorney

RE: Florida Department of Law Enforcement Investigative Case # OR-27-0280
Use of Force Review

RECEIVED

SEP 28 2017
OCO 54
Professional Standards Division

I have completed a thorough review of the investigation into a use of deadly force by Orange County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriffs Joe Farias-Rios and Mathew Velazquez. The incident occurred within the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida on January 31, 2017. Upon my review of the evidence, Deputies Joe Farias-Rios and Mathew Velazquez discharged their agency issued firearms towards suspect Abrahan DeJesus Canaan in response to Mr. Canaan driving his car towards Deputy Joe Farias-Rios. As a result, Mr. Canaan was struck by projectiles discharged during the incident. Given the totality of the circumstances, it is my opinion the actions of Deputies Joe Farias-Rios and Mathew Velazquez were in response to what they reasonably believed to be a deadly threat. Therefore, no criminal charges will be filed by this office pertaining to the actions of Deputies Joe Farias-Rios and Mathew Velazquez.

Sincerely,

Deborah Barra
Chief Assistant State Attorney

Cc: Danny Banks, Special Agent in Charge
Florida Department of Law Enforcement,
Orlando