



Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

David Leyton, Prosecutor



PRESS RELEASE

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PROSECUTOR RULES FATAL POLICE SHOOTING JUSTIFIED

FLINT – Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton has ruled that the fatal shooting of Richard Taushe Kemp on November 3, 2006 by City of Flint police officers was lawfully justified.

Prosecutor Leyton had received investigative reports on the incident from the internal affairs division of the Flint Police Department and, after a thorough review and evaluation of those reports, has determined that the police officers involved acted properly under the circumstances.

“On November 3, 2006, Flint Police were dispatched to an area on Prospect St. in response to 9-1-1 calls reporting a man with a gun. This man, Richard Taushe Kemp, had fired a gun at a home, assaulted a child with his gun, and shot over the heads of the responding officers. He refused to obey the lawful commands of the police officers on the scene and continued to present a deadly danger to the public and the police,” said Prosecutor Leyton.

“The police had ordered Mr. Kemp to drop his gun and to get on the ground. Mr. Kemp’s response was to continue in an unceasing and threatening fashion and the police responded in a lethal but lawful manner,” said Leyton.

“The police are highly trained to deal with volatile, threatening, and difficult situations. Their number one concern in this particular situation was the immediate protection and safety of the citizens in the immediate vicinity along with their own safety. Based upon Mr. Kemp’s actions, the police responded accordingly, appropriately, and lawfully,” concluded Leyton.

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