

# Callaway County Prosecuting Attorney

Christopher D. Wilson

10 East Fifth Street, Fulton, Missouri 65251 - Telephone: 573-642-0714 - Facsimile: 573-642-5725

Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys

Benjamin J. Miller

Risa Perkins

Mandi S. Roberson

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June 23, 2020

Sgt. Darrin R. Haslag  
c/o Missouri State Highway Patrol  
Division of Drug and Crime Control  
P.O. Box 568  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0568

VIA EMAIL TRANSMISSION

Re: Officer involved shooting occurring February 20, 2020, in Columbia, Missouri

Dear Sgt. Haslag:

As you know, earlier this year I was appointed as Special Prosecutor to review the investigation of the officer-involved shooting during the attempted apprehension of Keith Brodie on February 20, 2020. That appointment came following the request of Boone County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Knight for a special prosecutor.

I am in receipt of all the reports and investigative material from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, as well as the reports and material your agency obtained from the Columbia Police Department.

Having reviewed that material, it is my belief that the officer involved acted within the law when he shot at the vehicle driven by Keith Brodie.

Specifically, the evidence available to me through the reports, including body-camera video footage obtained from the officer and his partner, make clear the following:

1. Both officers were aware that Brodie had physically resisted efforts by other Columbia police officers to take him into custody on an outstanding arrest warrant earlier that same evening at a residence on Rollins Road. Both officers had heard radio traffic regarding that incident and had received verbal reports of that incident in which another police officer had been struck by a vehicle driven by Brodie that then led to a high-speed pursuit that was later terminated by police for safety reasons.
2. Both officers were aware that Brodie had repeatedly called a female complaining witness that same night, threatening to kill her, as he believed she was responsible for alerting the police to the scene of the attempted arrest. Both officers had telephone contact with that complaining witness in the hours before the shooting and were fully aware of her concerns that Brodie may carry out his threats.
3. Both officers responded to the scene of a second incident on Southwest Way, just hours after the incident on Rollins Road, in which Brodie was reported to have broken into a residence, armed with a handgun, and that shots had been fired. Upon the arrival of the officers, Brodie again fled in an effort to resist his arrest for the outstanding warrant, as

well as the new felony offenses that had just occurred. Brodie's flight led to a second high-speed pursuit.

4. Both officers were involved in the second pursuit of Brodie, who failed to yield to the patrol vehicle occupied by both officers, despite their activated emergency lights and siren.
5. Both officers witnessed Brodie turn around at a roadblock formed by deputies from the Boone County Sheriff's Department and begin to drive back toward their patrol vehicle at a high rate of speed as the officers and their patrol vehicle were positioned in the roadway.

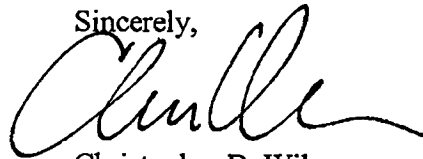
All of these events occurred in the hours prior to the officer firing his weapon at Brodie's vehicle. Immediately prior to the shooting, it is clear from the body camera footage that the officers know that Brodie is armed with a handgun, had just fired shots in or near the residence at Southwest Way, and may have injured or killed another person at that residence. Both officers intended to arrest Brodie on those charges, as well as the outstanding warrant, and were aware that he had actively resisted all efforts to take him into custody earlier that evening.

The officer who fired on Brodie's vehicle heard the vehicle accelerate as it came toward the officers. It is clear from the video that Brodie had no intention of stopping. The officer made clear in his interview with investigators that his purpose in firing at Brodie's vehicle was to stop Brodie from harming or killing any other person, including the female complainant that was the subject of his threats made earlier that evening. The officer also made clear that he was very concerned for the safety of his partner, who had exited the patrol vehicle on the driver's side and was in, or near, the path of Brodie's accelerating vehicle, when the officer fired on Brodie's vehicle. It should be noted that none of the shots fired at the vehicle by the officer struck Brodie.

In light of these facts, it is clear to me that the officer was acting lawfully in his use of deadly force pursuant to Section 563.046, RSMo., and in defense of a third person pursuant to Section 563.031, RSMo.

For these reasons, I do not intend to file any criminal charges against the officer involved. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Christopher D. Wilson  
Prosecuting Attorney

CC:  
Chief Geoff Jones  
c/o Columbia Police Department  
600 East Walnut Street  
Columbia, MO 65201