



OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES

BRUCE BARTLETT
State Attorney

October 26, 2021

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
10750 Ulmerton Road
Largo, Florida 33778

RE: Shooting incident resulting in the death of Chad Allen Jenkins (W/M; DOB: 12/24/70)
October 4, 2021 at approximately 10:40 p.m.
In the vicinity of 3949 38th Street North, St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida

Dear Sheriff Gualtieri:

Pursuant to notification by the Deadly Violence Task Force at approximately 11:15 p.m. on Monday, October 4, 2021, that an officer related shooting had occurred at the above location, we have conducted an investigation as described herein.

Representatives of this Office examined the scene and then proceeded to the Sheriff's Administration Building and began taking sworn testimony from the following persons who were witnesses to the incident:

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]
3. Deputy Derric Gandee-Lunsford
4. Sergeant Chris McHugh
5. Deputy Kellen Zanandrie
6. Corporal Casey Hunter

In addition, we have spoken to Dr. Noel Agudo from the Medical Examiner's Office and Detective Intravichit of the St. Petersburg Police Department. We reviewed numerous body worn camera videos, Ring doorbell video, 911 calls, text messages, and police reports. Based on this investigation, we have determined the facts to be as follows:

[REDACTED] had known Chad Jenkins for approximately 25 years through her stepbrother. Around three years ago, [REDACTED] began dating Chad Jenkins after he separated from his wife; however, that relationship between Chad Jenkins and [REDACTED] terminated about three weeks prior to this incident.

As a result of their relationship, [REDACTED] became aware that Chad Jenkins had some time ago been the subject of a Risk Protection Order (RPO) by request of his former

brother-in-law, William Prestero, which required him to surrender numerous firearms and ammunition. ██████ indicated that the Order had expired, and Jenkins was given back his firearms and ammunition.

██████ further indicated that Jenkins had mental health issues and had been on medications for it, but she did not know which type. She stated that his taking of the medications was irregular. Furthermore, he was subject to sudden significant mood changes and that several times in the relationship he had been physically violent to her. She indicated that she did not ever report these incidents to law enforcement because she was trying to help Jenkins better control his temper.

On the day of the incident, ██████ went to work at ██████ in Tampa. Sometime that morning, she accidentally called Chad Jenkins without realizing it. He texted her back asking why she was calling him. She texted back that it was an accident. He then began calling and texting her throughout the day. He stated that he was going to come by her house. ██████ texted Jenkins back to leave her alone. ██████ left her work around 4:15 p.m. and arrived home at approximately 5:05 p.m. ██████ lives approximately ██████ from Jenkins' residence.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., Chad Jenkins came to ██████ residence and rang the doorbell. ██████ would not answer the door. Jenkins then played a recording on ██████ Ring doorbell of a message that she left him, three weeks earlier on September 13, 2021. That message was when ██████ was upset with Jenkins after learning that he had been dating another woman while he had been dating her and led to her termination of their relationship.

Jenkins then left but returned to ██████ house at approximately 9:00 p.m. Jenkins rang the doorbell and ██████ again refused to answer the door. The Ring camera captured Jenkins getting upset that ██████ wouldn't talk to him. Jenkins demanded that ██████ talk to him now. Jenkins said, "I will be right back, and you will have to call the fucking cops. Do you want to call the fucking cops now and have them fucking kill me?" Jenkins said, "You can't keep fucking threatening me on the phone" and, "I swear to God, you don't want me coming back."

Jenkins then got in his black Chevrolet HHR vehicle and pulled out of ██████ driveway. He then immediately pulled back into the driveway and came to the front door again. He picked up a white lawn chair and threatened to throw it through the window. At that time, ██████ told ██████ to call the police. ██████ then went outside to talk to Jenkins. As she opened the door, he grabbed her arm pulling her outside and to the ground. She observed Jenkins head towards ██████ Jenkins then punched him in the face. ██████ got up and fought with Jenkins, eventually jumping on his back in an attempt to distract him from hitting ██████ who had come to her rescue. Jenkins broke away and walked towards his car and said on the way that he had his gun and would be waiting. He then left.

After leaving, Jenkins texted ██████ not to call the police. He said that this was the end of him, his last night, and ██████ should tell his daughter he loved her. ██████ indicated that multiple times in the past he had made statements about being upset over the police having taken his firearms (in the RPO) and would either kill himself or do suicide by cop rather than give up his rights to his firearms.

Deputy Gandee-Lunsford and Deputy Zanandrie responded to the 911 call of ██████ security system and to the 911 call of ██████ They interviewed ██████ and ██████ and developed probable cause to arrest Chad Jenkins for battery and child abuse. Deputy Gandee-Lunsford confirmed that the RPO on Jenkins had expired and ██████ told the officers

that Jenkins often carried his firearm on him. The deputies then put out a BOLO for Jenkins.

Deputy Gandee-Lunsford called Corporal Hunter about the domestic violence and the threats by Jenkins. Deputy Gandee-Lunsford made Corporal Hunter aware of the potential for firearms and violence with officers. Corporal Hunter and Sergeant McHugh then went to the scene.

The Sergeant, the Corporal, and the two responding deputies met up near ██████ residence. They had Deputy Coleman stay with ██████ and ██████ house. Sergeant McHugh, on the way to this meeting, drove by Chad Jenkins' residence and confirmed that Jenkins' HHR and his white Ford Expedition were in the driveway of his residence. The four deputies devised a plan of action to approach Jenkins' house, knowing that Jenkins may be armed. The plan was for Corporal Hunter to provide cover and security from across the street while the other three deputies approached Jenkins' residence. When the three deputies attained a point close enough to the residence, they would call Jenkins and have him exit the house so they could safely arrest him.

Corporal Hunter was given a minute and a half head start to set up his concealed position opposite Jenkins' residence. As they began to approach, all officers turned on their body cameras. As Corporal Hunter got into place, he saw Jenkins exit his residence and get into his black HHR. The vehicle's lights came on and Corporal Hunter was in fear that Jenkins may be returning to ██████ residence. Corporal Hunter warned the other deputies of this change in circumstance. Corporal Hunter began to rapidly approach the driver's side of the HHR, and the other three deputies also began running towards Jenkins' vehicle.

As Corporal Hunter approached the HHR, with his rifle in the up and ready position, he noticed the driver's side door was open. He shouted multiple commands to Jenkins not to move. Ignoring his commands, Jenkins, who was partially obscured from Corporal Hunter's view, began to make furtive movements within the vehicle, reaching towards the glove box on the passenger side. As Corporal Hunter moved closer to the open car door, he saw a firearm in the right hand of Chad Jenkins. Jenkins turned and looked at Corporal Hunter and pointed the firearm at him. Corporal Hunter, afraid of being shot, immediately fired his SIG 516 rifle multiple times at Jenkins. As this was occurring, the other three deputies were arriving on foot at the HHR in the driveway. Deputy Gandee-Lunsford was located on the rear passenger side of the vehicle when Corporal Hunter began shooting. Fearing for his safety as well as Corporal Hunter's, Deputy Gandee-Lunsford fired his department issued Glock pistol multiple times from his location at the right rear bumper area of the vehicle. A review of the body camera footage from Corporal Hunter shows as Jenkins is being shot, he dropped the gun from his right hand onto the floor of the HHR.

The deputies removed Jenkins from the vehicle and immediately called fire rescue. The deputies applied tourniquets and CPR until the arrival of the fire rescue units. Fire rescue personnel pronounced Jenkins deceased at the scene and Jenkins never made any verbal statements after the shooting.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the glove box of the HHR was open. It was the opinion of law enforcement officers that when Corporal Hunter saw the furtive movements by Jenkins, that those movements were the reaching over to the glove box and retrieving the 9 mm Taurus that was pointed towards Corporal Hunter. When the Taurus was recovered, it had one spent round in the ejection port (not properly ejected). The gun was loaded with 11 live rounds. Forensics found one hole in the roof of the HHR that could not have come from shots fired by Corporal Hunter or Deputy Gandee-Lunsford and appears to be fired

from the 9 mm Taurus held by Jenkins. Additionally, a Smith and Wesson .380 was found in Jenkins' right front pocket. It contained one live round in the chamber and six live rounds in the magazine.

An autopsy was performed by Dr. Noel Agudo, who concluded that Jenkins died of multiple gunshot wounds. There were six penetrating wound tracks and eight perforating wound tracks. The toxicology lab work as part of this autopsy has yet to be completed but would have no bearing on the outcome of this investigation, nor any bearing on Dr. Agudo's determination of manner and cause of death.

As a result of this investigation, I have determined that Corporal Hunter and Deputy Gandee-Lunsford were in the lawful performance of their legal duties when they confronted Chad Jenkins. Jenkins had recently committed domestic battery and the felony offense of child abuse. When confronted by Pinellas County Sheriff's Office deputies, he pointed a firearm at Corporal Hunter. Jenkins' failure to follow commands by Corporal Hunter, raising and pointing his firearm towards Corporal Hunter, and discharging a round constituted the forcible felonies of Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer and Attempted Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer. Deputy Gandee-Lunsford was also justified in his belief that Corporal Hunter and his fellow deputies were in danger of death or great bodily harm; therefore, Corporal Hunter and Deputy Gandee-Lunsford shot Chad Jenkins while in the performance of their legal duties and the death constitutes justifiable Homicide under §776.012

This letter may be released to the news media or utilized for any official purpose that you may desire.

Kind regards,



Bruce Bartlett
State Attorney

BB:DRE/cr