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November 8, 2018

Chief Nicholas Metz
Aurora Police Department
15001 E. Alameda Pkwy.
Aurora, CO 80012

Re: Officer-involved shooting of Antonio Sanchez, Jr. (DOB: █████1982)
Aurora Police Case Number 2018-25557
Date: June 29, 2018
Location: E. 6th Ave. and Billings St., city of Aurora, county of Arapahoe

Dear Chief Metz,

I have completed my review of the June 29, 2018 officer-involved shooting of Antonio Sanchez, Jr. (DOB: █████1982) by officers of the Aurora Police Department. The following are my factual and legal findings based on my review of the case investigation completed by Detective T. Fredrickson of the Aurora Police Department and Detective D. Tregembo of the Denver Police Department. My review includes law enforcement radio and dispatch calls, reports, witness and law enforcement interviews, scene photographs, surveillance footage, attendance at a Critical Response Team (CRT) presentation, and review of body worn camera footage of numerous responding deputies.

June 28, 2018 shooting – 15400 E. 14th Pl. (Aurora, Colorado)

On June 28, 2018, at approximately 3:18 p.m., Aurora Police Department dispatch aired a “walk-in” gunshot wound at Children’s Hospital, located at 13123 E. 16th Ave., Aurora Colorado. The victim, J.B., had sustained gunshot wounds to the right knee and left forearm, respectively. Investigation revealed Antonio Sanchez, Jr. (DOB: █████1982) shot victim J.B. while the two were in the parking lot of 15400 E. 14th Pl., Aurora Colorado. J.B. survived the shooting.

Aurora Police interviewed witness S.B., a current girlfriend of J.B. and ex-girlfriend of Sanchez, Jr. According to S.B., while she and J.B. were in the parking lot of 15400 E. 14th Pl., J.B. recognized and observed Sanchez, Jr. as a backseat passenger in a blue Dodge Durango¹. J.B. approached Sanchez, Jr. with the intention of inquiring whether Sanchez, Jr. knew the location of a mutual friend. J.B. was unarmed. As J.B. approached the blue Durango, Sanchez, Jr. drew a black semi-automatic handgun and fired between 5 to 6 times, striking J.B. in the right knee and

¹ Subsequent investigation, including video surveillance, indicates the sport utility vehicle containing Sanchez, Jr. was actually a green Nissan Armada, not a blue Dodge Durango. Because witness S.B. indicated Sanchez, Jr. was in a blue Dodge Durango, such vehicle is mentioned for purposes of this letter when described by S.B.

left forearm. The blue Durango then fled the area.² J.B. was taken to Children's Hospital for treatment.

S.B. theorized the shooting was over her, as Sanchez, Jr. often displayed character traits such as possessiveness and jealousy towards others with respect to her. S.B. identified Sanchez, Jr. as the shooter, both verbally and through positive identification via a six-pack photo lineup provided by members of the Aurora Police Department.

At 9:24 p.m., Aurora Police Department Captain S. Redfearn disseminated a high importance officer safety BOLO³ message throughout the Aurora Police Department via the Police High Priority Notification email list. The email indicated "Antonio Sanchez (DOB █████82)" had been positively identified as the shooter in the earlier incident, indicating Sanchez, Jr. was "ARMED" and "(S)uspect knows victim survived and may try to finish the job." Further investigation revealed Sanchez, Jr. also had an active warrant at the time out of Adams County for a drug violation (Adams County District Court case number 17 CR 1910) and a failure to appear trespass warrant issued by the Denver Marshall's Office.

Aurora Police Department Detective J. McDonald was assigned as primary detective to the June 28, 2018 shooting (Aurora Police Department case investigation number 2018-25421). Detective McDonald was later able to observe surveillance footage from near the shooting scene, which showed an individual located in the backseat of a Nissan Armada draw a handgun from his lap area, point the weapon out the window, and fire approximately 5 times (based on the recoil of the shooters arms). Several casings were recovered from the scene and collected as evidence and for comparison purposes.

June 29, 2018 Officer-Involved Shooting – E. 6th Ave. and Billings St. (Aurora, Colorado)

The morning of June 29, 2018, members of Aurora Police Department's FAST⁴ unit were notified of the events the day earlier involving at-large suspect Sanchez, Jr. Members of FAST began efforts to locate and apprehend Sanchez, Jr. As no guns were recovered from the incident the day before, FAST believed Sanchez, Jr. to be armed and dangerous. At approximately 11:45 a.m., FAST member Officer (Ofc.) A. Woodbury (Aurora Police Department) observed a grey Nissan Maxima stop at 1048 S. Fairplay Way and immediately observed and identified Sanchez, Jr. as exiting the backseat passenger side.

² According to S.B., others were inside the Durango aside from Sanchez, Jr., including a driver. S.B. was unable to identify any other parties inside the Durango.

³ "Be on the lookout".

⁴ "Fugitive Apprehension and Surveillance Team".

Officer Woodbury was able to identify Sanchez, Jr. in large part based on a large distinctive tattoo across Sanchez, Jr.'s forehead (image below).



Ofc. Woodbury observed two females in the front driver and front passenger seats of the Maxima, with Sanchez, Jr. in the backseat. Based upon Ofc. Woodbury's positive identification, he and other members of FAST began pursuit of the Maxima. At approximately 12:14 p.m., officers attempted a felony traffic stop just north of E. Alameda Ave. and S. Peoria St., near the Aurora Hills Golf Course. Sanchez, Jr. was observed to have appeared from the backseat, physically forced the female driver from the moving vehicle, and began eluding pursuing officers. At the same time, the female passenger also exited the moving vehicle, leaving Sanchez, Jr. as the sole occupant and driver of the fleeing Maxima. Higher command within the Aurora Police Department authorized pursuit of Sanchez, Jr.

Civilian witness M.N. was later interviewed by law enforcement. M.N. was at the softball fields near E. Alameda Ave. and S. Peoria St. when he/she observed a vehicle "driving erratically, being pursued by the police." M.N. then observed a female fall out of the moving vehicle, and observed "what appeared to be a handgun in the driver's left hand," with the vehicle driving erratically. According to M.N., the driver "had the handgun on the steering wheel as he (male) was driving," never pointing the handgun at anyone. M.N. described the handgun as black in color, identifying the driver as a "dark-skinned male with a short beard."

The original female driver of the Nissan Maxima, J.F., was contacted and interviewed by law enforcement. According to J.F., on the morning of June 29th, her friend O.C. asked her to drive a male (later identified as Sanchez, Jr.) around to buy methamphetamine. J.F. and O.C. picked up Sanchez, Jr. at approximately E. 11th Ave. and Jamaica St. Sanchez, Jr. sat in the backseat of the vehicle. The trio went around an apartment complex in the approximate area of E. Mississippi Ave. and S. Chambers Rd.⁵ While at the apartment complex, Sanchez, Jr. exited the vehicle, purchased methamphetamine, and returned to the vehicle and began smoking the methamphetamine in the backseat. As the trio began to drive away from the apartment complex, Sanchez, Jr. "became paranoid" they were being followed by the police. As law enforcement

⁵ 1048 S. Fairplay Way (Aurora), where Officer Woodbury observed Sanchez, Jr. exit the Nissan Maxima, is located approximately ½ block west from the major intersection of E. Mississippi Ave. and S. Chambers Rd.

attempted to pull the Maxima over, Sanchez, Jr. “reached for something on his right hip area as though he had a gun,” stated “if you stop, they are going to kill me,” and ordered J.F. to elude the police. When J.F. refused, Sanchez, Jr. jumped into the front seat and pushed her out of the moving car.⁶ J.F. fell out and landed on the ground while the vehicle drove away. When questioned by law enforcement, J.F. had no knowledge of the June 28th shooting and confirmed Sanchez, Jr. did not have permission to take her car.⁷ J.F. subsequently identified Sanchez, Jr. via photo as the individual who pushed her out of the moving vehicle and sped away in her car. J.F. specifically indicated she did not see Sanchez, Jr. with a gun during the incident, but that Sanchez, Jr. made movements as if he had a gun in his right hip area.

The front passenger in the Nissan Maxima was O.C., a juvenile. According to O.C., she previously knew Sanchez, Jr., who contacted her earlier the morning of June 29th for a ride. Sanchez, Jr. told her “I did something yesterday and the Feds might be looking for me in a day or two,” but wouldn’t tell her specifically to what he was referring. She and J.F. took Sanchez, Jr. to the apartment complex at E. Mississippi Ave. and S. Chambers Rd., where he left the vehicle for about 15 minutes. Upon returning to the vehicle, the trio began to leave the area and the police tried to stop them. Sanchez, Jr. ordered J.F. to drive faster, which she declined. Sanchez, Jr. then jumped into the driver’s seat and pushed J.F. out of the moving vehicle. O.C. saw this and jumped out of the car herself. O.C. then saw Sanchez, Jr. drive off with J.F.’s vehicle, with police pursuing behind with lights and sirens audible and visible. O.C. positively identified Sanchez, Jr. to law enforcement. O.C. denied Sanchez, Jr. smoked methamphetamine in the vehicle. While she admitted observing Sanchez, Jr. with a black semi-automatic handgun in his front waistband, she denied he pulled out the gun during incident.

Numerous Aurora Police Department vehicles pursued Sanchez, Jr. Video surveillance footage from the RTD Light Rail station at E. 2nd Ave. and Abilene St. shows Sanchez, Jr. fleeing Aurora Police patrol vehicles with activated lights. The pursuit continued to E. 6th Ave. and Billings St, specifically to an A-B Petroleum (“Sinclair”) gas station located at 14401 E. 6th Ave. Over 20 Aurora Police vehicles, both marked and unmarked, arrived on scene. The Aurora Police Department patrol vehicle immediately behind Sanchez, Jr., driven by Ofc. D. Hunt, performed a PIT maneuver,⁸ forcing Sanchez, Jr. to lose control and the Maxima to slide sideways. The Maxima came to rest behind the Sinclair station. Several officers exited their vehicles to confront Sanchez, Jr. Ofc. D. Hunt, Ofc. T. Raines, and Sgt. G. Garcia would ultimately discharge their service weapons into the Maxima.

While there were several civilians in the area at the time of the shooting, only civilian witness A.F. appears to have actually seen the officer shooting. A.F. was parked at the east side gas pumps at the Sinclair station when he/she observed a man being chased by police “trying to get something from his passenger seat, and that is when officers started shooting.” A.F. did not specifically see Sanchez, Jr. holding anything.

⁶ J.F. indicated the rear doors had engaged child locks, so Sanchez, Jr. would not have been able to open the rear doors from inside the vehicle.

⁷ The Nissan Maxima was determined to be legally registered to J.F.

⁸ Pursuit Intervention Technique.

Ofc. Hunt was interviewed as part of the investigation in this case. At the time of law enforcement pursuit of Sanchez, Jr., he was with this Field Training Officer (FTO) Ofc. T. Raines. They both heard the airing over the service radio of the pursuit involving Sanchez, Jr. Ofc. Hunt was familiar with Sanchez, Jr. as he earlier received the department-wide BOLO about the previous day's shooting. Being nearby, they joined the pursuit of Sanchez, Jr., with Ofc. Hunt driving and Ofc. Raines as his front passenger. Near the Aurora Hills Golf Course, Ofc. Hunt observed Sanchez, Jr. crawl from the backseat, force the driver out as she was trying to pull over, and push her out of the vehicle. The female driver rolled out of the car as it was moving. Sanchez, Jr. got into the driver's seat and took control of the vehicle. As Sanchez, Jr. sped off, Ofc. Hunt was in the primary position in the pursuit, directly behind Sanchez, Jr., with lights and sirens engaged. Ofc. Hunt estimated the pursuit reached speeds of 50-60 mph. As the pursuit entered E. 6th Ave., Ofc. Hunt attempted a PIT maneuver, which was initially unsuccessful. Ofc. Hunt followed Sanchez, Jr. into the Sinclair gas station and attempted a second PIT maneuver, which successfully caused Sanchez, Jr. to abruptly turn sideways into the wall behind the gas station, coming to a complete stop. Ofc. Hunt pinned Sanchez, Jr.'s vehicle in the left rear trunk area, while another officer pinned the vehicle in the left, front area. Ofc. Hunt drew his weapon, and stood in the frame of the door of his patrol vehicle. Ofc. Hunt could see both driver's side windows of the suspect vehicle, and saw the driver's side window rolled completely down. Ofc. Hunt held Sanchez, Jr. at gunpoint, while other officers gave verbal orders. Ofc. Hunt observed Sanchez, Jr. begin to "frantically" search his car for something. According to Ofc. Hunt,

"I saw him start scrambling around on the passenger side, just kind of frantically looking around, reaching around...(F)rom there I saw him come up from the passenger side, from somewhere, I saw him come up with a gun, and he just kind of looked around, and I saw him make a move, facing toward the other officer that was there and that's when I fired."

Ofc. Hunt observed Sanchez, Jr. holding a small, black handgun. Ofc. Hunt believed he fired 3-4 rounds⁹ and stopped firing when Sanchez, Jr. stopped moving. Ofc. Hunt estimated it was 10-20 seconds from the time he first saw Sanchez, Jr. with a gun to the time he fired. After firing his weapon, Ofc. Hunt completed a tactical reload. Ofc. Hunt was concerned for his safety and the safety of others, reiterating he believed Sanchez, Jr. was armed and dangerous even before he observed the handgun, given the BOLO information provided to law enforcement.

Ofc. T. Raines was interviewed as part of the investigation in this case. Ofc. Raines noted there was no dash camera in the patrol vehicle driven by Ofc. Hunt. Ofc. Raines reiterated much of what Ofc. Hunt stated relating to the pursuit of Sanchez, Jr. Ofc. Raines was also aware of the BOLO for Sanchez, Jr. Ofc. Raines recalls command staff with the Aurora Police Department authorized the pursuit of Sanchez, Jr. after he sped away from law enforcement. Ofc. Raines noted Sanchez, Jr. was driving erratically, "all over the road," sometimes crossing into oncoming lanes of traffic. Lights and sirens were engaged throughout the pursuit. Sanchez, Jr. ran several red lights. Ofc. Raines noted traffic on E. 6th Ave. was backed up at Billings St., so Sanchez, Jr. turned into the Sinclair gas station. Ofc. Raines recalled the PIT maneuver used on the Maxima's right side, causing a 90-degree spin, impacting nose-in to the brick wall on the back side of the Sinclair gas station building. As Sanchez, Jr.'s vehicle came to a stop, Ofc. Raines exited the patrol vehicle on the passenger side with his pistol in his hand. Two other Aurora

⁹ Investigation revealed Ofc. Hunt fired 8 rounds.

police vehicles rammed Sanchez, Jr.'s vehicle, pinning it against the wall. Ofc. Raines then approached the trunk of Sanchez, Jr.'s vehicle, looking into the Maxima through the back window. Ofc. Raines noted the following:

“As I get out, as I’m pointing my gun, I see the suspect basically recoil from hitting the wall and as he comes back, he reaches down with his right hand (towards his right ankle), and comes up across his body. He’s coming across his body, I see he has a pistol in his hand. He turns to his left and starts pointing it out the window. I knew there were other officers to the left of me, so my immediate thought that, you know, that he was going to fire on the officers, so my concern was obviously for their safety, and everyone’s safety, so I immediately discharged my firearm into him at that time to stop his threat.”

Ofc. Raines stated he fired his weapon “because [Sanchez, Jr.] pointed his gun in the direction of Ofc. Hunt, as well as other officers in the area.” Ofc. Raines was concerned about numerous civilians in the area, as Sanchez, Jr. had already shown a clear disregard for others through his driving behavior and by his actions in the shooting the day before. While Sanchez, Jr. did not point his gun directly at Ofc. Raines, it was noted Ofc. Raines observed Sanchez, Jr. point his weapon at other officers. As such, Ofc. Raines was concerned for fellow officers’ safety. When asked, Ofc. Raines indicated while Sanchez, Jr. might have already had the gun in his hand when the vehicle stopped, it appeared he (Sanchez, Jr.) reached down to retrieve the handgun. Ofc. Raines first saw the handgun in Sanchez, Jr.’s hands as he leaned back upright. Ofc. Raines indicated he did not have time to give verbal commands, as it was a very quick time between when he (Ofc. Raines) first saw the gun in Sanchez, Jr.’s hands and when he began to fire what he believed to be 5-6 shots in rapid succession.¹⁰ Ofc. Raines stopped firing when Sanchez, Jr. slumped over and was no longer pointing the gun at any officers. Ofc. Raines did a tactical reload while other officers approached and removed Sanchez, Jr. from the Maxima. After he fired, Ofc. Raines activated his body worn camera.

Sgt. G. Garcia was interviewed as part of the investigation in this case. Sgt. Garcia knew about Sanchez, Jr. from a week prior, when a separate Aurora police officer tried to stop a green Nissan Armada near Colfax Ave. and Norfolk St., or 13th Ave. and Laredo St., both within the city of Aurora. The Armada fled at a high rate of speed prior to law enforcement contact. Several days later, Sgt. Garcia was informed of the green Armada associated with the June 28th shooting, featuring Sanchez, Jr. Sgt. Garcia attended a briefing the morning of June 29th, indicating extreme caution should be used when attempting to contact Sanchez, Jr., as he was considered a dangerous individual. Sgt. Garcia overheard the pursuit via Aurora police communications. At 2nd Ave., he observed Sanchez, Jr.’s vehicle “fly” past the intersection with a line of patrol cars pursuing. He joined the pursuit. After Sanchez, Jr. was stopped by Ofc. Hunt’s PIT maneuver, Sgt. Garcia stopped his vehicle approximately 8 feet from Sanchez, Jr, exited his vehicle, and drew his weapon. Sgt. Garcia observed Sanchez, Jr. sitting in his vehicle and had a “perfect view” of him. Sgt. Garcia noted:

“I see him reach, he’s in the driver’s seat of the vehicle facing forward. He’s reaching down. I’ve got a perfect view from this angle, down. I can see perfectly what he’s doing. He’s reaching down, and as soon, within a second of reaching down, he pulls up, I can

¹⁰ Investigation revealed Ofc. Raines fired 7 rounds.

tell it's a pistol, points at an officer. When he pulls a weapon and he aims, that's when I shoot.”

Sgt. Garcia believed he fired up to 5 times, in rapid succession through the right rear window of the Maxima¹¹. Sanchez, Jr. immediately dropped his arms, slumping forward into the steering wheel. Sgt. Garcia observed other officers pull Sanchez, Jr. out of the vehicle, place him in handcuffs, and begin chest compressions. Sgt. Garcia said Sanchez, Jr. had a “murderous intent, his intent was to shoot a cop. He pointed a handgun at the guy. I was left no choice but to do what I had to do.”

The above three Aurora Police Officers fired a total of 19 rounds in a span of approximately 5 seconds towards Sanchez, Jr.¹². It is not possible to determine which officer definitively shot first. Aurora Police Detective W. Miller and Denver Police Detective D. Tregembo administered bullet counts upon the weapons of Ofc. Hunt, Ofc. Raines and Sgt. Garcia and determined the following:

- Ofc. D. Hunt (9mm pistol) – 8 rounds fired
- Ofc. T. Raines (9mm pistol) – 7 rounds fired
- Sgt. G. Garcia (.45 caliber pistol) – 4 rounds fired

This bullet count was commensurate with evidence at the scene, with 19 spent shell casings were located and collected, four (4) being .45 caliber and fifteen (15) being 9mm. There was no evidence on scene to indicate Sanchez, Jr. fired his weapon.

Officers' life-saving measures were unsuccessful. Arapahoe County Coroner, Dr. Kelly Lear, performed the autopsy on Sanchez, Jr.¹³ She noted 10 gunshot wounds (GSW) to Sanchez, Jr.'s body, including one (1) perforating GSW to the back/left side of the head, with an exit to the right forehead; one (1) penetrating GSW to the left side of the neck; six (6) GSW's to the back torso area (five penetrating, one perforating); and two (2) perforating GSW's to the upper left arm. Lear recovered Five fired bullets and/or bullet fragments from various areas, including the chest, right shoulder, left hip/side, neck and right hip area. All GSW's were from an indeterminate range. In Sanchez, Jr.'s left front pocket, a Glock magazine was recovered containing 13 rounds of live .40 caliber ammunition. Sanchez, Jr.'s left rear pocket contained one live round of 9mm ammunition. Toxicology revealed Sanchez, Jr.'s blood methamphetamine concentration was 2533 ng/ml.

Several Aurora Police officers were wearing their department-issued body worn cameras. While several of the cameras capture Sanchez, Jr. driving into the Sinclair gas station, and some even capture the sounds of the shooting, no one camera captures the shooting visually. As an example:

- Ofc. D. Hunt's body worn camera was on at the time of the PIT maneuvers, with no sound, and on during the shooting, however due to positioning, recoil and tactical reloading, the shooting itself is not captured on the body worn camera.

¹¹ Investigation revealed Sgt. Garcia fired 4 rounds.

¹² According to audio and time stamps from surveillance video, shots were fired between 12:19:46 – 12:19:51 p.m.

¹³ Autopsy was performed July 2, 2018.

- Ofc. T. Raines' body worn camera was activated only after the shooting.
- Sgt. G. Garcia's body worn camera was activated only after the shooting, showing events after officers fired upon Sanchez, Jr.
- Ofc. K. Matthews' body worn camera captures officers pulling Sanchez, Jr. out of the car after officers fired.
- Ofc. E. Colwell's body worn camera captures the tail end of officers firing upon Sanchez, Jr., but does not capture Sanchez, Jr. being struck with any bullets.

The Sinclair gas station maintains numerous interior and exterior surveillance cameras, which were operational at the time of the officer-involved shooting. Interior surveillance cameras capture sounds of the shooting only. No exterior cameras were pointed in the direction of the location of the shooting. Still images from other exterior cameras do show Sanchez, Jr. entering the Sinclair gas station (circled in red) with Aurora Police closely behind.



Still images from the exterior cameras also show the PIT maneuver, forcing Sanchez, Jr.'s vehicle to slide sideways towards the back of the Sinclair station.



The Nissan Maxima was secured and searched by law enforcement. A black semi-auto handgun was located on the driver's side floorboard in plain view.



The recovered weapon was a Taurus PT111 G2, 9mm (SN TKW10914). The handgun had one round of 9mm ammunition in the chamber and 10 rounds of 9mm ammunition in its 12 round capacity magazine. The safety to the handgun was in the on position. The handgun was traced to an individual by the name of D.T., who was interviewed by APD Detective T. Frederickson. D.T. lawfully purchased the handgun in December, 2017. He told Frederickson the gun was stolen sometime prior, though he never reported the gun as stolen.

APD CSI A. Kelsey was able to find and preserve a comparable latent fingerprint from the recovered Taurus handgun¹⁴. APD Latent Print Examiner George Herrera compared the print from the gun to known prints of Sanchez, Jr. Herrera confirmed the print found on the recovered Taurus handgun matched Sanchez, Jr.'s left thumb. Examiner Danae Jackson corroborated the findings.

On August 13, 2018, technicians within the Aurora Police Department crime lab confirmed casings recovered from the June 28, 2018 shooting scene were fired by the Taurus handgun recovered from the Maxima.

On September 4, 2018, S.B., the ex-girlfriend of Sanchez, Jr., was further interviewed by Det. T. Fredrickson. Asked if Sanchez, Jr. disliked the police, S.B. replied, "Look, he wasn't gonna go back to prison." Sanchez, Jr. told her he would "go for the ride" and "whatever happens happens." S.B. added Sanchez, Jr. was not going to go down alive, and "would have done anything" if contacted by police. S.B. further recalled the morning of the officer-involved shooting, Sanchez, Jr. told S.B.'s mother "Guess what? I got him," presumably referring to the June 28th shooting of J.B.

Colorado law allows the use of physical force in defense of a person in specified circumstances. C.R.S. § 18-1-704 provides, in pertinent part:

- (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, a person is justified in using physical force upon another person in order to defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of unlawful physical force by that other person, and he may use a degree of force which he reasonably believes to be necessary for that purpose.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a person is not justified in using physical force if:
 - (a) With intent to cause bodily injury or death to another person, he provokes the use of unlawful physical force by that other person; or
 - (b) He is the initial aggressor; except that his use of physical force upon another person under the circumstances is justifiable if he withdraws from the encounter and effectively communicates to the other person his intent to do so, but the latter nevertheless continues or threatens the use of unlawful physical force; or

¹⁴ Two additional latent fingerprints were recovered from the magazine seated within the Taurus handgun, however were determined to be unsuitable for comparison by Latent Print Examiner Herrera.

- (c) The physical force involved is the product of a combat by agreement not specifically authorized by law.

In this circumstance, the evidence shows Ofc. Hunt, Ofc. Raines, and Sgt. Garcia were legally justified in their use of deadly physical force in defense of themselves or a third person when they fired their service weapons at Antonio Sanchez, Jr. All three officers reasonably believed unlawful physical force by Sanchez, Jr. was imminent upon themselves or another, and used a degree of force necessary to negate such unlawful physical force.

Accordingly, I find the June 29, 2018 actions of the officers legally justified under Colorado law.

Sincerely,

Jacob Edson

Jacob Edson
Chief Deputy District Attorney

Cc: by fax, e-mail or mail as indicated below:

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