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## **Prosecutor Concludes LPD Officer's Actions Were Justified in March 31<sup>st</sup> Officer Involved Shooting**

Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon today released the results of an independent investigation of the officer involved shooting which took place on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 in the 2900 block of S. Martin Luther King. The shooting resulted in the wounding of Michael Magik Jones, a 25-year-old Holt man.

In accordance with the Lansing Police Department (LPD) standard department protocol, the Michigan State Police (MSP) conducted an independent investigation of the officer involved shooting incident. The results of the MSP investigation were turned over to the Ingham County Prosecutors Office (ICPO) for review.

The following Lansing Police Officers have been on Administrative Leave since the incident, which is standard LPD protocol:

**Sergeant Jason Spoelma**- 11 year veteran  
**Detective Michael Schulte**- 21 year veteran  
**Officer Sarah Willson**- 10 year veteran

The independent MSP investigation and review process by the Ingham County Prosecutors' Office determined that the actions of the LPD officers involved in the shooting were lawful and justified given the criminal actions of Michael Jones. Prosecutor Siemon stated, *"I conclude that Officer Sarah Willson, Sergeant Jason Spoelma and Detective Michael Schulte acted reasonably when they discharged their weapons because they were defending themselves against a reasonable threat of death and/or serious bodily injury perpetrated by the accused."*

Chief Yankowski noted that in accordance with LPD policies and procedures the internal investigation was suspended until the criminal review concluded and is now currently underway. Based on the MSP findings and the conclusion of the independent investigation by the Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney, all three officers have returned to full duty effective today. The internal investigation is expected to be completed in a timely manner, as the MSP investigation has answered the overwhelming majority of questions related to this incident. LPD's internal investigation will address any unanswered policy-related matters. Once the internal investigation is completed, an Internal Review Board will also convene.

*"The top priority of the Lansing Police Department is to prevent the loss of life and protect the public at all times. While no police officer looks forward to circumstances that might force them to discharge their firearm, I am pleased that Prosecutor Siemon reached the conclusion that the officers were justified in discharging their firearms in defense of their lives and others around them. Furthermore, the officers' action immediately after having to defend their lives was to render lifesaving measures, utilizing tourniquets and first aid, which ultimately saved Jones' life. I want to commend the actions of the men and women from the Lansing Police Department for their bravery, courage, and professionalism during this violent encounter." stated Police Chief Mike Yankowski.*

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