

News Release

Steven B. Wolfson, District Attorney

Christopher Lalli, Assistant District Attorney Mary Ann Miller, County Counsel Teresa Lowry, Assistant District Attorney

District Attorney's Office • (702) 671-2700 • FAX (702) 868-2415 • www.ClarkCountyNV.gov

Contact: Tess Driver Phone: (702) 671-2700

Fax: Clark County District Attorney's Office (702) 868-2415

E-mail: DAInfo@ClarkCountyDA.com

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DA Releases Report on Ketmany Death

The Clark County District Attorney's Office has determined that the actions of the police officers involved in the July 23, 2013, death of Southaly Ketmany were reasonable and legally justified.

According to the report released today, a Las Vegas resident came home that day to find a stranger, later identified as Ketmany, sitting on his couch watching television and holding a knife. The resident called police, who ultimately confronted Ketmany inside the home. Ketmany, who was armed with a knife and a hammer, did not comply with the officers' commands and officers' attempts to subdue Ketmany with a Taser and rubber bullets were not successful. The police officers shot Ketmany when he ran towards them.

Ketmany, who lived in Sacramento, was visiting Las Vegas with family and friends and then went missing a few days before the fatal confrontation.

"The police officers' attempts to end the confrontation peacefully were ignored by Mr. Ketmany who was armed with a hammer and knife when he charged at the officers, leaving them no choice but to defend themselves," District Attorney Steve Wolfson said. "While it is certainly sad whenever someone loses their life, I am thankful that the homeowner and the officers were not injured that day."

A Police Fatality Public Fact-Finding Review was conducted in this incident on June 16, 2014. Clark County Code mandates such a review when a police-involved death occurs, and the prosecutor preliminarily determines that no criminal prosecution of the officer is appropriate.

The determination that the officers acted lawfully in this situation is based upon the evidence available at this time. The case could be reexamined if new information comes to light.

The full report is available on the District Attorney's Web page.

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