

News Release

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For Immediate Release

Friday, January 10, 2014

DA Releases Review of Torres' Death

The Clark County District Attorney's Office has determined that the actions of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers involved in the Feb. 8, 2013 death of Roberto Torres were reasonable and legally justified.

"Mr. Torres shot his pregnant girlfriend in the head just two days prior to his death. As a result, a felony arrest warrant was issued for Mr. Torres for the crimes of Attempted Murder with Use of a Deadly Weapon and Battery Domestic Violence." District Attorney Steve Wolfson said. "When officers attempted to arrest him, Mr. Torres pulled a handgun and fired at the officers, threatening the lives of the officers and the innocent citizens nearby."

According to the review released today, Metro officers were conducting surveillance on an apartment complex where they believed Mr. Torres was residing. Mr. Torres was a known member of a criminal street gang out of Los Angeles, Calif. and had previously spent time in prison for violent crimes. When officers saw him exit an apartment and enter into the parking lot, the order was given to move in and arrest him. As the officers identified themselves and approached Mr. Torres, he pulled a handgun from his waistband and fired at them. Officers returned fire and struck Mr. Torres multiple times. He was transported to UMC Trauma Center and pronounced dead shortly after arrival. The autopsy report noted he had methamphetamine in his blood, which is a D.E.A. Schedule II stimulant drug capable of causing hallucinations, aggressive behavior and irrational reactions.

A Police Fatality Public Fact-Finding Review was conducted on Nov. 15, 2013, and the report released today is meant to be considered in conjunction with that Review.

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 review is available on the District Attorney's Web page.

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