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Preliminary Status Report of Danbury State's Attorney Stephen J. Sedensky III concerning the Use of Deadly Force by a Derby Police Officer on April 26, 2021 and Information Regarding Body Camera Video

On the morning of April 26, 2021 at approximately 7:15 a.m. Corneilius McCullough and a juvenile approached Derby Police Officer Patrick Foley. Officer Foley was in his police car near the corner of Division Street and Atwater Ave. at the Ansonia / Derby line.

Preliminary information collected by the Connecticut State Police indicates that after an initial interaction, the armed Mr. McCullough fired his handgun. Officer Foley fired his own handgun, injuring Mr. McCullough. Mr. McCullough was taken to Bridgeport Hospital and is recovering from his injury. An apparently unrelated passing car was struck by Mr. McCullough's gunfire. The occupant of that car was not injured. A revolver, not belonging to Officer Foley, was recovered from the scene.

Mr. McCullough is a 29-year-old black male of unknown ethnicity. Results from toxicology tests on Mr. McCullough were not available at the time this report was written. Records indicate that Mr. McCullough also has "Corneilus" and Cornelius" as spellings for his first name. Officer Foley is a 35-year-old white male with 13 years of service. Derby police officers do not have body cameras, nor dash cameras at this time, so no video of the incident is available.

Ansonia/Milford State's Attorney Margaret Kelley and myself requested that the Connecticut State Police conduct the factual investigation. Any offenses committed by Mr. McCullough will be handled by State's Attorney Kelley. I will be handling the evaluation of the use of force by Officer Foley. Mr. McCullough was arrested on firearm charges for which he is presumed innocent.

While this preliminary report is not required by statute, it is issued in the spirit of P.A. 20-1, Sections 19 (f) and 34 (a) (4), July Special Session.

April 28, 2021
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Stephen J. Sedensky III

State's Attorney, Judicial District of Danbury