



JIM STRICKLAND
MAYOR

DIVISION OF POLICE SERVICES

January 18, 2018

Virginia Wilson
Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board
3030 Poplar Avenue
HR-RM L42
Memphis, Tennessee 38111

Re: ISB FILE # I 2016-003

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

I have reviewed the Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board's addendum to their findings and recommendations regarding the complaint filed by Mr. Reginald Johnson, Sr. regarding an incident that occurred on February 8, 2016. The Board unanimously voted to sustain Mr. Johnson's complaint against the officers of the Memphis Police Department. The Board recommended corrective action and additional training regarding warrantless entries to private homes and the use of excessive force.

The Board references a video recording which depicts the victim making entry into the residence; and immediately thereafter, the responding officers enter into the home. Unfortunately, the video does not include audio. The Board has indicated the officers' statements are inconsistent with what appears on the video. Despite the conclusions reached by the Board in their addendum, I stand by the findings I previously submitted to the Board for the following reasons:

- The officers began their preliminary investigation into the shooting by questioning the shooting victim outside the residence.
- Mr. Johnson interfered with the preliminary investigation when he encouraged the shooting victim to enter into his residence and no longer cooperate with the responding officers.
- When Mr. Johnson encouraged the shooting victim to make entry into his home and cease cooperating with the investigation officers, exigent circumstances did exist for the investigating officers to make entry into the home to continue

gathering facts about the shooting and to ensure medical care was rendered to the victim.

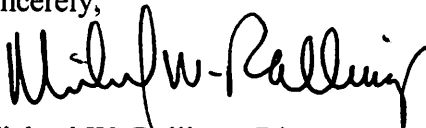
- Mr. Johnson directly interfered with an active shooting investigation by the officers who responded to his call for police services.
- Additionally, Mr. Johnson's actions also potentially put the shooting victim and the responding officers in jeopardy due to the fact that at that time, the officers were making an effort to identify the possible shooter and ascertain the exact location of the shooting.
- After officers entered the residence, Mr. Johnson attempted to assault the officers who were lawfully inside the residence; and force was used to subdue Mr. Johnson, who was then placed under arrest for Assault, Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Official Detention.
- The shooting victim exited the residence after officers engaged Mr. Johnson inside the residence.

This incident was the result of the actions of Mr. Reginald Johnson, Sr. He directly interfered with an official investigation of a shooting conducted by the officers dispatched to his residence.

As to the Board's recommendation that additional training on warrantless entries and the use of force be provided to officers, such training is and will continue to be provided during the Department's yearly In-Service Training. These specific areas of training are critically important; and I am committed to ensuring that all sworn officers are properly trained to operate within the law and the policies and procedures of the Memphis Police Department.

Based upon the above findings, I will take no additional action as to the Board's recommendations regarding the complaint of Mr. Reginald Johnson, Sr.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Rallings, Director
Memphis Police Department

cc: Zayid A. Saleem, Police Legal Advisor