



# Prosecutor Provides Update on Officer-Involved Critical Incident Investigation of Lebanon Man

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced that the Warren County Prosecutor's Office has concluded its investigation into the officer-involved critical incident that occurred on June 17, 2023 that resulted in the death of Dione Kellum.

“After careful review of all the facts and evidence, I have concluded that the application of the use of deadly force by the officer from the Lebanon Division of Police and the deputy from the Warren County Sheriff's Office was objectively reasonable under the circumstances as defined by *Tennessee v. Garner*, 471 U.S. 1 (1985) and *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989). Therefore, our office will not be presenting this matter to the Warren County grand jury and this investigation will be considered closed,” Fornshell said.

On the evening of June 17, 2023, the Lebanon Police Department and the Warren County Sheriff's Office responded to a 911 call reporting that Dione Kellum was threatening a family with a firearm. Responding law enforcement officers encountered Kellum, who held a pistol to his own head while officers attempted repeatedly to de-escalate the situation. In addition to the pistol, Kellum was also armed with a shotgun.

Police body camera footage revealed that during the approximately 25-minute standoff, officers instructed Kellum over 100 times to put down his weapons. At one point during the extended encounter, Kellum fired a single round from his pistol into the ground. As officers continued to give orders for Kellum to put down his weapons, Kellum began to raise his shotgun and fired another round. At that time, the Lebanon police officer and the Warren County Sheriff's Office deputy each fired one round at Kellum. Kellum then fell to the ground, raised his pistol, and fired one round into his own head. Kellum was treated at the scene and then ultimately transported to Miami Valley Hospital, where he remained in critical condition until being pronounced deceased on June 19, 2023.

The Montgomery County Coroner's Office, who conducted the autopsy, determined that Kellum suffered two gunshot wounds to his left thigh, and a single gunshot wound to his head. The coroner's office concluded that Kellum's death was caused by the gunshot wound to the head, and ruled his death a suicide.



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