



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA

Stephanie Bridgett
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

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Following a detailed review of the case, the Shasta County District Attorney's Office has determined that Anderson Police Officers acted lawfully in the fatal shooting of Edward Parinella, 53, of Redding at the Anderson Motel 6 on March 26, 2017.

The role of the District Attorney in this matter is to evaluate all of the evidence obtained in the investigation and to reach a determination as to whether law enforcement's use of force was justified and lawful.

Consistent with countywide officer involved shooting protocol, the lead agency in this investigation was the Redding Police Department with the assistance of the Shasta County District Attorney's Office, Shasta County Sheriff's Office, and the California Highway Patrol. In conducting the investigation, Redding Police and allied agencies interviewed witnesses and collected physical evidence. Among the witnesses interviewed were all of the Anderson police officers involved in the incident. A key component of the evidence obtained was video surveillance footage from Motel 6 which captured the events leading up to, during, and after the shooting.

The incident began with Officer Finch driving through the parking lot of the Anderson Motel 6 located at 2861 McMurray Drive in Anderson at around 9:23 pm on the evening of March 26, 2017. As part of his normal patrol duties, Officer Finch checked the parking lot for any stolen vehicles. While conducting his check, Officer Finch located a white Dodge Ram pickup truck parked in the lot. A check of the truck's license plate showed that it had been reported stolen by Enterprise Rental Car three days prior after Parinella rented the truck over one month prior and never returned it.

Officer Finch then contacted motel staff to follow up on the stolen vehicle investigation. He learned that Parinella had arrived earlier that day in the stolen vehicle and had checked into Room 210. While speaking with motel staff in the parking lot, Officer Finch noticed that someone inside Room 210 briefly looked out the window in the direction of the police activity.

Upon being informed that Parinella was associated with a stolen vehicle, motel staff agreed to provide officers with a room key for Room 210 so that Parinella could be contacted by police and evicted from the motel premises.

Officer Finch then proceeded to Room 210. By this time Anderson Police Officers David Starkey, Tyler Spurgeon, and Sergeant Casey Day had also arrived to assist him. Starkey,

Spurgeon, and Finch proceeded upstairs to Room 210 while Sergeant Day took a position on the stairway landing.

After the three officers positioned themselves outside Room 210, Officer Finch began knocking loudly on the door and announcing his presence as a police officer, demanding that the occupant of the room answer the door. Officer Finch repeated his knocking and announcements for approximately one minute and 38 seconds. Parinella, who was later determined to be the only occupant of the room, gave no response to the knocking or verbal communications from Officer Finch. Several witnesses inside motel rooms reported hearing pounding and police announcements.

Having had no success in getting Parinella to answer the door, the officers made the decision to use the key card provided by motel staff to open the door and make contact with Parinella. The officers began to open the door.

While in the process of opening the door, the officers were immediately confronted by Parinella exiting the room and holding what was later identified as a 9mm semiautomatic handgun. Parinella exited the room and fired his gun, striking Officer Finch in the chest twice. Officers Finch, Spurgeon and Starkey fired their weapons, striking Parinella multiple times. The officers ceased firing as soon as Parinella was no longer a threat. Parinella died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. Officer Finch suffered only minor injuries due to the presence of his police-issued body armor.

Later investigation determined that the three officers fired a total of 19 rounds.

From the time the officers began to open the door to the time they ceased firing less than 10 seconds elapsed.

A thorough review of the evidence has shown that Officers Finch, Starkey, and Spurgeon were confronted by an armed suspect intent on provoking a fatal encounter with police. Mr. Parinella's death, while unfortunate, was a result of his own actions. The force used by the officers was necessary to protect themselves, each other, and the public. Their actions were justified and consistent with the law.