

**Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Kameron Zhaire Reed**  
**Inglewood Police Department**

**Officer Jordan Rodgers, #1046**

**J.S.I.D. File #21-0043**



**GEORGE GASCÓN**

**District Attorney**

**Justice System Integrity Division**

**September 25, 2023**

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: CHIEF MARK FRONTEROTTA  
Inglewood Police Department  
1 Manchester Boulevard  
Inglewood, California 90301

FROM: JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

SUBJECT: Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Kameron Zhaire Reed  
J.S.I.D. File #21-0043  
I.P.D. File #21-6027

DATE: September 25, 2023

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the January 30, 2021, non-fatal shooting of Kameron Zhaire Reed by Inglewood Police Department (IPD) Officer Jordan Rodgers. It is our conclusion that there is insufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Officer Rodgers did not act lawfully in self-defense or to apprehend a fleeing felon.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting at approximately 2:04 p.m. on January 30, 2021. The District Attorney Response Team responded to the location. They were given a briefing regarding the circumstances surrounding the shooting and a walk-through of the scene.

The following analysis is based on investigative reports, audio- and video-recorded interviews, firearm analysis reports, a recorded 9-1-1 call, crime scene laser scanner results, DNA analysis, surveillance videos, photographs, dispatch recordings, medical records, and witness statements submitted initially to this office by IPD Detectives Luis Rodriguez and Alejandro Cornejo on May 23, 2022.<sup>1</sup> Additional investigative materials were requested on July 21, 2023 and received on August 14, 2023. Officer Rodgers did not provide a voluntary statement, and no compelled statements were considered in this analysis.

### **FACTUAL ANALYSIS**

On January 30, 2021, at approximately 11:45 a.m., [REDACTED] was driving a black Lexus GX 460 while his mother, [REDACTED], sat in the back seat of the car. [REDACTED] stopped at a red light facing southbound on Prairie Avenue at Manchester Boulevard. A black Infiniti Q60 was stopped at the red light directly in front of the Lexus.

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<sup>1</sup> IPD officers were not equipped with body-worn video cameras at the time of the incident, nor were their cars equipped with digital in-car video systems.

According to [REDACTED], the light turned green but he could not drive forward because the Infiniti remained stopped at the light. [REDACTED] honked his horn at the Infiniti. After a few seconds, the Infiniti began to move forward slowly. Both cars crossed Manchester Boulevard. Miguel T. tried to drive around the Infiniti, but as he merged in and out of the lane in which both cars had been traveling, the Infiniti accelerated and sideswiped the Lexus on the right rear bumper.

[REDACTED] stated that he began to pull over to exchange information. The Infiniti pulled forward alongside the driver's side of the Lexus, and a woman in the Infiniti's front passenger seat, later identified as [REDACTED], lowered her window. She began yelling at [REDACTED]. The Infiniti stopped at an angle that prevented [REDACTED] from driving forward. The driver of the Infiniti, later identified as Kameron Zhaire Reed, then grabbed a firearm and pointed it at [REDACTED]. Reed fired once at [REDACTED] and immediately fled the scene at a high rate of speed. The gunshot struck the driver door.

[REDACTED] attempted to follow the Infiniti but soon lost sight of the car. When he later turned onto La Brea Boulevard, however, he saw the Infiniti driving northbound on La Brea Boulevard from Buckthorn Street. [REDACTED] told his mother to call 9-1-1 and report the incident. He also spotted a California Highway Patrol officer in the vicinity and flagged him down for assistance.

At approximately 12:00 p.m., IPD Officer Jordan Rodgers was dispatched to a radio call of an assault with a deadly weapon at Inglewood Avenue and Hillcrest Boulevard. IPD dispatchers advised that the victim was driving behind the suspect, who was driving a black Infiniti, and who had fired a gun at the victim.

Rodgers spotted a black Infiniti driving northbound on La Brea Boulevard past Beach Avenue at a high rate of speed. The Infiniti turned west on Hyde Park Boulevard and collided with a tree. Shortly after, Rodgers' patrol vehicle pulled up behind the Infiniti. Reed exited from the driver's side of the vehicle and Rodgers said he saw Reed armed with a blue steel handgun in his right hand.<sup>2</sup> Rodgers fired six rounds at Reed.<sup>3</sup>

IPD Officer Nathaniel Mann, the first officer to arrive on scene after Rodgers, stated that as he pulled up behind Rodgers' vehicle, he saw Rodgers standing outside of his patrol car and heard between two and five gunshots. He did not see Reed or what he was doing at the time. Mann did not know whether Reed was armed with a weapon and stated he could not see Reed clearly.

Reed ran westbound on Hyde Park Boulevard then north on Lamos Street, out of sight. The front passenger, [REDACTED], exited the car and was detained. [REDACTED] was later arrested but invoked her right to remain silent and did not provide a statement about the incident.

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<sup>2</sup> Rodgers did not give a voluntary statement detailing why he fired at Reed but, following the incident, he gave a brief public safety statement to an IPD sergeant in which he claimed to have seen a gun in Reed's hand. The gun recovered appears to be black and dark green rather than blue.

<sup>3</sup> Investigators took possession of and examined Rodgers' duty weapon, a Glock 17 9mm semiautomatic pistol. The gun was examined, test fired, and determined to be functional. It was found loaded with 17 live rounds in the magazine, plus one round in the chamber. Rodgers stated he had conducted a tactical reload at the scene. A second magazine, containing 11 live rounds, was found at the scene. Six casings that appeared to have originated from Rodgers' duty weapon were found at the scene. There is no evidence to suggest that Reed fired a weapon at Rodgers.

A crime scene and police containment was established in the area surrounding the traffic collision and the area where Reed was last seen running. A blood trail was discovered beginning on the north sidewalk of Hyde Park Boulevard east of Lamos Street, continuing through the Quality Equipment Rentals business located at [REDACTED], and down through several more businesses and streets.

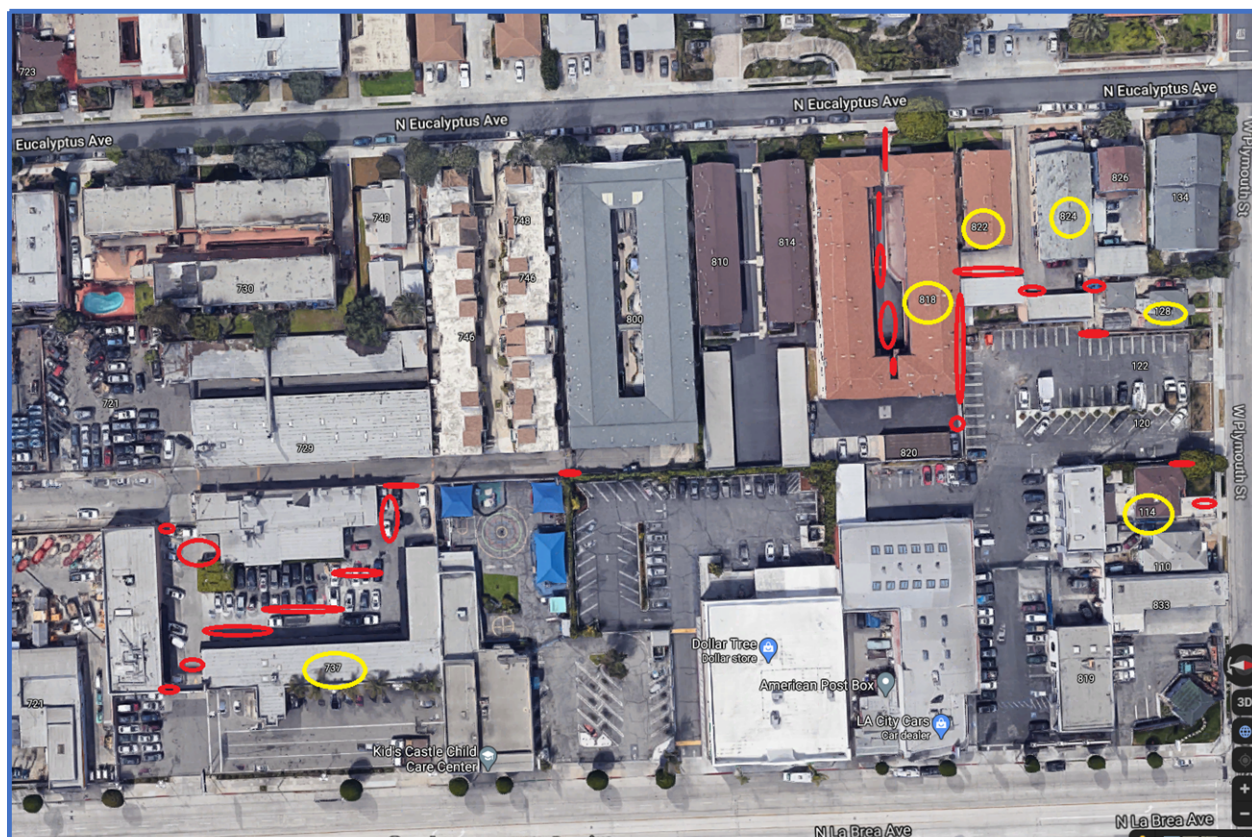


Fig. 1 — Map indicating where drops of blood (red circles) were found. Yellow circles mark relevant addresses.

A passerby informed officers that a man matching the description provided by [REDACTED] and other witnesses was hiding in the area of [REDACTED]. Officers searched the area and found Reed hiding beneath a car in a driveway. He was bleeding from a single gunshot wound to his left forearm. Officers placed a tourniquet on Reed's arm and arrested him after [REDACTED] positively identified him as the person who fired a weapon at the Lexus. He was transported to Centinela Medical Center, where he was treated for the gunshot wound. Reed invoked his right to remain silent and did not provide a statement about the incident.

Officers canvassed the area and spoke to several witnesses. Witness [REDACTED] told officers that he was sitting in a truck at the intersection of Hyde Park Boulevard and Lamos Street when he heard the sound of a loud crash. Seconds later, he looked in his rearview mirror and saw a man—Reed—running in his direction. While running, Reed appeared to grab something from his jacket.<sup>4</sup> [REDACTED] also saw Reed begin to turn his body around while holding his midsection.

<sup>4</sup> Surveillance video suggests that Reed was not wearing a jacket at the time of the incident.



He could not see anything in Reed's hands but believed he was trying to retrieve or hold something in his pocket. [REDACTED] then heard multiple gunshots.

[REDACTED] saw Reed get struck by gunfire, then saw him continue to run northbound on Lamos Street. He saw Reed move his right hand in a throwing motion over his head and throw an object that appeared to be a gun over the fence of Quality Equipment Rentals. A black and forest green semiautomatic handgun was later recovered from the property. Subsequent testing revealed the presence of Reed's DNA on the gun grip and magazine.



*Fig. 2 — Gun recovered from location.*

Another witness, [REDACTED], stated that he was in the area of Hyde Park Boulevard and La Brea Avenue with two coworkers when he heard a loud noise. He saw a man running in their direction and heard the sound of two to three gunshots. The man ran past them, turned on a different street, and ran out of sight. He did not see the man carrying anything in his hands.

On February 2, 2021, Reed was charged in case YA103275 with one count of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, one count of shooting at an occupied motor vehicle, one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, and one count of discharging a firearm from a motor vehicle. On April 12, 2021, Reed agreed to a plea bargain in which he was convicted of shooting at an occupied motor vehicle, placed on formal probation for two years, and sentenced to serve 146 days in the county jail.

### **Surveillance Video**

Surveillance video was recovered from several businesses located near the location of the incident. Surveillance video captured, from afar, Reed's Infiniti crash into a tree, followed shortly thereafter by Rodgers' patrol car pulling up from behind. The closest camera from which footage was recovered was located too far away from the incident to clearly capture the moment that Rodgers fired at Reed, though some detail can be discerned by zooming in on a small

portion of the video.

The video depicts the Infiniti's driver door open and Reed jump out and begin running westbound on Hyde Park Boulevard. Rodgers' driver door can be seen opening immediately afterward. Rodgers' body is obscured by the car door, but his feet can be seen stepping out of the car and appear to face Reed's direction. The precise moment that Rodgers fires is not clear.



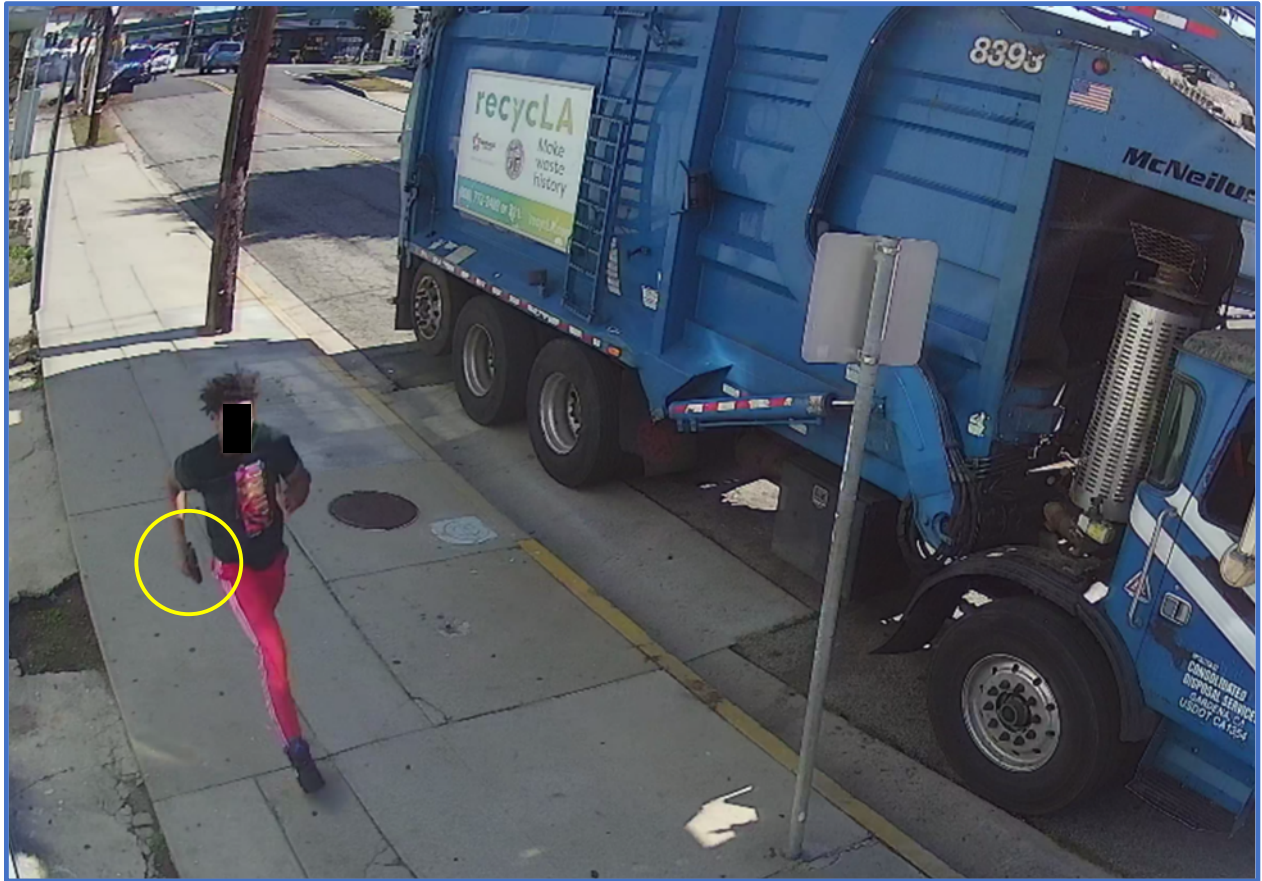
*Left, Fig. 3: Zoomed-in surveillance video still image depicting Reed's Infiniti the moment after the driver's door opened, with Rodgers' patrol vehicle pulled up behind.*

*Right, Fig. 4: Rodgers' patrol car driver door opens as Reed begins to run westbound on Hyde Park Boulevard.*

*Bottom, Fig. 5: Rodgers steps out of his patrol vehicle and appears to face Reed as Reed continues to run westbound on Hyde Park Boulevard.*



It is not clear from the video whether Reed has anything in his hands as he jumps out of the Infiniti, but as he runs down the street closer to the camera, a gun is clearly visible in his right hand.



*Fig. 6: Surveillance video still image depicting Reed running moments after the incident with a gun visible in his right hand.*

Another camera at the same location captured Reed continuing to run with gun in hand and appear to throw the gun over a nearby wall as described by witness [REDACTED]. Reed can then be seen running with nothing visible in his hands.



*Top, Fig. 7: Surveillance video still image depicting Reed gesturing as if to throw an object from his right hand.  
Bottom, Fig. 8: Still image depicting Reed immediately afterward, with his hands appearing to be empty.*

A camera located at Quality Equipment Rentals also captured Reed running through the property, holding his bleeding forearm, with no items visible in his hands.





Fig. 9: Surveillance video still image depicting Reed running through the grounds of Quality Equipment Rentals.

## LEGAL ANALYSIS

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others if the person claiming the right of self-defense or the defense of others actually and reasonably believed that he or others were in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. Penal Code § 197; *People v. Randle* (2005) 35 Cal. 4th 987, 994 (overruled on another ground in *People v. Chun* (2009) 45 Cal. 4th 1172, 1201); *People v. Humphrey* (1996) 13 Cal. 4th 1073, 1082; *see also*, CALCRIM No. 505.

A peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons: (1) to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person; or (2) to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Penal Code §§ 835a(c)(1)(A) & (B).

A threat of death or serious bodily injury is imminent when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily



injury to the peace officer or another person. An imminent harm is not merely a fear of future harm, no matter how great the fear and no matter how great the likelihood of the harm, but is one that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed. Penal Code § 835a(e)(2).

When considering the totality of the circumstances, all facts known to or perceived by the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force, are taken into consideration. Penal Code §§ 835a(a)(4) & (e)(3). The peace officer's decision to use force is not evaluated with the benefit of hindsight and shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force. Penal Code § 835a(a)(4).

The evidence examined in this investigation shows that Rodgers responded to a call for service regarding an assault with a deadly weapon near the intersection of Inglewood Avenue and Hillcrest Boulevard. Rodgers was aware that a suspect driving a black Infiniti had allegedly fired a gun at an occupied car. Rodgers spotted a black Infiniti that appeared to be moving at a high rate of speed and followed the car, which then crashed into a tree.

Surveillance video captured the crash, followed by Reed opening the driver door of the Infiniti and running down Hyde Park Boulevard away from Rodgers. Reed, Rodgers, and [REDACTED], who was located in the passenger seat of the Infiniti, all declined to give voluntary statements concerning the incident. The only other identified witness who saw the events close in time to the incident, [REDACTED], stated that he did not actually see Rodgers fire a gun at Reed, but said that in his rearview mirror, he could see Reed appearing to grab at an item from his jacket while turning his midsection, though he could not see anything in his hands at the time. [REDACTED] then heard gunshots.

Surveillance video captured some of the events surrounding the incident but is insufficient to clearly depict the shooting itself. Nevertheless, Rodgers' brief public safety statement, combined with both [REDACTED]'s statement and video clearly showing Reed running with a gun in hand shortly after the crash, suggests that Reed exited the Infiniti while holding or grabbing at a gun, which Rodgers saw.

Although Reed appears to have been running away from Rodgers at the time of the incident, it is unknown whether Reed at any point pointed the gun at Rodgers, made a verbal threat, or otherwise acted in an aggressive manner. The fact that Reed had the gun clearly in hand as he fled, coupled with Rodgers' knowledge that Reed had just used a gun to shoot at an occupied vehicle, supports a reasonable belief that the use of deadly force was necessary because Reed posed an imminent threat to Rodgers.

In the alternative, Rodgers could reasonably believe that Reed was a fleeing felon who posed an imminent threat to others located on the occupied, commercial street in the middle of the day. This belief would be supported both by the violent crime Reed was suspected to have committed immediately preceding the incident and the fact that he fled the car with gun in hand, rather than leaving the weapon in the car or carrying it in a more concealed manner.

The available evidence suggests that it was reasonable for Rodgers to perceive Reed as a threat based on the gun in his hand, either because Rodgers believed the gun would be used to assault him, or because he believed that, as a fleeing felon, Reed posed an imminent threat to others that needed to be instantly confronted and addressed. No evidence would contradict either justification for the shooting, and therefore the People would be unable to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Rodgers' use of deadly force to stop the threat was unlawful.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is our conclusion that there is insufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Officer Rodgers did not act lawfully in self-defense or to apprehend a fleeing felon.