

Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Jillian Shriner
Los Angeles Police Department

Officer Joshua Wolak, #44036

Officer Dorian Zhou, #45069

J.S.I.D. File #25-0096



NATHAN J. HOCHMAN

District Attorney

Justice System Integrity Division

July 15, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: CAPTAIN OMAR BAZULTO
Los Angeles Police Department
Force Investigation Division
100 West First Street, Suite 431
Los Angeles, California 90012

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

SUBJECT: Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Jillian Shriner
J.S.I.D. File #25-0096
L.A.P.D. File #F012-25

DATE: July 15, 2026

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the April 8, 2025, non-fatal shooting of Jillian Shriner by Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Officers Joshua Wolak and Dorian Zhou.

We have concluded Officers Wolak and Zhou acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others at the time they fired their service weapons reasonably believing based on the totality of the circumstances that deadly force was necessary to defend themselves and others against an imminent deadly threat.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting on April 8, 2025, at 7:55 p.m. The District Attorney's Response Team responded and was given a briefing and walk-through of the scene by LAPD Lieutenant David Smith.

The following analysis is based on radio calls, body worn camera video (BWV), investigative reports, audio recordings and transcripts of witness interviews, crime scene diagrams and photographs, toxicology reports, and surveillance video submitted to this office by LAPD Force Investigation Division (FID) Detectives Jenny Houser, Guillermo Medina, Francesca Flores, Damien Creel, and Justin Fuller, on May 14, 2026.

The compelled statements of Officers Wolak and Zhou were not considered as part of this analysis.

FACTUAL ANALYSIS

Summary

On April 8, 2025, at 3:05 p.m., California Highway Patrol (CHP) officers responded to a three-vehicle collision on a freeway in Eagle Rock. Three "hit and run" suspects ran from the scene and into a residential area.

CHP officers pursued the suspects, requested backup from the LAPD, and searched for the suspects. Witnesses reported one of the suspects was in the backyard of a residence. CHP Officer Marco Silva entered the backyard to search and LAPD Officers Wolak and Zhou joined him.

As the three uniformed officers were perched on a retaining wall looking into an adjacent yard, they observed subject Jillian Shriner armed with a pistol. Shriner armed herself after receiving a telephone call from her spouse indicating trespassers might be in their backyard. A surveillance image of Shriner exiting her residence with a gun is shown below:



Figure 1-Surveillance Image of Shriner Armed with a Handgun.

The officers issued numerous commands to Shriner to drop the gun. A surveillance video image showing Shriner armed with a pistol and facing the officers moments before the shooting is shown below:



Figure 2-Surveillance Video Image of Shriner Armed with a 9mm Semi-Automatic Handgun, Circled in Red, and Facing the Officers.

Shriner did not comply with the officers' commands, "racked" the gun, aimed it in the direction of the officers, and fired, as shown in the surveillance video image below:

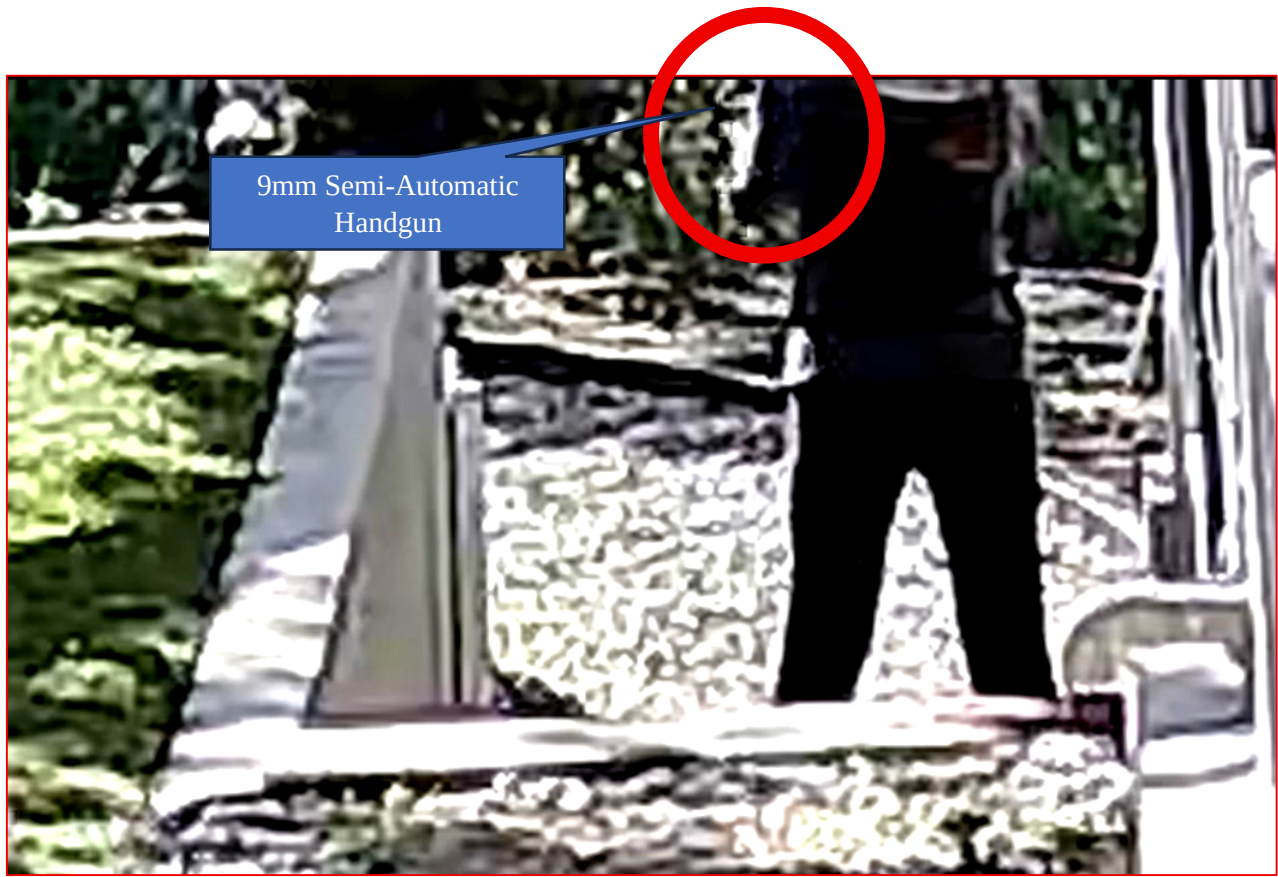


Figure 3 – Surveillance Video Image of Shriener Firing at the Officers.

Wolak and Zhou returned fire, striking Shriener in the left underarm. Silva did not fire his service weapon. Shriener's bullet did not strike the officers.

Shriener retreated into her residence, later surrendered to police, and was arrested. She received medical treatment for single through-and-through gunshot wound. A toxicology analysis was performed, and Shriener's blood alcohol content was determined to be .21 percent. She also had the presence of cannabinoids, alprazolam, and nordiazepam in her bloodstream.¹

Shriener was charged in case number 25CJCF02634 with discharge of a firearm with gross negligence and assault with a semi-automatic firearm. She was placed in the mental health diversion program pursuant to Penal Code section 1001.36, and is receiving mental health treatment. A progress report is scheduled for December 4, 2026.

¹ Alprazolam and Nordiazepam are central nervous system depressants.

Firearms Evidence

Shriner was armed with a 9mm Glock Model 19 semi-automatic handgun. When recovered, the gun was loaded with one live round in the chamber and 12 live rounds in the magazine.



Figure 4-Shriner's 9mm Semi-Automatic Glock 19 Pistol, Magazine, and 13 Live Rounds.

A 9mm expended cartridge casing matching Shriner's gun was located in the area where Shriner fired in the direction of the officers.

Wouk and Zhou were armed with 9mm semi-automatic pistols. Twelve expended cartridge casings were located at the scene and analyzed. The firearms evidence is consistent with Wouk firing seven rounds and Zhou firing five rounds in the incident. It is unknown which round struck Shriner.

LEGAL ANALYSIS

The Law

A peace officer is justified in using deadly force 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 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 section 835a(c)(1)(A) &(B).

Deadly force shall be used “only when necessary in defense of human life,” and officers “shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to an objectively reasonable officer.” Penal Code section 835a(a)(2).

“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 section 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 section 835a(a)(4) and (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 section 835a(a)(4).

Analysis

There is compelling evidence in this case, including surveillance video of the shooting itself and BWV of the events leading up to the shooting, that Shriner mistook the three uniformed officers in an adjacent yard as trespassers, armed herself, and fired a round in their direction, despite them announcing themselves as police officers and commanding Shriner numerous times to her to drop her gun.

When Shriner fired a round in their direction, Officers Zhou and Wolak could reasonably believe the use of deadly force was necessary to defend themselves against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to an officer or other persons.²

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, we find that Officers Zhou and Wolak’s use of deadly force was reasonable under the circumstances, and they acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others.

² Considered in this analysis is the fact that the LAPD Chief of Police ruled the officers’ actions were within LAPD policy but the LAPD Police Commission ruled otherwise. That administrative analysis is based on a different standard of proof, and does not change the conclusion of the legal analysis herein of whether Zhou and Wolak reasonably believed, based on the totality of the circumstances, that deadly force was necessary when Shriner fired a round at them.