

**Non-Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Arthur Bustos**  
**Long Beach Police Department**

**Officer Missael Gonzalez, #11562**

**J.S.I.D. File #23-0067**



**NATHAN J. HOCHMAN**

**District Attorney**

**Justice System Integrity Division**

**October 28, 2025**

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** CHIEF WALLY HEBEISH  
Long Beach Police Department  
400 West Broadway Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802

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

**SUBJECT:** Fatal Involved Shooting of Arthur Bustos  
J.S.I.D. File #23-0067  
Long Beach P.D. File #230011822

**DATE:** October 28, 2025

The Justice System Integrity Division (JSID) of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the March 5, 2023, non-fatal shooting of Arthur Bustos by Long Beach Police Department (LBPd) Officer Missael Gonzalez. We have concluded Gonzalez's use of deadly force was reasonable in defense of another against an imminent deadly threat.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting on March 5, 2023, at 7:58 p.m. The District Attorney Response Team responded and was briefed at the scene by LBPd Sergeant Benjamin Vargas.

The following analysis is based on investigative reports, drawings and maps, recordings of interviews of civilian witnesses, surveillance camera videos, body worn camera video (BWV), and photographs taken by investigators, submitted to this office by the LBPd on April 11, 2023.

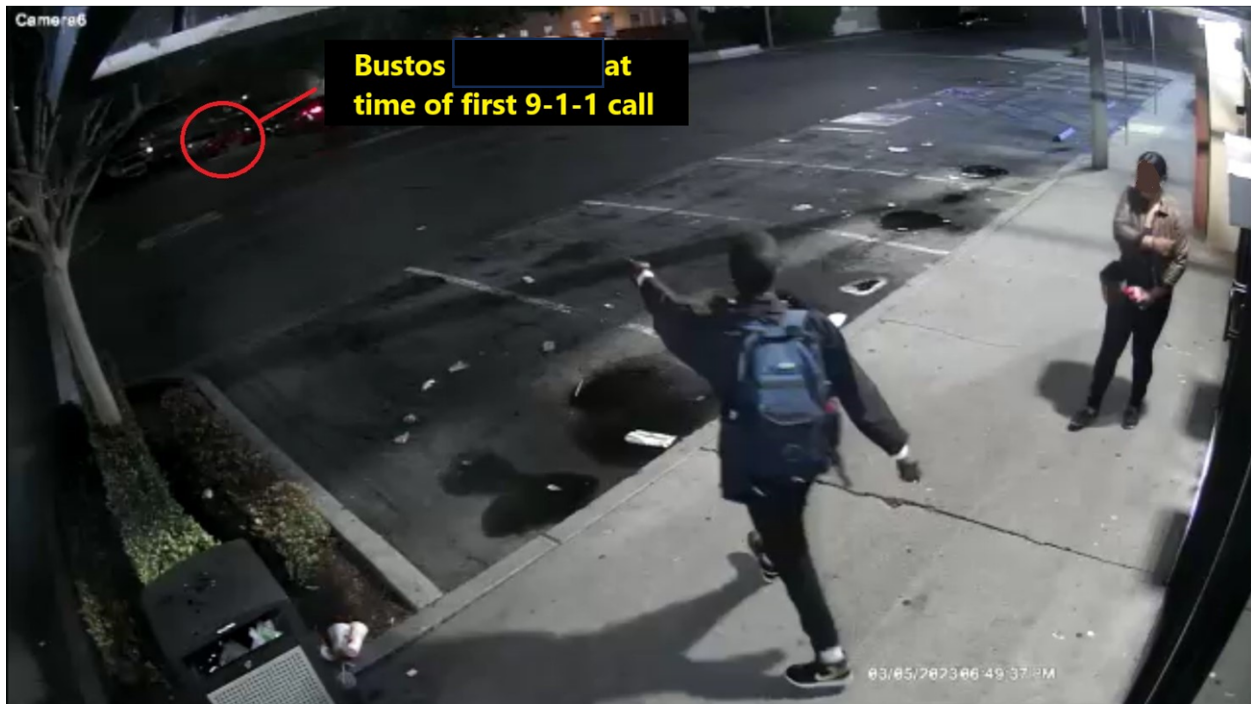
No compelled statements were reviewed in conducting this analysis.

### **FACTUAL ANALYSIS**

The shooting and circumstances which led to it were captured on surveillance video from the premises. Gonzalez's BWV was not recording at the time of the shooting. BWV from other officers was reviewed but did not capture the shooting.

Civilian witnesses also provided statements.

The shooting took place on March 5, 2023, in the parking lot at the northeast corner of Atlantic Avenue and Atlantic Plaza in the City of Long Beach. At approximately 6:49 p.m., the LBPd received the first of three 9-1-1 calls reporting a stabbing in progress.



*Image Capture 1- Scene at time of first 9-1-1 call.*

Within two minutes, Gonzalez arrived at the scene in a marked patrol car with its overhead blue and red lights and siren activated. Gonzalez was in uniform. There were multiple civilian bystanders in the area.

As Gonzalez parked his patrol car, leaving his overhead lights on, a shirtless male, later identified as Arthur Bustos, was on top of another male, later identified as [redacted], who was lying on the pavement. A pool of blood was visible beneath [redacted], but no knife was visible.

Gonzalez got out of his patrol unit, drew his firearm, and pointed it at both men. [redacted] broke free of Bustos and ran past Gonzalez in a northwest direction. Bustos gave chase. Gonzalez saw an open folding knife with a four-to-six-inch blade in Bustos's right hand.



*Image Capture 2 - Bustos's pursuit of G.W.B.*

Gonzalez shouted, “Stop chasing him!” Bustos continued chasing [REDACTED] and tackled him approximately ten yards away from Gonzalez. Bustos pinned [REDACTED] down on his stomach and stabbed him repeatedly using his right hand. Gonzalez shouted, “Stop!” but Bustos continued to stab [REDACTED]. Gonzalez positioned himself so as to minimize the risk to [REDACTED] and bystanders, then fired his service weapon three times at Bustos.



*Image Capture 3 - Positions of Gonzalez, Bustos, and [REDACTED] at time of shooting*

Within fifteen seconds of the shooting, additional LBPD units arrived and assisted Gonzalez in rendering aid to Bustos. They also rendered aid to [REDACTED]. Both Bustos and [REDACTED] were treated at the scene by paramedics before being transported to the hospital.

Bustos was transported to Saint Mary's Medical Center where he was treated for three gunshot wounds. He survived his injuries and was charged with attempted murder in felony case NA121564, which is currently pending trial.

██████ was transported to Long Beach Memorial Hospital where he was treated for seven identified stab wounds. He too survived his injuries.<sup>1</sup>

Investigators recovered the knife used by Bustos and three expended shell casings which were determined to have been ejected from Gonzalez's service weapon at the scene.

## **LEGAL ANALYSIS**

California law provides that the use of deadly force by a peace officer in the lawful performance of their duties is not unlawful when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to themselves or to another person. Penal Code sections 196 and 835a.

At the time of the shooting, Bustos was in the act of stabbing ██████ with a knife. Serious bodily injury had already been inflicted by Bustos and the threat of further injury or death was imminent. As such, Gonzalez's belief in the need for deadly force was objectively reasonable.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the evidence in this matter, Gonzalez's use of deadly force was reasonable in defense of another to stop the imminent deadly threat posed by Bustos.

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<sup>1</sup> Although ██████, was initially identified to the District Attorney's Response Team as ██████, his true name was later determined to be ██████.