

**Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Cody Dodd-Thompson
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department**

Deputy Daniel Ike, #643956

Deputy Brandon Campos, #653181

J.S.I.D. File #24-0234



NATHAN J. HOCHMAN

District Attorney

Justice System Integrity Division

November 24, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: CAPTAIN ARTURO R. SPENCER
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
1 Cupania Circle
Monterey Park, California 91755

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

SUBJECT: Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Cody Dodd-Thompson
J.S.I.D. File #24-0234
L.A.S.D. File #024-03691-0974-013

DATE: November 24, 2025

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the July 20, 2024, fatal shooting of Cody Dodd-Thompson by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputies Daniel Ike and Brandon Campos.

We have concluded the deputies acted reasonably, believing based on the totality of the circumstances, 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 at 8:45 p.m. on July 20, 2024. The District Attorney Response Team responded and was given a briefing and walk-through of the scene by LASD Homicide Bureau Lieutenant Omar Camacho.

The following analysis is based on radio calls, body worn camera video (BWV), surveillance video, cell phone video, investigative reports, and witness interviews submitted to this office on September 2, 2025, by LASD Homicide Detectives Joel Manfree and Stephanie Shrout.

FACTUAL SUMMARY

On July 20, 2024, at approximately 5:22 p.m., a man, later identified as Cody Dodd-Thompson, attempted to rob a 7-1-1 store in the City of West Hollywood.

Dodd-Thompson, who had history of mental illness and drug abuse, stated he had a weapon and demanded money from the cashier at the store. Surveillance video of Dodd-Thompson demanding money from the cashier is shown below:



Figure 1-Still photo from surveillance video depicting Dodds-Thompson demanding money from the 7-1-1 cashier.

Dodd-Thompson, [REDACTED], fled the location without taking any money. A witness flagged down LASD patrol deputies and reported the incident.

Deputies Daniel Ike, Brandon Campos, and Diane Mekdara located Dodd-Thompson near the 7-1-1 store. Ike confronted Dodd-Thompson, who was armed with a knife in his right hand. A still photo from Ike's BWV showing Dodd-Thompson armed with a knife is shown below:



Figure 2-Still photo from Ike's BWV depicting Dodds-Thompson wielding a knife in his right hand and running away.

Dodd-Thompson ran away. Ike and Campos chased Dodd-Thompson as Ike ordered him to get on the ground and drop the knife. Dodd-Thompson did not comply.

After a short chase, Dodd-Thompson stopped, turned toward Ike, and raised the knife, as shown in the BWV still photo below:



Figure 3-Still photo from Ike's BWV depicting Dodds-Thompson stopping and turning toward Ike and raising a knife.

Ike and Campos drew their service weapons and fired eleven rounds at Dodd-Thompson, striking him three times.

A still photo from Campos' BWV depicting the moment of the shooting when Dodd-Thompson raised a knife toward Ike is shown below:



Figure 4-Still photo from Campos' BWV showing Dodds-Thompson facing Ike and raising a knife.

Ike, Campos, and backup deputies provided medical treatment to Dodd-Thompson, who was transported to the hospital and declared deceased.

The Knife

Dodd-Thompson was armed with a folding knife with a 4-inch blade. The knife is shown in the photo below:



Figure 5-Photo of Dodd-Thompson's folding knife.

Firearms Evidence

Ike and Campos were armed with 9mm semi-automatic service weapons. Eleven expended cartridge casings were recovered at the scene, consistent with Campos firing five rounds and Ike firing 6 rounds.

Autopsy

On July 23, 2024, Vadims Poukens, M.D., performed a post-mortem examination of Dodds-Thompson's remains. Dr. Poukens determined Dodds-Thompson was shot twice in the chest and once in the left wrist, and died from multiple gunshot wounds.

A toxicology analysis was performed and determined Dodds-Thompson had benzodiazepines and methamphetamines in his bloodstream at the time of his death.

SHOOTING DEPUTIES' STATEMENTS

Deputy Brandon Campos

Campos provided a voluntary statement to investigators.

Campos stated he was on patrol in a marked patrol vehicle with his partner, Mekdara, when they were flagged down by a citizen who reported Dodd-Thompson had just attempted to rob a 7-1-1 store.

Campos and Mekdara located Dodd-Thompson nearby and conversed with him. Dodd-Thompson appeared unkempt and paranoid. He was animated and making non-sensical

statements. Campos believed Dodd-Thompson might be under the influence of a controlled substance and might have a knife clipped to his belt.

Dodd-Thompson walked away from the deputies as Ike went to the 7-1-1 to determine if a crime had occurred. Ike confirmed Dodd-Thompson had attempted to rob the 7-1-1. Campos, Mekdara, and Ike formulated a plan to detain Dodd-Thompson.

Ike, who was alone in his patrol vehicle, drove toward Dodd-Thompson, stopped, and exited. Mekdara and Campos also drove toward Dodd-Thompson, stopped, and exited their patrol vehicle. Mekdara said to Campos, "What's that in his hand?"

Dodd-Thompson ran away. Ike was behind Dodd-Thompson and Campos was approximately ten feet behind Ike. Ike yelled, "Drop the knife!" Campos did not see the knife at that point. Ike and Campos both drew their service weapons.

Dodd-Thompson turned toward Ike. Campos, who was approximately five to ten feet away, observed a knife in Dodd-Thompson's right hand. Campos, in fear for the safety and life of Ike, fired approximately four rounds at Dodd-Thompson.

Dodd-Thompson fell to the street wounded and Campos and other deputies rendered first aid.

Deputy Daniel Ike

Ike provided a voluntary statement to investigators.

Ike stated he was in uniform and on patrol in a marked patrol vehicle when Mekdara radioed him requesting he go to the 7-1-1 and determine if Dodd-Thompson had attempted to rob the store. Ike drove to the 7-1-1, spoke with the cashier, and confirmed an attempted robbery had just occurred. Ike, Mekdara, and Campos then formulated a plan to stop and detain Dodd-Thompson.

Ike observed Dodd-Thompson on a street corner, drove toward him, stopped, exited, and conversed with Dodd-Thompson, who had a knife in his right hand. Dodd-Thompson ran away. Ike gave chase and was five to ten feet behind him. Ike ordered Dodd-Thompson to get on the ground and drop the knife. Dodd-Thompson did not comply.

Dodd-Thompson suddenly stopped and turned toward Ike with the knife in his right hand with the blade extended. Dodd-Thompson took a fighting stance and "cocked back" his right arm. He raised the knife above his shoulder and head area while standing approximately five to ten feet away from Ike.

Ike thought Dodd-Thompson was going to kill him. He fired multiple rounds at Dodd-Thompson from his service weapon, striking him and causing him to fall to the ground.

Ike and the other deputies rendered first aid.

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 video evidence, demonstrating Dodd-Thompson had just committed an attempted robbery, was possibly suffering from mental illness, and was under the influence of methamphetamines and benzodiazepines while armed with a knife.

When Ike, Campos, and Mekdara contacted Dodds-Thompson, they knew they were encountering an armed suspect who had already threatened the cashier at 7-1-1 and was behaving in a bizarre manner. Ike observed Dodds-Thompson with a knife in his hand. Dodds-Thompson ran away with Ike and Campos in foot pursuit. Ike ordered Dodds-Thompson to stop and get on the ground. He did not comply.

When Dodds-Thompson suddenly stopped and turned toward Ike, taking a fighting stance with the knife above his head in an aggressive manner, Campos and Ike both feared Dodd-Thompson

posed an imminent deadly threat to Ike. Each of the deputies fired their service weapons to stop this threat, stopping Dodds-Thompson from harming Ike.

The evidence and totality of the circumstances reasonably support Campos and Ike's belief that their use of deadly force was necessary to stop an imminent threat of serious bodily injury to Ike.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, we find that the use of deadly force by Deputies Campos and Ike was lawful under the circumstances in self-defense and the defense of others.