

**Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Andre Young  
Inglewood Police Department**

**Officer Tyler Villacana, #988**

**J.S.I.D. File #21-0389**



**GEORGE GASCÓN**

**District Attorney**

**Justice System Integrity Division**

**December 27, 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: Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Andre Young  
J.S.I.D. File #21-0389  
Inglewood P.D. File #2021-59326

DATE: December 27, 2023

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the September 22, 2021, fatal shooting of Andre Young by Inglewood Police Department (IPD) Officer Tyler Villacana. Based on the evidence, we have concluded that the shooting was not unlawful.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified at 7:38 a.m. on September 22, 2021, of the shooting. The District Attorney's Response Team responded and was briefed at the scene by IPD Detective Daniel Milchovich.

The following analyses are based on audio and video recordings from body worn cameras, photographs, recorded witness and officer interviews, and the evidence collected, and reports submitted by the IPD on July 19, 2023. No involuntary statements were considered.

### **SUMMARY**

Shortly after midnight on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, Andre Young broke into the home of his mother and maternal grandmother. He took them hostage at knife point and threatened to kill them. His sister told the responding officers that her brother had been recently released from prison for the 2012 attempted murders of his father and paternal grandmother.

Inglewood Police Department negotiators were successful in talking Mr. Young into releasing his grandmother, but he continued to hold his mother. At approximately 6:55 a.m. Mr. Young appeared to have fallen asleep and his mother broke away from him. Her movement awakened him, and he moved toward her. A sharpshooter shot Mr. Young with a rifle. Mr. Young died from the gunshot wound.

## FACTUAL ANALYSIS

██████████ age 61, was awakened after midnight by her son, Mr. Young, standing over her bed. He demanded property from her and went to the front room to get her purse. She followed him and shouted out an alert to ██████████, Mr. Young's sister.

██████████ escaped out the back door of the apartment and called 9-1-1. She told the dispatcher that her brother was on parole and had said, "he's coming back to kill my ma."

The first officers arrived and found Mr. Young inside the residence, armed with a knife, physically restraining his 83-year-old grandmother, ██████████, and his 61-year-old mother.



*Image Capture 1 – Mr. Young with knife and mother visible through window.*

Officers with crisis negotiation team (CNT) training spoke with Mr. Young through the apartment's window. After about an hour he agreed to let his grandmother go. At about 2:55 a.m. his grandmother left the apartment and Mr. Young guided his mother to the couch where he continued to hold her at knife point.



*Image Capture 2 - Loraine J. held on couch with knife to neck.*

Mr. Young and his mother remained visible through the window for approximately four more hours, broken only by Mr. Young taking her into the kitchen and returning with water. Throughout this period, Mr. Young had threatened to kill his mother and force the police to kill him.

Meanwhile, IPD learned through Mr. Young's sister and law enforcement records that Mr. Young had been released from prison approximately six weeks earlier. He had served a 9 year 4 month

sentence in state prison for setting fire to his father's house while it was occupied by his father, his father's wife and his paternal grandmother (Los Angeles County Superior Court case BA402370).

At approximately 3:30 a.m. the IPD SWAT team arrived. Rifleman Officer Tyler Villacana ultimately took a position southwest of the window through which the other officers had been talking to Mr. Young.



*Image Capture 3- Interior as scene from approximate vantage point of shooter.*

At approximately 6:55 a.m., [REDACTED] noticed that Mr. Young had fallen asleep and decided to flee. She jumped up from the couch and ran toward the front door. Her sudden movement



awakened Mr. Young, who jumped up in pursuit, holding the knife. During this distancing between Mr. Young and [REDACTED], Officer Villacana shot Mr. Young.

Officers took [REDACTED] to a place of safety and summoned paramedics. Responding EMTs pronounced Mr. Young dead at the scene.

Two knives were recovered from the couch where Mr. Young had held [REDACTED] hostage.



Figure 1- Knives recovered at couch.

The Los Angeles County Medical Examiner- Coroner determined the cause of Mr. Young's death to be one gunshot wound to the head. The trajectory of the wound was consistent with Mr. Young leaning forward to get up from the couch in pursuit of [REDACTED] Mr. Young's blood tested positive for the presence of methamphetamines (.18 micrograms per milliliter).

## LEGAL ANALYSIS

California law provides 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 the officer or to another person. (Penal Code sections 196 and 835a(c)(1)(A) and 197).

[REDACTED] was in danger of imminent death or great bodily injury. Mr. Young had a knife to [REDACTED] and was in a position to inflict potentially lethal wounds almost instantly.

De-escalation and negotiation tactics employed by responding officers, although initially productive, had not been successful in ending the threat to [REDACTED]

Because of Mr. Young's location and his proximity to [REDACTED], had a less lethal option been unsuccessful in incapacitating Mr. Young, he could have fatally injured [REDACTED]

Under these circumstances, a belief that deadly force was necessary to protect the life of [REDACTED] was reasonable.

## **CONCLUSION**

The direct and the circumstantial evidence here, and the inferences which can be drawn from that evidence, support a finding that the use of deadly force by Officer Villacana was not unlawful.