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May 17, 2016

PRESS RELEASE – OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING JANUARY 24, 2016

On January 24, 2016, an officer-involved shooting took place in the City of Eau Claire. The incident involved City of Eau Claire Police Officer Anthony Briski. Officer Briski, along with Officer Olivia Erl and Officer Renee Stoik responded to the 2700 block of Galloway Street following a report that Sol Armer was in the area. At the time of the incident, Sol Armer had an active warrant for his arrest. Prior to his contact with the officers, Armer had left Gordy's market with a shopping cart. When Armer was contacted by law enforcement, he armed himself with a serrated blade approximately ten inches in length. Armer was told several times to drop the knife and to get on his knees. Armer failed to do so. Instead, Armer continued to approach law enforcement, contrary to the repeated verbal commands to stop. Officer Stoik deployed a Taser in an attempt to stop Armer. The Taser was ineffective and Armer continued to advance toward law enforcement. Officer Erl deployed OC spray in an attempt to stop Armer's advancement. This was also not effective. Officer Briski, while repeatedly yelling to Sol Armer to stop, also deployed OC spray in an attempt to stop Armer. The deployment of OC spray by Officer Briski was also ineffective. Following all of these actions, and with Armer continuing to advance toward officers while brandishing the weapon, Officer Briski fired his service weapon twice at Armer. Law enforcement immediately called for EMS and rendered first aid to Armer, including removing several layers of clothing, applying pressure to the wound, and applying Quick Clot gauze. Shortly thereafter, EMS workers arrived on scene and took over the treatment efforts related to Armer. Armer was transported to Mayo Hospital, where he underwent surgery for the two gunshot wounds. Armer was subsequently released from the hospital and remains on a Chapter 51 commitment.

As a result of the incident, and pursuant to the laws of the State of Wisconsin, a comprehensive investigation was undertaken by the Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The lead investigator was Special Agent Adam Frederick. The investigation included scene mapping and reconstruction by the Wisconsin State Patrol, evidence collection, multiple interviews, lab testing, squad video review, photographs, and miscellaneous other information. The following is a summary of that information.

Sol Armer Status January 24, 2016

The City of Eau Claire Police Department records indicate 18 contacts with Sol Armer since May 15, 2014. Examples of these contacts include trespass, operating a motor vehicle without owner's consent, check person, and battery to a police officer. On January 24, 2016, records indicate that Sol Armer had an active warrant for his arrest in Eau Claire County case 15 CF 1185. In that case, Armer is charged with felony battery to a law enforcement officer, resisting an officer, and disorderly conduct. Police reports in City of Eau Claire case number 15-024932 indicate that on November 30, 2015, police responded to the Salvation Army located at 2211 S. Hastings Way. An individual at that location reported that earlier that day, she had been hit in the shoulder by Armer by what she thought was a hat. While the individual was not physically hurt, the incident did frighten her. The individual reported that when she indicated she would call the police, Armer responded by saying 'you got no idea what I could do to you.' Another individual at the location reported that the conduct of Armer had been an ongoing issue. On November 30, 2015, law enforcement was unable to locate Armer.

On December 2, 2015, Officer Chinander and Officer Larsen had follow-up contact with Sol Armer at the Salvation Army with respect to the incident reported on November 30, 2015. During this follow-up contact, Sol Armer became agitated when informed by Officer Larsen that he was under arrest. After being informed he was under arrest, Armer punched Officer Larsen in the face with a closed fist. Officer Larsen and Officer Chinander decentralized Armer and were able to get him on the ground. Despite verbal commands to stop resisting and place his hands behind his back, Armer continued to resist and pull his arms away. Armer later apologized for resisting officers and for striking Officer Larsen. Armer stated he was in a "fight or flight situation." A search incident to arrest found that Armer was in possession of two pocket knives on his person.

Court records show that Sol Armer had court appearances on December 3 and December 4, 2015. As a result of the court appearances, he was released on a signature bond with multiple no-contact conditions. A subsequent court appearance was scheduled for December 15, 2015. Sol Armer did not appear for court on December 15, 2015 and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

On December 7, 2015, law enforcement went to a wooded area on city property to advise Sol Armer that the structure that existed was in violation of city code. Law enforcement announced their presence several times but received no answer. Law enforcement returned to this area with city workers on December 8, 2015. Police reports indicate that when city workers placed a ladder against the structure located in the woods, Armer stated to them, "that's a really bad idea" and that he would "kill anyone who attempted to climb up" to the structure. Under the circumstances, the scene was cleared after Armer was advised that the issue was not going away. Law enforcement again attempted contact at the structure in late December of 2015. Officer Taylor reports that he had two prior contacts with Armer and that Armer was polite during those contacts. However, on this occasion, Armer was much more hostile and uncooperative. When Officer Taylor tried to explain to Armer that he could not live in the structure, Armer stated that it was

his land and that they (law enforcement) should leave. Armer indicated that if anyone attempted to get him out, he would engage in “warfare.” Armer denied having any weapons at that time.

Report of Sol Armer at Gordy’s Market

On January 24, 2016, information was received that Sol Armer was at Gordy’s market, located at 2717 Birch Street. Video surveillance confirms Armer leaving the store at 21:07 hours with a shopping cart containing multiple items. The store video also shows Armer putting a large bladed object into the shopping cart just prior to leaving the store.

Law Enforcement Response to Galloway Street

On January 24, 2016, multiple law enforcement officers responded to the 2700 block of Galloway Street near Indianhead Foodservice Distributor. The first officer to arrive was Officer Olivia Erl. Officer Erl was followed to the scene by Officer Renee Stoik and Officer Anthony Briski. The law enforcement officers were dispatched to the area in an attempt to locate Sol Armer who had an active warrant for his arrest. At approximately 21:25 hours, Sol Armer is located walking down Galloway Street with a shopping cart. All three squad cars activated their emergency lights.

Squad Video Review

A review of squad video captures most of the sequence of events that preceded the shooting. The squad video shows that Officer Briski positioned his vehicle in an effort to block Sol Armer from proceeding down Galloway Street. When Officer Briski exits his squad car, a review of squad video shows that Officer Briski continually orders Sol Armer to stop and get on his knees. Officer Stoik also orders Armer to drop to his knees. After multiple commands to get down on his knees, Officer Stoik verbally advises that Armer has a knife. Armer is observed removing his black jacket as Officer Briski again orders Armer to drop down on his knees. Officer Stoik and Officer Briski continually advise Armer to get down on his knees. Officer Stoik and Officer Briski both clearly command Armer to drop what he has in his hand. After repeated commands to drop what he has in his hand, Armer refuses and proceeds to move forward, holding the weapon and pulling the shopping cart.

The squad video confirms the sound of a Taser being deployed by Officer Stoik. Armer is heard to say something to the effect that “a Taser will not work on me.” Officer Stoik and Officer Briski continue to command Armer to drop the knife. Armer states “I mean you no harm” but continues to advance and does not drop the weapon. At this point, with Officer Briski continuing to back up, Armer proceeds past the squad car of Officer Briski, despite repeated commands by Officer Briski for Armer to “stop” and to “drop it.” While Officer Briski continues commands for Armer to drop the knife, Officer Stoik also yells “drop it.” When these commands do not result in compliance from Armer, Officer Briski states “pepper spray, pepper spray.” Officer Briski repeatedly yells to Armer, “Sol, stop, Sol, stop!” After Officer Briski yells “Sol, stop” multiple more times, two gunshots are

heard. The shots were fired at approximately 21:27 hours after officers gave Sol Armer over 30 commands to drop to his knees, stop, or drop the knife. After the shots were fired, officers call for EMS.

Officer Anthony Briski Interview

Officer Anthony Briski was interviewed on January 26, 2016. Officer Briski advised that prior to January 24, 2016, he had one prior professional interaction with Sol Armer. This interaction took place at a Kwik Trip when employees asked Officer Briski if he could ask Armer to leave the premises. Officer Briski made contact with Armer and asked him to leave. Armer mentioned something about usually not liking police, but that he would leave because Officer Briski had been polite and nice with him.

Officer Briski noted that following Armer's arrest for battery to a police officer, the department put out officer safety information regarding Armer. The information included that Armer carried knives, that he wore heavy clothing that may render a Taser ineffective, and that officers should consider pepper spray as an alternative should it be needed. Officer Briski advised that a few weeks before the incident, he learned that there was an active warrant for Armer. Officer Briski said he and three other officers conducted a welfare check for Armer in a wooded area, that they called for Armer, but received no response. Officer Briski advised that he was aware other officers had attempted welfare checks for Armer and that Armer had been confrontational.

Officer Briski advised that on January 24, 2016, information was received that Armer had left Gordy's Market on Birch Street. Officer Briski was aware that Armer was wanted at the time. Officer Briski proceeded to Galloway Street in the area of Indianhead Food Distribution Center. Officer Briski said that Officer Erl advised that she observed a male with a shopping cart. Officer Briski advised that he pulled his squad car over at an angle ahead of the male and activated his emergency lights. Officer Briski said he did this so the male could see the police presence with the ECPD marked squad. Officer Briski said he exited his vehicle and asked the male if he was "Sol." Officer Briski said the male pulled his hoodie down so it was off of his head. Officer Briski said he looked the male in the face and realized it was Sol Armer. Officer Briski said he recalled the safety information about Armer, specifically that he was reported to carry knives. Officer Briski saw something in Armer's hand. Officer Briski said he drew his service weapon and directed Armer to get down on his knees. Officer Briski said he repeatedly told Armer to get down on his knees and that Armer would not comply with his commands. Instead, Armer raised his hand, which was holding a long bladed item. Officer Briski said that he thought this was a machete or knife. Officer Briski said he could see the long bladed item had a wooden handle and a bladed edge that looked like a knife. Officer Briski said he ordered Armer to drop what was in his hand. Armer did not comply with this command either. Officer Briski said he recalled Armer stating something like your Taser won't affect me and your bullets won't hurt me.

Officer Briski said he recalled seeing the red laser light on Armer and that he knew this was the Taser laser sight. Officer Briski recalls hearing the Taser deployed and that it

was not effective against Armer. Officer Briski said that Armer was coming toward him and still had the bladed weapon in his hand. Officer Briski said Armer had the weapon at his side and it seemed that if Armer just ignored officers that he could leave. Officer Briski said he knew Armer had an active warrant and was not free to leave. As Armer continued to move toward him, he backed away from Armer. While this was happening, Armer still refused to comply with the verbal commands. Officer Briski said he became aware that Officer Erl was next to him and that Officer Erl sprayed Armer with pepper spray. Officer Briski said the pepper spray hit Armer at chest level and maybe up to his face. Officer Briski said that Armer raised his right hand and pointed the bladed weapon out while moving toward Officer Erl. Officer Briski was unaware if the pepper spray deployed by Officer Erl had affected the vision of Armer. Officer Briski said that he and Officer Erl were still trying to create distance from Armer. Officer Briski said he was repeatedly commanding Armer to stop and drop the knife. Officer Briski felt that Armer was trying to get to Officer Erl at this point. Officer Briski said that Armer took three to five steps and stopped. Officer Briski said that Armer looked at him and it seemed as if Armer was looking right through him. Officer Briski said that while utilizing a cross draw, he aimed his OC spray at Armer and sprayed him. The spray stream hit Armer in his face, to include Armer's eyes, nose, and mouth.

Officer Briski said that Armer raised the bladed weapon and that Armer got very close to Officer Erl. Officer Briski said he pointed his service weapon at Armer and shot. Officer Briski said, "I was so afraid he was going to stab her with it or kill her with it that I had no other choice but to shoot him." After he shot Armer, Officer Briski continued to provide lethal cover. Officer Erl kicked the bladed weapon out of the way. Officer Briski handcuffed Armer, and he and Officer Stoik began medically assessing Armer. Officer Briski said he cut layers of clothes off of Armer and that Officer Erl came back with some Quick Clot gauze. Officer Briski said the gauze was packed on the upper wound and pressure was applied until EMS arrived on scene.

Officer Olivia Erl Interview

Officer Olivia Erl was interviewed on January 26, 2016. Officer Erl advised that prior to January 24, 2016, she had never seen Sol Armer in person. Officer Erl advised that she was aware of Armer and had been on calls for service in which she was checking the area for Armer. Officer Erl advised that she had received information that Armer was uncooperative in past police contacts and that Armer was known to carry knives. Officer Erl advised that she was aware that Armer had previously punched another officer in the face and that he had an outstanding warrant. Officer Erl said officers were advised to use caution if they came into contact with Armer.

Officer Erl advised that on January 24, 2016, after clearing a call for service, she was advised of a report of Sol Armer at Gordy's store. Officer Erl said the Communication Center advised that Armer was by the Indianhead Food Distributor Warehouse by the semi-trucks lot area. Officer Erl said she was provided a description of Armer including that he was wearing thick, dark clothing and was pushing a shopping cart. Officer Erl said she responded to the area and that Officer Briski and Officer Stoik did as well.

Officer Erl said as she approached a driveway in the area, she saw a person wearing dark clothing and pushing a shopping cart. Officer Erl said she advised over the radio that she located a person matching the description provided for Armer. Officer Erl said that Officer Stoik and Officer Briski arrived at her location and that they activated their emergency lights as they slowed to park.

Officer Erl said that Officer Briski and Armer were ahead of her location and that she moved over to Officer Stoik's position which was on or near a sidewalk. Officer Erl said that as she was standing by Officer Stoik, she saw that Armer had some type of knife in one of his hands. Officer Erl said it was an edged weapon that looked like it could inflict a significant amount of harm or death if struck by it. Officer Erl said that Officer Briski and Officer Stoik were giving commands to Armer. Because they were giving commands, Officer Erl said that she did not other than possibly once telling Armer to drop the knife. Officer Erl said Armer was given multiple commands to drop the knife but did not comply with them. Officer Erl said that Armer took his jacket off. Officer Erl said that Armer still had the knife in his hand. Officer Erl said that Armer was holding the knife and the motion he was making would make contact around a person's midsection. Officer Erl said that Armer put his jacket in the cart and was still holding the knife. Officer Erl said that Armer was getting more agitated. Officer Erl said that Officer Stoik deployed a Taser, but that it was ineffective. Officer Erl said that Armer was moving forward while Officer Briski was backing up. Officer Erl said she moved toward Officer Briski to help him.

Officer Erl said that Officer Briski told her to access her pepper spray. Officer Erl said she holstered her duty weapon and pulled her pepper spray from her duty belt. Officer Erl said that she and Officer Briski were still backing away from Armer and that Armer was still not complying with commands. Officer Erl said that she sprayed Armer. Officer Erl said that Armer said not to do that and was still moving forward towards her. Officer Erl said that Armer had the knife higher at this point and had his arm extended so that the knife was swinging within a few feet of her. Officer Erl said that Armer's actions had intensified with the knife and that it became clear to her that Armer would find a way to get out of there. Officer Erl said it seemed to her that Armer would harm her or Officer Briski and that at this point, she felt an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm. Officer Erl said she was concerned about the knife that Armer had, that his prior actions had shown he could do harm, that his actions had intensified at this point, and that his movement forward with the knife was closing the distance between them.

Officer Erl said that her pepper spray stream was not effective against Armer. Officer Erl said that Officer Briski took out his pepper spray and that she recalled seeing two streams of spray – one from her and one from Officer Briski. Officer Erl said that her can of pepper spray was then empty, so she dropped it. Officer Erl said that Officer Briski dropped his can of pepper spray too, but that he also had his duty weapon still drawn. Officer Erl said commands were still being given to Armer to stop and to drop his weapon. Officer Erl said Armer was still approaching her with the weapon and that their pepper spray was not effective on Armer. Officer Erl said Officer Briski then shot two times. After Armer dropped to the ground, Officer Erl kicked the knife off to the side

and away from Armer. Officer Erl said that Officer Briski handcuffed Armer and that she went to her squad to block traffic. Officer Erl said that she was asked for Quick Clot and provided this to Officer Briski. Officer Erl said the Quick Clot was applied to Armer. Officer Erl said EMS arrived on scene and began care for Armer.

Officer Renee Stoik Interview

Officer Renee Stoik was interviewed on January 26, 2016. Officer Stoik advised that she was aware of multiple police contacts with Sol Armer prior to January 24, 2016. Officer Stoik advised that she had contact with Armer during a traffic stop and that Armer was cooperative during that contact. Officer Stoik said she was also aware of an incident where Armer had struck an officer in the face. Officer Stoik said she was also aware of another example of Armer not cooperating with law enforcement. Officer Stoik said that she knew that caution was to be used in the event there was contact with Armer. Officer Stoik said she was also aware that Armer had an active warrant for his arrest.

Officer Stoik said that on January 24, 2016 following a family trouble call, she was advised that Armer was observed by Gordy's grocery store. Officer Stoik said she received communication from Officer Erl that she had observed a person fitting Armer's description. Officer Stoik said that she and Officer Erl both activated their emergency lights. Officer Stoik said that Officer Briski parked his squad car in front of Armer. Officer Stoik said that she yelled to officers that Armer had a knife. Officer Stoik told investigators that she was not getting closer to Armer because he had a really big knife. Officer Stoik said that she and Officer Briski issued commands to Armer but that Armer did not comply with the commands.

Officer Stoik said that she transitioned to her Taser and utilized the Taser while she was on the sidewalk nearly parallel to Armer. Officer Stoik said the Taser did not have an impact on Armer. Officer Stoik said she loaded another cartridge. Officer Stoik recalls hearing Armer say "a Taser will not affect me." Officer Stoik said that Officer Erl moved towards Officer Briski's location. Officer Stoik described Armer as mobile, moving at a slow pace towards Officer Briski and Officer Erl, while still holding the knife in his hand. Officer Stoik said she was fearful for her safety and the safety of Officer Briski and Officer Erl. Officer Erl recalled Armer stating "I mean you no harm" and recalled Armer going toward Officer Briski and Officer Erl with the knife. Officer Stoik said that Officer Briski told Officer Erl to spray Armer. Officer Stoik described how Armer was swiping the knife and believed that Armer was going to harm the officers. Officer Stoik said she was wondering why it was taking Officer Briski so long to shoot Armer. Officer Stoik said she was never so certain about something as it related to the use of deadly force. Officer Stoik felt there was an imminent threat to the officers by Armer. Officer Stoik said she told Officer Briski to shoot. Officer Stoik heard two shots and observed Armer drop to the ground. Officer Stoik said she advised Officer Briski to secure Armer. Officer Stoik said Officer Briski did so and then attempted to render first aid to Armer. Officer Stoik said Officer Briski cut several layers of clothes away from Armer and that Officer Erl brought Quick Clot that was administered to Armer until EMS arrived.

Sol Armer Interview

On January 31, 2016, Sol Armer was interviewed by DCI Special Agent Adam Frederick as well as Lieutenant Derek Thomas of the City of Eau Claire Police Department. A follow-up interview was also conducted. Both interviews were recorded. As part of the interview, Special Agent Frederick read a Miranda warning to Sol Armer. Following the reading of the Miranda warning, Armer agreed to answer questions. Armer was asked if he recalled the events that led up to the shooting and he said he did. Armer believed the incident occurred on January 24 and that just prior to contact with law enforcement he was at Gordy's on Birch Street to get food. Armer stated he did not pay for all of the items and admitted that he stole items from the store. After leaving Gordy's, Armer recalls traveling on the street.

Armer said he would be very forthcoming and then stated, "as ridiculous as it may sound I am more concerned about the internal well-being of the officer that shot me than I am for my own guilt or innocence." Armer stated he believed the incident worked out the best possible way it could. Armer stated he would not have wanted the blood of the fine officers of the Eau Claire police department on his blade. Armer said the results of the incident were from a series of poor decisions on his part. Armer said he was certain that the police officer did not want to shoot him. Armer stated he behaved foolishly and stupidly and was grateful that he was the one that went down. Armer acknowledged that he took his coat off during the incident so he could swing freely if he had to, as it was "showtime." Armer also admitted to arming himself and that a gun was needed to take him down.

Armer stated that the officer who shot him did everything right. Armer again stated he was grateful for the way it ended and said he would want the officer to know that he was certain the officer did not want to shoot him. Armer said the officer warned him several times and that there was clearly nothing wrong with the officer's actions. Armer reiterated the officer did not want to shoot him. Armer stated he forced the issue of the officer shooting him. Armer believed the officer shot him because he did not drop the blade. Armer stated it was just stupid and he should have put the blade down. Armer said all he wanted was to get where he was staying but it didn't seem possible. Armer said, "I severely, severely, regret my actions."

Armer said he heard a Taser but was not sure if he was hit by it but recognized the sound of the Taser recoil. Armer said he was sprayed with pepper spray and that the pepper spray stung when it hit him. Armer stated he made some very bad, stupid, selfish decisions. Armer admitted that he was "brandishing the blade." Armer said he was grateful that there were no injured officers. When Special Agent Frederick asked Armer why he didn't listen to the commands of the officers, Armer said that he did not want to get arrested. Armer believed he probably had a warrant for his arrest at the time of the incident. Armer stated the officers gave him many opportunities to drop the knife and abide by the commands. Armer added that the officer's actions were exemplary. Armer said that if he wouldn't have forced the situation, the officer wouldn't have shot him.

Paramedic / EMS Interviews

A number of EMS personnel who responded to the scene were interviewed as part of the investigation. On January 25, 2016, Special Agent Sutherland interviewed Stephen Weyers. Weyers was the lead paramedic that responded to the scene on January 24, 2016. When Weyers observed the male patient, he also observed what appeared to be one-half of a garden shears or "homemade shank" lying on the road not far from the patient. Weyers said the male patient was alert and conscious, but was combative with the officer who was applying direct pressure to the wound. Weyers said the patient failed to respond to any questions but called officers and medical personnel "murderers." Prior to loading the patient on the cot, Weyers said he found two knives on the patient. The two knives were placed in the grocery cart that was in the roadway. During the ride to the hospital, Weyers said the patient continued to be combative and attempted to spit on medical personnel. Consequently, a spit hood was used to allow staff to continue treating the patient. Weyers said the patient became cooperative at the hospital.

Special Agent Sutherland reports that Matthew Jaggar was interviewed on January 25, 2016. Jaggar is an EMT Captain for the City of Eau Claire Fire and Rescue. Jaggar said that upon responding to the scene on Galloway Street, multiple officers were administering first-aid to the patient, later identified as Sol Armer. Jaggar said that Armer was combative with officers. Jaggar said he assisted in restraining Armer by holding his legs down as Armer was attempting to kick the officers. Jaggar said Armer refused to answer medical questions posed to him and attempted to spit in his face resulting in the subsequent use of a spit hood.

Special Agent Vosters reports that Todd Frank was interviewed on January 25, 2016. Frank is an Engineer/Medic at Eau Claire Fire Station 10 and drove the ambulance on the date of the incident. Frank advised that at the scene, he saw the patient lying on his back and saw an officer applying direct pressure to the wound in the chest area of the subject. Frank said the patient was verbally uncooperative and agitated and was yelling and swearing at personnel.

Special Agent Vosters reports that Brad Beuscher was interviewed on January 25, 2016. Beuscher is a paramedic/firefighter for the Eau Claire Fire Department. Beuscher said he assisted at the scene of the incident by getting the cot out of the ambulance and prepping IV equipment in the ambulance. Beuscher said he attempted to start an IV on the patient, but was unsuccessful. Beuscher said the patient was very agitated and was trying to get off of the cot while in the ambulance.

Wisconsin State Patrol Total Station Reconstruction

Wisconsin State Trooper Kyle Devries, with the assistance of Deputy Ryan Greener from the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department, performed a Total Station forensic mapping of the incident scene at the request of the Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The scene was forensically mapped using a Trimble S6 Robotic Total Station. Detailed measurements of the scene were collected including, but not limited to,

sidewalk edges, roadway, evidence, and other geographical markers. The data was then merged into a Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) program and a scaled diagram was completed.

Other Information

As part of the investigation, evidence collection included collection of evidence from the scene of the incident. The serrated knife blade that was brandished by Armer measured in excess of ten inches. Also collected as evidence were the officer's firearms, ammunition, and other gear. The firearm of Officer Anthony Briski was sent to the lab for testing, along with spent cartridges that were found at the scene of the incident with Sol Armer. The lab results show that the two shells were in fact fired from the firearm of Officer Anthony Briski.

Use of Force Justified

After review and consideration of all of the information, it is clear that Officer Anthony Briski was justified in the use of lethal force during this incident with Sol Armer. Justification for the force used includes, but is not limited to, the following analysis:

1. Sol Armer had an active warrant for his arrest at the time of the incident on January 24, 2016.
2. Sol Armer, at the time of the incident on January 24, 2016, had a recent history of violence and threats toward law enforcement, including having recently punched a law enforcement officer in the face, as well as made verbal threats that he would kill anyone who attempted to remove him from his living quarters.
3. During the incident on January 24, 2016, Armer brandished a weapon that had a serrated blade approximately ten inches in length. The weapon was brandished after repeated verbal commands to stop and get on the ground. In addition to this weapon, Armer was also later found to be in possession of two additional knives.
4. Sol Armer admits that he took his jacket off at the scene so he could "swing freely" if he had to, declaring that it was "showtime." Armer also admits to arming himself.
5. Armer admits that the pepper spray doesn't affect him much, and that a gun was needed to take him down.
6. Armer continued to advance on law enforcement with the weapon, despite repeated verbal commands to stop, the deployment of a Taser, as well as multiple officers deploying OC spray in efforts to use less lethal force to stop Armer.
7. Multiple officers, including Officer Anthony Briski, expressed fear of death or great bodily harm under the circumstances.

8. The interviews of the law enforcement officers who were on scene, as well as the information learned in the interview of Sol Armer, provide consistent accounts of the incident when compared to review of the squad video.
9. The interviews of the responding paramedics confirm the combative nature of Sol Armer on January 24, 2016 at the time of the incident.
10. Sol Armer admits he was warned several times, and that he did not listen to the commands of law enforcement because he did not want to get arrested. Armer repeatedly admits that he made a bad decision, that the officer did not want to shoot him, that he was shot because he didn't drop the blade, and that the officer who shot him did everything right.

I would like to thank the Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation for the thorough work done on this investigation. The amount of materials involved in the investigation totaled several hundred pages of information, hundreds of photographs, and no fewer than seventeen discs with miscellaneous recordings, videos, and other information related to the investigation. The review of this information, in particular the interviews of the involved officers as well as Sol Armer, results in the conclusion that the force used by Officer Anthony Briski was appropriate under the totality of the circumstances as presented during the incident on January 24, 2016. Thank you for your time and consideration of this information.

Gary King
District Attorney
Eau Claire County