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NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Friday, June 18, 2021, 4:30pm
From: Patty Perlow, Lane County District Attorney
RE: IDFIT Investigation of SPD OIS 5/30/2021

On 5/30/2021 at just after 9:00 p.m., Springfield Police received a complaint of a disorderly subject, Alexander Konnof, who had confronted and threatened his neighbor (the complainant). Officers responded to the location on Broadway in Springfield to make contact. Konnof was yelling and playing threatening amplified recordings audible throughout the neighborhood.

Officers attempted, about 9:30 p.m., to make contact with Konnof, but he refused to come out of his residence, except when officers retreated from the area. He was warned he would be arrested if he continued with his disorderly conduct. Konnof continued and officers again tried to make contact and arrest him for disorderly conduct. He retreated into his residence again and continued to yell. Three officers were at the location. Two left the immediate area, one stayed at the residence to make an arrest when the subject came back out of the residence.

Konnof came out of his residence and Springfield Police Officer Andrew Hargis attempted to arrest him. He retreated into the residence with Officer Hargis attempting to hold onto him. Konnof pepper sprayed Officer Hargis as they struggled.

Springfield Police Officer Bronson Durant was one of the two officers who had retreated from sight. He ran into the residence and observed that Konnof had a large fixed blade tactical style knife over Officer Hargis. Konnof asked Officer Hargis, "Do you want to die?" Officer Durant fired one round from his duty weapon, hitting Konnof in the elbow. Konnof was taken into custody, aid was rendered and he was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

The Inter-Agency Deadly Force Investigative Team (IDFIT) was activated to conduct the use of deadly force investigation. Detectives from OSP, LCSO and EPD were tasked with the investigation.

I have determined the use of deadly force by Officer Durant was a lawful use of force in defense of another person who was at risk of death or serious physical injury.

Alexander Konnoff has been charged with disorderly conduct in the second degree, resisting arrest, unlawful use of stun gun/tear gas/mace in the first degree, assaulting a public safety officer, attempted assault in the first degree, and unlawful use of a weapon. He has been arraigned on those charges. His next court date is 7/21/2021 at 2:30 p.m.

The investigation by IDFIT is a criminal investigation into the use of deadly force only. Any review of whether the involved officers followed SPD policy will be handled by a separate review process. Questions regarding length of service of the involved officers can be directed to SPD.

In response to the report issued by Mike Gennaco of OIR Group criticizing SPD and IDFIT over the March 31, 2019, SPD use of deadly force incident, I contacted Mr. Gennaco and asked him to participate in a work group to review the Lane County Use of Force Plan and protocols. Mr. Gennaco kindly participated in the first meeting of the work group. He had not reviewed the Lane County Plan or protocols prior to issuing his report and was unaware that many of his recommendations are in the current Plan and protocols. As a result of that meeting, I have determined it would be helpful to the public to retain a review after each use of deadly force incident to outline any failures to follow the Plan and protocols and publish the results. The work group will continue to review the Plan and protocols and issue a separate report on any recommended changes.

The Lane County Use of Deadly Force Investigation Plan was approved by the Lane County local governments and the Attorney General in 2008, the first in the state approved under the requirements of SB 111 and has been the model for use of force investigations in many Oregon counties as well as national trainings on the subject. The Lane County Use of Deadly Force Investigation Plan is available on the Lane County website under the District Attorney's Office.