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## NEWS

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Janesville, Wis. - Rock County District Attorney David J. O’Leary and Janesville Police Chief Chad Pearson jointly announced today that the District Attorney has received and reviewed the investigative reports prepared by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), including investigative reports and body camera videos from the Janesville Police Department, concerning the police officer involved shooting which occurred on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in the City of Janesville.

The incident began at approximately 9:56 p.m., when Janesville Police officers were dispatched to an “armed person/man with a gun” complaint at a residence in the 1200 block of North Parker Drive. The subject was later identified as Andrew J. Zigler (age 52) and information from dispatch indicated that Zigler was waving the firearm around, and had pointed it at two elderly adults, identified as Victim 1 (V1) and Victim 2 (V2), and himself. Officers arrived on scene, secured the perimeter of the residence, assembled a quick reaction (entry) team should it be necessary to enter the residence, conducted surveillance of the residence and attempted to establish telephone contact with Zigler inside the residence. Officer Martini phoned Zigler, who answered the phone with “hello” and verified who he was; Officer Martini introduced himself and gave a greeting; Zigler let out a long sigh and hung up; Officer Martini immediately called back and did not receive an answer; Officer Martini texted Zigler but received no response.

Officer Reborn made contact by phone with family members who were in phone contact with V2. The family members reported to Officer Reborn that Zigler was asking for money from V1 and V2 and was upset that no one was helping him financially. The family member confirmed that Zigler had pointed a gun at V2 and relayed that Zigler was upset because he believed V2 was on the phone with police. V2 put the call on speaker phone so Zigler could hear that V2 was speaking with other family members. Officer Reborn was able to relay to other officers that V1 and V2 were sitting in the living room and Zigler

was sitting in a chair across from them and held the gun in his lap. The family members relayed to Officer Reborn that Zigler had mental health issues and had been suicidal in the past. Family members were yelling at Zigler to put the gun down and Officer Reborn was told that Zigler had put the gun into his mouth. Officer Reborn was able to speak with Zigler over V2's speaker phone and told Zigler they were trying to help him. Zigler said his life was over, there was nothing Officer Reborn could do for him, that Rock County Crisis had not helped him in the past, that nothing could resolve his issues, apologized for putting V1 and V2 through this, said he has been fighting depression his whole life and was tired of it and that he was done.

V1 and V2 were interviewed and stated that Zigler was upset as he had lost his job at "Door Dash" and was depressed. Zigler asked V1 and V2 for money and was told they would not provide him any more money as they had done so in the past and he never paid them back. Zigler became very upset, hollered at V2 and got into V2's face and V2 told Zigler to leave the residence. V1 and V2 went to dinner and when they returned to the residence at approximately 7:05 p.m., Zigler was waiting for them. Zigler followed them into the residence and told them "We're going to talk!" Zigler removed a gun from his pocket, pointed it at V2 when saying they were going to talk, and then began to wave the gun around. V2 said that Zigler was on a rampage. Zigler eventually sat down in a chair that faced V2. V1 later came into the room and sat down next to V2 and facing Zigler. V1 saw the gun in Zigler's lap. Zigler told them the gun was loaded and had one in the chamber. Zigler proceeded to tell V1 where the keys to his apartment were located, that he had contacted his landlord and told his landlord that he could not make his rent payment but that the landlord could have any of his property in his apartment to pay the rent owed. Zigler also provided V1 with building codes and told V1 where his vehicle was located. Zigler was depressed, babbling and repeatedly said "I'm no good!" V1 and V2 talked to Zigler at length telling him about the resources available in the County to help him but Zigler was not listening. Zigler confirmed to V2 that the gun was loaded. V2 stated he got a call from V2's daughter and told her that Zigler was in the house and had a gun and the daughter then called the police. Eventually V2 put the daughter on speaker phone so she could talk to Zigler but Zigler only got more agitated. Eventually an officer spoke to Zigler over V2's phone and told Zigler that help was available but Zigler did not want to listen to the officer. V2 stated that Zigler had the gun pointed into Zigler's mouth but would take the gun out and then put it back into his mouth. V1 and V2 both stated that at that point they heard a shot.

Sgt. Jimmy Holford is the JPD Sniper Supervisor, Crisis Intervention Training Supervisor, and SWAT Commander. Sgt. Holford responded to the scene and assumed command of the incident. Sgt. Holford confirmed with dispatch that Zigler was armed and had pointed the gun at another person. Sgt. Holford had officers secure the scene and establish an entry team. Sgt. Holford could see Zigler in the living room with V1 and V2 and observed Zigler waiving the gun around. Sgt. Holford armed himself with a rifle and positioned another officer to break a window should Sgt. Holford need to fire through the window as he was concerned Zigler could turn the gun onto V1 and V2, and he would not have enough time to react. Sgt. Holford confirmed that Zigler had pointed the gun at V1 and V2 and threatened to shoot them. Sgt. Holford described Zigler's body language as animated with his arms, head and mouth moving. Sgt. Holford observed Zigler take a

pause and a deep breath which was different from his continuous ranting. Sgt. Holford observed Zigler getting agitated again, and he observed Zigler transition his grip on the gun to a grip that would allow Zigler to shoot V1 and V2. Sgt. Holford ordered the other officer to break the window and Sgt. Holford fired his rifle at Zigler.

Immediately upon hearing the shots, the entry team entered the residence and escorted V1 and V2 out of the residence. Officers located Zigler seated in a chair with obvious injuries to his upper torso and head, and located a black semi-automatic handgun on the floor next to the chair where Zigler was located. Paramedics confirmed that Zigler was deceased at the scene.

After reviewing the reports, the body camera video and photographs of the incident and the witness statements, the District Attorney has concluded that Sgt. Holford acted lawfully and in accordance with his duty as a sworn law enforcement officer. Sgt. Holford acted in order to protect the lives of V1 and V2, who were potential victims of Andrew Zigler's life-threatening behavior. It is the conclusion of the Rock County District Attorney that Andrew Zigler was shot as a direct result of his own actions. The Rock County District Attorney further concludes that the use of force by Sgt. Holford was both legal and appropriate under the facts as presented by the independent investigation conducted by DCI and there is no basis for prosecution based upon the officer's actions.

Wisconsin Statute §175.47 requires that, in the event of the death of an individual as the result of an action or inaction by a law enforcement officer, the ensuing investigation must be conducted by an investigative team from an independent agency; DCI therefore conducted the investigation into this matter. The lead investigator in this matter was Special Agent Kenneth Folkers. DCI reviewed all reports, body camera and witness interviews, interviewed law enforcement and civilian witnesses, reviewed Medical Examiner's findings, and collected and examined all necessary evidence.

When the DCI serves as the independent investigative agency, it provides a complete report to the District Attorney for review. If the District Attorney determines there is no basis for prosecution of the law enforcement officer, access to the report as required by §175.47(5)(b) will be posted on DOJ's website:

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dci/officer-involved-critical-incident>

Anyone wishing to obtain copies of records from this investigation should contact the Attorney General's office at:

Department of Justice  
Office of Open Government  
608-267-2220  
[dojcommunications@doj.state.wi.us](mailto:dojcommunications@doj.state.wi.us)

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