

From: [Choi, John](#)
To: [Kelly, John](#); [Dusterhoft, Richard](#)
Cc: [Gerhardstein, Dennis](#)
Subject: Officer Involved Shooting Death of William James Hughes
Date: Tuesday, October 02, 2018 3:54:04 PM

John and Rick,

I have reviewed your memorandum that summarizes the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's (BCA) investigation and body camera videos that were presented to us for prosecution review. In addition, I have reviewed the written opinions and conclusions of Jeff Noble (dated September 12, 2018) and Michael Quinn (dated September 17, 2018). I appreciate the extra effort both of you took in this review to expedite it and engage independent use-of-force and police procedure experts in coming to your recommendation. I hope people in our community will take time to review your memorandum, along with the attached expert opinions and the evidence compiled in this investigation, as I agree this case should not be prosecuted.

The use of deadly force by Saint Paul Police Officers Vincent Adams and Matthew Jones was objectively reasonable given all of the circumstances that they knew, heard and saw before firing their weapons. The officers' actions preceding and during the fatal encounter are consistent with commonly-accepted police practices and training. I respect and appreciate the independent opinions of Jeff Noble and Michael Quinn, as both experts have a body of work and reputation that is well-known to be fair and objective. Both provided important information for us to consider in evaluating this use of deadly force.

The body camera footage that captured the death of William Hughes is traumatic and difficult to watch. This tragedy is something all of us wish had never happened. My deepest sympathies and sorrow are with the family of William Hughes and all of those who loved him, and also extends to Officers Adams and Jones who were placed in this tragic situation.

Please work with the BCA to coordinate the public release of the entire investigative file, with appropriate redactions, concurrent with the public release of this decision. Please also inform the family of Mr. William Hughes, Chief Todd Axtell, and the officers involved in this shooting incident of our decision before it is released to the public. Please let Mr. Hughes' family know I am willing to meet with them to further explain our decision if they wish to do so.

Also, please express my gratitude to the BCA agents who worked to expedite their investigation and agreed to present us information and evidence as they gathered it.

Thank you,

John Choi

