



Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff, Jerry L. Clayton

Media Release

WCSO Response to Attorney General Findings

9/15/2020

Earlier today, the Michigan Office of the Attorney General denied charges against the Deputy Sheriff involved in the use of force incident that took place as a part of the response to a shooting in the Appleridge neighborhood of Ypsilanti Township on Tuesday, May 26th, 2020 (www.washtenaw.org/3166/Appleridge-Incident), stating in her Sept. 15th [press release](#) that the deputies level of force used was justified and appropriate given the level of resistance by those being arrested.

Integrity, honesty and professionalism are the foundation of a law enforcement agency's legitimacy and trust within the communities it serves. The denial of criminal charges regarding the conduct of the involved Deputy Sheriff clears the way for the timely internal administrative review of the matter.

The Office of the Sheriff takes allegations of misconduct seriously. This use of force incident was investigated by specially trained, independent investigators from the Michigan Sheriff's Association Special Investigative Operations Network (MISSION) and reviewed by the Michigan Office of the Attorney General. We are grateful to both for their effort and integrity in the investigation and review.

The Sheriff's Office internal administrative review, which touches upon conduct in relationship to policy and training, is being conducted by the Sheriff's Office of Professional Responsibility and has begun. The Deputy Sheriff in question remains on administrative leave while this internal administrative review takes place. Reference links include:

- Appleridge Incident Details: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3166/Appleridge-Incident>
- Subject Control and Use of Force Policy and Procedure: <https://www.washtenaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/14890/304-Subject-Control---Use-of-Force?bidId=>
- Attorney General Press Conference: <https://www.facebook.com/MIAttorneyGeneral/videos/238217714279489/>
- Attorney General Press Release: https://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,4534,7-359-92297_99936-539625--,00.html
- Sheriff's 21st Century Policing: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3168/21st-Century-Policing-Commission>



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Additionally, the indictments brought against the Grady El's in this matter stem from the Sheriff's Office emergency response to the above referenced May 26th, 2020 Appleridge shooting incident. The Michigan Office of the Attorney General is the prosecuting authority in this instance.

The Sheriff reminds all that a criminal indictment is merely an accusation and that defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

For media inquiries, please contact Director Derrick L. Jackson at (734) 891-2243 or jacksond@washtenaw.org

"An educated and engaged community is our best partner."