

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JARVIS PARSONS
District Attorney

BRIAN BAKER
First Assistant District Attorney



300 E. 26TH STREET
SUITE 310
BRAZOS COUNTY
COURTHOUSE
BRYAN, TEXAS 77803

BRAZOS COUNTY TEXAS

OFF: 979/361-4320
FAX: 979/361-4368

STATEMENT FROM BRAZOS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JARVIS PARSONS REGARDING BRYAN POLICE SHOOTING ON FEBRUARY 12, 2017

Today, a Brazos County Grand Jury completed its investigation of the officer-involved shooting on February 12, 2017, in Bryan, Texas. The Grand Jury concluded its review of the evidence and testimony and determined to take no action in the matter.

Police responded to 5384 Mallard Drive based on 911 calls for a disturbance at that address. Police had previously been to this residence for a call involving the defendant where he was arrested for assault family violence and resisting arrest on December 23, 2016. At that time, a 30-day protective order was issued by a magistrate judge to keep Mr. Baker from contacting the complainant. On February 12th, officers met with the complainant who stated that her ex-boyfriend Calvin Baker was not supposed to be there. While the complainant spoke with officers, Mr. Baker returned to the scene. Police attempted to speak with Mr. Baker, repeatedly asking him to come over and talk. Mr. Baker refused.

Body camera footage retrieved from the officers as well as eyewitness accounts show that the Officer Steven Laughlin repeatedly asked Mr. Baker to speak with him, remove his right hand from his pocket, and show his hands. Mr. Baker refused Officer Laughlin's repeated attempts to defuse the situation. Officer Laughlin repeatedly orders Mr. Baker to "show his hands" and pleads with Mr. Baker to just talk with him about the situation. Mr. Baker refused to comply with the officer's requests, all the while becoming more aggressive in his mannerisms. Mr. Baker repeatedly asks the officer, "Are you ready?" Mr. Baker walks behind a police vehicle and intentionally ducks out of Officer Laughlin's view, only to reappear with his hand coming out of his pocket very quickly and pointing what appeared to be an object at the officer. Audio from the body camera captures the complainant pleading with Mr. Baker to show the officer his hands because they have children together. The footage shows Officer Laughlin continuing to tell Mr. Baker to show his hands again to which Mr. Baker replies, "No. You ready?" Officer Laughlin ordered Mr. Baker to drop what was in his hands. Mr. Baker responded to the officer by saying "I ain't dropping nothing." Finally, the body camera footage captures Calvin Baker pulling a black object from his back pocket and attempting to point the object at the officer. Officer Laughlin then fires multiple shots at Baker, wounding him.

This incident was investigated by the Brazos County District Attorney's Office, the Texas Rangers, and the Bryan Police Department. Investigators collected body camera footage, audio and video recordings, physical evidence, interviewed numerous witnesses and retrieved prior reports of police contact by Mr. Baker. Once the investigation was completed, all evidence was made available to the Grand Jury along with the applicable law. No criminal action will be taken with respect to the officer's actions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jarvis Parsons', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jarvis Parsons
Brazos County District Attorney