



## **Rosemary Lehmborg ☆ Travis County District Attorney**

P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 • Telephone: 512-854-9400 • Fax: 512-854-9534

e-mail: [district.attorney@traviscountytx.gov](mailto:district.attorney@traviscountytx.gov) • [www.traviscountyda.org](http://www.traviscountyda.org)

**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Ken Ervin

512-854-4273

A Travis County Grand Jury has concluded its review of the January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 shooting death of Robert Mesch by Austin Police Department (APD) Officer Daniel Hannah and has declined to issue any indictment against the officer.

During the early morning hours of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, Sheri Mesch called 911 to report that her husband, Robert Mesch, had assaulted her and threatened to kill her as well as himself. The first responding officer found Mrs. Mesch bloodied and walking along their residential street in South Austin. The officer escorted her home to safety after ensuring that Robert Mesch was no longer present at their residence.

Other responding officers found Mr. Mesch nearby driving his Ford Ranger pickup truck. The officers attempted to pull Mr. Mesch over to investigate the disturbance, but he disregarded their lights and sirens and continued driving for approximately ten miles with multiple police vehicles behind him. A tire deflation device was used to flatten one of the truck's tires, but Mr. Mesch continued driving on the wheel's rim.

Mr. Mesch eventually pulled off the road and into the grass near the Walgreens on South Congress Street just north of West Slaughter Lane. While four APD police officers were in the process of stopping their vehicles behind him, Mr. Mesch opened his door and immediately displayed a revolver. Mr. Mesch then stepped out of his truck and pointed the revolver at officers, then raised it in the air. Officer Daniel Hannah yelled at Mr. Mesch to drop the gun, but Mr. Mesch disregarded the commands and continued holding the weapon. Officer Hannah then fired three rounds at Mr. Mesch, striking him twice. Paramedics attempted to help Mr. Mesch, but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Grand Jury spent approximately seven hours reviewing evidence and heard testimony from four witnesses.

Press packets containing documents, audio and video related to the incident are available on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the District Attorney's Office, located at the Criminal Justice Center, 509 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

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