



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

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**For Immediate Release**  
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A Travis County Grand Jury has decided that Austin Police Department (APD) Officer Luke Serrato will not face charges for shooting and killing Sawyer Flache on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Officers responded to the area of Pax Drive and Raccoon Run after a 911 caller reported that there was a male in the street shooting toward the street light located in front of their house. Responding officers heard additional gun shots. Supervisors on scene requested the APD helicopter (Air1) to the scene to locate the shooter and to provide information to the officers as the incident progressed. Air1 had equipment which allowed the officers in the helicopter to see in the dark. When Air1 responded to the scene, the officers on Air1 noticed that the street lights were out and that the area was very dark.

When Air1 arrived, the suspect, Sawyer Flache, began tracking the helicopter with his rifle and firing shots intermittently at Air1. Officers on scene reported over the radio that shots were also being fired in their direction. SWAT was dispatched and a reverse 911 call was placed to the neighbors of the suspect telling them to remain in their houses.

SWAT officer Luke Serrato and three other SWAT team members arrived and advanced toward the location of the suspect. SWAT team member Serrato was one of two designated snipers on scene. Serrato's firearm was equipped with night vision which allowed him to observe the suspect's movements as he advanced toward the suspect. When Serrato saw the suspect drop to a knee and take a supported shooting position aiming toward Air1, Serrato shot and killed the suspect.

The Grand Jury met for 17 hours and heard from 12 witnesses during their consideration of the case.

Press packets containing documents, audio and video related to the incident are available on the 2<sup>nd</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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