



**Rosemary Lehmburg ★ Travis County District Attorney**

P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 • Telephone: 512-854-9400 • Fax: 512-854-9534  
e-mail: [district.attorney@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:district.attorney@co.travis.tx.us) • [www.traviscountyda.org](http://www.traviscountyda.org)

**For Immediate Release**  
September 19, 2012

Contact: Dayna Blazey  
512-854-9265

Travis County District Attorney Rosemary Lehmburg today issued the following statement:

A Travis County grand jury has decided not to indict two peace officers who fired their guns in the line of duty. Austin Police Department (APD) officer Chris Allen and Travis County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) deputy Tracy Stirman were both not billed for the shootings that took place in southwest Travis County on December 5, 2011.

The incident began when the suspect, Todd Michael Zurovetz, stole a vehicle from a residence on Feather Hill Road, in southwest Travis County around 5:30 a.m. APD and TCSO officers spotted the truck and began a pursuit that reached high speeds in rainy conditions through business and residential areas of Travis County. The suspect eventually rammed the stolen truck through the privacy fence of a home on Sawmill Drive and fled the scene on foot.

The suspect was spotted by several residents who saw him jumping fences and moving through the backyards of the neighborhood. The police finally caught up with the suspect when he invaded the home of a couple on Aspen Creek Parkway. The couple managed to escape through a bedroom window and alerted the officers that Zurovetz was inside their home.

As police began to surround the home, the suspect began backing out of the garage in the homeowner's car. Zurovetz refused to obey the officers' orders to halt, and was shot at by APD officer Allen as he sped away in the stolen car. Officer Allen shot and wounded Zurovetz, who continued to speed toward Deputy Stirman, who had stopped his patrol car about a block away. Deputy Stirman also fired at the vehicle as it sped toward him, but did not hit the suspect. Moments later, Zurovetz wrecked the car in a wooded area off Brodie Lane and left that scene and forced his way into another residence nearby.

The APD SWAT team surrounded the home and began a standoff when Zurovetz refused to come out of the residence. After several hours, the SWAT team fired tear gas into the home and Zurovetz surrendered to the police.

Zurovetz is still facing charges as a result of the incident, so the District Attorney's Office will not release any reports or videos until those cases are resolved.

###