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A Travis County Grand Jury has concluded its review of the March 1st, 2013 shooting death of John Schaefer by Austin Police Department (APD) Officer Jonathan Whitted and has declined to issue any indictment related to the incident.

On the morning of March 1st, 2013, Schaefer called 911 to report that he had just shot a dog that had attacked him in his backyard on Lanshire Drive. Officer Whitted was dispatched to handle the disturbance. While en route to the residence, Officer Whitted told a 911 operator to call Schaefer back and request that he not have the handgun on his person when police arrived. Schaefer refused the request, stating that he had a concealed handgun license and would not give his gun up. The 911 operator again requested that Schaefer put the handgun away, but Schaefer again refused and stated that he would be carrying it.

Officer Whitted arrived at Schaefer's residence approximately ten minutes later. As Officer Whitted approached the front door, Schaefer emerged from the residence openly carrying a handgun in a holster on his hip. Officer Whitted reached for one of Schaefer's hands in an attempt to temporarily restrain Schaefer and secure the handgun for the duration of the investigation. In response, Schaefer pulled his hand away and drew the handgun, pointing it at Officer Whitted. Officer Whitted then drew his own handgun and shot Schaefer two times in the chest, killing him.

The Grand Jury heard approximately seven hours of testimony from nine witnesses, including two independent eyewitnesses to the shooting.

Press packets containing documents, audio and video related to the incident are available on the 2nd floor of the District Attorney's Office, located at the Criminal Justice Center, 509 West 11th Street.

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