

Chester County District Attorney's Office

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Attorney's Office Report on Officer-Involved Shooting

On Dec. 23, 2020, a Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) trooper fired a weapon in the line of duty after a high-speed vehicle chase. This incident arose when the driver of a stolen vehicle fled from police driving up to 100 miles per hour on Route 202 in various townships throughout Chester County. After several unsuccessful attempts to stop the vehicle were made over the 21 mile pursuit in heavily trafficked conditions, a PSP trooper discharged his weapon one time into the suspect's vehicle in Westtown Township. There were no injuries to any of the vehicle's five occupants or anyone else at the scene.

Pursuant to the Chester County District Attorney's Office (DAO) policy, the DAO was notified of this officer-involved shooting and conducted an independent investigation, working with the PSP. The DAO received the final police report on this case on Feb. 5, 2021, and made a final decision on Feb. 16, 2021.

The DAO concluded that the officer-involved shooting constituted a lawful use of force according to 18 Pa. C.S.A. §508. The driver was charged with aggravated assault, receiving stolen property, fleeing and eluding, recklessly endangering another person, and other related charges.

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Approved for release by Deborah Ryan, District Attorney