

City of Downey

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PRESS RELEASE

October 19, 2010

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the March 20, 2010, fatal shooting of Stephen Bours by Downey Police Officers and concluded that the officers acted in lawful self-defense.

According to District Attorney Investigators, officers responded to a call of a man with an axe walking in the middle of Paramount Boulevard. Officers ordered the man to drop his weapon, but instead he ignored their repeated commands and advanced toward them. As he did so, he raised the axe, placing the officers in imminent danger of death and prompting them to shoot. An analysis of Bours' blood showed the presence of amphetamine and methamphetamine.

To ensure a fair and impartial investigation into any officer-involved shooting where someone is struck by gunfire, the Downey Police Department adheres to the Los Angeles Countywide policy on officer-involved shooting investigations. Accordingly, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigated this shooting.

Any inquiries may be directed to:

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