

Patrol rules shooting by deputy justified - Carthage Press, The (MO) - March 7, 2018 - page 9

March 7, 2018 | Carthage Press, The (MO) | The Carthage Press | Page 9

The Missouri State Highway Patrol has ruled a Jasper County Sheriff's Deputy was justified in shooting a Joplin man who investigators say charged deputies with a knife in a home in Joplin on Jan. 2.

The shooting victim, **Louis C. Miller**, 66, died of a single gunshot wound.

The Sheriff's Office said the Patrol cleared Deputy Jason Hutchins of any wrong-doing in the incident.

According to a written statement released by the Sheriff's Office on Friday, the investigation into the shooting was immediately turned over to the Patrol, and the results were returned this week to the Sheriff's Office and Jasper County Prosecutor.

The report says Hutchins responded to 901 N. Landreth Avenue at about 3 p.m., Jan. 2, when deputies with the Sheriff's Office Civil Process Division called for help regarding a man in the home with a knife.

Civil Process officers were attempting to serve an order of protection to Miller at the home.

"Upon contacting him at the residence he picked up a large knife," the Sheriff's Office said in its statement on Friday. "Deputies gave repeated commands for Miller to drop the knife. Miller pointed the knife in their direction and charged at them. Deputy Hutchins fired one shot, striking Miller in the chest. He died from the wound."