

Bucks DA clears two police officers in fatal - Philadelphia Daily News (PA) - March 25, 2018 - page 11

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Bucks County District Attorney Matthew D. Weintraub said Friday that he found that two Bristol Township police officers were justified in fatally shooting a stabbing suspect who allegedly was wielding a hatchet earlier this month.

Jose Gomez-Burgos, 29, of New York City, was shot three times and died on March 2 after he allegedly emerged from a stolen vehicle parked on Edgely Road near Runway Road in Bristol Township with a raised hatchet. Officers David Wiser and Patrick Kitchenman ordered him to stop and drop the weapon, but Gomez-Burgos did not heed their commands and was within 5 to 8 feet from the officers when they opened fire, Weintraub said.

After shooting Gomez-Burgos, the officers found that he also was holding a knife hidden in his left hand, Weintraub said. The district attorney's decision was aided by two videos recorded by cameras on police vehicles, Weintraub said.

The officers were "fully justified" in firing their weapons, he said. Burgos-Gomez was wanted by New York City police for stabbing the mother of his children earlier that day.