

Commish backs cops in slaying - New York Daily News (NY) - January 31, 2018 - page 11

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NYPD COMMISSIONER James O'Neill said Tuesday that the two officers who fatally shot a knife-wielding Bronx man acted appropriately.

The department's top cop said he reviewed 14 seconds of body camera footage of the deadly encounter and believed the police response was by the books.

"I am satisfied and I'm glad that the police officers walked away from that safely," O'Neill said. "It was a violent encounter."

The two uniformed officers, from the 48th Precinct, responded to a 911 call of a stabbing at East 181st St. and Prospect Ave. at 7:40 p.m. Monday.

They confronted **Michael Hansford**, who was wielding a combat knife and chasing his landlord down a street outside his Belmont home, police said.

Before they opened fire, the cops repeatedly ordered Hansford, 52, to drop his weapon. They shot him when he turned toward them, according to NYPD Chief of Patrol Rodney Harrison.

The officers "engaged the individual, asked him several times to drop the knife, at which time he lunged at the officers and officers discharged their firearms at him," Harrison said.