

DA to announce today whether Manheim Township - LNP (Lancaster, PA) - May 23, 2018

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Lancaster County District Attorney Craig Stedman will say today whether a fatal shot fired by a Manheim Township police officer earlier this month was an appropriate use of force.

Stedman plans to make his determination public at a news conference at the Lancaster County Courthouse at noon.

An East Petersburg man was killed by a single shot from the officer after a confrontation outside the Manheim Township police station May 8.

Officials said the man, 65-year-old **John Simson**, arrived at the station armed with a shotgun. Simson shot himself in the face before the officer returned a fatal, single shot, according to Lancaster County Coroner Dr. Stephen Diamantoni.

Simson was not fully incapacitated by the self-inflicted wound, and he posed a threat to officers and people in the area of the police station, the district attorney's office has said.

Simson had been charged a few days prior with sexually abusing a young girl. He was arraigned on the charges and posted bail.

The officer, who has not been identified, has been on paid, administrative leave since the shooting.

As district attorney, Stedman decides whether use of force is appropriate when a police officer fires a gun.

Follow LancasterOnline for live updates during the news conference.

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