

No charges for Louisiana trooper in fleeing driver's death

ALANNA DURKIN RICHER; COLLIN BINKLEY . AP English Language News (includes AP 50 State Report) ; New York [New York]12 Mar 2019.

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FULL TEXT

HAMMOND, La. (AP) - A Louisiana state trooper who fired six shots into a vehicle fleeing a traffic stop will not be charged in the driver's death.

Citing documents released Monday, The Advocate reports District Attorney Scott Perrilloux decided the September shooting of 23-year-old Coltin LeBlanc was justified.

Body camera video shows Trooper Andre Bezou grabbing the driver's doorframe as LeBlanc tries to drive off.

Prosecutors say Bezou would have been dragged or tossed if he hadn't opened fire.

Sherry LeBlanc says Bezou put his own life in danger by grabbing on and didn't have the right to kill her son. An attorney is planning to sue on behalf of Coltin LeBlanc's toddler.

Lt. Nick Manale says State Police will determine whether Bezou will be disciplined for policy violations. He's returned to regular duty.

Information from: The Advocate, <http://theadvocate.com>

Credit: By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press

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