

## **DA: Larimer deputy justified in fatal October - Daily Reporter-Herald, The (Loveland, CO) - November 16, 2018**

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The lethal force used by Larimer County Sheriff's Deputy Matthew Bordewick to shoot and kill 25-year-old **Travis Craven** has been deemed justified by the Larimer County District Attorney's Office.

A Friday opinion letter from Cliff Riedel stated that Bordewick's decision to shoot Craven Oct. 8 was based on his belief that Craven intended to shoot at deputies with a deadly weapon, in this case, a pistol.

A Critical Incident Response Team investigation headed by the Loveland Police Department revealed that after a high-speed pursuit and a PIT maneuver used to run Craven off the road, Bordewick exited his vehicle and demanded that Craven drop his pistol. Craven refused after multiple commands, and "squared up" to point his gun at Bordewick, who then fired four to five rounds.

Three of those rounds connected with Craven; a shot above his left eye is believed to have been the fatal round.

Riedel said three citizen witnesses saw the shooting, and all three testified that Craven had attempted to shoot at Bordewick before being shot.

Further investigation revealed that Craven — a Greeley resident — had used methamphetamine. His parents told authorities that in the days before his death, Craven had visited one of their properties in Red Feather Lakes and left the place "in disarray," leaving evidence of meth use.

His parents also said Craven had been "strung out" on meth for some time and often had delusions about his father being an undercover law enforcement officer.

On Oct. 8, Craven had an altercation with his father at the Red Feather Lakes apartment and at one point, struck his father in the face with the butt of a shotgun, according to Riedel's letter. He also dealt several blows to his father, choked him, and held a pistol to his head, threatening to kill him. Craven left his father there and told him he was going to kill the family dog, Sassy, before leaving in his white Subaru.

Craven's father got in contact with Larimer County dispatch, and Sheriff's Deputy Nathan Rankin arrived on scene to follow up on the incident.

While Rankin was there, Craven returned in the white Subaru. Rankin drew his gun and ordered Craven to cooperate, but instead Craven released Sassy, ran to his vehicle and sped off; Rankin alerted dispatch of the incident and the chase soon followed; Bordewick performed his PIT

maneuver at 12:39 p.m., and 10 seconds later — according to dispatch records — shot Craven.

Craven's father told Rankin that Craven intended to "shoot it out" with law enforcement and force someone to shoot him.

Riedel's letter concluded that if Craven had survived the incident, he would've faced charges of first-degree attempted murder of a peace officer, second-degree assault, menacing with a deadly weapon and vehicular eluding. He added that both Craven's father and Bordewick had undergone reasonable fear for their lives as the result of Craven's actions that day.

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