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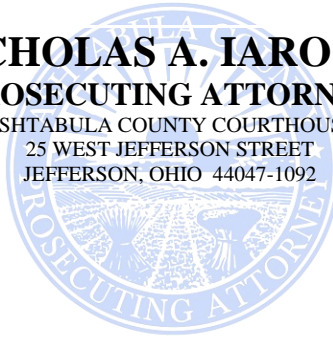
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December 19, 2018

On December 18, 2018, the Ashtabula County Grand Jury reviewed all of the evidence related to the September 28, 2018 shooting death of Terry W. Benson, Jr. in Saybrook Township.

On October 1, 2018, a charge of Voluntary Manslaughter had been filed and, as of December 18, remained pending against **Kevin Dale Kettlewood** in Ashtabula Municipal Court involving Mr. Benson's death. Mr. Kettlewood had been arrested by the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department on September 28, 2018, the date of the incident. While the case was pending in Ashtabula Municipal Court, all evidence was presented directly to the Grand Jury for consideration of charges against Mr. Kettlewood.

After reviewing all of the evidence in this case, the Grand Jury determined that insufficient probable cause existed to support the filing of criminal charges against Mr. Kettlewood and returned a "No Bill". In other words, the Grand Jury determined that Mr. Kettlewood should not be criminally prosecuted for Mr. Benson's death. It appears that the primary basis for the Grand Jury's decision is that Mr. Kettlewood's use of deadly force by shooting Mr. Benson was justifiable since he exhibited a bona fide belief and had reasonable grounds to believe, even if mistaken, that he was in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and that his only means of escape was by taking the life of Mr. Benson.

My office is appreciative of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department, Ohio Highway Patrol, and Ashtabula County Coroner's Office for their professional and thorough work in investigating this case. We offer our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Terry W. Benson, Jr. for their loss.

Very truly yours,

*Nicholas A. Iarocci*

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