



Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Titusville, Florida

To: Chief Deputy Douglas Waller

From: Agent Joseph Bracey, Staff Services Unit

Date: July 1, 2019

Re: Administrative Investigation 2018-CI-041

Major Kelly Haman #269, Lieutenant George Fayson #385,
Sergeant Richard Zimmerman #943, [REDACTED]
FTO Robert Wagner Jr. #1121, Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz #2080,
Corrections Deputy DaShawn Edward #2150, Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno #4314

D. Waller
J. Bracey
Finances

I. Summary:

On January 23, 2019, Chief Deputy Douglas Waller authorized a formal Administrative Investigation to be conducted by the Staff Services Unit into the facts and circumstances related to the death of Gregory Edwards.

On December 9, 2018, at approximately 11:19 a.m., Officer Jacob Mathis from the West Melbourne Police was conducting a routine patrol in the Walmart parking lot at 845 Palm Bay Road when he encountered a citizen requesting assistance. Officer Mathis noted in his case report that the citizen reported that there was a fight in progress near the store's entrance. Officer Mathis responded to the area of the store's entrance and observed two males in an active physical altercation. One of the subjects, who was later identified as Mr. [REDACTED] was holding down another subject identified as Mr. Gregory Edwards. Officer Mathis quickly determined that Mr. Edwards was the aggressor in the altercation and immediately directed [REDACTED] to remove himself from on top of Mr. Edwards, as he assumed [REDACTED] position in trying to restrain Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards aggressively resisted Officer Mathis' attempts to secure and place him under arrest. Mr. Edwards attempted to bite Officer Mathis and flailed his arms and legs in an attempt to get Officer Mathis off of him. With assistance of WMPD Sergeant Perez and WMPD Officer Krukoski, Officer Mathis was able to fully restrain Mr. Edwards and place him in handcuffs. WMPD obtained statements from those involved or witness to the altercation, as documented in WMPD Case Report 2018-00036323 and the associated supplemental reports.

The altercation was initiated by Mr. Edwards who had climbed into the back of a white box truck containing donated toys for the "Kids Without Christmas" charity. While in the back of the box truck, Mr. Edwards was verbally addressed by [REDACTED] who was a worker in the truck loading donated toys. [REDACTED] told Mr. Edwards he needed to leave the truck, at which time Mr. Edwards removed his shoes, laughed, and fell backwards into bags of toys. Eventually, Mr. Edwards got up and exited the box truck. [REDACTED] reported that he then heard [REDACTED] screaming for help and observed Mr. Edwards striking [REDACTED] from behind. [REDACTED] stated he pulled Mr. Edwards off of [REDACTED] tackled him, and physically held him down on the ground until WMPD officers arrived.

Based on Officer Mathis' observations when he arrived at the scene, coupled with the statements obtained from the witnesses present, Mr. Edwards was placed under arrest for violent and unprovoked attack on [REDACTED]. As a result of his violent behavior, Mr. Edwards had to be restrained with handcuffs and leg shackles and secured in a marked WMPD patrol vehicle after an aggressive active physical resistance to avoid arrest. Mr. Edwards was charged with *F.S.S. 784.04 Battery*. He was further charged with *F.S.S. 843.01 Resist Officer with Violence* for his active physical resistance with Officer Mathis to include attempting to bite.

The investigation determined that Mr. Edwards was on felony probation for a previous felony battery on LEO/Fire/Medic that occurred in October 2017 (05-2017-CF-48115) and was subsequently charged with *948.06 VOP On-Site (Violation of Felony Probation)*. WMPD Officer Krukoski completed the arrest documentation and transported Mr. Edwards to the Brevard County Jail Complex.

At the scene, WMPD Sergeant Perez spoke to Mr. Edwards' wife, Kathleen Edwards, who was present. During a recorded statement, Mrs. Edwards provided information that Mr. Edwards is a military veteran, combat medic, and that he suffers from a medical condition known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In the interview she noted that he left military service in 2007. She explained that Mr. Edwards was going through what she described as a "psychotic episode," adding that she has noticed he has been acting strange for a few days.

Mrs. Edwards stated that she brought him along with her to go shopping at Walmart because she feared if she left him alone at home he may harm himself and added that he has threatened to do so in the past. Mrs. Edwards stated that she believed Mr. Edwards would go into a "manic" state around the holidays and that he had not been taking his prescribed medications.

Mrs. Edwards indicated that he had an appointment at the VA Hospital on December 10, 2018, regarding his PTSD and the fact that he had not been taking his prescribed medication and hadn't slept in four days. Mrs. Edwards also informed Sergeant Perez that Mr. Edwards was on probation, indicating that in 2017 Mr. Edwards was Baker Acted and after arriving at [REDACTED] he had attacked members of the medical staff.

At no time during WMPD's interview with Mrs. Edwards was any mention made that Mr. Edwards had ingested or inhaled any chemical compounds or substances that could have detrimental impacts to his behavior and/or life functions. WMPD was not made aware that Mr. Edwards had previously ingested any substance and therefore would have no knowledge of it to relay the information to BCSO upon Mr. Edwards' entry into the Jail.

Based on the information provided by Mrs. Edwards that Mr. Edwards may harm himself, coupled with Mr. Edwards' erratic, unprovoked violent behavior, a Form-52 Baker Act form was completed by WMPD in addition to his criminal charges.

The Baker Act allows for involuntary examination. It can be initiated by judges, law enforcement officials, physicians, or mental health professionals. There must be evidence that the person: possibly has a mental illness (as defined in the Baker Act) or is in danger of becoming a harm to self, harm to others, or is self-neglectful (as defined in the Baker Act). Examinations may last up to 72 hours.

Mr. Edwards was not medically cleared prior to transport by WMPD to the Brevard County Jail Complex.

BCFR Trainee Laura Clarisse provided in her sworn interview that she recalled someone from the West Melbourne Police Department stating it was unsafe to check on Mr. Edwards because he could possibly kick them.

Upon the conclusion of the investigation at the scene, Officer Krukoski transported Mr. Edwards directly to the Brevard County Jail. Officer Krukoski provided a sworn witness statement to Major Crimes Unit investigators that Mr. Edwards was initially calm when he was secured in the patrol car after his arrest, however his behavior began escalating as he transported him to the Jail. Mr. Edwards began yelling, to include commenting that he should be let out of the vehicle. Officer Krukoski advised that it sounded to him as if Mr. Edwards was kicking at the dividing partition in the vehicle. He explained that Mr. Edwards' behavior fluctuated from a calm to agitated state during the transport.

The entirety of Mr. Edwards' time in the patrol vehicle is recorded on the vehicles interior camera system, which is also equipped with audio-recording capability. While Mr. Edwards is in the patrol vehicle, he made several statements that are captured on the video recording at specific time stamps, to include the following: At 28:00 minutes, asking that his cuffs be removed. At 38:19 minutes, refusing medical evaluation from Fire Rescue while still in the parking lot of the Walmart store. At 1:01:00 minutes, asking for something to eat. At 1:05:46, he says he feels like he has frostbite. At 1:09:40, he says he cannot feel his hands. At 1:10:00, he tells the WMPD officer to pull over because he cannot feel anything in his arms and asks if the officer is trying to kill him. At 1:11:00 he asks him to pull over again because he cannot feel his hands. At 1:12:00 he states he needs to use the bathroom and still cannot feel his hands. At 1:12:48 the WMPD officer closes the partition in the vehicle between himself and Mr. Edwards. At 1:13:34, Mr. Edwards says he wants

to go to an outpatient clinic. At 1:16:00 he begins singing "I fucked your mom" and then states that he can barely see anything.

While Officer Krukoski was enroute to the Brevard County Jail Complex, WMPD Sergeant Perez notified Sergeant Zimmerman in the Booking Unit at the Jail Complex that they were delivering a combative male to the Jail and they requested assistance from the Jail staff upon arrival. Sergeant Zimmerman stated that he was advised by WMPD that the arrestee was a military veteran that suffered from a diagnosis of PTSD.

Mrs. Edwards was interviewed by CIS Agent Jennifer Straight on the evening of December 9, 2018, who advised that Mr. Edwards had previously ingested or inhaled chemical compounds or substances. Mrs. Edwards advised that Mr. Edwards had been "huffing" aerosol cans of Endust for several days prior to his arrest. During the interview, Agent Straight discovered numerous cans of Dust Off in the trash bin in a room frequently used by Mr. Edwards after Mrs. Edwards pointed out that he had been huffing. Mrs. Edwards told the agents that she never goes in the room that the aerosol cans were found in and added that it is a room Mr. Edwards frequently uses. Mrs. Edwards told the agents that she saw Mr. Edwards huffing the aerosol cans yesterday (December 8, 2018). She stated that she confronted Mr. Edwards about huffing the contents of the canisters, but did not provide any explanation. Mrs. Edwards also stated that she assumed he was huffing because he was on probation and therefore cannot drink or use any other controlled substances if he were to be tested. Mrs. Edwards indicated that Mr. Edwards frequently consumes alcohol and may have substituted the aerosol in place of alcohol. Investigators documented the trash bin containing multiple canisters with a digital photograph. Mrs. Edwards asked the agents to notify the attending physicians of Mr. Edwards' to inform them of his use of the chemical/product.

Upon arrival at the Jail, Sergeant Zimmerman and FTO Wagner assisted Officer Krukoski in escorting Mr. Edwards into the Jail without incident.

All interactions with Mr. Edwards are captured by video recordings from the Walmart parking area through his transport from the Brevard County Jail by BCFR.

Once inside the facility, Mr. Edwards was patted down and escorted to the changing room where he changed out of his personally owned clothing. Mr. Edwards was then placed in holding cell #7 by himself. He was placed in holding cell #7 to have time to calm down after the incident that led to his arrest with the intent that he would be able to be photographed and fingerprinted for the completion of the booking process. Immediately upon entering the cell, Mr. Edwards begins to show signs of agitation. He begins doing pushups on the bench as FTO Wagner enters the cell to provide him with a bagged lunch to eat. Mr. Edwards begins eating items from the bagged lunch as he conducts bodyweight dips on the bench in the cell. Mr. Edwards then appears to drink water from the sink in the cell and then eats more items from the bagged lunch as he completes seated twist stretches. Mr. Edwards then begins to pace around his cell, prior to attempting to open an access

panel in the wall. He then sits down and begins tossing his lunch bag up and down to himself before throwing it at the wall across the cell. He retrieves the bag and begins tossing it to himself again.

After several minutes, Mr. Edwards appears to be growing impatient and begins to pace around the cell while eating. He does what appears to be a shadow boxing slow punch towards the walls a few times and completes more twist stretches. It appears Mr. Edwards then begins talking to himself and he makes hand gestures as if he is making a point in a conversation as he paces around in the cell. As he paces around, it appears that he begins to become increasingly agitated and begins to yell. He approached the door at one point and appeared to crack his knuckles. He is observed pacing around the cell and then approaches the door and bangs on the window. After a few seconds, he turns and hits the wall next to him. He then paces around the cell and returns to the door and begins to hit the door's window several times with significant force. Mr. Edwards then paces near the door with both fists clenched prior to going back to the door and hitting it multiple times.

Mr. Edwards continues to show increasing aggressive behavior as he violently strikes the door's window several more times as he appears to yell. [REDACTED] approaches the door and appears to say something to Mr. Edwards, who responds by backing away from the door as he adjusts his pants and then rapidly steps forward hitting the door's window with both hands multiple times. After a few moments, [REDACTED] returns to the door and opens it, handing Mr. Edwards a pair of jail issued slides (flip flops), which Mr. Edwards drops to the ground, steps on, and then walks away from without putting them on his feet. [REDACTED] and Mr. Edwards can be seen with a verbal exchange where it appears [REDACTED] is trying to convince Mr. Edwards to walk with him to an area of the booking room to complete the booking process. Mr. Edwards begins to walk away from [REDACTED] in the opposite direction that [REDACTED] is attempting to lead him. [REDACTED] places his hand on Mr. Edwards shoulder in an attempt to guide him towards the area he needs him to go and Mr. Edwards appears to comply at first, taking steps in the correct direction. Mr. Edwards then abruptly stops where he swings his arm in an attempt to remove [REDACTED] hand from his shoulder and then appears to tense up and pull away. [REDACTED] still has his hand on Mr. Edwards shoulder as he grabs his clothing. Mr. Edwards (6'-00" 256 lbs.) then attempts to pull away, swinging his left arm in what appears to be an attempt to punch [REDACTED] in the face, both [REDACTED] and Mr. Edwards go to the floor. [REDACTED] lands on his back with his head hitting the concrete floor. Mr. Edwards lands on top of [REDACTED] in a position of dominance and begins violently striking [REDACTED] in the torso and face. It appears that Mr. Edwards also has a strong grasp of [REDACTED] duty belt.

FTO Wagner and Sergeant Zimmerman observe and respond to assist [REDACTED] and try to stop Mr. Edwards' physical attack and active resistance. While [REDACTED] is trying to free himself from Mr. Edwards' grasp, Sergeant Zimmerman tries to free [REDACTED] head from Mr. Edwards' arm while FTO Wagner utilizes several closed fist strikes to Mr. Edwards' leg. Corrections Deputy Popielarczyk provides assistance by controlling

Mr. Edwards' legs to limit his ability to kick the deputies. As the struggle continues, [REDACTED] deploys his agency issued OC Spray, spraying an approximate 2-3 second spray to the area of Mr. Edwards' face. The combination of closed fist strikes and the use of the OC Spray appear to have no effect on Mr. Edwards as he is observed continuing to resist all control efforts.

Lieutenant Fayson arrives at the scene and assesses the need for additional assistance. In an effort to gain control of the combative inmate, Lieutenant Fayson utilizes several knee strikes to Mr. Edwards' upper thigh area. This effort also appears to have no effect in gaining compliance from Mr. Edwards and he continues to resist. [REDACTED] uses a closed fist strike technique with the intent of gaining control of Mr. Edwards' arms. This technique fails to have the desired effect and efforts to pull Mr. Edwards' arms from beneath him also fail. Corrections Deputy Ceden arrives and assumes control of Mr. Edwards' legs, relieving Corrections Deputy Popielarczyk. As the struggle continues, the deputies are able to maneuver Mr. Edwards onto his stomach, however, he continues to keep his hands from being handcuffed, displaying what the deputies described in their interviews as excessive strength.

Sergeant Zimmerman then holds Mr. Edwards' head between his legs to control the movement of his head as he attempts a pressure point technique to obtain compliance from Mr. Edwards. This technique does not appear to have an effect. Corrections Deputy DaShawn Edward also assists the control efforts in applying hand restraints to Mr. Edwards.

Major Haman arrives and assesses the situation and determines more response to resistance is required to safely control the situation. As Corrections Deputy Blazewicz enters the booking area, Major Haman directs her to deploy her ECW. Corrections Deputy Blazewicz deploys the ECW probes to the lower back of Mr. Edwards, however, it fails to gain compliance. Corrections Deputy Blazewicz deploys a drive stun technique and this too appears to have no effect on Mr. Edwards' lack of compliance, as he continues to violently resist. Eventually, the deputies are able to pull Mr. Edwards' hands out from underneath of his body and pull them together behind his back and successfully place handcuffs on him. At this time, all response to resistance techniques are ceased as they have safely secured Mr. Edwards' in handcuffs. Mr. Edwards is still resistant and non-compliant.

Lieutenant Fayson determined that the deployment of the Emergency Restraint Chair (ERC) was necessary to safely and securely restrain Mr. Edwards. Lieutenant Fayson also determined that due to the aggressive and unpredictable behavior of Mr. Edwards, the handcuffs would be left on, behind his back, and he would be seated and strapped in to the restraint chair in that position. *The ERC is equipped with a hole in the rear of the chair designed to accommodate hand restraints behind the back of the positioned individual.* While Mr. Edwards was being secured in the ERC, Sergeant Zimmerman performed a pressure technique with the intent to control Mr. Edwards' head movement. Both shoulder straps were then applied, the lap belt was applied and the ankle straps were applied. FTO

Wagner and Corrections Deputy Edward checked the straps for proper fit to ensure they were not too tight. This process was observed and monitored by Lieutenant Fayson and Major Haman. Armor Correctional Health Nurse Nadeau can be seen on the video in the background also monitoring the situation. Major Haman ordered that a spit mask be applied to Mr. Edwards while in the ERC to prevent him from spitting.

The spit mask is made of 100% polyester and is latex free. The mask is a see-through breathable mesh device placed over the head and face to prevent spit, mucus, or other bodily fluids from being spit at others nearby. The spit mask is vented/breathable and does not restrict normal breathing.

According to Major Haman, the use of the vented spit mask in correlation to the use of OC Spray and the use of the ERC can be used together as a preventative measure to eliminate exposure of bodily fluids to corrections personnel. In this incident, Mr. Edwards was not actively attempting to spit on anyone, however, the mucus and sinus drainage from the use of the OC Spray could have resulted in unnecessary exposure.

At the time of the physical altercation, other inmates that were out in the booking area were secured in the nearest holding cells. One inmate was moved into housing cell #7 where Mr. Edwards had been initially secured.

After being fully secured in the restraint chair, the corrections deputies observed Mr. Edwards for approximately six (6) minutes to ensure he had no difficulty breathing and was not in any distress. Mr. Edwards made no complaints of any pain and made no complaints of having any difficulty in breathing. He was then moved in the ERC to holding cell #9. Holding cell #8 was also vacant, but the physical altercation had occurred right outside the door to #8 and the floor area at the door had OC spray that had not been cleaned. Mr. Edwards was alone in cell #9, however, he was visually monitored from those in the booking area, who had a clear visual of him in the cell. Furthermore, each individual cell is equipped with an overhead camera and those camera feeds are accessible from any computer terminal in the facility with the installed exacqVision Client software. Specifically, personnel with the rank of sergeant and above have the required "permissions" to access the software. The Unit 1 (Booking Sergeant Office) has this software. From my review of the video, Mr. Edwards was monitored moving in the chair in the holding cell.

FTO Wagner conducted a visual observation of Mr. Edwards in the restraint chair followed by another visual observation accompanied by Nurse Nadeau. Nurse Nadeau noted in her medical notes that Mr. Edwards was still behaving too aggressively for her to approach for vitals, but noted that he was alert, oriented and hollering in the chair. Nurse Nadeau noted in her medical notes that at approximately 1430 hours, Mr. Edwards stopped yelling and was slumping over in the ERC. He was unresponsive, however, he was blinking and breathing. From review of the BCJC video recording, Nurse Nadeau was alerted by Corporal Mustafa that Mr. Edwards may be in some form of medical distress. Corporal Wagner, Lieutenant Fayson and Nurse Nadeau all approach the door to holding cell #9.

Corporal Wagner retrieves the key to the cell door and he and Lieutenant Fayson enter the cell to evaluate and attempt to get a response from Mr. Edwards. Nurse Nadeau remains in the cell doorway and observes. When it is apparent that Mr. Edwards is unresponsive, Nurse Nadeau goes to her office and retrieves the oxygen supply tank. Nurse Nadeau documents in her medical notes that [REDACTED]

Mr. Edwards was transported to the medical unit for further evaluation. Upon arrival at the medical unit, Nurse Ashley Fried noted in her medical notes that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She instructed that 911 be notified and she requested that Mr. Edwards be removed from the ERC and that CPR be initiated. CPR was initiated and an AED device was applied, however a shock was never advised by the device.

An AED is an Automated External Defibrillator, which is a device used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It is a medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

CPR efforts were maintained by Corrections personnel pending the arrival of Brevard County Fire Rescue personnel. Upon arrival, BCFR assumed medical care responsibilities and subsequently transported Mr. Edwards to the [REDACTED]. Upon delivery to [REDACTED] on December 9, 2018, Mr. Edwards was admitted. Dr. Edward Lin pronounced Mr. Edwards deceased on December 10, 2018, at 8:00 p.m.

The Criminal Investigative Services of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office conducted a death investigation into the facts and circumstances relating to Mr. Edwards. The investigative findings are documented in BCSO Case Report 2018-00434257, which is included as an enclosure of this Administrative Investigation.

As a result of this critical incident, Major Haman, Lieutenant Fayson, Sergeant Zimmerman, [REDACTED] FTO Wagner, Corrections Deputy Cedeno, Corrections Deputy Edward, Corrections Deputy Blazewicz were all directed to submit to a post incident drug screen. The drug screens were conducted on December 10, 2018. The results [REDACTED]

II. Possible Policy Violations

- 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation

III. Witness:

**Sergeant Michael Charest
Career Development Unit**

On Friday, February 15, 2019, at approximately 2:36 p.m., I met with Sergeant Michael Charest at the Staff Services Office in order to conduct a sworn, audio recorded witness interview with him regarding the diagnostic ECW download he completed on December 9, 2018, for Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz's ECW. Sergeant Charest advised, in essence, the following:

Deputy Blazewicz is issued an X26 ECW/Taser, which is automatically set by the factory to provide a five second shock with each individual pull of the trigger. If the trigger is held, the ECW would continue to cycle longer than five seconds until the trigger is released. As a result of the ECW download, Sergeant Charest was able to observe that Corrections Deputy Blazewicz discharged the ECW by the application of pulling the trigger six times. In this circumstance, three of the deployments are for a total of five seconds, and three of the deployments are longer than five seconds, ranging in time between 10-13 seconds, meaning the trigger was pulled and held by Corrections Deputy Blazewicz past the initial five second automatic discharge.

In regards to the timestamp on the ECW download, Sergeant Charest advised the timestamp correlates to the ending of the ECW cycle. For example, if the ECW deployment is shown at "09 Dec 2018 13:58:35" with a duration of ten seconds, the actual activation of the ECW was at "09 Dec 2018 13:58:25". As far as the temperature displayed on the download, it relates to the internal temperature of the ECW during each activation in Degrees Celsius and has no effect on the application of the ECW on an individual. The "*Battery Remaining*" category on the ECW download reflects the effective battery life remaining on the ECW prior to needing a new battery.

It should be noted that Sergeant Charest is the Brevard County Sheriff's Office certified Master Taser Instructor. Sergeant Charest is trained and certified by Taser International (manufacturer of the X26 Taser). Deputy Blazewicz is a certified user of the Taser X26 and was trained with the usage of the specific ECW on January 3, 2017.

**Deborah Nadeau
Licensed Practical Nurse - Armor Correctional**

On December 13, 2018, at approximately 1221 hours, Criminal Investigative Services Agent Jennifer Straight conducted a voluntary, sworn, audio-recorded interview with Nurse Deborah Nadeau at the Brevard County Jail Complex, located at 860 Camp Road, Cocoa, Brevard County, Florida. The interview was conducted in relation with BCSO investigation 2018-00434257.

Nurse Nadeau stated in substance the following:

Deborah Nadeau has been employed by Armor Correctional as an LPN for the past nine years. Nurse Nadeau stated she has been assigned to the Brevard County Jail Complex for the entire time period.

On December 9, 2018, Nurse Nadeau began her shift at 6:00 a.m., and was assigned to the Booking area.

During the course of her shift, Nurse Nadeau was told that an outside agency was bringing in an arrestee, later identified as inmate Gregory Edwards who was combative, had PTSD and had not been taking his prescribed medications.

Nurse Nadeau advised she did not see Gregory Edwards arrive in Booking, however, she did see him banging on the glass of holding cell number seven (7) where a corrections deputy addressed him through the holding cell window. When Inmate Edwards continued to bang on the cell window, the corrections deputy readdressed Inmate Edwards and told him he was going to process him. The corrections deputy then led Inmate Edwards out of cell number seven (7) and Inmate Edwards appeared calm. When the corrections deputy told Inmate Edwards to move towards the camera for photographs and fingerprints, Inmate Edwards appeared to refuse. Nurse Nadeau stated the corrections deputy then asked Inmate Edwards to go to the camera again, but Edwards still refused. Nurse Nadeau stated the corrections deputy then went to reach for Inmate Edwards and Inmate Edwards struck the deputy in the face. Nurse Nadeau saw the deputy and inmate immediately fall to the ground where it appeared as if the corrections deputy struck his head on the concrete floor.

Nurse Nadeau stated Inmate Edwards then got on top of the corrections deputy and she called for the assistance of the other corrections deputies who immediately responded. Nurse Nadeau described Inmate Edwards as having "super strength."

Nurse Nadeau stated once Inmate Edwards was restrained, he was placed in the ERC. Nurse Nadeau stated she did not medically assess Inmate Edwards at that time because he was combative and screaming. Nurse Nadeau stated she was directed by BCJC personnel to allow Inmate Edwards to calm down before she medically evaluated him.

Nurse Nadeau stated approximately ten to fifteen minutes later she heard Inmate Edwards abruptly yell and then stop. Nurse Nadeau and corrections deputies immediately responded to Inmate Edwards' holding cell. Nurse Nadeau stated Inmate Edwards' eyes were open, he appeared lethargic and had no movement. Nurse Nadeau stated a corrections deputy then removed the "spit mask" from him and she applied a sternum rub, which did not elicit a response from Inmate Edwards. Nurse Nadeau then went to her office and obtained an oxygen mask, which she placed on Inmate Edwards. Nurse Nadeau stated Inmate Edwards' [REDACTED] Nurse Nadeau stated he still wasn't acting what she described as normal [REDACTED] Nurse Nadeau

stated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nurse Nadeau stated she then made the decision to have Inmate Edwards taken to the Medical Ward while secured in the ERC. Upon arrival at the Medical Ward, other medical staff assumed care for Inmate Edwards.

Nurse Nadeau advised after Inmate Edwards was transported to [REDACTED] she observed there [REDACTED]

This concluded Nurse Nadeau's interaction with Inmate Gregory Edwards.

On March 11, 2019, at approximately 12:48 p.m., Agent Straight conducted a follow-up voluntary, sworn, audio-recorded interview with Nurse Deborah Nadeau at the Brevard County Jail Complex, located at 860 Camp Road, Cocoa, Brevard County, Florida.

Nurse Nadeau stated in substance the following:

Nurse Nadeau advised she remembered the incident that took place at the BCJC on December 9, 2018, involving inmate Gregory Edwards. Nurse Nadeau advised prior to Gregory Edwards arriving at the BCJC, a booking officer advised, "They had a combative coming in." Nurse Nadeau did not remember who made the statement.

Nurse Nadeau stated that Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] was the deputy who addressed Inmate Edwards banging on the glass of holding cell number seven (7). Nurse Nadeau reported Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] then asked her if she was ready to screen Inmate Edwards at which Nurse Nadeau agreed. When Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] proceeded to retrieve Inmate Edwards for processing, he was still banging on cell window. Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] addressed Inmate Edwards and told him he was going to process him and led Inmate Edwards out of cell number seven (7). Nurse Nadeau advised that Inmate Edwards appeared calm. Nurse Nadeau stated that Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] told Inmate Edwards to move towards the camera for photographs and fingerprints where it appeared that Inmate Edwards refused. Nurse Nadeau stated Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] then asked Inmate Edwards to go to the camera again, but Edwards still refused. Nurse Nadeau stated Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] then went to reach for Inmate Edwards and Inmate Edwards struck the deputy in the face. Nurse Nadeau saw Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] and Inmate immediately fall to the ground where it appeared as if Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] struck his head on the concrete floor.

Nurse Nadeau stated that when Inmate Edwards got on top of Corrections Deputy [REDACTED], she called for the assistance of Corrections Deputy Wagner who immediately responded.

Nurse Nadeau stated she remained in her office during the entire incident, which she observed through her glass window. Nurse Nadeau stated she did not medically assess

Inmate Edwards because it was not safe. Nurse Nadeau reported she did not medically assess Inmate Edwards until he was secured in the ERC and placed into holding cell number nine (9) with a spit mask on and had stopped yelling.

According to the BCJC video surveillance, the first time Nurse Nadeau tends to Gregory Edwards is at approximately 14:26:25 hours. Nurse Nadeau also advised a Correctional Deputy never told her not to medically assess Gregory Edwards. According to Nurse Nadeau, there is a rule that she is not to go out until the deputies tell her that it is safe. Therefore, Nurse Nadeau did not medically assess Gregory Edwards until an "unknown corrections deputy" requested her assistance, deeming the area safe.

IV. Subject Officers:

The following employees of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office participated in the previously noted Criminal Investigative Services investigation and provided voluntary interviews to the agents: Corrections Deputy Adam Hester, Corrections Deputy Adam Turco, Corrections Deputy Andrea Mustafa, Corrections Deputy Branden Hartley, Corrections Corporal [REDACTED] Corrections Corporal Corrections Crystal Idleburgh, Corrections Deputy DaShawn Edward, Booking Technician Denise D'Agostino, Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno, Booking Technician Jeanette Donaho, Corrections Corporal John Wright, Corrections Deputy Keith Tiller, Corrections Major Kelly Haman, Corrections Corporal Regina Ellis, Corrections Sergeant Richard Zimmerman, Corrections Deputy Shannon Popielarczyk, Corrections Deputy Stephanie Smith and Corrections Deputy Veronica Shinholster. Corrections Deputy Robert Wagner Jr. provided a proffer statement in writing through his attorney. Corrections Lieutenant George Fayson refused to provide a voluntary statement in the death investigation. Former Corrections Deputy Allison Blazewicz refused to provide a voluntary statement in the death investigation.

The Staff Services Unit conducted interviews of the following subject officer personnel as a result of this Administrative Investigation: Corrections Major Kelly Haman, Corrections Lieutenant George Fayson, Corrections Corporal [REDACTED] Corrections Field Training Officer Robert Wagner Jr., former Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz and Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno.

Major Kelly Haman Brevard County Jail Complex

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at approximately 12:49 p.m., I met with Major Kelly Haman at the Staff Services Office to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded interview. Major Haman elected not to review the case file, any audio recordings, or view the Jail video recording. Prior to asking Major Haman any questions, she was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which she acknowledged that she understood and signed. Major Haman elected to represent herself at this interview and acknowledged that she was aware she could have representation with her if she so chose. I explained to Major Haman the

nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct a follow-up interview to her interview with the Criminal Investigative Services agents to clarify details from her initial interview. The following is a summary of my interview with her:

Major Haman arrived in the booking area after Mr. Edwards had already been introduced to the Jail. Major Haman stated she observed Mr. Edwards in holding cell #7 and asked [REDACTED] about him. Major Haman stated [REDACTED] told her that WMPD had called and requested assistance with a combative inmate. Major Haman stated he further advised that WMPD had used force in subduing Mr. Edwards to effect the arrest. Upon delivery to the jail, he had been compliant aside from occasional vocal outbursts.

Major Haman explained that during the physical struggle with Mr. Edwards, she had authorized Corrections Deputy Blazewicz to utilize her agency issued ECW on Mr. Edwards. Major Haman stated she did not recall specifically if she directed Corrections Deputy Blazewicz to deploy her ECW for any subsequent discharges, but recalled that she made some statement to the effect that if needed to get his arms out from under his body then she should use it again.

Major Haman did not recall who ordered the application of the spit mask on Mr. Edwards after he was secured in the ERC. She stated that any certified Corrections Deputy has the authority to apply a spit mask in any given circumstance where an inmate's behavior would justify the use. Major Haman added that the usage of the spit mask in conjunction with the usage of OC Spray and the ERC is dependent on the circumstances. Major Haman stated it can be used in conjunction with OC Spray and the ERC when it is deemed necessary to prevent the exposure of bodily fluids as a precautionary tool. In this case, the spit mask was applied as a precaution following the discharge of the OC Spray to prevent Mr. Edwards from spitting mucus or other discharge on Jail staff.

Major Haman stated she was present with Mr. Edwards and did not recall him making any statements. She heard corrections deputies providing verbal commands such as "give us your hands", "release your hands" and "stop resisting".

Major Haman advised that when an inmate is secured in the ERC, they are placed on "direct watch" for the first 30 minutes, which would be documented in a watch log, and is also completed for all acute housing inmates. Major Haman was unsure if a log was completed in this case due to the limited amount of time Mr. Edwards was in the chair in holding cell #9 prior to being moved to the Medical Unit. Major Haman additionally advised that anyone can initiate the watch log or it can be assigned by a supervisor. Major Haman stated she left the Booking Unit to check on [REDACTED] medical status shortly after Mr. Edwards was secured in the ERC.

Major Haman advised that she learned from Lieutenant Fayson that Mr. Edwards was being transported to the Medical Unit and they were initiating 911. Major Haman stated she then responded to the Medical Unit at that point, but had no active involvement in the

implementation of CPR, the AED or the transportation of Mr. Edwards by Brevard County Fire Rescue. Major Haman advised she personally notified Commander Darrell Hibbs and updated him on the situation.

**Lieutenant George Fayson
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On Monday, February 11, 2019, at approximately 10:42 a.m., I met with Lieutenant George Fayson to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded interview. Lieutenant Fayson reviewed the case file, audio recordings and video recording to his satisfaction. Prior to asking Lieutenant Fayson any questions, he was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which he acknowledged that he understood and signed. Lieutenant Fayson represented himself for this interview, however, he acknowledged that he knew he could have a representative with him if he so chose. I explained to Lieutenant Fayson the nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct an interview about his involvement in this situation. The following is a summary of my interview:

Lieutenant Fayson advised on December 9, 2018, he was working in the capacity of the Shift Commander for "Days B." Lieutenant Fayson stated as he passed through the sally port outside of the Booking area, Nurse Nadeau began banging on the glass of the booking door and motioning that he needed to enter the Jail Booking area. Lieutenant Fayson stated that when he entered, he observed [REDACTED] Sergeant Zimmerman and FTO Wagner in a physical struggle with Mr. Edwards on the floor near holding cell #8. Lieutenant Fayson stated it appeared that they were having difficulty getting the inmate restrained. Lieutenant Fayson advised that Mr. Edwards was resisting and would not permit the corrections deputies to get his hands out from underneath him in order to be handcuffed. Lieutenant Fayson stated Mr. Edwards was displaying an abnormal or excessive strength. Lieutenant Fayson stated he believed Mr. Edwards was exhibiting abnormal or excessive strength because [REDACTED] Sergeant Zimmerman and FTO Wagner usually do not have difficulty in getting an inmate under control and in his observations, all three were struggling on the ground and remained unsuccessful in securing Mr. Edwards' overwhelming strength. Based on his observations, Lieutenant Fayson advised he needed to assist, utilizing his radio to call for additional personnel to respond.

Lieutenant Fayson stated that he believes the other deputies may have managed to get one hand handcuffed prior to him assisting, but he was not certain. Lieutenant Fayson advised that during his assistance, he heard the deputies involved stating verbal commands to "stop resisting" and "give up your hands," however, Mr. Edwards was not complying. Lieutenant Fayson advised he utilized a "knee spike" response to resistance technique approximately 3-4 times on Mr. Edwards to try and gain compliance, which appeared to have no effect. Lieutenant Fayson stated during the knee strikes, they continued to try and gain control of Mr. Edwards arm to apply into handcuffs, but they were unsuccessful. Lieutenant Fayson recalled that other deputies may have utilized response to resistance techniques as well to try and gain compliance, but he could not specifically recall who else utilized response to

resistance techniques. He did recall that OC Spray was utilized, but advised that was prior to his arrival so he was not certain as to whom had deployed the spray. Additionally, he observed Corrections Deputy Blazewicz discharge her ECW as directed by Major Haman. Lieutenant Fayson advised he observed the first ECW deployment with the probes into what he believed to be the lower back area and then a follow-up order was given by Major Haman for a second ECW usage, which was delivered as a drive stun.

A drive stun is completed when the arch points on the front of the ECW are placed directly against the target. The trigger is then depressed and the shock is issued through the arch points. If ECW probes have already been deployed and are still connected, the drive stun can be completed on another area of the body separate from the area of the probes, which will then activate both areas for a larger surface area of neuromuscular incapacitation.

Lieutenant Fayson advised he does not believe Mr. Edwards ever stated any words, but he was grunting, to include yelling sounds when the ECW was deployed. Lieutenant Fayson stated that each use of force, to include the application of OC Spray and the ECW were within policy based on the behavior exhibited by Mr. Edwards. Lieutenant Fayson added that once handcuffs were applied, the response to resistance techniques were stopped. At that point in time, compliance had been gained to get him secured in handcuffs.

Lieutenant Fayson stated he made the decision to deploy the Emergency Restraint Chair because he felt it was necessary based on Mr. Edwards' level of resistance up to that point in time, and due to the totality of the circumstances. Lieutenant Fayson advised that everyone involved in the application of the ERC have received specific training. Lieutenant Fayson oversaw the application of the chair. *Lieutenant Fayson's documented ERC training occurred on May 31, 2002, June 1, 2002 and June 3, 2002.*

Lieutenant Fayson did not recall who directed the application of the spit mask, but stated it can be used in conjunction with OC Spray and/or the ERC. In this particular situation, he advised that he believes the mask was utilized as a precaution to prevent Mr. Edwards from spitting, but that he was not observed actively spitting at anyone prior to the use of the spit mask. Lieutenant Fayson advised Mr. Edwards had visible mucus discharge from the use of OC Spray on his face and the concern was that he may begin trying to spit.

After Mr. Edwards was secured in the ERC, Lieutenant Fayson advised he made the decision to leave Mr. Edwards handcuffed behind his back. He advised the ERC is designed with a cutout portion on the back of the chair specifically to allow someone secured in the chair while handcuffed behind their back. In this case, based on Mr. Edwards' aggressive and unpredictable behavior and his excessive strength, coupled with the fact that the deputies were all exhausted from the struggle to secure him, Lieutenant Fayson stated that it was best to leave his hands handcuffed behind his back until Mr. Edwards had time to calm down.

Lieutenant Fayson advised Mr. Edwards was then secured in holding cell #9 and was placed on "direct watch", meaning that he must be in a position to be monitored. From his position in holding cell #9, Lieutenant Fayson advised Mr. Edwards could be observed from anywhere in the booking room area.

Lieutenant Fayson advised that he then left the Booking area to check on [REDACTED] medical condition and returned to the Booking area to check on Mr. Edwards. When he returned, he wanted to physically enter holding cell #9 and entered the holding cell with FTO Wagner where he determined that Mr. Edwards was lethargic. He removed the spit mask from Mr. Edwards and confirmed that he was breathing and his eyes were open, however, he appeared unresponsive. Nurse Nadeau then entered to check on Mr. Edwards and determined that he needed to be placed on oxygen and applied an evaluation sensor on his finger. Nurse Nadeau determined that Mr. Edwards needed to be moved to the Medical Unit.

Lieutenant Fayson advised he went to the Medical Unit approximately five minutes after Mr. Edwards was moved there to check on him. When he arrived, he found that Mr. Edwards had been removed from the ERC and the handcuffs had been removed and deputies were performing CPR on him. The AED was also attached and he heard the device sounding the command to continue CPR. Lieutenant Fayson stated 911 was initiated and Brevard County Fire Rescue responded and assumed CPR. Lieutenant Fayson advised Mr. Edwards was then transported by BCFR to the hospital.

It should be noted that on May 15, 2019, Lieutenant George Fayson submitted a Notice of Retirement effective June 3, 2019, prior to the conclusion of this investigation and with knowledge this Administrative Investigation was active and ongoing.

**Corporal [REDACTED]
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On Friday, February 15, 2019, at approximately 11:34 a.m., I met with [REDACTED] at the Staff Services Office to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded, interview. [REDACTED] reviewed the case file, audio recordings, and video recording to his satisfaction. Prior to asking [REDACTED] any questions, he was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which he acknowledged that he understood and signed. [REDACTED] was accompanied by Representative Al Boettjer of Coastal Florida PBA during the interview process. I explained to [REDACTED] the nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct a follow-up interview of the interview he had provided to Criminal Investigative Services agents. The following is a summary of my interview with him:

[REDACTED] advised he believes there was a telephone call placed by WMPD to the Booking Unit asking for assistance with a combative inmate, which was answered by Sergeant Zimmerman. In turn, Sergeant Zimmerman relayed to [REDACTED] that WMPD was bringing in a combative arrestee that had been uncooperative during his arrest and that

the arrestee was diagnosed with PTSD. [REDACTED] stated that even though Mr. Edwards was diagnosed with PTSD, the booking process and paperwork is the same for anyone who comes into the Jail.

[REDACTED] advised that when it was time for Mr. Edwards to be removed from holding cell #7 to complete the booking process, he went to remove him from the holding cell. After he stepped out, the active resistance began shortly after giving verbal commands to stop resisting. [REDACTED] advised neither he nor Mr. Edwards said anything else. He advised it did not appear to him that Mr. Edwards had any difficulty breathing both before and after he utilized his OC Spray to try and gain compliance. In regards to the use of the OC Spray, [REDACTED] stated he has been trained to use OC Spray and has been sprayed with OC Spray himself numerous times, both in training and during the response to resistance. In this specific circumstance, he stated he sprayed Mr. Edwards with OC Spray for a duration of approximately two seconds to his face, from a distance of approximately six inches. [REDACTED] advised the OC Spray appeared to have no effect on him. [REDACTED] advised the use of the OC Spray was within policy due to Mr. Edwards being non-compliant and physically resisting.

[REDACTED] advised that the removal or mitigation of OC Spray comes after an inmate has become compliant. In those circumstances, they will allow the inmate to shower to decontaminate. If they are in the ERC, corrections personnel can utilize a towel to remove the OC Spray. If the subject continues to be aggressive, decontamination may have to be delayed until after the inmate has become cooperative in order to safely decontaminate the inmate.

It should be noted that [REDACTED] received training on the deployment of OC Spray/Chemical Agents on July 6, 2006. During the training, [REDACTED] was exposed to OC Spray on his person.

Corrections [REDACTED] sustained several injuries as a result of the physical interaction with Mr. Edwards and was transported to [REDACTED] for medical attention. [REDACTED] was treated by the medical staff for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was later released from the hospital.

**Field Training Officer Robert Wagner Jr.
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On Monday, February 18, 2019, at approximately 4:40 p.m., I met with FTO Robert Wagner Jr. at the Staff Services Office to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded, interview. FTO Wagner reviewed the case file, audio recordings and video recording to his satisfaction. Prior to asking FTO Wagner any questions, he was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which he acknowledged that he understood and signed. FTO Wagner was accompanied by Attorney Alan Diamond during the interview process. I explained to FTO Wagner the nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct an interview

as clarification to the written proffer provided by his attorney to the Criminal Investigative Services agents. The following is a summary of my interview with him:

On December 9, 2018, FTO Wagner was assigned to the Receiving side of the Booking Unit. During the shift, he received word that WMPD had called in and relayed that they were bringing an arrestee in with PTSD. Upon their arrival at the Jail, FTO Wagner advised he assisted in escorting Mr. Edwards into the sally port, where he then conducted a pat down search. FTO Wagner stated that during the escort and pat down search, Mr. Edwards was tense but compliant. FTO Wagner advised that Mr. Edwards was tense in that his back was tensed up, more so than a normal arrestee going through the process. FTO Wagner stated Mr. Edwards was compliant and although he did not respond verbally to any commands, he did place his hands on the window during the pat down search as requested. The escort inside and pat down was conducted without incident and he was changed out into Jail clothing and then placed into holding cell #7 without incident.

Several minutes later, [REDACTED] removed Mr. Edwards from holding cell #7 to complete the booking process. At that time, a physical altercation initiated and FTO Wagner advised he immediately responded to the area of the struggle to assist in gaining control of Mr. Edwards. As a result of Mr. Edwards' resistance, FTO Wagner advised he used a response to resistance technique called "closed fist strike" that he was taught in the Corrections Academy, which was directed to Mr. Edwards' back. FTO Wagner stated the response to resistance technique appeared to have no effect. Additionally, FTO Wagner tried to pull Mr. Edwards off of [REDACTED] but was unsuccessful. FTO Wagner was present for the deployment of the OC Spray and the deployment of the ECW, but he did not personally utilize either of those less lethal responses to resistance. FTO Wagner recalled that Major Haman had directed Corrections Deputy Blazewicz to deploy the ECW on Mr. Edwards. After the deployment of the ECW, FTO Wagner recalled that Mr. Edwards made a comment that he would comply, which he believed was "I'll stop", however he did not comply and he continued to actively resist. FTO Wagner stated that the corrections deputies continued to give verbal commands, "give up your hands" and to "stop resisting," Mr. Edwards, but he did not stop actively resisting or comply.

FTO Wagner advised that eventually the deputies were able to gain control of Mr. Edwards. FTO Wagner stated his handcuffs were utilized to secure him. The ERC was then deployed and Mr. Edwards was secured in the chair. While attempting to secure him in the chair, Mr. Edwards was not allowing his legs to be secured and FTO Wagner stated he used a closed fist strike to Mr. Edwards' leg and was able to gain enough compliance to apply the leg strap. FTO Wagner stated he checked the straps after they were applied and found that they were properly fitted, allowing adequate room for Mr. Edwards to breathe normally. FTO Wagner stated that Mr. Edwards made no comment or statement regarding difficulty breathing and made no reference to feeling any discomfort. FTO Wagner added that he received training on the application and usage of the ERC during his field training program with the Sheriff's Office. During his employment with BCSO, FTO Wagner stated he has utilized the ERC numerous times and has applied the straps on numerous occasions.

FTO Wagner stated that after the application of the spit mask, Mr. Edwards appeared to be breathing normally. FTO Wagner advised that Mr. Edwards was making grunting noises and would occasionally yell, but he was not saying any words. FTO Wagner explained that the use of the spit mask was a precaution to alleviate the possibility of Mr. Edwards' spitting mucus or other bodily fluids on anyone.

FTO Wagner advised that after Mr. Edwards was secured in the ERC, he would be placed on a direct watch and placed in a position where he could be observed. FTO Wagner stated that to his knowledge, no one person was specifically directed to observe Mr. Edwards. He was placed in holding cell #9 in a position where he can be observed by anyone that was in the booking area. FTO Wagner stated there were several other corrections deputies working in the booking area that could also view him. FTO Wagner advised that from his vantage point in booking area, he could observe Mr. Edwards in holding cell #9. In addition, each holding cell is equipped with a camera that live streams video to the computer terminals that can be viewed in the Jail.

FTO Wagner advised that to his knowledge, Corrections Deputy Smith acted as a scribe and took notes during the deployment of the ERC. He stated he was not certain if she utilized the notes to complete a log for the ERC chair.

FTO Wagner advised that Corporal Mustafa had walked by cell #9 and observed that Mr. Edwards "did not look right," and felt there may be a medical issue, notifying FTO Wagner. After entering cell #9 to check on Mr. Edwards with Lieutenant Fayson, FTO Wagner advised that Lieutenant Fayson ordered him to radio for assistance due to Mr. Edwards appearing to be in medical distress. FTO Wagner described Mr. Edwards as "having a change in demeanor," where he was no longer flailing in the chair or yelling, exhibiting a lack of energy. FTO Wagner stated he rubbed Mr. Edwards chest, similar to a sternum rub, to try and generate a response, however Mr. Edwards appeared unresponsive. FTO Wagner recalled that Mr. Edwards was breathing and his eyes were open, but he appeared to be looking off to the left.

FTO Wagner stated that Nurse Nadeau came in and began conducting a medical evaluation on Mr. Edwards. FTO Wagner stated Nurse Nadeau applied oxygen on Mr. Edwards and he was then transferred to the Medical Unit. FTO Wagner advised he had no further involvement with Mr. Edwards after he was transferred to the Medical Unit.

**Former Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at approximately 2:22 p.m., I met with Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz at the Staff Services Office to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded, interview. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz reviewed the case file, audio recordings, and video recording to her satisfaction. Prior to asking Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz any questions, she was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which

she acknowledged that she understood and signed. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz represented herself during the interview process, but acknowledged that she understood she could have a representative with her for the interview if she so chose. I explained to Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz the nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct an interview. The following is a summary of my interview with her:

Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz advised she responded to the Booking Unit after hearing a radio call requesting all available deputies respond for assistance. Upon arrival at booking, she observed a physical altercation between corrections deputies and an inmate, identified as Mr. Edwards. She noted that the inmate was actively resisting being placed in handcuffs and she asked how she could be of assistance. Major Haman instructed her to utilize her ECW on the inmate to try and gain compliance. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz advised she utilized her issued ECW to deploy the ECW probes into the lower back area of Mr. Edwards' body. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz believed that both ECW probes made connection with Mr. Edwards' body. After that first application of the ECW, Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz recalled that Major Haman ordered another application of the ECW due to Mr. Edwards' still continuing to resist. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz advised that she conducted a second activation of the ECW by pulling the trigger again. Following that, she conducted a drive stun, by pressing the front of the ECW against the person's skin. In each application of the ECW, Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz recalled that Mr. Edwards' remained non-compliant and continued to resist. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz stated that during the period of time that she was utilizing the ECW, Mr. Edwards' said "I'll stop", which he said in a normal tone of voice and he did not even appear to be out of breath. She stated she understood "I'll stop" to mean that he was saying he would stop resisting, however he never stopped resisting and he continued to struggle and remain non-compliant. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz also added that Mr. Edwards continued to ignore or disregard the verbal commands of "stop resisting" that were being given by the deputies and he appeared to be exhibiting abnormal strength and nothing appeared to stop him. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz stated that she believed, based on her observations of Mr. Edwards' behavior, that the usage of the ECW was necessary to obtain compliance. Furthermore, she advised due to his level of resistance, the use of the ECW several times was also necessary. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz believed that after the final discharge of her ECW, the deputies struggling with Mr. Edwards were able to get him into handcuffs. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz stated Mr. Edwards never made any comments or statements about having any difficulty breathing or appeared to be in any medical distress.

In total, Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz recalled discharging the ECW three (3) times. The ECW download conducted by Sergeant Charest reflected six (6) activations of the ECW. Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz was not able to recall the other three activations.

Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz advised she was not present for the deployment of the ERC or the deployment of the spit mask.

She later had contact with Mr. Edwards again after FTO Wagner called for assistance after finding Mr. Edwards unresponsive in holding cell #9. She recalled during that timeframe that Lieutenant Fayson ordered the releasing of the ERC straps from the chair and she assisted in that. She stated that she believes Mr. Edwards was breathing, however he was unresponsive.

It should be noted that former Corrections Deputy Blazewicz voluntarily separated from the BCSO on April 7, 2019, accepting an employment offer from the Melbourne Police Department. Deputy Blazewicz was aware the resignation was occurring prior to the conclusion of this investigation and with knowledge this Administrative Investigation was active and ongoing.

**Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno
Brevard County Jail Complex**

On Thursday, February 14, 2019, at approximately 11:11am, I met with Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno at the Staff Services Office to conduct a sworn, audio-recorded, interview with him. Corrections Deputy Cedeno reviewed the case file, audio recordings, and video recording to his satisfaction. Prior to asking Corrections Deputy Cedeno any questions, he was read the Administrative Investigation Warnings, which he acknowledged that he understood and signed. Corrections Deputy Cedeno was accompanied by Representative Al Boettjer from Coastal Florida PBA during the interview process. I explained to Corrections Deputy Cedeno the nature of this investigation and explained that I wished to conduct a follow-up interview to his interview with the Major Crimes Unit to clarify details from his initial interview. The following is a summary of my interview with him:

Corrections Deputy Cedeno stated that while assisting in holding Mr. Edwards' legs during the struggle, he did not apply any use of force techniques to obtain compliance. Corrections Deputy Cedeno advised he was strictly holding his legs.

Corrections Deputy Cedeno stated that he applied the spit mask and at the time of the application, Mr. Edwards had spit/mucus in his nose and mouth area, but was not actively trying to spit on anyone. Corrections Deputy Cedeno was able to observe that Mr. Edwards was breathing normally both before and after the application of the spit mask. Corrections Deputy Cedeno recalled that Mr. Edwards made no complaints and made no statements that he was having any difficulty breathing.

Following the deployment of the Emergency Restraint Chair, Corrections Deputy Cedeno advised he was not present to observe or monitor Mr. Edwards for any period of time.

IV. Other Investigative Efforts:

I was provided with the interviews conducted by the Criminal Investigative Services agents, which I reviewed prior to conducting any follow-up or clarification interviews. Based on my review, I determined it was necessary to interview the following BCSO employees to clarify information: Major Haman, Lieutenant Fayson, ██████████ FTO Wagner, Corrections Deputy Blazewicz and Corrections Deputy Cedeno.

Included in my review was the surveillance video footage of the incident of Mr. Edwards arrest at Walmart, the surveillance video footage of his transport to the jail facility, and the video surveillance footage of his entire time in the Brevard County Jail Complex. During the video portion of his transportation to the jail facility in the backseat of the WMPD patrol vehicle, I noted several statements made by Mr. Edwards. These statements included that he had lost feeling in his arms and hands and that he felt like he had frostbite, asking to go to an outpatient clinic, and making multiple additional statements regarding lack of feeling in his arms or hands. Once at the jail facility, I noted some unusual behaviors which were captured on the surveillance video as well. Immediately upon entering holding cell #7 and before the door to the cell is even closed, Mr. Edwards begins doing pushups using the bench to prop his feet up. He continues to do various movements or light stretches in the cell before becoming agitated to the point that he begins yelling and pounding on the glass window on the door numerous times. It is noteworthy that Mr. Edwards is only in holding cell #7 for a total of 32 minutes before he is removed for processing, at which time he attacks ██████████

The chain of events that take place with Mr. Edwards based on the time stamps from the associated surveillance video and case reports, are as follows:

Gregory and Kathleen Edwards (with child) approaching Walmart (Walmart Video)	11:11:31
Gregory Edwards walking towards the back of the box truck (Walmart Video)	11:11:44
██████████ walking out of Walmart, towards back of box truck (Walmart Video)	11:12:27
Gregory Edwards attacks ██████████ (Walmart Video)	11:13:00
WMPD Officer Mathis receives walk-up at approximately (WMPD Report)	11:19:00
Emergency 911 call to BCSO from ██████████ (BCSO CAD Report)	11:20:00
WMPD Officer Mathis arrives (Walmart Video)	11:22:44
WMPD Officer Krukoski arrives (WMPD in-car video)	11:27:23
WMPD Sergeant Perez Arrives (Walmart Video)	11:27:45
BCFR Station 83 arrives (BCFR CAD Report)	11:28:30
BCFR Station 83 Medically Examines/Clears ██████████ (Walmart Video)	11:29:55
Gregory Edwards placed in WMPD Patrol vehicle (WMPD in-car video)	11:31:50
WMPD Officer Krukoski leaves Walmart enroute to BCSO jail (WMPD in-car video)	12:37:34
WMPD Officer Krukoski arrives at BCJC jail Sally Port (BCJC video)	13:09:23
Gregory Edwards brought into BCJC (BCJC video)	13:12:01
Gregory Edwards placed into holding cell #7 (BCJC video)	13:19:44
██████████ removed Gregory Edwards from holding cell #7 (BCJC video)	13:51:38
Gregory Edwards and ██████████ physical altercation (BCJC video)	13:52:05
Gregory Edwards secured in Emergency Restraint Chair (BCJC video)	13:57:22

Gregory Edwards placed in holding cell #9 (BCJC video)	14:07:34
Corporal Wagner conducts visual observation of Mr. Edwards from outside holding cell #9	14:15:52
Corporal Wagner and Nurse Nadeau view Gregory Edwards from outside holding cell #9	14:16:04
Corporal Wagner seated at booking desk with direct line of sight of Gregory Edwards	14:16:48
Lieutenant Fayson conducts visual observation of Gregory Edwards from outside holding cell #9	14:17:59
Corporal Mustafa views Gregory Edwards in holding cell #9 (BCJC video)	14:22:30
Lieutenant Fayson, FTO Wagner and Nurse Nadeau view Gregory Edwards in #9 (BCJC video)	14:23:01
Gregory Edwards appears to stop moving (BCJC video)	14:23:02
BCSO personnel attend to Gregory Edwards in holding cell #9 (BCJC video)	14:23:18
Nurse Nadeau attends to Gregory Edwards in holding cell #9 (BCJC video)	14:26:25
Gregory Edwards transported to Medical Ward (BCJC video)	14:32:35
Gregory Edwards' arrival in Medical Ward (BCJC video)	14:35:15
Emergency 911 call from BCSO Master Control (BCFR CAD Report)	14:38:03
BCFR Station 29 arrival at Medical Ward (BCJC video)	14:49:08
BCFR Station 29 transports Gregory Edwards to hospital (BCJC video)	15:05:22

I acquired a copy of the reports from WMPD documenting Mr. Edwards' arrest. From my review of those reports, I noted that WMPD was not made aware by Mrs. Edwards that Mr. Edwards had possibly ingested or inhaled any chemical compounds or substances that could have detrimental effect to his life functions. The information that Mr. Edwards had been "huffing" aerosol cans of Dust Off for several days prior to his arrest was not known until the evening of December 9, 2018, after Mr. Edwards had been transported to the hospital. At that time, with the critical condition of Mr. Edwards in the hospital, investigators from the Major Crimes Unit conducted an interview with Mrs. Edwards. During the interview, Major Crime's investigators discovered numerous cans of Dust Off in the trash bin and snapped a digital image of the trash bin containing the canisters prior to Mrs. Edwards ending the interview.

Upon review of the Major Crimes investigator's sworn interviews conducted with Nurse Deborah Nadeau, I noted the following: Nurse Nadeau stated she was informed that an outside agency (WMPD) was bringing in an arrestee, later identified as Mr. Gregory Edwards. She was told he was combative, had a history of PTSD and had not been taking his prescribed medications. Nurse Nadeau did not see when Mr. Edwards was initially brought into the booking area, but recalled seeing him later when he was secured in holding cell #7, banging on the cell window. She recalled that when a Corrections Deputy [REDACTED] removed him from cell #7 for processing, Mr. Edwards struck the deputy in the face and they fell to the ground. She recalled that it appeared to her that the Corrections Deputy hit his head on the concrete floor. She called for assistance and other corrections deputies responded immediately to help. She described Mr. Edwards as having "super strength."

Once Mr. Edwards was restrained, he was secured in the ERC. Nurse Nadeau stated she did not medically assess Mr. Edwards at that time because he was combative and screaming. She added that she was directed by BCSO personnel to allow Mr. Edwards to calm down before she medically evaluated him. During a second sworn interview with

Nurse Nadeau, she was asked clarifying questions pertaining to who had directed her not to medically evaluate Mr. Edwards. Nurse Nadeau stated that a Corrections Deputy never told her not to medically assess Mr. Edwards, however there is a "rule" that she is not to go out to medically assess inmates until the deputies tell her it is safe. Therefore in this circumstance, she did not medically assess Mr. Edwards because she was not informed it was safe to do so. In review of the surveillance video, the first time Nurse Nadeau attends to Mr. Edwards is at **14:26:25**, which was after he had been secured in the restraint chair, moved into holding cell #9, had stopped yelling, and was observed as being in some manner of medical distress by BCSO personnel.

Upon review of the BCJC video from holding cell #9 following the transport of Mr. Edwards to the medical unit, I observed that at **14:48:30** on the video, FTO Wagner lets an inmate trustee into holding cell #9 to clean it up. The trustee removes the used spit mask off the floor and carries it to a trash receptacle near the inmate phones and throws it away.

The Electrical Control Weapon (ECW) assigned to former Corrections Deputy Blazewicz was downloaded by Sergeant Charest. The device report does not reflect information such as if the Taser actually made contact with a subject (Application) through either a cartridge probe deployment or Drive Stun where electricity flows to the subject. The report only identifies what time the trigger was pressed, length of the cycle and battery percentage at the time of deployment.

An Electrical Control Weapon (ECW), is a product of Axon Inc., previously known as Taser. The device is hand-held and propels small probes connected by a thin conductive wire. When deployed, the device will create temporary neuromuscular incapacitation. The nerve interruption lasts for only the time period the device is activated. The ECW is designed to cause a subject to stop resisting or fighting. A Drive Stun is a trained technique of ECW usage considered to be pain compliance. The Drive Stun technique is where the user physically applies the ECW to the subject in an attempt to increase the length of the spread of device contact. A successful probe deployment occurs when there is an adequate spacing between the probes. The probes are less effective if not properly spaced, or in fatty tissue. ECW effectiveness is generally dependent upon delivering the probes effectively with a sufficient spread between the two probes, which must remain attached to the subject. Circumstances may dictate additional or prolonged activations if the subject is not responding to the effects.

OC (Oleoresin Capsicum) spray or pepper spray is described as a chemical agent designed to cause a non-lethal inflammation of all mucous membranes in the eyes, nose, mouth and lungs causing tearing and an intense, temporary debilitating burning sensation. The effects of OC spray may last from thirty (30) minutes to two (2) hours

The assignment of an ECW or Chemical Agent requires training and certification.

In review of BCSO Policy/Procedure 600.071, Response to Resistance – Use of Force, Only the minimal amount of force necessary shall be used to control an inmate or situation within the facility; ie, no employee shall apply physical force to the person of an inmate except and only to the degree that it is reasonably necessary in self-defense, to prevent injury to a person or property, to prevent escape, to quell a riot or disturbance, to overcome physical resistance to a lawful command, and then only as a last resort and in accordance with appropriate statutory authority. The level of force applied must be objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances (articulable facts) surrounding the immediate situation. Response levels shall be in compliance with BCSO Policy and Procedure 500.76.

In review of BCSO Policy/Procedure 500.76, Response to Resistance, Guidelines are established for all sworn personnel concerning response to resistance, reflecting agency philosophy and established Florida Department of Law Enforcement Standards. A deputy sheriff is expected to select effective, reasonable and legal force options in a verbal or physical encounter.

A. Response to Resistance

1. *Totality of the Circumstances – The deputy's use of force will be based on the totality of the circumstances known to the deputy at the time of the incident. There are several factors used in determining the totality of the circumstances. These include, but are not limited to:*
 - a. *Severity of the crime*
 - b. *Subject is an immediate threat*
 - c. *Subject's mental or psychiatric history, if known to the deputy*
 - d. *Subject's violent history, if known to the deputy*
 - e. *Subject's combative skills*
 - f. *Subject's access to weapons*
 - g. *Innocent bystanders who could be harmed*
 - h. *Number of subjects versus number of deputies*
 - i. *Duration of confrontation*
 - j. *Subject's size, age, weight, and physical condition*
 - k. *Deputy's size, age, weight, physical condition, and defensive tactics expertise*
 - l. *Environmental factors, such as physical terrain, weather conditions, ect.*

B. Resistance Levels

1. *Passive Resistance – A subject's verbal and/or physical refusal to comply with a deputy's lawful direction that causes the deputy to use physical techniques to establish control; non-verbal cues in attitude, appearance, demeanor or posture that indicates an unwillingness to cooperate or a threat.*
2. *Active Resistance – A subject's use of physically evasive movements directed toward the deputy such as bracing, tensing, pushing, or pulling to prevent the*

deputy from establishing control over the subject. Subject is evading control without trying to hurt the deputy.

3. *Aggressive Resistance – A subject's attacking movements toward a deputy that may cause injury but are not likely to cause death or great bodily harm to the deputy or others.*
4. *Deadly Force – A subject's hostile, attacking movements, with or without a weapon, that create a reasonable perception by the deputy that the subject intends to cause and has the capability of causing death or great bodily harm to the deputy or others.*

A review of the CIS investigative report reflects the involved BCSO personnel were current in training and qualification records. The report indicated no records of previous disciplinary actions relating to the associated policies for any of the involved personnel.

V. Investigative Summary:

The decedent at the time of death was described as 38 years of age, 6'-00", 256 pounds. According to Mrs. Kathleen Edwards, Mr. Edwards had not slept for at least three to four days, was suicidal and exhibiting significant symptoms of schizophrenia and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Mrs. Edwards observed Mr. Edwards "huffing" (inhaling chemical vapors) from aerosol cans on the night of December 8, 2019. According to Mrs. Edwards, Mr. Edwards previously drank alcohol, however, due to his felony probation status, had resorted to "huffing" aerosol to avoid a detection in his felony Probation drug screening. Mrs. Edwards voluntarily identified multiple empty cans of Endust aerosol cans in a garbage can in their residence (photographed), which were described as the aerosol cans Mr. Edwards had been "huffing." This product, (Endust) was researched and discovered to contain the active ingredient of 1, 1-Difluoroethane.

When Mr. Edwards encountered civilians and law enforcement at the Wal-Mart he was described as being incoherent, confused and violent. Mr. Edwards attacked a civilian without provocation and was eventually tackled and held down until law enforcement arrived. West Melbourne Police Officers arrived and also had to physically restrain Mr. Gregory Edwards who was violent in his efforts to evade arrest. After a struggle, Mr. Edwards was secured by handcuffs and leg shackles and then placed into a West Melbourne Police Department marked patrol vehicle. Mr. Edwards was not examined or cleared by BCFR Station 83 (BCFR statements/Video recording) prior to transport by the West Melbourne Police Department. Mr. Edwards was then transported to the Brevard County Jail Complex by the West Melbourne Police Department. During the transport, Mr. Edwards complained of numbness and feelings of "frostbite." The in-car camera video recording reflects Gregory Edwards experiencing some type of medical event during the transport. *When Dr. Qaiser viewed the video recording he described the event as symptoms consistent with a person experiencing Excited Delirium.*

While being transported, WMPD Officer Krukoski communicates that Mr. Edwards had become “agitated again and began kicking, stomping and screaming in the back seat,” where the Brevard County Jail corrections deputies were notified of information concerning former military service, medical conditions and behaviors to be prepared for his arrival.

Upon arrival at the Jail, Mr. Edwards initially complies, but then physically attacks a corrections deputy who stated he was in fear of injury during the attack. During this struggle, assisting corrections deputies described Mr. Edwards as grunting, refusing to comply, aggressively resisting and displaying great strength. After securing Mr. Edwards in handcuffs, a restraint chair and using a vented spit mask, Mr. Edwards was observed unresponsive and was moved to the Jail Medical Ward for medical treatment to include cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administered a dose of Narcan (Naloxone), applied an automated external defibrillator (AED) and provided Oxygen until the arrival of Brevard County Fire Rescue who assumed emergency lifesaving efforts before transport to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased on December 10, 2018 at 2000 hours.

On February 6, 2019, CIS Agent Jennifer Straight met with Dr. Qaiser at the Medical Examiner’s Office to provide the West Melbourne Police Department and BCJC video recordings for Dr. Qaiser’s review. Dr. Qaiser additionally requested to examine a vented spit hood identical to the hood used with Inmate Gregory Edwards. Lieutenant Vitaliano obtained a vented spit hood from the Jail and delivered it to Dr. Qaiser the same day. The spit mask is made of 100% polyester and is latex free. The mask is a see-through mesh device, which is placed over the head and face to prevent spit, mucus, or other bodily fluids from being spit at others nearby. The spit mask is vented and does not restrict normal breathing.

On February 26, 2019, the final copy of the Medical Examiner’s autopsy report was received. Dr. Qaiser determined the cause of death to be “Excited Delirium and Complications” due to “Hyperactive and Violent State with Subsequent Restraint.” Other significant conditions were identified as “Desquamative Interstitial Pneumonitis, Early Hepatic Cirrhosis, Obesity, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Minor External Body Injuries.”

Dr. Qaiser’s autopsy findings identified Mr. Edwards as suffering from Desquamative Interstitial Pneumonitis (DIP). Research on this medical condition identified DIP as being a lung disease resulting from several potential causes. One of the major contributors of this disease can be caused by ingesting “inhaled agents,” which is consistent with Mrs. Edwards’ statement that Mr. Gregory Edwards was inhaling vapors from aerosol cans (huffing), and the VA records, which indicated a diagnosis of cannabis abuse.

Additionally, Dr. Qaiser diagnosed Mr. Gregory Edwards with “Early Hepatic Cirrhosis.” This condition can be caused by alcoholism, which is consistent with Mrs. Edwards’ statement that Gregory Edwards had an alcohol use disorder.

Dr. Qaiser documented Mr. Edwards as having sustained "Minor External Body Injuries," all consistent with response to resistance and restraint techniques, none of which were contributors to his death.

V. Recommendations:

On December 9, 2018, Mr. Edwards initiated a violent physical act of aggression against [REDACTED] at the Walmart store on Palm Bay Road. As a result of this action, WMPD was notified of the incident and responded where they attempted to take Mr. Edwards into custody. During the process of trying to arrest Mr. Edwards, he actively and physically resisted his arrest and tried to attack and bite WMPD Officer Mathis. After being taken into custody with the assistance of two other WMPD officers and a citizen, it was determined that Mr. Edwards was on felony probation for previous battery charges involving an unprovoked, violent, physical act of aggression against medical and security staff members at Rockledge Medical Center that occurred on October 2, 2017.

Mr. Edwards was transported to the Brevard County Jail Complex following the WMPD arrest. It was not known at that point in time that Mr. Edwards had previously ingested harmful, behavior altering chemicals prior to the incident at Walmart. While Mr. Edwards was being transported by WMPD to the Jail Complex, WMPD notified Brevard County Jail personnel of Mr. Edwards' military service background, medical history information that had been supplied by Mrs. Edwards and his concerning behaviors. When WMPD arrived at the Jail with Mr. Edwards, he was changed into a Jail uniform and was placed in a holding cell without incident. While in the holding cell, Mr. Edwards began displaying agitation and appeared to be "warming up," doing push-ups, dips, and various stretches in the holding cell. When [REDACTED] escorted Mr. Edwards from the holding cell to complete the booking process, Mr. Edwards became violent, attacking [REDACTED] by striking him about the face. BCSO employees responded to assist and utilized the necessary responses to the level of resistance displayed by Mr. Edwards. Throughout this rapidly evolving situation, Armor Correctional Health Nurse Nadeau stated she was in a position where she could observe Mr. Edwards. This observation continued through the process of Mr. Edwards being secured in the ERC. There is no evidence, either in writing or sworn statements that Mr. Edwards visually appeared to be in any manner of medical distress throughout this process. He was reported to be grunting, yelling, breathing normally and responsive.

After movement in the ERC to holding cell #9, Mr. Edwards began showing signs of medical distress and he was attended to by BCSO employees and Armor Correctional Health staff.

As it pertains to the subject employees involved in this internal review and investigation; Major Kelly Haman, former Lieutenant George Fayson, Sergeant Richard Zimmerman, [REDACTED] Field Training Officer Robert Wagner Jr, Corrections Deputy DaShawn Edward, Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno, and former Corrections Deputy

Alison Blazewicz, this investigation determined that Mr. Gregory Edwards physically resisted in an effort to avoid the booking process and initiated a felonious violent physical altercation with [REDACTED]. As a result of the physical altercation, several levels of response to resistance techniques were utilized in an effort to deescalate the violent and dangerous active physical aggression of Mr. Edwards and gain control, all of which as described had little to no effect. Verbal commands were provided to Mr. Edwards to give up his hands and stop resisting, at which he did not comply. OC Spray was deployed with a short burst to his facial area, which had no observable effect. Response to resistance techniques such as closed fist strikes, knee strikes and pressure points also appeared to have no effect. A decision was made by Major Haman to deploy an ECW, which Corrections Deputy Blazewicz was directed to perform. Corrections Deputy Blazewicz ultimately discharged the ECW as Mr. Edwards continued to actively and physically resist. Although Mr. Edwards allegedly made a statement to the effect that he would stop after an ECW deployment, he did not stop and continued his active physical resistance.

After securing Mr. Edwards into handcuffs, Lieutenant Fayson ordered the deployment of the Emergency Restraint Chair to secure him. Mr. Edwards was secured in the chair where he displayed no visible signs of distress. He was described as breathing on his own in a normal manner and made no complaints of pain or discomfort. Due to the mucus discharge from his nose from the OC Spray, a vented spit mask was applied as a precautionary effort to avoid exposure to potentially hazardous bodily fluids. Mr. Edwards was then secured in holding cell #9 in a position where he could be observed from the booking and medical staff assigned to the Booking area. Mr. Edwards was then observed showing signs of possible medical distress, where he stopped yelling and moving. This change in behavior was observed by Corporal Mustafa who made immediate notification. As personnel entered the holding cell to check on Mr. Edwards' wellbeing, they noted that Mr. Edwards was breathing on his own and his eyes were open, however, he did not appear responsive.

Nurse Nadeau entered the cell to provide immediate medical care, checked his heart rate and initiated the use of oxygen. Nurse Nadeau determined that Mr. Edwards' condition required further medical treatment and initiated a transfer to the Medical Unit. Upon arrival at the Medical Unit, Mr. Edwards' condition was noted to have declined and he was removed from the ERC and laid prone on the floor so that CPR could be initiated in conjunction with the use of an AED. 911 Emergency Response was activated and Brevard County Fire Rescue responded to the Jail Complex. BCFR made the determination that Mr. Edwards needed to be transported to [REDACTED] for further care.

From the facts outlined in the investigation it is determined that Major Haman, former Lieutenant Fayson, Sergeant Zimmerman, [REDACTED] FTO Wagner, Corrections Deputy Edward, Corrections Deputy Cedeno and former Corrections Deputy Blazewicz used the reasonable amount of force required to mitigate Mr. Edwards' actions and gain compliance from an unwilling, violent and combative individual. It is determined that the techniques used by the employees involved were necessary and in direct response to the

level of resistance displayed by Mr. Edwards. The techniques were used to obtain compliance and gain control of Mr. Edwards who was aggressively and violently resisting in an unlawful manner and continued to be non-compliant in his efforts to avoid the arrest process. The response to resistance was consistent with agency policy and training, in response to a large individual, a trained combat veteran, who was posing an immediate threat to himself, their own and other members' safety. (One deputy was transported to a hospital for medical treatment as a result of head injuries sustained, concussion.)

The agency provides training and resources to offer members a range of options during confrontations that can vary depending on the level of resistance, specific situational knowledge at the time of the incident and evolving circumstances facing the deputies. The techniques used by the involved individuals were reasonable, not applied in an excessive manner, and are justified based on the level of physical resistance by Mr. Edwards and were based on the immediate and rapidly evolving situation at hand.

Upon obtaining compliance from Mr. Edwards, the physical response to resistance techniques, use of OC Spray and use of the ECW were all ceased. He was secured in the ERC to prevent further outbursts of violence, potential injury to himself or others, and a vented spit mask was utilized for the containment of potentially hazardous bodily fluids.

On December 11, 2018, Agent Jennifer Straight attended the autopsy of Mr. Gregory Lloyd Edwards at the Medical Examiner's Office. The decedent was male, 38 years of age, 6'-00" and 256 pounds at the time of death.

On February 6, 2019, the Medical Examiner reviewed the video recordings relating to Mr. Edwards along with a vented spit hood identical to the one used with Mr. Edwards.

VA Progress Reports reviewed by CIS agents between the dates of April 17, 2018 and ending on November 9, 2018, reflect Mr. Edwards' historical diagnosis of [REDACTED]

The final copy of the Medical Examiner's autopsy report received February 26, 2019, submitted by Dr. Qaiser determined the cause of death to be "Excited Delirium and Complications" due to "Hyperactive and Violent State with Subsequent Restraint." The manner of the death was determined as Accident. Other significant conditions were identified as "Desquamative Interstitial Pneumonitis, Early Hepatic Cirrhosis, Obesity, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Minor External Body Injuries."

The death investigation documented that Mr. Edwards violently attacked and aggressively resisted restraints applied to protect himself and others from his violent actions, which include verbal commands, human interaction, handcuffs, leg shackles, marked patrol unit

transport, holding cell, physical interaction, handcuffs, OC, ECW and ERC, beginning at approximately 11:13 a.m. until approximately 2:23 p.m. Approximately 3 hours and 10 minutes of continuous unlawful, aggressive physical exertion in an attempt to attack, resist and defeat restraint efforts, all of which was documented by video recordings.

The Brevard County Sheriff's Office death investigation (2018-00434257), which was initiated on December 9, 2018, was submitted to the office of the Honorable State Attorney of the 18th Judicial Circuit, Phil Archer on March 26, 2019. In addition to the Investigation and investigative enclosures, the Office of the State Attorney permitted the attorneys representing the family of Mr. Gregory Lloyd Edwards the opportunity to prepare and submit any records or materials they believed were pertinent to the investigation for review by the State Attorney prior rendering a legal determination as related to the use of force. The medical record documents submitted to the State Attorney's Office by Mr. McCullough's office have been attached as enclosures by the SAO.

On May 28, 2019, the Office of the State Attorney, authored an email from Michael Hunt to attorney Scott McCullough stating: *"We have completed our review of the materials that we received from the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and the medical records that you provided regarding the death of Mr. Edwards. We await the report of any expert(s) reviewing the case on behalf of your client. We desire to have all relevant information before making a decision regarding the case. We have patiently waited and assisted in facilitating the slides requested for your expert(s). Please ensure that we receive by 5 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2019, whatever else you want us to consider. Thank you."*

It should be noted that as of July 1, 2019, neither Attorney Scott McCullough nor anyone representing his office submitted medical reports prepared by an expert engaged on behalf of their client for the Office of the State Attorney, the Office of the Medical Examiner or the Sheriff's Office to review as they had indicated they would be submitting.

On July 1, 2019, State Attorney Phil Archer authored and released a written response outlining the factual finding of BCSO Death Investigation 2018-00434257 relating to Mr. Gregory Lloyd Edwards. The authored release is as follows:

My Office has completed a review of Investigative Case #18-00434257 you submitted which involved the use of force by deputies at the Brevard County Jail Complex against Gregory Lloyd Edwards during his processing at the complex after having been arrested by the West Melbourne Police Department. Based on that review, I find that the use of force was entirely reasonable and justifiable under Chapter 776, Florida Statutes.

It is very clear from the investigation that Mr. Edwards' violent and unpredictable behavior at the business site where he was arrested prior to being brought to the jail complex is entirely consistent with the violent and unpredictable behavior exhibited at the jail which resulted in the use of force by the deputies. His unlawful and violent resistance to the efforts of the deputies to maintain control over him which resulted in a serious injury

July 1, 2019

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to a deputy completely justified the escalation of use of force techniques to gain control. I further commend the efforts of the deputies and staff at the jail in the actions they took in attending to Mr. Edwards after it became apparent he was in distress.

I want to thank you for the thorough, timely and detailed investigation conducted by you and your agency. Your professionalism is much appreciated. Please let me know if you have any other questions regarding this matter.

Based on the facts set forth in this Administrative Investigation, I submit that the following policy was initially subject to review as it pertains to violations by Brevard County Sheriff's Office personnel; **Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation**. After a thorough review of the facts outlined in this investigation, I recommend the alleged policy violations be closed as follows:

Major Kelly Haman:

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Former Lieutenant George Fayson:

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Sergeant Richard Zimmerman

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

FTO Robert Wagner Jr.

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Corrections [REDACTED]

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Corrections Deputy DaShawn Edward

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Corrections Deputy Freddy Cedeno

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

Former Corrections Deputy Alison Blazewicz

Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation – "Not-Sustained"

In conclusion, based upon the findings of the State Attorney's independent review of the death investigation, the use of force by the involved parties was reasonable, justified and statutorily compliant.

Upon consideration of the role of the supervisors, especially during and after pertinent incidents, the investigative findings determined there were identified deficiencies in duties

and responsibilities performed by Major Kelly Haman, former Lieutenant George Fayson and Sergeant Richard Zimmerman. Specifically, a distinct lack of direction and communication provided to documentation procedures.

The investigation has determined that at no time did a supervisor direct the initiation of a log to document the processes for the application of the restraint chair for Mr. Edwards as required by policy. Once Mr. Edwards was secured in the ERC, there was ample time to initiate and complete a log documenting the appropriate steps taken in the application of the ERC. Sergeant Zimmerman, former Lieutenant Fayson and Major Haman each had an obligation and expectation to provide supervisory oversight and direction for the operations of their subordinates. Each had the responsibility of situational awareness. Each supervisor on duty should have been monitoring the status of their subordinates and their respective delegated responsibilities to provide leadership direction and guidance. In addition to their ability to personally observe all activities or inactivates, each of the supervisors had access to numerous control systems that are designed to help accomplish their respective duties. These systems included, but are not limited to physically checking on their subordinates, access to the digital camera system so they can monitor areas of the complex remotely; and access to LERMS, which would allow them to monitor Officer Activity Log entries in real time.

Lastly, the involved supervisors and FTO Robert Wagner Jr. clearly failed to establish, secure and maintain direction and control of the scene and witnesses. The video recordings depict FTO Wagner using an inmate to clean the scene by collecting and then discarding items. In addition to cleaning the scene, the involved supervisors directed involved employees, potential witnesses, to leave the Jail Complex to conduct other duties, rather than assigning uninvolved personnel to address such matters such as transport to the hospital. It should be noted as mitigating factors, the involved parties were concerned with the medical status of [REDACTED] as related to the serious injury he sustained during Mr. Edwards' violent resistance and to restore the intake and release operations of the Booking Area.

Based on the facts set forth in this administrative investigation, I submit that the following policy was initially subject to review as it pertains to violations by Brevard County Sheriff's Office personnel; **Section 400.06 Compliance with Law and Regulation**. I also submit that after review of the facts in this investigation, there is an additional policy violation as it relates to **Section 400.01 General Professional Responsibilities**. After a thorough review of the facts outlined in this investigation, I recommend the alleged policy violations be closed as follows:

Major Kelly Haman:

Section 400.01 General Professional Responsibilities – "Sustained"

Former Lieutenant George Fayson:

Section 400.01 General Professional Responsibilities – "Sustained"

Sergeant Richard Zimmerman
Section 400.01 General Professional Responsibilities – “Sustained”


FTO Robert Wagner Jr.
Section 400.01 General Professional Responsibilities – “Sustained”

VI. Enclosures

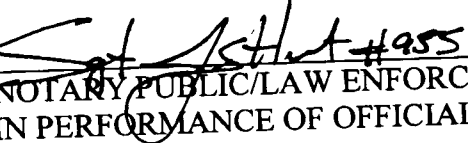
- Authorization for Administrative Investigation Memorandum
- Administrative Leave Notices
- Audio CD
- Notices of Administrative Investigation
- Administrative Investigation Warnings
- Correspondence from McCollough & Leboff Law Firm
- Correspondence from FDLE
- Supervisor Daily Report/Roster from December 9, 2018
- Stearns Wear Spit Sock Procedure Document from Manufacturer
- BCSO Case Report 2018-00434257
- State Attorney Letter – Use of Force Finding

VII. Oath

I, Agent Joseph Bracey, do hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in ss. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.

Signed  #784
Agent Joseph Bracey, ID 784

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, this 1st day of July, 2019.

Signature  #955
NOTARY PUBLIC/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
IN PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES