VOLUSIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT NUMBER: IA-16-004

PERIOD COVERED:

May 14, 2016

DATE REPORTED:

May 14, 2016

SUBJECT(S) NAME:

Deputy Miguel Kent #1678

INVESTIGATING OFFICER:

Lieutenant Jessica Paugh #6845

BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION:

On May 14, 2016, Deputy Miguel Kent stopped to check on a disabled vehicle parked on the shoulder of S.R. 415. The occupant, Jeffery Mark Sims, failed to comply with continuous verbal commands given by Deputy Kent, and was fatally shot as he reached for a handgun located within the vehicle.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Special Agent Bill Lee, conducted the investigation into the use of Deadly Force by Deputy Miguel Kent that resulted in the shooting of Jeffrey Mark Sims. The completed FDLE Investigative Summary is listed under FDLE Case #OR-27-0254. (See Tab – F FDLE Investigative Summary)

OFFENSE(S): None.

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY:

On May 17, 2016, Chief Deputy Eric Dietrich assigned the above described incident to the Internal Affairs Unit for investigation. (See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)

On May 17, 2016, Deputy Miguel Kent was served a Notification of Administrative Leave (with pay) as the result of the Use of Deadly Force on May 14, 2016. (See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)

On May 16, 2016, Lieutenant Paugh obtained a copy of the year 2016 annual Firearms qualifications, for Deputy Miguel Kent. (See Tab- D Firearms Qualification)

On May 17, 2016, a Fitness for duty examination was conducted on Sergeant Stewart, Deputy Sheen, and Deputy Coker by Dr. Greg Landrum, Ph.D.

On October 18, 2016, Special Agent Bill Lee delivered his completed FDLE Investigative Summary along with a complete copy of the related police use of force case file referenced by #OR-27-0254.

On December 15, 2016, a letter was drafted by State Attorney R. J. Larizza regarding FDLE Case Number: OR-27-0254; Investigation of Officer Involved Shooting of Jeffrey Mark Sims. Mr. Larizza wrote:

"this office has reviewed all of the investigative reports, officer statements, and witness statements provided by your office regarding the "police use of force" involving Deputy Miguel Kent that occurred on May 14, 2016. Based on a review of the investigation and information provided, no further action is warranted by this office." (See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)

Conclusion:

On 1-24-2017, this investigation was presented to the Use of Force Review Board. After review, it was determined the use of deadly force was **justified** as to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to the Deputies and found **no** violations of agency policy.

EXHIBIT(S):

- A. Report of Investigation
- B. Official Correspondence
- C. Incident Report
- D. Firearms Qualification
- E. Drug and Alcohol Screening results

- F. FDLE Investigative Summary #OR-27-0254
- G. Use of Force Review Board Documents
- H. Miscellaneous Documents
- I. Digital Media

Attached and made part of this case file is the Florida Department of Law enforcement case file #OR-27-0254.

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under the 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 suspect of the investigation of any rights contained in ss. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.

INVESTIGATOR:

DATE 2 - 7 - 17
Lieutenant Jessica Paugh
Internal Affairs Investigator

APPROVED BY:

DATE: 2/0117

Chief Deputy John W. Creamer SHERIFF Michael J. Chitwood Volusia County Florida