



PHILLIP TERRELL

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Chief Chad Gremillion
1000 Bolton Avenue
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301

Re: Officer Christopher Hayward and Jason
Shackleford
LSP Report # 22-141452

Chief Gremillion:

My office has recently received and reviewed the above-referenced Louisiana State Police investigation concerning the November 24, 2022 interaction between Officer Christopher Hayward and Jason Shackleford after the officer's response to a citizen complaint. As a result of that encounter, Shackleford was shot by Officer Hayward. Video evidence showed that Shackleford's non-compliance escalated into a physical fight with Officer Hayward. That fight resulted in the shooting of Shackleford. A review of the evidence shows that Officer Hayward's life and well-being were threatened in the discharge of his routine duties.

After a comprehensive review, the evidence overwhelmingly demonstrates that the actions of Officer Hayward were justified. Hayward was placed in reasonable fear of death or great bodily harm by the acts of Shackleford. No criminal responsibility can be found, as Hayward legally exercised his right to self-defense and self-preservation. There is no probable cause of criminal responsibility to present to a Grand Jury. Officer Hayward was in circumstances where use of deadly force was legally justified.

There will be no charges from this incident for Officer Christopher Hayward.

Sincerely yours,

Phillip Terrell
District Attorney
Rapides Parish, Louisiana