



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MIDDLESEX DISTRICT ATTORNEY
15 COMMONWEALTH AVE. WOBURN, MA 01801



Marian T. Ryan
District Attorney

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April 3, 2015

Chief Timothy Sheehan
Tewksbury Police Department
918 Main Street
Tewksbury, MA 01876

Re: The February 17, 2015 Shooting of Douglas Sparks on Forest Avenue in
Tewksbury

Dear Chief Sheehan:

The Middlesex County District Attorney's Office has concluded its investigation into the February 17, 2015, shooting death of Douglas Sparks by Tewksbury Police Detectives Michael McLaughlin and Edward Jackman. As you know, the shooting occurred at 9:09 a.m., on Forest Avenue, in the vicinity of 55 Forest Avenue.

A thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding the fatal shooting of Mr. Sparks has revealed that Detective McLaughlin and Detective Jackman fired only after Mr. Sparks pointed his gun at Detective Jackman and his partner Detective Donovan, and had already refused the detectives' repeated commands to, "Drop the gun." Under the circumstances, Detective McLaughlin and Detective Jackman acted reasonably and lawfully. Therefore, no criminal charges are warranted.

A copy of the "Findings of District Attorney Marian T. Ryan Regarding Officers Involved in the Fatal Shooting on February 17, 2015, in Tewksbury, MA," is enclosed.

The matter is now being referred to the Tewksbury Police Department for such internal review as you determine is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Marian T. Ryan
District Attorney