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Akron Police Officer Found to Use Justifiable Force in Deadly Shooting *Officer Shot and Killed Robbery Suspect*

AKRON, Ohio (Friday, July 01, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that an Akron Police Officer was justified in connection with the September 25, 2015 deadly shooting of William R. Lemmon.

In the early morning hours of September 25, 2015, William R. Lemmon was shot by Akron Police following an aggravated robbery at Bista Brothers Asian Market at 582 N. Main Street in Akron. Mr. Lemmon matched the description of one of the robbery suspects. Police tracked Mr. Lemmon behind a nearby building. Mr. Lemmon refused to comply with the officers' commands to show his hands, screamed obscenities at officers and said the officers were going to have to shoot him.

Mr. Lemmon then placed his hand inside the front portion of his pants and made a sudden move toward the officers. Akron Police Officer Brian Armstead shot Mr. Lemmon, who later died at the hospital.

The investigation revealed the following:

- William Lemmon was a suspect in an aggravated robbery where a gun was used.
- Mr. Lemmon did not comply with police orders.
- Mr. Lemmon reached into the waist band of his pants moments before making a sudden move toward officers.
- Bystanders heard Mr. Lemmon refuse the officers' orders to put his hands up.

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“Mr. Lemmon was a suspect in an armed robbery when police found him hiding behind a building. He did not comply with the officers’ orders to show his hands and surrender,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “The officers believed Mr. Lemmon had a weapon and felt threatened when he lunged at them. Officer Armstead acted within his authority and was legally justified when he shot and killed Mr. Lemmon.”

Please see the attached report for additional details.