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MEDIA RELEASE

January 14, 2022

Re: Shooting Incident resulting in the Death of Dominique Wilson Green Bay Police Department Case Number 21-265025 610 East Walnut Street – Marathon Gas Station November 14, 2021

The Brown County District Attorney's Office has completed their review of the investigation conducted by the Green Bay Police Department involving the death of Dominique Wilson on November 14, 2021. The incident occurred at the Marathon Gas Station located at 610 East Walnut Street in the City of Green Bay. The Green Bay Police Department provided the Brown County District Attorney's Office with a thorough case file, including the investigative reports, audio and video recordings, photographs, written and recorded statements, scene diagrams, and other investigative materials.

Based on a complete review of the investigative file, it is clear that during the early morning hours of November 14, 2021, two groups of individuals were at the Marathon Gas station parking lot. Those groups had been involved in an ongoing dispute, fueled by statements made on social media, which had also resulted in a physical confrontation that occurred on November 12, 2021. The dispute continued into the next day, with ongoing chatter and videos on social media suggesting that there would be another physical altercation either on the evening of November 13, 3021 or the early morning of November 14, 2021. The events then culminated when these groups gathered after 2:00 a.m. on November 14, 2021 at the Marathon station.

Video surveillance and witness statements confirm that Wilson was present at the Marathon station on November 14, 2021, and that she was an active participant in the physical altercation. The physical altercation seemed to largely involve female combatants, some of whom were in possession of weapons that appeared to be bats, brass knuckles, and pepper spray.

Video recordings and witness statements likewise confirm that during the altercation, Wilson who was being physically restrained by her boyfriend, eventually made her way to the vehicle in which she had arrived, and retrieved a loaded handgun. The gun was lawfully possessed by a friend of Wilson's who was also present during the altercation. Wilson is observed, by witnesses and on video, racking the handgun, pointing it at other individuals in close proximity, and it appears that she is attempting to discharge the loaded weapon at others who were actively fighting. While Wilson is engaged in this conduct, she is shot and ultimately killed by a nearby individual, Jaylene Edwards.

The evidence establishes that Jaylene Edwards had been present during the incident, and that he had friends and family members who were present, as well. Edwards was not an active participant in the physical disturbance, but rather, appeared to be observing the altercation between the female participants. Both witness statements and video evidence indicate that prior to shooting Wilson, Edwards did not engage in any physical violence, nor did his actions appear disorderly or appear to provoke violence in any way.

Edwards ultimately came to the Green Bay Police Department voluntarily on November 16, 2021, and spoke with investigators about the incident. Edwards also provided the firearm he used during the incident. He provided information that was consistent with statements from other individuals, and which was largely verified by video recordings. In his statement, Edwards indicated that he had seen Wilson get a gun, rack and load the gun, and then wave the pistol around and point the gun at him. Edwards felt threatened by her actions as she could have shot him or anyone else. Edwards stated he felt threatened but her finger was not on the trigger at that time. Edwards stated he was giving her the benefit of the doubt. Edwards stated that at this time, some of the females were still fighting. Edwards stated Wilson began to point the gun at the girls who were fighting and everyone else standing around. Edwards stated he removed his weapon from his right hip and took aim, removed the safety, and fired an unknown number of times. Edwards stated he wanted to protect himself and everyone else in the area as he was scared for his life and everyone else's life. Edwards stated that he was in fear that Wilson would start shooting everyone.

Again, video evidence and witness statements were consistent with Edwards' statement and confirm that Wilson was pointing that firearm at others and appeared to be manipulating the trigger.

In order to legally and ethically make a charging decision, the Brown County District Attorney's Office and the Green Bay Police Department were tasked with evaluating not only the cause of Wilson's death, but also whether Edwards' actions in shooting Wilson constituted a valid use of the privilege to defend himself or others. In order to issue charges against Edwards,

the State must believe that it could prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Edwards' use of deadly force was unreasonable and unsupported by Wisconsin Law.

The evidence collected and reviewed by the Green Bay Police Department and the Brown County District Attorney's Office does not support charges in this case; rather, it suggests that Edwards subjectively feared for his life and/or the lives of others, and that his subjective belief was reasonable in this instance. For those reasons, the Brown County District Attorney's Office after consultation with the Green Bay Police Department, has chosen not to pursue charges against Jaylene Edwards for causing the death of Dominique Wilson.

Dominique Wilson's death was a tragic event and the Green Bay Police Department and the Brown County District Attorney's Office offer their condolences to her family and friends.

David L. Lasee District Attorney