



DICK PERRYMAN

District Attorney

ALAPAHA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ATKINSON, BERRIEN, CLINCH, COOK, & LANIER COUNTIES

September 21, 2020

Via email

SAC Mark Pro
Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Region 4
Douglas, Georgia

RE: Adel PD Use of Force Investigation

Dear SAC Pro:

This letter is in regards to the alleged excessive use of force by Adel Police Department Officers against Mr. Gary Thomas, Jr. occurring on June 15, 2020. My office has reviewed the file provided to include the body and dash camera footage and the summaries of all witness interviews. After reviewing the evidence provided, it is my conclusion that there is insufficient evidence to prove the use of force was excessive or that the Officers' actions call for criminal charges.

The evidence shows that Mr. Thomas provided a false name to law enforcement during initial contact, that he had an active warrant for him at the time of this interaction, that he continued to defy officer instructions not to use his phone (this instruction was given for officer safety), that he resisted officers when they tried to place him in custody, that Mr. Thomas reached for his waistband during officers' attempts to arrest him and that officers did not strike Mr. Thomas after he was cuffed. The evidence shows that officers only used such force as was necessary to effectuate the arrest of Mr. Thomas.

Unless additional evidence is forthcoming, then this office will not pursue any criminal charges against any law enforcement officers involved in this arrest.

PLEASE RESPOND TO ADDRESS CHECKED

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Phone: 229.896.3102
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P.O. Box 128
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September 21, 2020

Sincerely,



Richard L. "Dick" Perryman III
District Attorney
Alapaha Judicial Circuit

cc: Chief Chad Castleberry (Adel PD)

PLEASE RESPOND TO ADDRESS CHECKED:

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NASHVILLE GA 31639
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