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MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

From District Attorney Josh Eastman
Josephine County District Attorney's Office

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Josephine County District Attorney concludes review of officer-involved shooting that occurred on December 7, 2020 at 400 Pinewood Way in Cave Junction.

Josh Eastman, the Josephine County District Attorney, announced today that he has concluded review of the officer involved shooting that occurred at approximately 1:30 p.m. on December 7, 2020 at 400 Pinewood Way in Cave Junction, Oregon.

Because all three law-enforcement agencies in Josephine County were involved in this incident, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Medford Police Department, along with help from the Oregon State Police Crime Lab [MADIU—Major Assault / Death Investigation Unit] conducted a full investigation of this incident.

The investigation revealed that:

On December 7, 2020, prior to 7:00 a.m., Josephine County Emergency Dispatch received a call from a neighbor of 400 Pinewood Way who reported that wife/resident of Pinewood had fled the scene, left behind her phone, and her husband (Donald Guest – “Guest”) and homeowner (Sandra Reynolds—“Reynolds”) were still in the residence. Through the neighbor, the wife reported that her “husband has a gun and is threatening violence.” As the call continued, the wife informed the neighbor who informed dispatch that it had been both physical and verbal and Guest had pointed firearm at her and Reynolds and threatened to hurt Reynolds/himself.

While Dispatch was in the process of getting deputies to 400 Pinewood, another 911 call came in that was transferred from Florida. Guest's son reported to Dispatch that Guest had called him and told him he had pointed a gun at Reynolds and was discussing suicide. A third

911 call came in that was transferred from California. Reynolds' sister reported that Guest had called her, told her that there "was a problem," but would not let her talk to her sister because her sister was scared. A final 911 call was transferred from the Ashland Behavioral Health Unit to Josephine County Dispatch. During that conversation, Guest told Dispatch that "I'm sitting holding someone at gunpoint" and am "fixing to go to prison or kill myself—one or the other."

During the next few hours, the Josephine County Sheriff's Office communicated with Guest through Guest's family in an attempt to talk him down, talk him out, or talk him into releasing Reynolds. During that time, Guest's sons reported to the Sheriff's Office that Guest had said that "he was going to put 2 in her chest and 1 in her head, and 1 in himself," that the cops had to come save Reynolds, and that Guest was not going to stop. The Sheriff's Office also contacted Reynolds by claiming to be a repair company, but Reynolds told them that today was not a good day to come to the property.

Just before 10:00 a.m., there was a "SWAT" call out from the Grants Pass Department of Public Safety (GPDPS) that also included the Oregon State Police Swat Team. This included snipers, entrance teams, as well as negotiators that were assisted/accompanied by mental health professionals.

Based on the information known at the time of the SWAT callout as outlined above, SWAT and the other units on scene were working under "target of opportunity" paradigm – meaning that deadly physical force had been authorized. Despite this authorization, a SWAT sniper monitored Guest's behavior within the house for more than two hours. During this time, negotiators attempted to communicate with Guest, convince him to come out, and / or to release Reynolds.

At around 1:00 p.m. an additional sniper from OSP SWAT relayed over the radio that he could see Guest in the house with a firearm in his hand. Shortly after that, an armored vehicle drove up Pinewood, and the GPDPS SWAT sniper observed a noticeable change in Guest's behavior within the house. The sniper observed that Guest appeared more animated and agitated so the sniper decided to take the shot if the opportunity presented itself.

At 1:28:14, the sniper fired his rifle into the house at Guest. The shot did not incapacitate Guest and nine seconds later, there were multiple rounds fired from within the

residence. And eight seconds after that, members of the GPDPS and OSP SWAT Teams engaged Guest, incapacitated him, and once the scene was secure, attempted to render aid to both Reynolds and Guest. In total, there were four members of the GPDPS that used lethal force and three members of OSP that used lethal force.

Reynolds and Guest were both deceased. Reynolds was in a reclining chair with her small dog that was also deceased. Ballistics investigation and the results of the autopsies confirmed that Guest fired multiple rounds at Reynolds within the house – many of which struck her, and that Guest was hit by multiple law enforcement rounds. The investigation also revealed that Guest potentially fired a round in the direction of the SWAT Team entering the residence. Additionally, due to grain weight differences amongst the bullets, Detectives confirmed that Reynolds was not hit by any of the SWAT members rounds.

The District Attorney is charged with the duty of reviewing incidents where deadly physical force is used by police and citizens to determine if the use of force was consistent with Oregon law. As outlined in ORS 161.209, deadly physical force is authorized if the person reasonably believes that the other person is:

- 1) Committing or attempting to commit a felony involving the use or threatened imminent use of physical force against a person; or
- 2) Committing or attempting to commit a burglary in a dwelling; or
- 3) Using or about to use unlawful deadly physical force against a person.

During this incident, based on the 911 calls, the conversations with sons, the information from wife, from the negotiator's conversations with Guest, Guest's own statements, and the on-scene officers' observations, the seven officers that used lethal force (4 GPDPS and 3 OSP) were justified in using deadly physical force. No further action in this matter is anticipated nor merited. ¹

District Attorney Eastman would like to thank the Jackson County MADIU for graciously volunteering to assist us in this investigation and for conducting such a thorough and detailed investigation.

¹ See ORS 132.330 ("good reason to believe" required to present to grand jury). When no "good reason to believe" crime has been committed, Grand Jury is not authorized/allowed.