

CARSON CITY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Legal Analysis Concerning
the Officer Involved Shooting of
Alexander Joseph Allinger
on April 17, 2025

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Summary Of Material Facts	3
A. GENERAL BACKGROUND	3
B. LAW ENFORCEMENT’S CONTACT WITH ALLINGER	3
C. RESPONSE TO THE SCENE.....	7
D. INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	7
E. RESULTS OF AUTOPSY AND TOXICOLOGY	11
F. VIDEO EVIDENCE	12
Legal Analysis	23
A. SELF-DEFENSE	23
B. DEFENSE OF OTHERS.....	25
C. DEADLY FORCE IN EXECUTION OF ARREST	26
D. JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE BY A PEACE OFFICER	26
Conclusion	27

Introduction

On April 17, 2025, a Carson City Sheriff's Deputy contacted the occupants of a vehicle parked in a lot north of Cactus Jack's Casino located near Carson City's downtown. In the vehicle, the contacting deputy located two people: Alexander Joseph Allinger ("Allinger"), the driver, along with his passenger, Sarah Ladd ("Ladd"). Through the course of the contact, the deputy learned that Allinger was arrestable due to an extraditable felony warrant. When the deputy informed Allinger of the warrant, he retrieved a firearm from inside the vehicle. Initially, Allinger pointed the firearm at his own head. Allinger then fled the vehicle on foot with the firearm in the direction of local businesses and residences. Because Allinger fled toward a more populated area, the deputies pursued Allinger on foot and followed him into the parking lot of a local business, the Firm Cryo Spa & Wellness Center ("Firm Cryo Spa") located at 602 North Curry Street. Once the deputies caught up to him, Allinger aimed his firearm at one of the deputies. The deputy gave multiple verbal commands to Allinger to lower his weapon, and, in response, Allinger racked the firearm and aimed it at the deputy. Due to the immediate risk of being shot, the deputy shot Allinger two times. Allinger was pronounced dead on scene.

Summary Of Material Facts

A. GENERAL BACKGROUND

Allinger was a 35-year-old male who was last known to reside in Wellton, Arizona with his mother. Allinger and Ladd were travelling companions and had been on a road trip through Arizona, California, and Nevada since February 2025. The pair spent a few days in Lake Tahoe before arriving in Carson City on April 16, 2025, the day before the incident.

Allinger has previous convictions for firearms offenses, including a 2020 conviction for being a Felon/Addicted Person in Possession of a Firearm. Additionally, he has a prior violent, felony conviction from 2022 for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, where he was sentenced to prison. On January 21, 2025, an Arizona court issued an arrest warrant for parole violations from his felony Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon conviction. Additionally, at the time of the incident, Allinger was the named suspect in the theft of a .308 Ruger handgun. Allinger's mother reported the weapon was stolen in Yuma County, Arizona on January 24, 2025. Allinger possessed the same firearm on April 17, 2025.

B. LAW ENFORCEMENT'S CONTACT WITH ALLINGER

On April 17, 2025, CCSO Deputy Danielle Sandage ("Deputy Sandage") was on patrol when she came across a suspicious vehicle located in the parking lot north of

Cactus Jack's Casino, located at 500 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The vehicle, a White Ford Fusion, was parked away from other vehicles in the parking lot, had an out-of-state license plate, and was not parked inside the lines. As Deputy Sandage approached, the driver opened the door before she fully reached the vehicle. At approximately 9:21 am, Deputy Sandage made the initial contact with the driver of the vehicle and determined a second occupant was seated in the front passenger seat. Deputy Sandage spoke to the individuals in the vehicle and observed the top of a butane lighter. She believed the lighter could indicate illicit drug use. She then asked the occupants for their identifications. The occupant in the front passenger seat of the vehicle, Ladd, provided her driver's license. The occupant in the driver's seat of the vehicle, Allinger, said he could not find his driver's license. He only provided a casino player's card and orally provided his date of birth. He indicated he probably left his license in the casino. Deputy Sandage observed that Allinger appeared nervous during their exchange. He repeatedly shifted his body, and one of his legs was "shaky."

Deputy Sandage contacted CCSO dispatch and conducted a warrants inquiry on both Ladd and Allinger. She discovered Allinger had an active extraditable parole violation warrant for his arrest out of Arizona. Allinger pleaded with Deputy Sandage not to take him to jail multiple times, but she informed him she was required to arrest him. Deputy Sandage tried to calm Allinger, as he became upset and agitated following the news. Allinger informed the deputy he knew he had a warrant, and Ladd also told the deputy that she begged Allinger to come with her on this trip, knowing of the parole violation.

After hearing about the warrant on the radio, Deputy Douglas Keennon ("Deputy Keennon") arrived on scene at approximately 9:31 am. Upon arrival, Deputy Keennon observed Deputy Sandage standing by the driver's side door of the vehicle. Allinger asked Deputy Sandage to permit him to finish smoking his cigarette before being taken into custody, which she allowed to keep Allinger calm. Allinger asked if he could call his kids and Deputy Sandage informed him that he could do that from the jail. Allinger stated that "I'm not going to do anything" and "I'm not gonna run." Deputy Sandage asked Allinger if he had any drugs on him, and he said, "No." Deputy Sandage asked Allinger if he had a firearm, and he shook his head, indicating he did not.

Deputy Sandage told Allinger he could take one more drag from his cigarette, and then she was going to handcuff him. She also reminded him that she would ensure he could call his children from jail. Allinger took a long drag off his cigarette, dropped it, and then reached into the vehicle to seemingly put away his lighter. However, Allinger quickly slammed the driver's door shut. Deputy Sandage immediately pulled open the driver's door. Deputy Keennon stepped into the open-door area, trying to remove Allinger, and said, "Out of the car." Deputy Sandage observed Allinger reach behind him and grab a handgun. She then took cover behind a vehicle parked nearby. Deputy Keennon drew his firearm, stepped back, and took position to cover Allinger's vehicle. Ladd exited the

vehicle and got onto the ground. Allinger also exited the vehicle, but he exited with the handgun pointed at his own head. Allinger yelled something to the effect that he was going to “fucking kill himself.” Deputy Sandage reported that Allinger also attempted to rack the gun while standing and facing toward her. Deputy Sandage yelled at Allinger to drop his gun. Allinger did not comply and ran from the deputies.

Allinger ran westbound through the parking lot towards Curry Street. The area of the pursuit is part of downtown Carson City. It contains businesses open to the public and residences. The area also often contains numerous pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles. Both deputies pursued Allinger on foot, with Deputy Keennon well in front of Deputy Sandage. During the foot pursuit, both deputies requested back-up and witnessed Allinger point the gun at his own head.

Allinger crossed Curry Street and headed across West Robinson Street before entering the parking lot of the Firm Cryo Spa. While in pursuit, Deputy Sandage made brief contact with pedestrians just across West Robinson from the Firm Cryo Spa. She told the members of the public to get away from the area as the man she was chasing had a gun. As Allinger entered the parking lot area, Allinger tripped and fell to the ground. Allinger quickly returned to his feet and aimed his firearm in Deputy Keennon’s direction. Allinger then continued to run towards the northwest corner of the same parking lot. Deputy Sandage ran around the east side of the Firm Cryo Spa on Curry Street, so she could contain Allinger in the parking lot.



Figure 1 shows an aerial view of the area where the incident occurred. The red box outlines Allinger's position, the blue star represents Deputy Keennon's position and the red star represents Deputy Sandage's general position. Allinger ran from the parking lot seen in the bottom right corner of the photograph across Curry Street and westbound on Robinson Street. Allinger entered the parking lot from the driveway on Robinson Street near the area in the center of the photograph where a parked black pickup truck is shown.

Deputy Keennon remained near the entry of the parking lot, with his back to West Robinson Street, which afforded partial cover. He gave Allinger repeated verbal commands to drop his gun. Allinger refused to drop his firearm and instead tried to rack the gun. Deputy Keennon stated he heard Allinger say something to the effect of "here we go, got it," which Deputy Keennon believed to mean Allinger cleared a malfunction in his firearm and loaded another round. Allinger pointed the handgun back at his own head and then down at his side. Deputy Keennon continued to give verbal commands to Allinger to drop the gun. Allinger then raised the gun and aimed it at Deputy Keennon. Fearing for his life, Deputy Keennon responded by firing one round at Allinger to stop him from remaining a threat. The bullet struck Allinger. He fell to his right side, but he

maintained control of the handgun. Allinger was still armed and attempted to get back up. Deputy Keennon believed Allinger remained a threat, so he fired a second round, which also struck Allinger.

Deputy Sandage saw Allinger in the back corner of the parking lot when she rounded the corner of the business, so she backed up and sought cover. She heard gunshots and saw Allinger fall to the ground. Deputy Sandage then moved toward Allinger and confirmed he was down. Additional law enforcement arrived shortly thereafter.

C. RESPONSE TO THE SCENE

Multiple CCSO personnel responded to the scene at approximately 9:36 am. Carson City Fire Department (CCFD) personnel arrived at the scene at approximately 9:38 am. Allinger was pronounced dead at the scene at 9:50 am on April 17, 2025.

D. INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Following the incident, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) responded to conduct an independent investigation. The DCSO investigated pursuant to the protocols adopted in a Memorandum of Understanding between CCSO and DCSO to ensure complete independent investigations in critical incidents, including officer-involved shootings. DCSO personnel canvassed the area, collected evidence, spoke to witnesses, and searched for video footage. Additionally, they conducted a bullet round count and examined CCSO deputies' duty weapons.

The DCSO deputies located two spent casings from Deputy Keennon's firearm on the north sidewalk of West Robinson. These casings confirmed Deputy Keennon's report that he fired his weapon near the parking lot entrance from West Robinson.



Figure 2 is a photo of the driveway as Deputy Keennon would have entered it on the north side of West Robinson Street. Deputy Keennon took cover at the corner of the building and behind the bush seen on the right side of the photo.



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Figure 3 shows where spent casings were located next to the Firm Cryo Spa near where Deputy Keennon fired his weapon. Figures 4 and 5 show the evidence markers 5 and 6, respectively, which document the spent casings from Deputy Keennon's weapon. This evidence is consistent with Deputy Keennon's body-worn camera and his statement that he fired from the south side of the parking lot.



Figure 6 is a photo of a .308 round DCSO deputies recovered in the parking lot near the back corner of the parking lot where Allinger was shot.

DCSO deputies recovered a .308 caliber Ruger firearm near Allinger's body. When DCSO deputies recovered the firearm, it had a round in the chamber ready to be fired. This unfired round was consistent with the other ammunition contained in the .308 Ruger, and its location was consistent with Deputy Keennon's account of Allinger racking the gun to clear a blockage and re-chamber a round.



Figure 7
Figure 7 shows Allinger's unfired round marked in Figure 6.

The unfired round had light primer strike marks on the primer area of the casing. This marking indicates the gun's firing pin failed to strike the round with enough force to ignite the primer and fire the projectile. This confirms Deputy Keennon's account that Allinger attempted to rack and discharge the firearm during the pursuit. It additionally supports Deputy Keennon's assessment of Allinger's statement, "here we go, got it," that it meant Allinger had cleared a misfired bullet.

E. RESULTS OF AUTOPSY AND TOXICOLOGY

Irfan Chaudhry, M.D., from the Washoe County Medical Examiner's Office, conducted Allinger's autopsy. He confirmed the cause of death was gunshot wounds to the neck and torso, which is consistent with the evidence collected. Toxicology testing revealed the presence of Delta 9-THC, amphetamine, and methamphetamine in Allinger's blood. This supports Deputy Sandage's initial observations on scene that Allinger had a butane lighter and shaky demeanor, which are consistent with drug use.

F. VIDEO EVIDENCE

Both deputies involved in the incident wore their department-issued body-worn cameras. Additionally, DCSO deputies recovered surveillance footage of the incident from multiple private security cameras in the area. Unfortunately, body-worn cameras cannot capture everything apparent to the human eye. Law enforcement officers generally attach body-worn cameras to their vests, so the cameras are at eye level. Deputy Keennon's camera was attached to the right side of his vest. The view of a body-worn camera can also be obscured by obstacles that do not otherwise impede the officer's viewpoint, given the camera's location on the deputy's uniform. This is especially true during critical incidents where deputies take cover to protect themselves from harm. During this incident, Deputy Keennon and Deputy Sandage took cover during the interaction. During those times, the video shows the objects covering them. Even when the visual of the camera was impeded, the deputies' verbal commands show they could still see Allinger and respond accordingly.

The body-worn camera evidence shows Deputy Sandage contacted Allinger and Ladd in their vehicle at 9:21 am. The same evidence shows that, at 9:25 am, Deputy Sandage communicated with police dispatch for a wants and warrants check on Allinger and Ladd. At 9:29 a.m., Deputy Sandage informed Allinger about the outstanding warrant for his arrest, and at 9:31 a.m., Deputy Kennon arrived on the scene. The evidence further shows Allinger slammed the driver's side door of the vehicle he occupied at 9:33 am. As soon as Allinger slammed the car door, Deputy Sandage immediately pulled the door back open. Deputy Keennon immediately moved to the open door to remove Allinger and stated, "Out of the car." Moreover, as the firearm comes into view, the evidence shows Deputy Sandage turns away from the car door and retreated toward her vehicle for cover, and Deputy Keennon quickly stepped back with his weapon drawn.



Figure 8

Figure 8 shows Deputy Keennon as he retreated back from Allinger. As he did so, he asked, "Is that a gun?"



Figure 9

Figure 9, from Deputy Keennon's body-worn camera, shows Allinger's firearm.

Additional footage shows that as Deputy Keennon retreated, Allinger said, “I’m going to shoot myself. I’m going to shoot myself. Back up.” Deputy Keennon radioed to dispatch and said, “He has a gun to his head; we need more units.” And the footage shows Allinger held the firearm to his head while leaving the vehicle. Ladd, the passenger, exited the vehicle and sat on the ground while Allinger ran toward Curry Street.



Figure 10 shows Allinger running across the parking lot toward Curry Street, while Ladd sat next to the vehicle on the ground. Deputy Keennon began his foot pursuit of Allinger at 9:33:45 am. Allinger ran across Curry Street before crossing West Robinson towards the Firm Cryo Spa.



Figure 11

Figure 11 shows the three pedestrians on West Robinson Street who were told to get out of the area by Deputy Sandage while she was in pursuit of Allinger. The faces were redacted to protect their privacy.



Figure 12

Figure 12 is a view from Deputy Keennon's body camera showing Allinger on the ground after he tripped as he entered the parking lot of 602 North Curry Street from the entrance on West Robinson Street. Allinger stood up from his fall and immediately faced Deputy Keennon.



Figure 13



Figure 14

Figures 13 and 14 show Allinger point his weapon at his head. Deputy Keennon yelled at Allinger to “drop it.” Allinger stepped back but continued to face Deputy Keennon and then aimed his gun at Deputy Keennon. Deputy Keennon continued to give verbal directives to “drop the gun.” The time of this photo is just two seconds after Deputy Sandage encounters the pedestrians, just across the street.



Figures 15 and 16 show Allinger in the northwest corner of the parking lot with the gun to his head.

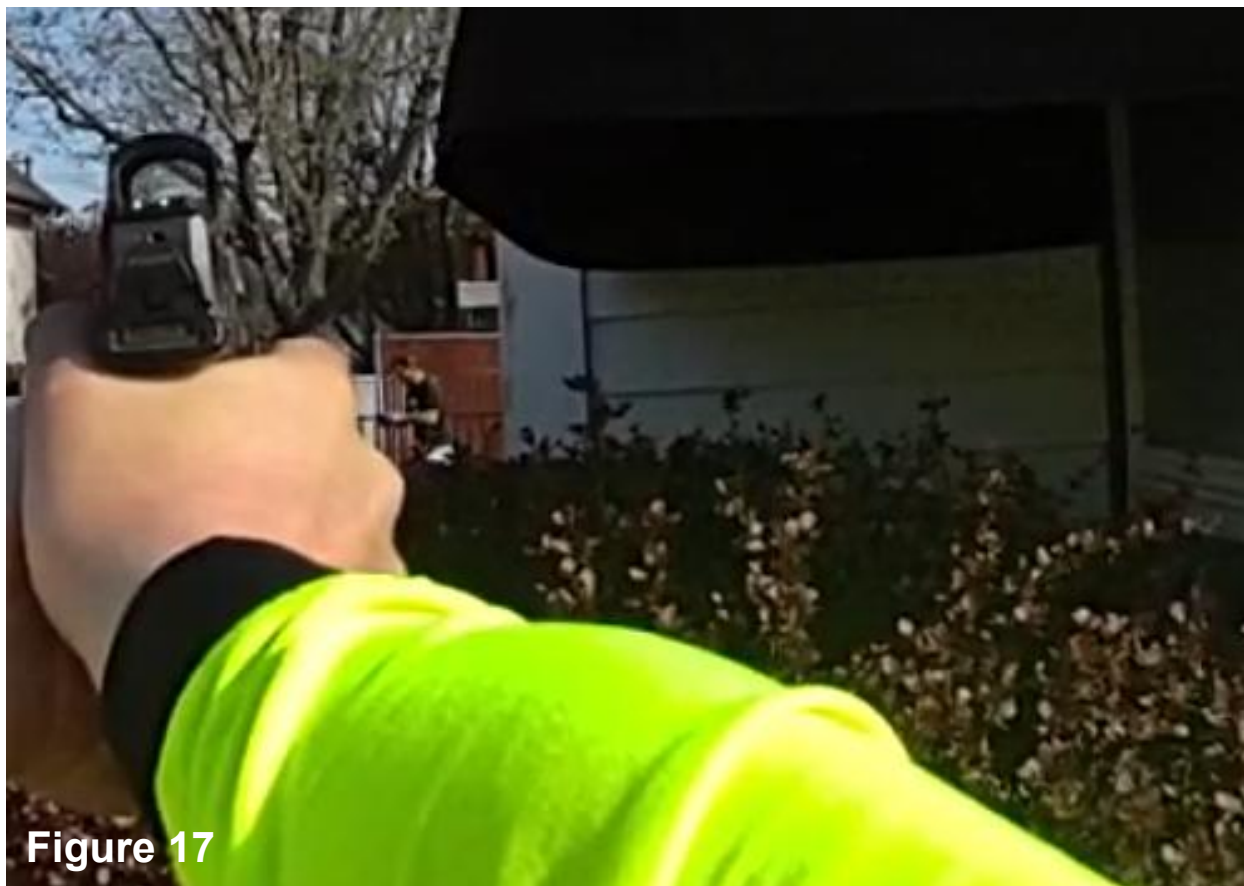


Figure 17 shows Allinger manipulated the firearm, and Figure 18 shows Allinger racked the firearm.

After he manipulated his weapon, Allinger said something sounding like “there it goes.” He then pointed the gun back at his head. Deputy Keennon says, “Don’t do it. Drop the gun.” Allinger briefly moved behind the building, out of the view of Deputy Keennon’s body-worn camera.



Figure 19

Figure 19 shows when Allinger was briefly off camera behind the building. Allinger’s exit out of the other side of the parking lot behind the building was blocked by Deputy Sandage, who took a covered position to prevent Allinger’s escape into the adjoining neighborhood. Deputy Keennon shifted to his left to regain line of sight on Allinger. When Allinger returned into view, Allinger again pointed his weapon at Deputy Keenan, who was then closer to Allinger. Deputy Keennon again instructed Allinger to “drop it”.



Figure 20



Figure 21

Figures 20 and 21 show that Allinger moved back toward Deputy Keennon and lifted his weapon toward Deputy Keennon.



Figure 22



Figure 23

Figures 22 and 23 show Allinger aim his weapon at Deputy Keennon.

Deputy Keennon fired his weapon the first time at 09:34:28, within 1 second of Allinger aiming his weapon at Deputy Keennon. Allinger yelled, appearing to be struck, and fell to the ground. Allinger additionally appears to attempt to get back up at 9:34:29. Deputy Keennon again fired his weapon as Allinger, still armed, tried to regain his footing. Upon being struck by the second shot, Allinger fell flat on the ground. Deputy Keennon held his position and ordered Allinger not to move. At 9:36 am, additional CCSO personnel arrived, kicked the firearm away and cuffed Allinger. Carson City Fire Department personnel arrived and assessed Allinger for medical aid before pronouncing him dead.



Figure 24 shows Allinger after CCSO personnel kicked Allinger's firearm a short distance away and placed him in wrist restraints. Minutes thereafter, the Carson City Fire Department pronounced Allinger dead on scene.

Legal Analysis

In the State of Nevada, homicide, the killing of another human being, can be lawful or unlawful depending on the nature of the act resulting in death. Homicide includes unlawful varieties ranging from manslaughter to murder and also includes justifiable or excusable deaths, which are lawful in nature. In Nevada, there are multiple statutes that define justifiable homicide, including NRS 200.120, NRS 200.140, and NRS 200.160. Further, NRS 200.180 defines “excusable homicide”. NRS 171.1455 outlines the use of deadly force by a peace officer when effectuating an arrest. Case law provides additional guidelines on when a homicide may be justifiable self-defense or the defense of others.

The Washoe County Medical Examiner determined the death of Alexander Allinger to be a homicide. Therefore, the Carson City District Attorney is required to assess the actions of the officer involved and determine if any criminal liability exists based on the facts of the case.

Legal Question

Was Deputy Keennon’s use of deadly force legally justified, such that Allinger’s death was not a criminal act?

A. SELF-DEFENSE

Self-defense is a form of justifiable homicide in the State of Nevada. NRS 200.200. If a killing occurs because of lawful self-defense, that killing is not a crime. NRS 200.190. Several Nevada statutes address the scope and nature of self-defense. See NRS 200.120, NRS 200.140, NRS 200.130, and NRS 200.200. The Nevada Supreme Court has clarified the law regarding self-defense. *Runion v. State*, 116 Nev. 1041, 13 P.3d 52 (2000) (per curiam).

Under *Runion*, the killing of another person is lawful if the person who commits the homicide “actually and reasonably believes” two things:

1. That there is imminent danger that the assailant will either kill him[/her] or cause him[/her] great bodily injury; and
2. That it is absolutely necessary under the circumstances for him[/her] to use in self-defense force or means that might cause the death of the other person, for the purpose of avoiding death or great bodily injury to himself[/herself]. 118 Nev. at 1051, 13 P.3d at 59.

Self-defense requires a reasonable fear based on the circumstances. Genuine fear by itself does not justify a killing. NRS 200.130. The law requires that a reasonable person would be in fear of great bodily harm or death under similar circumstances.

Nevada law does not require actual danger for a homicide to be justified. *Runion*, 116 Nev. at 1051-52, 13 P.3d at 59. Perceived danger is sufficient to justify a killing if the person committing the homicide has an honest fear that they are about to suffer great bodily injury or death, the person acts solely based upon this fear and belief, and the belief is reasonable. *Id.* A homicide can be justified, even if a belief is later found to be mistaken, if the belief is reasonable at the time. *Id.* For example, if a person is threatened with a firearm and responds by killing the person who threatened them, the homicide may be justified even if the firearm was later determined to not be loaded.

Someone cannot claim self-defense if part of the killing was based on revenge. NRS 200.130. It must be based on reasonable fear alone. *Id.* Generally, someone who is an original aggressor, meaning he/she sought out the altercation resulting in deadly force, cannot claim self-defense. NRS 200.120 and NRS 200.200. However, a law-abiding person who is met with deadly force and did not provoke the action has no duty to retreat. *Id.*

Allinger ran from the two deputies while armed with a firearm. Allinger tripped, and when he stood, he pointed the weapon at Deputy Keennon. Deputy Keennon repeatedly directed Allinger to put the gun down. Allinger failed to do so. Instead, Allinger manipulated the weapon and racked the weapon to clear a jam and rechamber the firearm with a live round. After racking the weapon, he said something like “there it goes.” This notified Deputy Keennon that Allinger’s firearm could shoot properly. Once Allinger aimed the firearm at Deputy Keennon a second time, he fired. Deputy Keennon fired a second shot less than two seconds later when Allinger, still armed, tried to get up.

Allinger presented a clear threat of deadly force to Deputy Keennon by pointing the firearm in his direction after having shown a willingness to utilize the firearm. Allinger made suicidal statements, showing his unstable mental state. He also failed to comply with directives to put down the gun.

Based on Allinger’s conduct, Deputy Keennon genuinely and reasonably feared for his immediate safety. This fear was reasonable because a typical person would have perceived that Allinger was willing to engage in deadly force against him based on his comments, racking the gun, and aiming it. The risk associated with a firearm is that it could cause death or great bodily harm. Deputy Keennon was not acting out of revenge. In fact, when Allinger threatened to kill himself, just seconds before, Deputy Keennon

yelled, “Don’t Do it.” When Deputy Keennon was interviewed following the incident, he reported that he was afraid Allinger was going to shoot him. All the evidence supports an actual threat of great bodily harm or death based on Deputy Keennon’s actual and reasonable belief he was in imminent peril.

To be successful at trial on a homicide-based charge, the District Attorney is required to present evidence that establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that the act causing the death of another was not self-defense. Based on the presented factual circumstances, the evidence supports that Deputy Keennon acted in justifiable self-defense. Deputy Keennon’s use of deadly force was justifiable self-defense under Nevada law and is not criminal in nature.

B. DEFENSE OF OTHERS

Deputy Keennon also had a right to protect others, including his fellow officer. In Nevada, the right to use force to defend another person from violence parallels the right to use force to defend oneself. Deputy Keennon was therefore justified in employing deadly force to defend Deputy Sandage and other members of the public in the area. When Allinger went out of view of the body-worn camera behind the building, he was headed in Deputy Sandage’s direction while in control of a firearm. Consequently, it was reasonable for Deputy Keennon to believe that Allinger would utilize his firearm to harm Deputy Sandage or other members of the public.

Additionally, this incident occurred mid-morning in downtown Carson City, which is surrounded by businesses that were open at the time. Multiple members of the public witnessed the foot pursuit, and law enforcement subsequently interviewed them. Deputy Sandage directed members of the public who were on foot to get away from the area, as she was pursuing a person with a gun. Given the vehicles in the parking lot, it was also reasonable to surmise that staff or customers were present at the Firm Cryo Spa at the time this incident occurred. During his interview following the incident, Deputy Keennon reported he feared for the public because there was a felon loose with a firearm in the area. This fear was reasonable based on the circumstances.

To be successful at trial on a homicide-based charge, the District Attorney is required to present evidence that establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that the act causing the death of another was not the result of an act in defense of others. Based on the presented factual circumstances, the evidence supports that Deputy Keennon acted in justifiable defense of others. Deputy Keennon’s use of deadly force was justifiable defense of others under Nevada law and is not criminal in nature.

C. DEADLY FORCE IN EXECUTION OF ARREST

Nevada law authorizes law enforcement officers to employ deadly force when executing an arrest if they are presented with a deadly threat by the person being arrested. NRS 171.1455. Here, Deputy Sandage confirmed with dispatch the existence of an extraditable warrant for Allinger's arrest for a felony probation violation. Deputy Keennon, a sworn employee of the Carson City Sheriff's Office, is a peace officer pursuant to the provisions of NRS 169.125. Accordingly, he may exercise deadly force to effectuate an arrest if a person poses an imminent threat of serious bodily harm or death to the peace officer or to others. Allinger resisted arrest on a confirmed extraditable felony warrant from Arizona. Additionally, when Allinger resisted his lawful arrest and used a firearm to do so, he became arrestable for Resisting a Public Officer with the Use of a Deadly Weapon, a Category C Felony as defined by NRS 199.280(1). Deputy Keennon's use of deadly force to overcome such resistance was objectively reasonable, as Allinger used a firearm to resist arrest. During the incident, both deputies attempted to de-escalate the situation. Before he resisted arrest, Deputy Sandage allowed Allinger to smoke a cigarette and promised that she would make sure he could speak with his kids. Even after giving chase, Deputy Keennon gave multiple directives to put the gun down, even when it was aimed at him. As addressed above, Allinger posed an imminent risk of serious bodily harm or death to both deputies and to the public.

To be successful at trial on a homicide-based charge against a peace officer acting in the course of duty, the District Attorney is required to present evidence that establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that Deputy Keennon acted outside of the legal authorizations of NRS 171.1455. Based on the presented factual circumstances, the evidence does not establish that Deputy Keennon acted outside the parameters of NRS 171.1455. Deputy Keennon's use of deadly force was lawful, as it was used to effectuate the arrest of a person who posed an imminent risk of serious bodily harm or death.

D. JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE BY A PEACE OFFICER

Peace officers are also subject to specific provisions justifying homicide when completed in the course of their duties. Homicide is justifiable by a peace officer when:

- (a) In obedience to the judgment of a competent court.
- (b) When necessary to overcome actual resistance to the execution of the legal process, mandate or order of a court or officer, or in the discharge of a legal duty.
- (c) When necessary:
 - (1) In retaking an escaped or rescued prisoner who has been committed, arrested for, or convicted of a felony;

- (2) In attempting, by lawful ways or means and in accordance with the provisions of NRS 171.1455, to apprehend or arrest a person;
- (3) In lawfully suppressing a riot or preserving the peace; or
- (4) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 193.304, in protecting against an imminent threat to the life of a person. NRS 200.140.

Here, Deputy Keennon was fulfilling his legal duty to apprehend a person with a felony warrant. He was also protecting against an imminent threat to himself, Deputy Sandage, and members of the public.

To be successful at trial on a homicide-based charge, the District Attorney is required to present evidence that establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that Deputy Keennon acted outside of his legal authorizations of NRS 200.140. Based on the presented factual circumstances, the evidence does not establish that Deputy Keennon acted outside the parameters of NRS 200.140. Deputy Keennon's use of deadly force was justifiable under Nevada law, as he was carrying out a legal duty, in a lawful manner, to protect against an imminent threat to the life of a person.

Conclusion

Based upon the evidence the Douglas County Sheriff's Office gathered during its independent investigation, and the application of Nevada law to the facts and circumstances surrounding the officer-involved shooting of Alexander Allinger on April 17, 2025, the actions of Deputy Douglas Keennon were justified and were not criminal in nature. Deputy Keennon's actions were within the statutory parameters of NRS 171.1455 and NRS 100.140 and were legally justified self-defense and defense of others. Unless new evidence or additional information is discovered that materially changes the analysis and conclusions, the District Attorney will not file criminal charges. The District Attorney's review of this matter is officially closed.

DATED this 13th of November, 2025.



GARRIT S. PRUYT
Carson City District Attorney