

Close-out Memorandum of the
Investigation Regarding
Jamal Wayne Wood
April 6, 2024



State Attorney's Office
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County
May 13, 2025



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

DATE: May 12, 2025

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: SAO Case #: 62/24/04/06/001
Deceased: Jamal Wayne Wood

Based on the information obtained and reviewed during the course of the investigation, the conclusion of the staffing/review team is the following:

On April 6, 2024, at about 3:30 A.M. a group of several family and friends were seated in the outside lounge of the Martini Bar in Doral City when another patron, Jamal Wayne Wood, began to disturb the group. The incident started when Wood struck one of the women several times with a pillow, and then pushed her. One of the men in her group, Frank Jerez, asked Wood to leave them alone. Wood suddenly became more aggressive and grabbed him and placed him in a headlock. Jerez's sister intervened and told Wood to leave her brother alone. Wood then grabbed her, pushed her, and threw her down. Two other members of the group then grabbed Wood from behind and put him in a bearhug.

George Castellanos and Lester Morales were both security personnel at the Martini Bar. Morales, who observed the altercation, and Castellanos, the security supervisor, who was advised of the incident over the radio, both headed to the area to stop any further escalation. Castellanos approached Wood, and Wood then produced a handgun and began shooting. Castellanos was fatally shot, and Morales was struck in the hand. An additional four patrons were also shot by Wood and survived their injuries. The owner of the Martini Bar attempted to disarm Wood, and was also shot by Wood, and survived his injuries. Doral Police Department Sergeant Andre Romo and Officer Ricardo Acevedo were working off duty at City Place Doral. They responded to Martini Bar and exchanged gunfire with Wood, resulting in his death and Officer Acevedo sustaining a gunshot wound to his upper right thigh. Pursuant to Florida Statutes 776.012 and 776.05, and a review of the facts and evidence in this investigation, we find the use of deadly force used by Sgt. Romo 97-416 and Officer Acevedo 97-858 to be legally justified.

The members of the staffing/review team for this case are:

/s/ Marie Jo Toussaint

Marie Jo Toussaint

/s/ Deisy Hernandez

Deisy Hernandez

Stephen K. Talpins

Kathleen Hoague

Nilo Cuervo

Jose Arrojo

Approved by State Attorney on this 13 day of May, 2025.

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

DATE: May 9, 2025

FROM: Howard R. Rosen
Assistant State Attorney

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO Case # 62/24/04/06/001

OFFICERS INVOLVED:	Sergeant Andre Romo 97-416 Doral Police Dept. Officer Ricardo Acevedo 97-858 Doral Police Dept.
DECEASED:	Jamal Wayne Wood
DATE & TIME:	April 6, 2024, 3:30 a.m.
LOCATION:	Martini Bar, 8300 N.W. 36 Street, Doral, Florida
WEAPONS:	Glock 17 Gen 5, 9 mm semi-automatic pistol, S/N BTUR968 (Romo) Glock 17 Gen 5, 9 mm semi-automatic pistol, S/N BXVL844 (Acevedo) Springfield Armory XD40, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol, S/N MG187063 (Wood)
LEAD/REPORTS:	SA Ricardo Martinez, F.D.L.E. / Reports Received 2/10/2025
F.D.L.E. CASE #:	MI-27-0253
SAO CASE #:	62/24/04/06/001

SUMMARY OF FACTS

Martini Bar is a restaurant and lounge located at 3450 NW 83 Avenue, Doral, Florida. It is part of the City Place Doral complex. It has indoor and outdoor seating areas.

At approximately 3:30 a.m. on April 6, 2024, a group of several people, most of whom were family members, were seated in the outdoor portion of Martini Bar when another patron of the bar, the decedent, Jamal Wayne Wood, began to bother the group. The incident began when Wood started to bother a female named Lizzmary Ferran Batiste. He struck her several times with a pillow from a chair, and then pushed her. Frank Miguel Jerez, who was also part of the group, approached Wood and told him to leave them alone. Wood suddenly became aggressive and grabbed Jerez by the top of his head and put him in a headlock. Jerez managed to escape from the headlock, and at the same time Jerez's sister, Yaniris Jerez, intervened and told Wood to leave her brother alone. Wood then grabbed Yaniris Jerez, pushed her, and threw her down. The husband of Yaniris Jerez, Carlos Manuel Milan Batista, then grabbed Wood from behind and put him in a bearhug.

George Alejandro Castellanos and Lester Morales were both security personnel at Martini Bar. Castellanos was the security supervisor. Morales was standing by the main entrance and saw the altercation. He heard that Castellanos was called over the radio regarding the altercation. Castellanos headed to the altercation, in an effort to stop it, and Morales quickly followed him. Castellanos approached Wood, and Wood then produced a handgun and began shooting. Castellanos was fatally shot, and Morales was struck in the hand.

Four patrons, including Yaniris Jerez, Frank Miguel Jerez, Carlos Manuel Milan Batista, and one other patron were shot by Wood. They all survived their injuries. Gerald Delany, the owner of the Martini Bar, had also tried to disarm Wood, and was shot by him. Delany also survived his injuries.

Doral Police Department Sergeant Andre Roumo and Officer Ricardo Acevedo were working off duty at City Place Doral. They responded to Martini bar and exchanged gunfire with Wood, resulting in his death. Officer Acevedo sustained a gunshot wound to his upper right thigh.

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

The investigation in this case was conducted by Special Agent Ricardo Martinez of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. He was assisted by other Special Agents from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, as well as by Crime Scene personnel from the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office. Sworn recorded statements were obtained from thirteen (13) civilians, including all of the individuals named in the Summary of Facts of this memorandum, as well as additional patrons, a server from the Martini Bar, the owner of the Martini Bar, and Mr. Morales, the surviving security employee at the Martini Bar. Their testimony is consistent with the facts detailed in the Summary of Facts of this memorandum.

Doral Police Officer Hakim St. Cyr rendered a sworn statement. He heard the call over the radio by the involved officers that there were shots fired and that an officer was shot, so he responded to the scene. He secured the firearm that Wood had used. Doral Police Sergeant Ariam Romero also gave a sworn statement. Sergeant Romero was on patrol when he heard a radio transmission of shots fired at Doral City Place. As he was enroute to the location, he heard Officer Acevedo state that he had been shot. Upon his arrival at the Martini Bar, Sergeant Romero was waved down by a male who had been shot in the hand, and a tourniquet was applied to the male. Sergeant Romero continued into the Martini Bar and saw Officer Acevedo sitting on a couch with a tourniquet on one of his legs. Sergeant Romero transported Officer Acevedo to the Jackson Ryder TraumaCenter.

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE

The bodies of George Alejandro Castellanos (the Security Supervisor) and Jamal Wayne Wood were laying on the ground in the southwest side of the patio. Surrounding the bodies and within the general area were scattered spent shell casings, projectiles, disheveled furniture, medical debris, and a large amount of blood.

SURVEILLANCE & BODY WORN CAMERA VIDEOS

While an area canvas resulted in discovering numerous surveillance cameras located in the Martini Bar and various surrounding businesses, none of them captured the actual altercation between Wood and the other patrons, nor did any capture the actual shootings. In the various videos from surveillance cameras inside of the Martini Bar, what is observed is patrons diving to the ground and running for cover, as well as employees seeking refuge behind the bar.

Body worn camera footage was obtained from the body worn camera of Officer Ricardo Acevedo. Officer Acevedo had his firearm drawn and pointed in the direction of Wood, as Officer Acevedo is telling Wood to put the gun down. Wood is engaged in a physical confrontation with someone (it is unclear if it is Castellanos, Delany, or someone else). Officer Acevedo moves closer to Wood and tries to move Wood from the other individual. Officer Acevedo discharged his firearm at the left side of Wood's lower abdomen, and he continued to discharge his firearm towards Wood several times. Acevedo's body worn camera captures Acevedo saying, "I think he shot me.", and then announcing "Shots fired! Shots fired!" Acevedo then starts to apply a tourniquet to his own leg, and Sergeant Romo can be heard transmitting, "I have an officer shot." Gerald Delany, the owner of the Martini Bar, tells Officer Acevedo, "I've been shot too." Delany is then seen laying on the floor holding his arm due to the gunshot wound that he sustained. Sergeant Romo then applies a tourniquet to Delany's arm. Officer Acevedo then transmits, "I've been shot, subject down, weapon down on the floor, start fire rescue, I have one victim down, Sergeant is applying a tourniquet now."

Body worn camera footage was also obtained from the body worn camera of Officer Hakim St. Cyr. He arrived at the Martini Bar after he heard the calls go out of shots fired. His body worn camera footage did not capture anything prior to Wood and Castellanos on the ground being treated for their injuries.

FIREARM & BALLISTICS EVIDENCE

Officer Acevedo had a Doral Police Department issued Glock 17 Gen 5 9 mm semi-automatic pistol bearing serial number BXVL844. A seventeen (17) round magazine with a five (5) round extension was inserted in the weapon, and contained eleven (11) Speer 9 mm Luger +P cartridges. The firearm also contained one (1) live Speer Luger +P cartridge in the chamber. Based upon the round count, Officer Acevedo could have fired up to eleven (11) rounds.

Sergeant Romo had a Doral Police Department issued Glock 17 Gen 5 9 mm semi-automatic pistol bearing serial number BTUR968. A seventeen (17) round magazine with a five (5) round extension was inserted in the weapon and contained ten (10) 9 mm Luger +P cartridges. The firearm also contained one (1) live Luger +P cartridge in the chamber. Based upon the round count, Sergeant Romo could have fired up to twelve (12) rounds.

Jamal Wayne Wood had a Springfield Armory XD40, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol bearing serial number MG187063. A sixteen (16) round magazine was inserted in the weapon and contained five (5) live Hornady .40 Smith & Wesson cartridges. The firearm also contained one (1) live cartridge in the chamber.

Wood also had a second sixteen (16) round magazine containing sixteen (16) live Hornady .40 Smith & Wesson cartridges.

The crime scene investigation also revealed that nine (9) spent .40 caliber Smith & Wesson casings were found on the scene. All nine (9) of them were fired from Jamal Wayne Wood's Springfield Armory XD40, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol. In addition, twenty-two (22) spent 9 mm Speer casings were recovered on the scene. Nine (9) of the casings were fired from Officer Acevedo's Doral Police Department issued Glock 17 Gen 5 9 mm semi-automatic pistol and thirteen (13) of the casings were fired from Sergeant Romo's Doral Police Department issued Glock 17 Gen 5 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. Crime scene evidence also consisted of seven (7) projectiles, and it was determined that three (3) were fired from Jamal Wayne Wood's Springfield Armory XD40, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol and three (3) were fired from Sergeant Romo's Doral Police Department issued Glock 17 Gen 5 9 mm semi-automatic pistol.

In addition, two (2) projectiles were recovered from the body of George Alejandro Castellanos by Dr. Blank during the course of his autopsy, and it was determined that both were fired from Jamal Wayne Wood's Springfield Armory XD40, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol. Moreover, eighteen (18) projectiles were recovered from the body of Jamal Wayne Wood by Dr. Blank during the course of his autopsy. The ballistics examination revealed that eight (8) of these projectiles were fired from Officer Acevedo's police issued firearm and six (6) of these projectiles were fired from Sergeant Romo's police issued firearm.

AUTOPSY EXAMINATIONS

Associate Medical Examiner Alexander Blank conducted the autopsy upon George Alejandro Castellanos. Two (2) projectiles were recovered from Castellano's body. One of them struck both lungs. The cause of death was gunshot wounds, and the manner of death was homicide.

Associate Medical Examiner Alexander Blank conducted the autopsy upon Jamal Wayne Wood. Wood sustained several gunshot wounds to this torso. Several projectiles were recovered from Wood's body. The cause of death was gunshot wounds, and the manner of death was homicide. The toxicology report concerning Jamal Wayne Wood reflected ethanol levels of .202% (blood) and .217% (ocular). Cannabinols were also detected.

CONCLUSION

The role of the State Attorney in this investigation and in conducting this review is limited to determining whether a criminal violation of Florida Law has occurred, whether any person may be held criminally responsible, and whether such criminal responsibility can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. The State Attorney does not establish agency policy, procedures or training requirements. Nor does the State Attorney have any responsibility for determining disciplinary action or pursuing civil litigation in these matters. In other words, given the applicable law, the State Attorney's role is to determine whether the actions of Sergeant Andre Romo and/or Officer Ricardo Acevedo constitute a criminal act that can be proven beyond and to the exclusion of every reasonable doubt.

The undersigned has reviewed the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Investigative Summary into the police use of force in this incident. I have also reviewed the sworn statements, crime scene reports, autopsy report, lab report and other evidence compiled by FDLE under FDLE case number MI-27-0253. I find the summary to be complete, thorough and consistent with the statements, crime scene evidence and with my

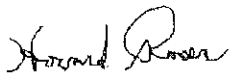
observations at the scene. I adopt and attach that Investigative Summary hereto and offer my conclusions based on the results of my investigation and review.

Sergeant Romo and Officer Acevedo were confronted with an active shooting situation upon their arrival at Martini Bar. Jamal Wood was armed and shot numerous civilians at the bar. Wood also shot Officer Acevedo, shot and killed the security supervisor, shot another security officer, and shot the owner of the Martini Bar.

Section 776.012, Florida Statutes permits the use of deadly force when a person reasonably believes such force is necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself or another or prevent the commission of a forcible felony. Further, Section 776.05, Florida Statutes, permits a law enforcement officer to use any force that he reasonably believes is necessary to defend himself or another from bodily harm while making an arrest.

Based on the totality of the circumstances and a review of the evidence, it was reasonable for the officers to believe that their lives were in danger. It was also reasonable for the officers to believe that deadly force was necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to themselves and to all of the patrons and employees that were at the Martini Bar. Additionally, it was reasonable for the officers to believe that deadly force was necessary to prevent the continuing commission of forcible felonies, including the attempted murder of law enforcement officers and patrons and employees at Martini Bar. Therefore, pursuant to Florida Statute 776.012 and Florida Statute 776.05, the use of deadly force by Sergeant Romo and Officer Acevedo in discharging their weapons is legally justified.

Prepared by:



Howard R. Rosen
Assistant State Attorney