

Close-out Memorandum of the
Investigation Regarding
Christopher Lynn Bailey
January 17, 2024



State Attorney's Office
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County
October 15, 2025



STATE ATTORNEY

ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
E. R. GRAHAM BUILDING
1350 N.W. 12TH AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136-2111

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
STATE ATTORNEY

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October 16, 2025

Rosie Cordero-Stutz, Sheriff
Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office
9105 NW 25 Street
Doral, Florida 33172

Dear Sheriff Cordero-Stutz:

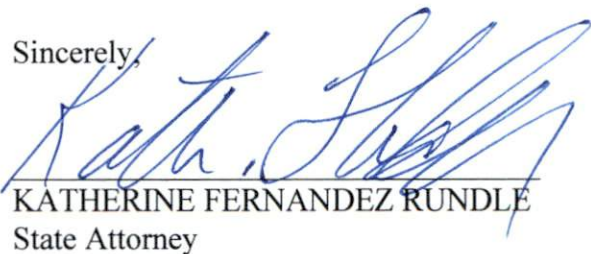
Enclosed is our final report regarding the investigation into the police-involved shooting of Christopher Lynn Bailey on January 17, 2024. The Deputies involved were officer's Bradley Chang ID # 30-7569, Nikolas Infante ID #30-7261 and Jocelyn Arevalo ID # 30-9320.

The investigation has determined that the officers were legally justified in the use of deadly force by discharging their weapons. Therefore, no criminal charges will be filed.

Please be aware that now that the investigation is closed, absent specific exemptions, the materials contained in our investigative file are now public records and are subject to being provided pursuant to any public records request that we may receive under Sec. 119.071(2)(c)1 Florida Statutes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

KRF/yf

cc: Deborah Saunders, Lt. (IA)
Andrew Axelrad, General Counsel (PBA)
Steadman Stahl, President (PBA)
Robert Senior, Assistant United States Attorney
John Vecchio, Special Agent in Charge (FDLE)



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

DATE: October 14, 2025

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: SAO Case #: 62/24/01/17/001
DECEASED: Christopher Lynn Bailey

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

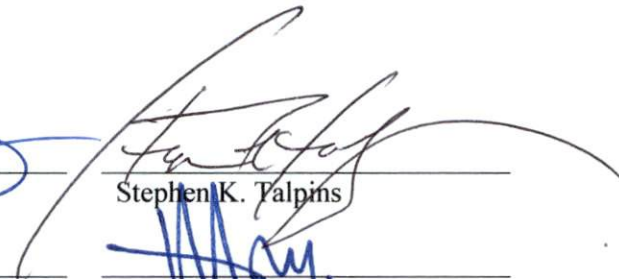
On January 17, 2024, at about 10:50 PM, Douglas Beard called police because his vacant secondary residence was being occupied by numerous squatters. MDSO deputies responded to the property and knocked on the door several times with no response. Police attempted to enter with the keys provided by the owner, but the bottom lock would not open, so four deputies attempted to make entry through a sliding glass door in the backyard. When the deputies entered the home, Christopher Bailey yelled for them to "get out of here," and the officers observed he was armed with a 12-gauge shotgun. Bailey was advised numerous times to drop the weapon, but instead he fired at the officers who returned fire. Bailey's gunfire injured officers Bianchi and Infante, who were successfully treated for their injuries. Officer Arevalo also sustained minor injuries. Bailey was struck during the exchange of gunfire, however, he was pronounced deceased on the scene. The following events were captured by the deputies' body worn cameras and was confirmed in statements provided by MDSO Sergeant Gilberto Crespo, Deputy Jonathan Burdette, Deputy Israel Rodriguez, and Deputy Mario Bianchi.

Pursuant to Florida Statute 776.05 and 776.012, after a full investigation and review of the facts and evidence, the use of deadly force by MDSO Deputies Chang, Infante, and Arevalo is determined to be legally justified.

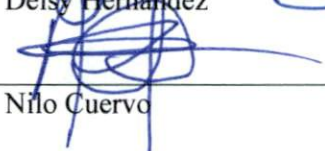
The members of the staffing/review team for this case are:

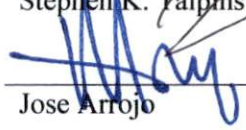

Howard Rosen

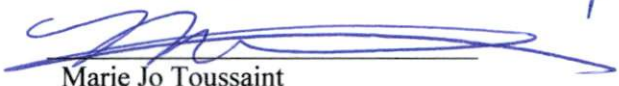

Deisy Hernandez


Stephen K. Talpins

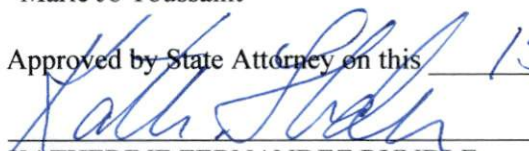

Kathleen Hoague


Nilo Cuervo


Jose Arrojo


Marie Jo Toussaint

Approved by State Attorney on this 15 day of Oct, 2025.


KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
STATE ATTORNEY



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

DATE: September 25, 2025

FROM: Joshua Weintraub
Assistant State Attorney

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO

SAO Case #62/24/01/17/001

Shawn Abuhoff
Assistant State Attorney

OFFICERS INVOLVED:	MDSO Deputy Bradley Chang 30-7569 MDSO Deputy Nikolas Infante 30-7261 MDSO Deputy Jocelyn Arevalo 30-9320
DECEASED: INJURED:	Christopher Lynn Bailey MDSO Deputy Mario Bianchi 30-7714 MDSO Deputy Nikolas Infante 30-7261 MDSO Deputy Jocelyn Arevalo 30-9320
DATE & TIME:	January 17, 2024 at 9:40 P.M.
LOCATION:	22291 SW 162 nd Avenue, Miami-Dade County, Florida
WEAPONS:	Mossberg 500A, 12-Gauge Shotgun, S/N K437252 (Christopher Bailey) Colt M4 .223 caliber rifle, S/N LE47955 & (Deputy Chang) Glock 17, Gen 4, S/N RED832 (Deputy Chang) Glock 17, Gen 5, S/N BBZY030 (Deputy Infante) Glock 17, Gen 5, S/N BHGK290 (Deputy Arevalo)
LEAD/REPORTS	Special Agent Claudia Mulvey, Florida Department of Law Enforcement/June 24, 2025
CASE #s:	FDLE Case # MI-27-0242 & SAO Case #62/24/01/17/001

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The owner of the residence where this shooting took place, Douglas Beard (hereinafter "Beard"), had owned the residence with his wife while she was still alive. Beard's wife passed in the previous year, and Beard continued making mortgage payments on this secondary residence, which was vacant for some time leading up to this officer involved shooting. On the day of the shooting, Beard drove past the home and spotted an unknown vehicle parked in front, along with trash strewn all over the front yard area. His belief was that there were "multiple people" who had broken into his vacant house and were residing inside as squatters. Mr. Beard called 911 and reported the break-in, telling the 911 Operator that the call out would likely require more than one officer. The call went out as a "14" in reference to "squatters" being present in the residence. Dispatch provided the address and advised that the complainant was at the property. MDSO Deputies Burdette, Chang, and Bianchi were the first officers on the scene at 10:54 P.M. Deputies Arevalo, Infante, and Rodriguez arrived shortly after them.

The following events were captured by the deputies' body worn cameras and were confirmed in audio statements provided by MDSO Sergeant Gilberto Crespo, Deputy Jonathan Burdette, Deputy Israel Rodriguez, and Deputy Mario Bianchi. The deputies approached the front door, knocked, and identified themselves as "Miami-Dade Police," but were met with no response. Deputy Burdette used a set of keys provided by the homeowner and attempted to get into the house. They were able to unlock the top lock of the front door, but not the bottom lock. Throughout this time, the deputies continued identifying themselves as "Miami-Dade Police", but no one answered verbally from inside the house, and no one responded to the door. After several unsuccessful attempts, Deputies Bianchi, Chang, Infante, and Arevalo responded to the back of the residence while Deputies Burdette and Rodriguez stayed at the front of the house. The deputies cleared the area behind the house and noticed there was a sliding glass door that provided access into the house from the back.

Deputy Chang opened the sliding glass door and stepped inside; Deputies Bianchi, Infante, and Arevalo followed close behind. As soon as the deputies stepped inside, someone inside the home, who later became known as Christopher Lynn Bailey (hereinafter "Bailey"), stated, "hey, get out of here." At approximately 11:10 P.M., a male officer's voice is heard over the radio advising the following: "Hold the air, he's got a gun!" In response, Deputy Chang shouted, "drop the gun," for approximately 12 seconds as the barrel of a shotgun could be seen protruding from behind the wall, along with part of a

person's head. Deputy Bianchi also yelled multiple commands including, "drop the shotgun." During this time, Bailey shouted, "get out of my house," twice, pointed the barrel of the shotgun at the four deputies, and discharged his shotgun at them. In response, the deputies returned fire. Gunfire was exchanged for multiple seconds before it ceased, and the four deputies were able to make it outside of the residence. Bailey was struck multiple times and fell to the floor. Despite Fire Rescue's attempts to administer life-saving measures, he succumbed to his injuries on the scene. During the exchange of gunfire, Bailey fired multiple shots from his shotgun, striking and injuring Deputies Bianchi (gunshot wounds to his face, neck, and right arm), Infante (minor gunshot wound to his left arm), and Arevalo (minor scratches and bruises). The three injured deputies were transported to Jackson South Medical Center Trauma Unit by fellow officers on the scene. The MDSO Special Response Team ("SRT") arrived on the scene, made entry into the home, verified Bailey's death, and made sure the scene was secured.

Once a consent to search form was executed by homeowner Beard, Florida Department of Law Enforcement "FDLE" CSI Special Agent, Joseph Romero, along with MDSO Crime Scene Investigator, Elena Huevo, began processing the scene. The following relevant information was discovered during this investigation:

- In the back area where the deputies first encountered Bailey, there were large amounts of blood on the floor. Also, on the floor by the sliding glass doors were numerous spent .223 Rifle casings and 9MM casings. Bailey's body was located approximately 6-8 ft inside the front door of the residence. On the floor near Bailey was the shotgun he discharged at deputies. Also on the floor near Bailey's body were two spent 12-gauge shotgun shells, a plastic wad from one of the shotgun shells and a small bag containing several loose live shotgun shells.
- Once investigators completed their "round count," the following ballistics information was documented and recovered:
 - Mossberg 500A shotgun; two spent 12-gauge shotgun shells; 37 live shotgun shells;
 - 28 .223 REM casings from Chang's rifle; and
 - 14 WMA 9MM casings from the deputies' response fire and one projectile.
- When the injured MDSO deputies were shot by Bailey, they were standing next to or near the sliding glass doors in the rear of the residence. 12-gauge pellet strike marks were photographed and documented on the interior walls next to the vertical blinds and near the center metal glass sliding door. These strike marks are all consistent with Bailey shooting east towards the officers from the west side of the living room towards the sliding glass door area. Also demonstrating directionality from Bailey's shotgun as it was fired was the fact that the middle sliding glass door near where officers were positioned at the time of the shooting was shattered.

- It was determined that Deputy Chang returned fire from both his department issued Colt M4 .223 caliber rifle (S/N LE47955) and his department issued Glock 17, Gen 4 (S/N RED832) during this officer involved shooting. Deputies Infante (Glock 17, Gen 5 (S/N BBZY030)) and Arevalo (Glock 17, Gen 5 (S/N BHGK290)) also discharged their firearms in response to Bailey's actions. It was later determined that no other deputy, including Deputy Bianchi, discharged their firearm.

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, and 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 deputies Bradley Chang, Nikolas Infante, and/or Jocelyn Arevalo constituted a criminal act that can be proven beyond and to the exclusion of every reasonable doubt.

The undersigned attorneys have reviewed the FDLE case file regarding this incident, including sworn statements, crime scene photographs, body worn camera of all involved officers, 911 calls, and other evidence compiled under FDLE Case # MI-27-0242. The information is complete and thorough, and the State of Florida incorporates it into this memorandum by reference and offers the following conclusion based upon an independent review of the evidence.

Florida Statute 776.012(2) provides the use of deadly force is legally justified if:

“[a] person . . . reasonably believes that using or threatening to use [deadly] force is necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself or another or to prevent the imminent commission of a forcible felony.” [A] person who uses or threatens to use deadly force in accordance with this subsection does not have a duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground if the person using or threatening to use the deadly force is not engaged in a criminal activity and is in a place where he or she has a right to be”.

Also applicable is Florida Statute § 776.05(1), which indicates:

Law enforcement officers; use of force in making an arrest. —A law enforcement officer, or any person whom the officer has summoned or directed to assist him or her, need not retreat or desist from efforts to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest.

The officer is justified in the use of any force:

(1) Which he or she reasonably believes to be necessary to defend himself or herself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest.

There is substantial credible evidence that Christopher Bailey was unlawfully squatting inside Douglas Beard's residence. Beard provided access and the keys to his residence to the deputies and allowed them to conduct their investigation into this squatting incident. Deputies Chang, Bianchi, Infante, and Arevalo appropriately initiated the non-deadly encounter with Bailey, who met deputies attempts to make contact with him, with deadly force by arming himself with a shotgun. Despite this, the deputies attempted to de-escalate the situation by identifying themselves and ordering Bailey to put down the shotgun. Bailey ignored these orders, firing multiple rounds at the deputies with the intent to kill as exemplified by Deputy Bianchi being hit by gunfire to the head, neck, and upper torso area.

Florida Statute § 776.05, provides that a law enforcement officer need not retreat or desist in his efforts to make a lawful arrest and justifies the use of any force that the law enforcement officer reasonably believes to be necessary to defend himself or others from bodily harm in the course of their duties. Faced with actual deadly force, the law allows an officer to respond with similar force to defend himself. Based upon the force that the deputies were presented with, there was a significant risk of death or bodily harm to every deputy there that night. Based on the circumstances, the law justifies their response to Bailey's aggressive and deadly actions. As such, the State finds this officer-involved shooting to be legally justified under Florida law.

Prepared by:

/s/ Josh Weintraub

Joshua Weintraub
Assistant State Attorney

/s/ Shawn Abuhoff

Shawn Abuhoff
Assistant State Attorney