

Close-out Memorandum of the
Investigation Regarding
Eric Chase
June 27, 2025



State Attorney's Office
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County
May 6, 2026



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

DATE: May 5, 2026

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO CASE # 62/25/06/27/003
INJURED: ERIC CHASE

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

On June 27, 2025, at about 10:49 AM, Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office received a 911 call advising three masked men went into a store located at 10891 NW 17th Street with firearms and they were going to kill someone. Minutes later, a 911 call was received and a whispering voice asked for police to hurry to the same location because an armed subject was inside the location attacking people. At 10:53 AM, another call was received stating five armed guys were at the business stealing phones. Officer Jenry Martin arrived on scene with body-worn camera (BWC) activated at about 10:54 AM. Officer Martin is flagged down by two civilians frantically pointing and stating, "they are trying to kill someone" and "they have guns." Officer Martin retrieves a rifle and calls out to masked individuals going toward a white van. BWC footage shows a white Mercedes van driving toward the exit to the parking lot closely pursued by a white police pickup truck. As the van drives past Officer Martin, Officer Martin fires his weapon. Officer Martin then enters the robbery location and finds five civilians tied up and locked in a bathroom. Surveillance footage shows Officer Martin running around the building, rifle drawn, and a white Mercedes van approaching the exit to the parking lot blocked by two unoccupied police vehicles. As the van passes Officer Martin, Officer Martin discharges his weapon. Officer Manuel Saavedra is also seen in the parking lot discharging his weapon toward the van fleeing the crime scene. Physical evidence at the scene included three fired casings, and a search warrant of the van resulted in securing multiple firearms and masks. One of the van occupants, Eric Chase, sustained a non life-threatening gunshot wound to his right knee.

Pursuant to F.S. 776.05, and a review of the facts and evidence in this investigation, we find the use of deadly force by Sweetwater Officers Jenry Martin 25-0252 and Manuel Saavedra 25-241 to be legally justified.

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

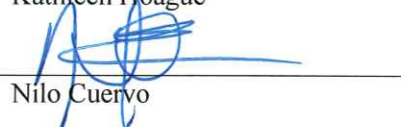

Jose Arrojo



Deisy Hernandez


Kathleen Hoague


Stephen K. Talpins


Howard Rosen


Nilo Cuervo


Marie Jo Toussaint

Approved by State Attorney on this 6 day of May, 2026.


KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

DATE: April 30, 2026

FROM: NATALIE SNYDER
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT
MEMO

SAO Case # 62/25/06/27/003

SANDRA MILLER-BATISTE
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY

OFFICERS INVOLVED:	OFFICER JENRRY MARTIN, ID # 025-0252 SWEETWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER MANUEL SAAVEDRA, ID # 025-0241 SWEETWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT
INJURED:	ERIC CHASE
DATE & TIME:	JUNE 27, 2025, AT 11:00AM
LOCATION:	10891 NW 17 STREET; SWEETWATER, FL
WEAPONS:	COLT COMMANDO M4 CARBINE .556 RIFLE, SN LE476044 (OFC. MARTIN) GLOCK 45 GEN 5 9MM HANDGUN, SN CDAU430 (OFC. SAAVEDRA)
LEAD/REPORTS:	FDLE AGENT RICARDO MARTINEZ / RECEIVED 2/17/26
F.D.L.E. CASE #:	M1-27-0290
SAO CASE #:	62/25/06/27/003

SUMMARY OF FACTS AND EVIDENCE

On Friday, June 27, 2025, a police officer involved shooting occurred in the parking lot of a group of warehouses and businesses located near 10891 NW 17th Street in Sweetwater, Florida. The following is a synopsis of the relevant facts and evidence reviewed by the undersigned Assistant State Attorneys in relation to this incident:

I. 911 and Dispatch Recordings

At approximately 10:49 AM on the incident date, Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office received a 911 call from a male asking for "someone" to be sent "urgent, urgent, urgent" because three masked men went into a store located at 10891 NW 17th Street with guns and they were going to kill someone. Minutes later, a 911 call was received from "C" whispering for the police to "hurry up" because someone was inside the location "attacking people" and "they had guns." "C" gave the address of 10893 NW 17 Street. At 10:53 AM, a female called 911 stating "five guys" were at the business with guns. The female caller went on to state the men were in the office "robbing phones." Multiple other calls were received directing police to either 10893 or 10891 NW 17 Street because three men entered a business with guns.¹

Review of the CAD recording indicates police were dispatched to the location reference an armed robbery involving three masked males armed with guns. At 10:54 AM, Officer Jenry Martin arrived on scene. On the CAD recording, Officer Martin states he was flagged down by a man and woman and told three armed, masked males were inside the location and were going to kill someone.

¹ Buildings 10891 and 10893 share a parking lot area with one exit onto 17th Street. Multiple businesses and warehouses share the same parking lot.

II. Statements

Special Agent Ricardo Martinez interviewed the 911 callers. Both callers were interviewed separately, but both gave consistent accounts: The male 911 caller owns a warehouse near the incident location. Just prior to the incident, the male 911 caller and the female 911 caller were loading a vehicle at their warehouse located at 10891 NW 17 Street. Both the male and female 911 callers witnessed a white GMC van pull up to the incident location, where three males exited the vehicle and entered a business in the warehouse area. The males were wearing masks and had guns. While the males were inside, the 911 callers flagged down an officer fitting the description of Officer Martin and relayed the information about the three men. After they relayed this information, both witnessed Officer Martin retrieve a rifle from the trunk of his police vehicle. Meanwhile, the same three males exited the incident location, got into a different white van, and exited the warehouse complex. The 911 callers left the area for safety and did not see the police involved shooting.

Officer Jenrry Martin and Officer Manuel Saavedra, the shooting officers, did not provide a statement to the FDLE investigators.

FDLE Special Agent Luis Alvarez interviewed Detective Angel Arredondo from Sweetwater Police Department. Detective Arredondo responded to the incident location in a white police pickup truck reference an armed robbery in progress. When Detective Arredondo arrived, multiple other units were already on scene, including Officer Martin. Detective Arredondo observed the white van driving away from the incident location and he turned to follow the van with his lights and sirens activated. Detective Arredondo does not mention the shooting during his interview with investigators, but instead is focused on the subsequent chase and apprehension of the three males involved in the armed robbery. Review of Detective Arredondo's body worn

camera footage and the location of his vehicle at the time shots were fired indicates he would not have seen the shooting.

Eric Chase was interviewed by FDLE Special Agent Sean Visners. Chase invoked his Miranda rights regarding the underlying crime but agreed to give a statement to Special Agent Visners regarding the police-involved shooting. Chase sustained a non-life-threatening gunshot wound to his right knee. Chase stated he was in the right front passenger seat of the van and did not see the officer who shot him because he was focused on the passenger sideview mirror. According to Chase, he heard a total of three gunshots. Chase stated the round that struck his right knee came through the passenger door.

Agents attempted to interview the other two individuals involved in the robbery, Aaron Brown and Rainer Landry, but both refused to speak to law enforcement about the shooting. At first it was believed Rainer Landry was also shot in the leg by police, but later determined he only suffered scrapes to his knee during the robbery and/or chase.

III. Video Surveillance and Body Worn Camera

Body worn camera from Officer Jenrry Martin activated at approximately 10:54am, as he pulled into the warehouse parking lot and was searching for the incident location. Over his radio, the CAD transmission regarding the armed robbery with masked individuals in a van is audible. Officer Martin is then flagged down by two individuals in a black truck, who have since been identified as the 911 callers. The individuals are seen frantically pointing and stating, “they are trying to kill someone” and “they have guns.” Officer Martin goes into his trunk and retrieves a rifle. Officer Martin calls out as he sees the masked individuals going in a different direction and get into a different white van. He proceeds around the building and toward the only exit to the

parking lot. A white Mercedes van is then seen driving toward the exit to the parking lot closely pursued by a white police pickup truck, later learned to be driven by Detective Arredondo. As the Mercedes van drives past Officer Martin, Officer Martin fires his rifle. Officer Martin returns to his police car and goes into the robbery location, where he finds five people tied up and locked in a bathroom.

Officer Manuel Saavedra's body worn camera activates after the shooting occurred.

Detective Arredondo's body worn camera activates as he is driving toward the incident location with lights and sirens. The video is focused on the steering wheel and the shooting itself is not captured. The video does capture the white Mercedes van passing by Detective Arredondo's truck as he turns to follow. Three shots are heard on the video.

Surveillance footage from 10893 NW 17 Street shows two police vehicles, one marked and one unmarked, block the exit to 17th Street at approximately the 10:39 mark. Officer Martin is seen running around the building, rifle drawn, at approximately 10:40:30. The white Mercedes van is then seen approaching the exit to the warehouse parking lot, which is still blocked by two, unoccupied police vehicles. As the white Mercedes van passes Officer Martin, Officer Martin fires his weapon. Officer Saavedra is also seen in the parking lot, between two parked vehicles, firing his weapon as the white Mercedes van passes. At 10:40:49, the white Mercedes van drives toward the police vehicles and then maneuvers up onto the sidewalk and around to exit the parking lot.

IV. Crime Scene Evidence

Crime scene searched and documented the following regarding the police shooting aspect of this case: In the area of the shooting at the southeast corner of the warehouse located at 10891 NW 17 Street, three fired casings were collected. A projectile was recovered from Chase's right

knee by physicians at Kendall Regional Hospital and provided to crime scene. The FBI obtained a search warrant for the white Mercedes van, but no additional bullets or fragments were recovered. Crime scene documented an apparent bullet hole in the lower left corner of the right front passenger vent window. Multiple firearms and masks were also recovered from the cargo area of the vehicle.

The firearm evidence was submitted to the Miami Dade Crime Laboratory. Two of the casings from the parking lot were identified as being fired from Officer Saavedra's Glock pistol. The spent projectile recovered from Chase's right knee was consistent with the class and some individual characteristics of Officer Saavedra's weapon; however, the projectile was damaged and could not be conclusively linked to Saavedra's weapon. The third casing recovered from the parking lot was identified as being fired from Officer Martin's Colt rifle.

CONCLUSION AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

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 Officer(s) Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin constitute a criminal act that can be proven beyond and to the exclusion of every reasonable doubt.

Our legal analysis must consider whether Officers Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin were justified in discharging their weapons.

Florida Statute 776.05 provides in pertinent part:

A law enforcement officer...

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;
- (2) When necessarily committed in retaking felons who have escaped;
or
- (3) When necessarily committed in arresting felons fleeing from justice...

Eric Chase, who was struck in the knee, along with the other two robbery subjects committed an armed robbery at an electronics store located at 10891 NW 17th Street in Sweetwater, Florida. The robbery suspects stole a van and attempted to flee the scene. An alert went out over police radio advising that the subjects were armed and had committed an armed robbery. Officers Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin, the shooting officer subjects, responded to the scene. As the robbery subjects were leaving the parking lot area to flee the scene, Officer Saavedra fired his 9mm service weapon twice and Officer Martin fired his service shotgun once. Eric Chase, who was in the front passenger seat of the van, was struck in the knee by a bullet. A police chase ensued, and Chase along with the other two robbery suspects were apprehended in Medley, Florida and charged with Armed Robbery. Because Officer(s) Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin were responding to the scene of an armed robbery where the robbery suspects were in the act of fleeing the scene in a stolen vehicle, it is reasonable to believe that they were aware of the robbery, that the subjects were armed, and were fleeing from the scene. Florida law specifically states that a

law enforcement officer need not retreat from efforts to make a lawful arrest, and the officer is justified in the use of any force when necessarily committed in arresting felons fleeing from justice. Consequently, Officer(s) Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin would be justified in using force, including deadly force, to make a lawful arrest of the robbery suspects given the fact that the robbery suspects were fleeing from the scene of a robbery they had just committed.

We find that the actions of Officer(s) Manuel Saavedra and Jenrry Martin discharging their weapons was legally justified.

Prepared by:

/s/ Natalie Snyder

Natalie Snyder
Assistant State Attorney

/s/ Sandra Miller-Batiste

Sandra Miller-Batiste
Assistant State Attorney