

Close-out Memorandum of the
Investigation Regarding
Isaiah Collins
September 14, 2025



State Attorney's Office
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County
August 11, 2026



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

DATE: August 7, 2026

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO CASE # 62/25/09/14/003

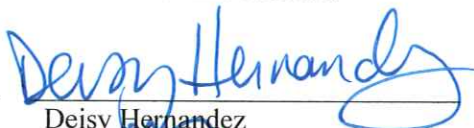
Based on the information obtained and reviewed during the investigation, the conclusion of the staffing/review team is the following:

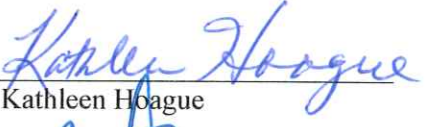
On Sunday, September 14, 2025, at about 11:00 A.M., Miami-Dade Sheriff's Deputy Victor Gil was telephoned by a civilian who advised Isaiah Collins was at Rolling Oaks Park in Miami Gardens. The caller knew Collins was wanted by Pembroke Pines Police for a double murder days earlier. Deputy Gil responded to the park, observed Collins, and called dispatch requesting backup. Dispatch confirmed Collins was a person of interest in a homicide case and wanted for kidnapping and attempted sexual battery. When police responded, Collins fled on foot towards the Florida Turnpike, crossed the lanes of traffic, jumped into the canal, climbed a tree, and shouted he wanted deputies to "shoot him" and "kill him." Deputy Josuet Castillo arrived on the scene, with his body-worn camera activated, and he and Deputy Gil repeatedly asked Collins to "relax." Collins, despite warnings from both Deputy Gil and Deputy Castillo, repeatedly reached towards his pocket, where a visible bulge was observed. In response, Deputy Castillo fired a singular round at Collins, resulting in a gunshot wound to Collins' left forearm. After the shooting, MDSO deputies from the Special Response Team (SRT) arrived on the scene and requested Collins, who was now bleeding from his left forearm, to come down from the tree. Despite repeated commands, Collins continued to refuse, so an SRT Deputy deployed twelve bag rounds from a non-lethal shotgun. Collins was eventually taken into police custody when police were forced to physically remove him from the tree. Collins was transported to the hospital and treated for a non-life-threatening injury.

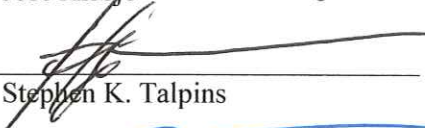
Pursuant to F.S. 776.05 and 776.012, and a review of the facts, evidence, and law in this investigation, we find that the deadly force used by Deputy Josuet Castillo 30-5032 of the Miami Dade Sheriff's Office in discharging his weapon was legally justified.

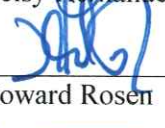
The members of the staffing/review team for this case are:

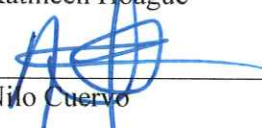

Jose Arrojo


Deisy Hernandez


Kathleen Hoague


Stephen K. Talpins


Howard Rosen


Nilo Cuervo


Marie Jo Toussaint

Approved by State Attorney on this 16 day of August, 2026.


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: August 4, 2026

FROM: PATRICIA MULHOLLAND
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO Case # 62/25/09/14/003

KIOCEAIA STENSON
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY

OFFICER INVOLVED:	Deputy Josuet Castillo (030-5032)
INJURED:	Isaiah Collins
DATE & TIME:	September 14, 2026, at approximately 11:16 A.M.
LOCATION:	1450 NW 191 St. Miami Gardens, FL
WEAPON:	5.56x45mm Colt rifle, model M4 Carbine S/N LE376493
LEAD/REPORTS:	S.A. Joseph Romer, FDLE/Report received: April 23, 2026
CASE #:	FDLE MI-27-0301
SAO CASE #:	62/25/09/14/003

SUMMARY OF FACTS

On Sunday, September 14, 2025, between 11:00 A.M. and 11:10 A.M., Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office (MDSO) K-9 Deputy Victor Gil, was contacted via cellular phone by Ronnie Williams who was a baseball coach at the "Rolling Oaks Park" located at 18701 NW 17th Court, Miami Gardens, Florida. Williams is the former baseball coach of Deputy Gil's children and is familiar with Deputy Gil and his family. Williams informed Deputy Gil he saw Isaiah Collins, at the park and knew Collins was wanted by the Pembroke Pines Police Department (PPPD); Collins was wanted for a double murder occurring on September 10, 2025. (PPPD Case No. 25-OFF-065737).

At 11:15 A.M., Deputy Gil responded to the park, saw Collins, and informed MDSO dispatch, Collins was in the "Rolling Oaks Park." Deputy Gil requested deputies respond, as Collins was a subject of interest in the Pembroke Pines homicide. As the deputies began to arrive in the general area, Collins fled on foot towards the Florida Turnpike. Collins then crossed the turnpike (eastbound) and jumped into the west side of the canal (east of the turnpike's northbound lanes). Collins then climbed a tree on the west side of the backyard of 1450 Northwest 191st Street, Miami Gardens, Florida. Collins shouted to Deputy Gil he wanted deputies to "shoot him," and "kill him."

After Deputy Gil made initial contact with dispatch and requested back-up but before the shooting, dispatch informed officers: (1) Collins was a person of interest in a homicide ("a 31-subject"), and (2) Collins was also wanted for kidnapping and attempted sexual battery.

At 11:27 A.M., Deputy Josuet Castillo arrived at the northbound channel of the turnpike (west of the canal and tree where Collins was located). Deputy Castillo was armed with his department-issued Colt M4, .223 Caliber rifle. Deputy Castillo met with Deputy Gil on the west side of the canal. Deputy Castillo would remain at this location with Deputy Gil until the shooting. Prior to the shooting, Collins, despite warnings from both Deputy Gil and Deputy Castillo, repeatedly reached towards his pocket, where a visible bulge was observed. In response, Deputy Castillo fired a singular round at Collins, resulting in a single gunshot wound to Collins' left forearm.

At the time of the shooting, Deputy Castillo was wearing his department issued body worn camera. The following are timestamps of events leading up to the shooting as caught on Deputy Castillo's body worn camera:

- 11:27 – Deputy Castillo arrives at the scene.
- 11:27:54 – Deputy Gil yells to Collins to come to him and to “relax.”
- 11:28:20 – Deputy Castillo tells Deputy Gil to “back up, [Collins] is going into his pocket.”
- 11:28:22 – Deputy Gil repeatedly yells to Collins to “relax.”
- 11:28:28 – Deputy Gil repeatedly yells “don’t do that” to Collins.
- 11:28:35 – Deputy Castillo again tells Deputy Gil to “watchout.”
- 11:28:37 – Deputy Gil again yells to Collins “don’t do that.”
- 11:28:38 – Deputy Castillo shoots his department issued firearm.

Deputy Gil, in his recorded statement, asserted, prior to the shooting, he observed a bulge on Collins' pants.

The department-issued Colt M4 Carbine used by Deputy Castillo was recovered by Crime Scene Investigator Ashlee Clay with MDSO.

After the shooting, MDSO deputies from the Special Response Team (SRT) arrived on the east side of the canal near the corner residence at Northwest 191st Street and confronted Collins. Collins was still in the tree, bleeding from his left forearm. Despite repeated commands for Collins to climb down from the tree, Collins refused to comply. SRT Deputy Davis Palms deployed twelve (12) bag rounds from a less-lethal shotgun, but Collins continued to resist by refusing to come down.

Collins was eventually taken into police custody, after law enforcement officers on scene used a ladder and K-9 to forcibly remove him from the tree. No firearm was located on Collins' person or in the immediate vicinity. Collins was transported to HCA Aventura Trauma Center with non-life-threatening injuries. However, shortly after arrival, Collins required surgery to his left forearm.

No deputies or other civilians were injured during this incident.

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 Deputy Castillo constitute a criminal act that can be proven beyond and to the exclusion of every reasonable doubt.

The undersigned attorneys have reviewed the Florida Department of Law Enforcement case file regarding this incident, including the sworn statements, crime scene photos, body worn camera footage, dispatch reports, and other evidence gathered in this investigation. We find the FDLE file to be complete and thorough, and incorporate them into this memorandum and offer our conclusion based on the results of our independent review of the evidence.

Florida Statute 776.012 permits the use of deadly force when a person believes such a force is necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself or another or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony. Further, Florida Statute 776.05 permits a law enforcement officer to use any force that he or she believes is necessary to defend himself, herself or another from bodily harm while making an arrest. Under both provisions, the controlling question is the objective reasonableness of the officer's belief, judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene.

Based on a review of the law and evidence, Deputy Castillo's use of deadly force was justified under both statutes. At the time Deputy Castillo discharged his firearm, Isaiah Collins was a known subject in a double homicide, kidnapping, and attempted sexual battery; when responding deputies attempted to take Collins into custody, Collins fled on foot and took a partially concealed position in a tree. Prior to the shooting, Collins communicated he wanted deputies to "shoot him," and "kill him."

Deputy Castillo observed Collins "going into his pocket," after which Deputy Castillo warned Deputy Gil to "back up." Collins continued to reach for his pocket, despite Deputy Gil's repeated commands to refrain from doing so ("don't do that") and to calm down ("relax"). Deputy Gil also observed a visible bulge in Collins' pants pocket, near the area where Collins was

repeatedly reaching. Under these circumstances, Deputy Castillo could have reasonably believed Collins was retrieving a weapon, and discharging his firearm was necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself, Deputy Gil, or others present at the scene.

Deputy Castillo's actions were likewise justified under 776.05. Collins was wanted for a forcible felony and was actively resisting a lawful arrest when he disregarded repeated commands and reached for the concealed bulge. Florida law authorizes law enforcement officers to use any force they reasonably believe necessary to defend themselves or another from bodily harm while making an arrest. Collins' conduct gave Deputy Castillo a reasonable basis to believe such force was necessary, and his decision to fire a single round was a measured response to that threat.

Accordingly, the State Attorney's Office finds that Deputy Josuet Castillo's use of force was legally justified, and no criminal charges are warranted.

Prepared by:

/s/ *Patricia Mulholland*

Patricia Mulholland
Assistant State Attorney

/s/ *Kioceaia Stenson*

Kioceaia Stenson
Assistant State Attorney