

Close-out Memorandum of the
Investigation Regarding
Roosevelt Joseph
September 6, 2025



State Attorney's Office
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County
August 8, 2026



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney

DATE: August 7, 2026

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO CASE # 62/25/09/06/001

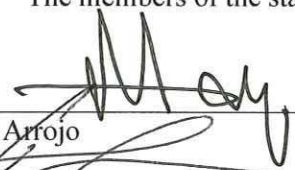
Based on the information obtained and reviewed during the investigation, the conclusion of the staffing/review team is the following:

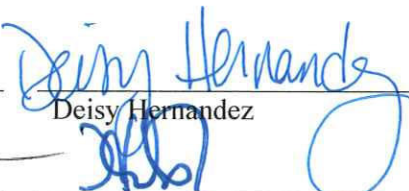
On September 6, 2025, at about 9:45 AM, Roosevelt Joseph called 911 and stated he stabbed someone and thrown them in the bushes at 1640 NE 164th Street in North Miami Beach. Joseph indicated he was armed with a knife, and wearing a black long sleeve shirt and grey joggers. North Miami Beach Officer Joshua Samaia responded to the scene, with his body-worn camera activated, and sees Joseph standing in a parking lot with a knife in his hand. Officer Samaia instructed Joseph to get on the ground, but Joseph raised the knife and pointed it at Officer Samaia. Officer Samaia instructed Joseph, again, to drop the knife but instead Joseph ran forward toward the officer. Officer Samaia discharged his service weapon two times, while simultaneously backing up, striking Joseph and causing him to fall to the ground. Officer Samaia approaches Joseph on the ground, removes the knife from his reach, and begins to render aid.

Joseph was transported to the hospital and successfully treated for a single gunshot wound to his left arm. While at the hospital, Joseph waived his *Miranda* rights and provided an audio recorded statement indicating that he called police and lied about stabbing someone because he wanted to kill himself. He indicated that he thought that when the police arrived and saw him with the knife that the officer would shoot him. Joseph stated that he heard the officer tell him to drop the knife, but he did not comply because he knew the officer would not let him get close while holding the knife and he wanted to be shot.

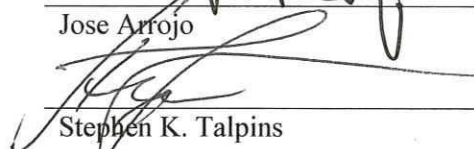
Pursuant to F.S. 776.012, and a review of the facts, evidence, and law in this investigation, we find that the deadly force used by Officer Joshua Samania, 07-395, North Miami Beach Police Department in discharging his weapon was legally justified.

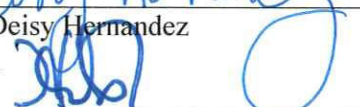
The members of the staffing/review team for this case are:

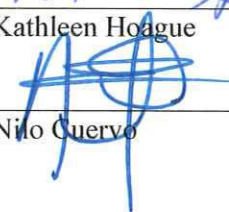

Jose Arrojo

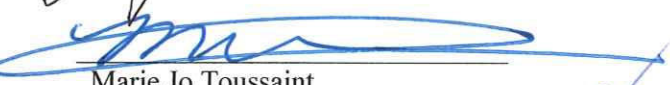

Deisy Hernandez


Kathleen Hoague

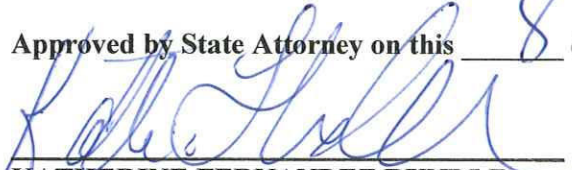

Stephen K. Talpins


Howard Rosen


Nilo Cuervo


Marie Jo Toussaint

Approved by State Attorney on this 8 day of August, 2026.


KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE
State Attorney



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

DATE: August 4, 2026

FROM: Sara Imm
Assistant State Attorney

RE: POLICE SHOOTING CLOSEOUT MEMO
SAO Case # 62/25/09/06/001

Anthony Gil
Assistant State Attorney

OFFICER INVOLVED:	Officer Joshua Samaia ID # 07-395 North Miami Beach Police Department
INJURED:	Roosevelt Joseph
DATE & TIME:	September 6, 2025 at 9:47 AM
LOCATION:	1680 NE 164 th Street, North Miami Beach
WEAPONS:	Knife (Roosevelt Joseph) Glock 21, semi-automatic pistol, S/N MRD863 (Officer Samaia)
LEAD/REPORTS:	S. A. Michel Tover, FDLE / Reports Received 4/10/2026
CASE #:	MI-27-0298
SAO CASE #:	62/25/09/06/001

FACTUAL SUMMARY

On September 6, 2025, at approximately 9:45 AM, Roosevelt Joseph called 911 and stated that he had stabbed someone and thrown them in the bushes at 1640 NE 164th Street, North Miami Beach. Joseph advised that he was _____ and armed with a knife. He also advised he was wearing a black long sleeve shirt and grey joggers. The call was dispatched at 9:46:51 AM as a male advising that he had stabbed someone and pushed the victim's body in the bushes.

At approximately 9:47 AM, North Miami Beach Officer Joshua Samaia was on an unrelated call in the same area, approximately one block away. Officer Samaia had activated his department issued body worn camera at the unrelated call and did not turn it off when he cleared to respond to 1680 NE 164th Street at approximately 9:49 AM. Officer Samaia responded in emergency mode in a marked unit with lights and sirens and it took less than one minute of transit time for Officer Samaia to arrive on scene. He was the first law enforcement officer to arrive. Officer Samaia's body worn camera shows Joseph standing in the parking lot at 1680 NW 164th Street with a knife in his right hand, and with the knife blade facing down towards the ground. Officer Samaia exited his vehicle and immediately asked Joseph: "did you call?" Upon noticing the knife, Officer Samaia told Joseph to get on the ground. Subsequently Joseph raised the knife and pointed it directly at Officer Samaia. In response Officer Samaia gave several loud verbal commands for Joseph to drop the knife. Joseph, however, did not drop the knife and began running forward in the direction of the officer. As Joseph was running towards Officer Samaia, the officer discharged his service weapon two times, while simultaneously backing up, striking Joseph and causing him to fall to the ground. When Officer Samaia discharged his weapon, Joseph was within striking distance of Officer Samaia. Officer Samaia advised dispatch that shots were fired at 9:50:17. The knife becomes more clearly visible on the camera when Officer Samaia approaches Joseph on the ground. Officer Samaia removes the knife from next to Joseph's head at 9:50:46 and begins to render aid shortly thereafter.

North Miami Beach Officer Henrique Cooper is the second officer to arrive on scene. Officer Cooper's body worn camera is activated after the fact and does not capture the officer involved shooting. However, Officer Cooper did provide a sworn recorded statement. While arriving on the scene, traveling westbound on 164th Street towards 17th Avenue, Officer Cooper observed Officer Samaia arriving ahead of him and exiting his vehicle. Officer Cooper saw a black male (Joseph) running toward Officer Samaia holding a knife in "icepick" position in his right hand. Officer Cooper heard Officer Samaia giving verbal commands to drop the knife, followed by two to three gunshots. Officer Cooper did not fire his service weapon. Officer Cooper did assist after the fact in rendering aid to Joseph on the scene. While Officer Cooper was applying a tourniquet to Joseph, he instructed other officers to check the bushes to see if there is anyone stabbed. Joseph responded unprompted that there was nobody else and that he lied in order to get the police to respond. This statement by Joseph is partially audible on the body worn camera and then clarified by Officer Cooper relaying the statement to dispatch.

Joseph was transported to the hospital by fire rescue for medical treatment for a single gunshot wound to his left arm. While at the hospital on September 10, 2025, detectives attempted to speak with Joseph about the shooting. Joseph initially invoked his right to counsel and did not give a statement. However, Joseph later changed his mind and asked for the officers to return. On September 12, 2025, Joseph waived his rights and provided an audio recorded statement. Joseph reported that he was homeless and struggling with _____. Joseph further stated that on the date of the officer involved shooting he called the police and lied saying he stabbed someone because he wanted to kill himself. He indicated that he thought that when the police arrived and saw him with the knife that the officer would shoot him.

Joseph stated that he heard the officer tell him to drop the knife, but he did not comply because he knew the officer would not let him get close while holding the knife and he wanted to be shot.

Crime scene responded to the scene at 1680 NE 164th Street on September 6th to process the evidence. The following items were collected from the parking lot area where the shooting took place: two (2) .45 caliber spent casings, one (1) .45 caliber projectile, and a black handle stainless steel knife.

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 Officer Joshua Samaia 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 the incident, including the sworn statements, 911 calls, body worn camera footage, and other evidence gathered in this investigation. We find the FDLE file to be complete and thorough, and incorporate it 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 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 believes is necessary to defend himself or another from bodily harm while making an arrest.

The evidence shows that Roosevelt Joseph was armed with a knife that he actively pointed in the direction of Officer Samaia. Joseph took affirmative action, in the form of rushing towards Officer Samaia, that is an objective indication of intent to use the knife to cause harm to the officer. The evidence further shows that Officer Samaia was actively aware of the threat posed by the knife to his personal safety prior to discharging his firearm. Under these circumstances it is reasonable to conclude that Officer Samaia believed that the use of deadly force was necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to himself. Therefore, the use of deadly force by Officer Samaia is determined to be legally justified.

Prepared by:

/s/ Sara Imm

Assistant State Attorney

/s/ Anthony Gil

Assistant State Attorney