

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

PMF:JFF:SW:tc
DJ 144-18-0

*Criminal Section - PHB
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC 20530*

MAY 05 2016

The Honorable Linda Hudson
Mayor, City of Fort Pierce
City Hall, 100 North US 1
P.O. Box 1480
Fort Pierce, FL 34954-1480



Dear Mayor Hudson:

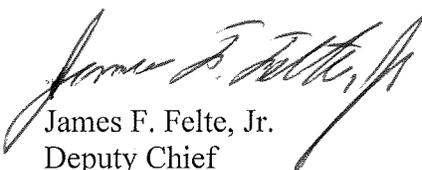
This responds to your letter to the U.S. Department of Justice, dated April 28, 2016, regarding the fatal shooting of Demarcus Semer by an officer of the Fort Pierce Police Department. In your letter, you request that the Department of Justice evaluate the investigation currently being conducted by the Sheriff of St. Lucie County and the State Attorney to determine whether a federal investigation is warranted.

The Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division and the United States Attorneys' Offices enforce the federal criminal civil rights statutes. Much of our enforcement activity relates to the investigation and prosecution of deprivations of civil rights under color of law. These matters generally involve allegations of excessive physical force or sexual abuse by law enforcement officers.

We are aware of this incident and have been monitoring the local criminal investigation. At the conclusion of the local investigation, we will review the results for possible violations of the federal criminal civil rights statutes and conduct any further investigation that may be appropriate. The Department will then make a determination as to whether a prosecutable violation of the federal criminal civil rights statutes exists and take appropriate action. The investigation of state and local officials who abuse their positions of authority always has been, and remains, a high priority of this administration.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,



James F. Felte, Jr.
Deputy Chief