

DANIEL T. SATTERBERG
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



Office of the Prosecuting Attorney
CRIMINAL DIVISION
W554 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104
(206) 296-9000

March 29, 2019

The Honorable Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 5th Avenue, Suite 800
Chinook Building
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Death of Joseph W. Peppan

Dear Executive Constantine:


On October 23, 2018, the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office received investigative materials from the King County Sheriff's Office concerning the shooting death of Joseph W. Peppan on August 23, 2018. Pursuant to the latest Executive Order on the inquest process (PHL-7-1-2-EO), this office has reviewed those materials and recommends that an inquest be ordered. The Executive's Order mandates an inquest to investigate "any death involving a member of any law enforcement agency within King County while in the performance of his/her duties."

In this instance, King County Sheriff SWAT deputies were serving a drug search warrant at a residence in Shoreline. Joseph Peppan was one of the persons linked to that address and was known to carry a firearm. Upon serving the warrant, deputies found Peppan lying on a bed. Peppan is alleged to have reached for and pointed a revolver. Deputies gave commands to drop the gun. Peppan did not comply. Deputies fired multiple shots. Peppan was pronounced dead at the scene.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 477-1970. I would be more than happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss this matter in further detail.

Sincerely,

For DANIEL T. SATTERBERG,
King County Prosecuting Attorney



Mark Larson
Chief Deputy, Criminal Division

cc: Mitzi Johanknecht, King County Sheriff