LEESA MANION (she/her)
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

JUSTICE
COMPASSION
PROFESSIONALISM
INTEGRITY
LEADERSHIP

June 5, 2024

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

Re: Motor Vehicle Fatality Investigation of David Shaw

Dear Executive Constantine:

The King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has received and reviewed the investigative materials from the Renton Police Department concerning the motor vehicle fatality of David Shaw on October 20, 2023.

In accordance with Executive Order PHL-7-1-5-EO §7.1, we are satisfied that the investigation is now complete. In addition, under PHL-7-1-5-EO §7.1, we are required to advise whether an inquest should be initiated pursuant to the King County Charter §895.

The King County Charter requires a mandatory inquest "where an action, decision or possible failure to offer the appropriate care by a member of any law enforcement agency might have contributed to an individual's death." Given the circumstances, we have little information to determine whether a law enforcement action or decision contributed to Mr. Shaw's death; the only person who would know is the deceased Mr. Shaw.

"Might have contributed . . ." is a low standard. We are deferring to your discretion under PHL-7-1-5-EO §6.1, which permits you to decide an inquest need not be initiated if you determine that the role of law enforcement was de minimis and did not contribute in any discernible way to a person's death.

Per PHL-7-1-5-EO §8.4, upon your request, we will forward the investigative file to the Inquest Program Manager. Such requests can be sent to PAOPublicIntegrity@kingcounty.gov.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 477-1174. I would be more than happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss this matter in further detail.

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Sincerely,

For LEESA MANION
King County Prosecuting Attorney

Daniel J. Clark
Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Mainstream Criminal Division

Enclosure: Internal Memorandum

cc: John R. Batiste, Chief, Washington State Patrol
David Lane, Detective, Renton Police Department
James Bush, Communications Specialist, King County Executive's Office
Chase Gallagher, Communications Director, King County Executive's Office
Lily Clifton, Executive Assistant, King County Executive's Office
Marcus Stubblefield, Criminal Justice Manager, King County Executive's Office
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Executive, King County Executive's Office
David Hackett, General Counsel, King County Executive's Office
Dee Sylve, Inquest Program Manager, King County Executive Services
Matthew Anderson, Inquest Attorney, King County Executive Services