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Lane County DA and EPD Update - N. Adams/Clark Incident on June 28

The Eugene Police and the Lane District Attorney's Office offer the following update in light of the many calls both organizations have received regarding the incident that occurred during the demonstration at N. Adams and Clark Street the evening of June 28th.

At a time where emotions are running high across the nation, our response has created understandable frustration at the criminal investigative process. It is important that everyone understand what steps are being taken in this case, as in all cases, to ensure a fair and legally appropriate outcome. It is essential in carrying out these functions that the investigation remain objective and thorough.

In a case like this, with dynamic circumstances and many witnesses from different vantage points, it is necessary to reconcile varied eye-witness accounts with physical evidence when possible. Furthermore, standard investigative protocols require the Eugene Police Department to: review 911 calls; canvass the involved area for witnesses and video surveillance; interview all victims, witnesses and potential suspects; take measurements; download any vehicle computer, phone, or other data, if it exists and is relevant to the case; inspect the suspect vehicle and property; gather medical information regarding victim injuries; and collect any other evidence reflecting the mental state of a suspect at the time of the incident under investigation. In a time with daily reminders of the value citizen smart phone videos can provide in an investigation, we are hopeful that such videos exist and can aid in this investigation. We are calling upon any individuals who may have even a portion of the incident caught on video to share that with investigators in this case immediately.

When the investigation is complete, it will be referred to the District Attorney's Office where it will be reviewed for a grand jury proceeding. All relevant witnesses will be subpoenaed to testify, the physical evidence will be presented, and the grand jury will make a decision as to whether there is sufficient evidence to charge someone with a crime or crimes. Grand jury proceedings are recorded and will be released to the public as soon as allowed by law.

At every stage of a criminal investigation and presentment to the grand jury, all legal and ethical standards must be met for the integrity of the case and the protection of the rights of all involved.