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NEWS RELEASE

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Shooting by CHP Officer Found Justified

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that the review of the circumstances surrounding the July 5, 2019, shooting of Joshua Ortiz by California Highway Patrol Officer Timothy Putzel has been completed.

The full report, authored by Senior Deputy District Attorney Blake Heller, is available on the Ventura County District Attorney's website <https://www.vcdistrictattorney.com/february-12-2021-ois-report/> and explains the District Attorney's conclusions that Officer Putzel acted reasonably, and his use of deadly force in self-defense was justified.

A video compilation of the officer-involved shooting is available at <https://youtu.be/wZ1flcuZNMk>. After two business days, the video will no longer be available online and will be available upon written request to the District Attorney's Office.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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