

On May 22, 2016, Vernell Bing attacked an officer with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office using the deadly force of a stolen vehicle traveling at a speed of 53MPH against the officer's marked patrol vehicle traveling at 14MPH for a combined force of 67MPH. The suspect conducted this assault after leading officers on a 3.7 mile pursuit endangering the lives of the community at large. Any officer participating in such a pursuit does so at great personal risk relying on training, experience, and instinct to ensure their own survival and the safety of the community and all persons involved.

There is zero evidence, or historical empirical data, available to indicate that had Mr. Bing allowed himself to be taken into custody initiating his constitutional right to due process, that any harm would have come to himself or anyone else. Officers in Jacksonville, and around the country, make far greater than 99% of all arrests of suspects without using deadly force, much less excessive force. The percentage is even higher among compliant suspects than those who resist. Mr. Bing chose a course of action which led Officer Tyler Landreville to respond to deadly force with deadly force resulting in Mr. Bing's death.

There has been no indication by anyone, other than those who are uninformed or refuse to acknowledge facts, that Ofc. Landreville made any judgement or policy errors. This is a voice that will not be placated by any mountain of evidence or review by any governing body. I have complete confidence in the extraordinary work done by the JSO and State Attorney's Office investigators that do flawless work in these types of cases. Furthermore, I am confident in their ability to follow the procedures outlined by negotiated contracts and state laws that result in open and thorough investigations. We are confident that any review by anyone, including the FBI, will result in the conclusion that Ofc. Landreville acted appropriately, by state law, and by agency policy.

Lastly, we extend sincere empathy for the sadness that Mr. Bing's actions have caused his family. We are equally sympathetic for the trauma experienced by our officer and the potential lifelong impact it will have on him and his family. We will continue to be here to support both the officer and his family during this difficult time. However, we are thankful that there are men and women willing to put it on the line for love of their community in the face of declining wages and benefits.

Steve Zona, President

Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 5-30

*View the original statement on the [Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 530 Facebook page](#).*