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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On June 2, 2015, Fairfield Police Officers Kathy Blumhagen and David Wall were involved in a pursuit of a motor vehicle being operated by Dakota Murray. The pursuit ended approximately two miles south of Birmingham in Van Buren County. Officers Blumhagen and Wall approached Murray's motor vehicle. Murray drove his vehicle in the direction of Officer Wall. Officers Blumhagen and Wall fired their service weapons in the direction of the operator of the motor vehicle. There was also a juvenile passenger in the motor vehicle operated by Murray. No one was struck by the officers' shots and there were no injuries.

The Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation has conducted an investigation of the incident and shared the results of that investigation with the Van Buren County Attorney. After a review, the Van Buren County Attorney has determined that the use of deadly force by Officers Blumhagen and Wall was lawful. This decision has been communicated to the Iowa DCI, the Fairfield Police Chief and to Officers Blumhagen and Wall.

Dakota Murray was charged in Jefferson County with eluding a pursuing law enforcement vehicle. Murray has been convicted of that charge and is currently serving a prison sentence in Iowa. Upon his release from prison in Iowa, Murray will be extradited to Missouri for a parole violation as a result of this incident. No further information will be released at this time.

Abraham K. Watkins
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