



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Dwight C. Holton
District of Oregon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 18, 2010

CONTACT: Gerri Badden

PHONE: 503-727-1033

www.usdoj.gov/usao/or

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND FBI ANNOUNCE INQUIRY IN FATAL SHOOTING INITIATED

Portland, Ore. – U.S. Attorney, Dwight C. Holton, and Arthur Balizan, FBI Special Agent in Charge in Oregon, announced today that on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, the FBI and United States Attorney's Office initiated a preliminary inquiry into the fatal shooting of Aaron Campbell.

The U. S. Department of Justice is deeply committed to the protection of civil rights under law. It is routine practice to open a preliminary inquiry into an officer-involved shooting of this nature. The preliminary inquiry is intended to provide a full and fair review of the locally-conducted investigation, and involves gathering of the investigative record and public accounts of the facts underlying the shooting. The information gathered is evaluated and forwarded to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice, at which point the Civil Rights Division, FBI and United States Attorney's Office consider what further steps should be undertaken.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office has conducted a thorough and detailed investigation of the shooting, and has made substantial information publicly available, which will facilitate the federal preliminary inquiry.

The Portland Police Bureau has made clear that it is committed to complete cooperation with the preliminary inquiry.

The role of the Department of Justice at this point is very specific: to make inquiry as to whether there has been a criminal violation of civil rights. It bears emphasis that the broader question of whether there are management or policy issues which should be addressed by local law enforcement is a question that is properly addressed by local community leaders and the members of the community.

///