NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: July 24, 2018, 11:20 a.m.

From: Patty Perlow, Lane County District Attorney

After reviewing the use of force investigation by the Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team (IDFIT) regarding the use of deadly force by Lane County Sheriff’s deputies on July 12, 2018, I have determined it was a lawful use of deadly force. The facts of the incident are outlined below.

On July 12, 2018, at about 2346 hours, South Lane 911 Center received a call from a resident at 78693 Cedar Park Road, an unincorporated area near Cottage Grove. The caller stated another resident, Joey Keith Loop Jr., was on the property and was threatening to fight the caller and had discharged a firearm in the caller’s direction. Loop was banging on the house and demanding the caller to exit the residence. The caller stated Loop was very intoxicated and had fired a pistol multiple times. The caller reported Joey Loop’s residence was attached to a barn on the property, but was separate from the main residence. An additional area resident called 911 and reported hearing five gunshots and yelling.

Lane County Sheriff’s Patrol Deputies responded to the location. Due to shots having been fired and the dangerous circumstance of an armed subject at large, an armored Humvee was brought to the location for additional protection. Upon arriving, deputies attempted to contact Joey Loop via public address system attached to the LCSO vehicle. Loop was given instructions to exit the residence with his hands up for about 90 minutes, but did not comply. A Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) also was employed to attempt to contact Loop. Multiple calls and text messages made to Loop’s phone were unanswered.

At about 0130 hours LCSO activated the Special Response Team (SRT). Additional deputies responded to the residence. SRT continued hailing with loud speakers for Joey Loop to exit the residence unarmed with his hands raised. Those efforts continued for an additional two hours. Deputies also illuminated the area with spotlights and turned on their red and blue emergency lights.

Deputy Brian DeVault was riding in the back of an open topped armored Humvee utility vehicle and Deputy Jason Franklin was positioned next to him. At about 0346 hours, Deputy DeVault disabled a motion light close to Loop’s residence, and Loop emerged from his front door. Loop was instructed to put his hands in the air. Loop complied with the deputy’s instructions to keep his hands raised. Deputy Franklin saw a holstered pistol on Loop’s right hip. Deputy Franklin asked Loop if he was carrying a gun and Loop told him he was. Loop exited the front porch and walked toward deputies. To this point Loop had been following all of the deputies instructions to keep his hands up. Deputies Franklin and DeVault instructed Loop not to touch his firearm. Deputy Franklin ordered Loop multiple times to stop and lay down on the ground. Loop failed to comply with the Deputy’s lawful orders and continued
to advance toward them. For an unknown reason, Loop dropped his hands
toward his holstered pistol, unsnapped the holster, and removed his pistol.

As Loop was drawing his pistol, Deputy Franklin believed he was going to be
shot by Loop and fired two rounds from his AR-15 rifle. Deputy DeVault fired
one round from his less-lethal shotgun. Deputy DeVault fired his less-lethal
shotgun because when Loop began to remove the pistol from its holster,
Deputy DeVault did not believe he had time to transition from the shotgun to
his pistol. All three rounds struck Loop, causing him to fall to the ground, and
to drop his pistol. At the time Loop drew his pistol he was about ten feet from
Deputies Franklin and DeVault.

Immediately following the shooting, medical aid was rendered to Loop by the
SRT Medics. An ambulance also arrived shortly after and transported Loop
to a local area hospital. Loop was pronounced deceased after additional
medical intervention was attempted.

Deputy Jason Franklin has 22 years of service with the Lane County Sheriff’s
Office. Deputy Brian DeVault has 20 years of service with the Lane County
Sheriff’s Office.

Lane County Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team (IDFIT)
investigated the incident. The pistol Loop was carrying was a 9mm Taurus
loaded with one round in the chamber and one in a magazine. Loop also
was carrying a second magazine which was loaded with an additional seven
9mm rounds.

IDFIT Investigators located multiple 9mm shell casings at the residence
where Loop was shooting in the direction of the 911 caller. There were
multiple cameras mounted around the property but none were directed
toward the location of the shooting.

The location where this incident occurred is a commercial marijuana growing
operation run by OneGro. Loop was employed as a security guard for
OneGro.

I would like to thank the brave men and women of the Lane County Sheriff's
office who go out to rural Lane County properties like this one to keep the
public safe, regardless of the danger of the circumstances to themselves. I
also would like to thank, again, all of our area law enforcement agencies who
dedicate resources to the IDFIT so that the public can have confidence in our
Lane County use of force investigations.