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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Update regarding the Broward State Attorney's Office investigations of allegations of criminal misconduct against Broward sheriff's deputies

Regarding the Broward State Attorney's Office investigations of allegations of criminal misconduct against Broward sheriff's deputies involved in the incidents in Tamarac and the Broward Health North medical center:

The Broward State Attorney's Office has received both preliminary investigations from the Broward Sheriff's Office. The State Attorney's Office investigations are almost concluded and we anticipate announcing our decisions very soon.

The State Attorney's Office has no role in the Broward Sheriff's Office internal affairs investigations regarding whether or not the deputies involved in these incidents should be disciplined so we refer any questions about that process to BSO. (The sheriff terminated deputies involved in the Parkland response, a process that took 16 months, without any input from our office.)

Prosecutors have a legal duty to investigate cases fully before we file criminal charges and our office is complying with that duty. It is important that these types of investigations are done properly. It is important to get it right. Rushing to file criminal charges without conducting a proper investigation would be counterproductive.

Tamarac:

After the Broward Sheriff's Office arrested the 15-year-old student on a felony charge, the Broward State Attorney's Office promptly concluded that the evidence did not support that charge and our prosecutors declined to file any criminal charge against the student within a few days.

The investigation of the deputies is different because the sheriff's office did not arrest the deputies who are accused of misconduct. If BSO had arrested the deputies, an accelerated investigation would have ensued because legal time limits would have been imposed by the arrest process.

The Broward State Attorney's Office received preliminary findings from the Sheriff's Office last month (47 days ago) regarding the accused deputies. Our prosecutors quickly

determined that our office needed more information and our prosecutors and investigators launched a more in-depth investigation.

Throughout this investigation, our prosecutors have been in frequent contact with the victim's attorney. Our office received certain medical records as recently as last Friday (June 21). Those records deal with an important aspect of the investigation.

During this time, our investigators have interviewed the victim and approximately 15 additional witnesses, who were not previously interviewed by law enforcement. They have also spent significant time trying to locate other witnesses. They have also reviewed bodycam video footage.

On Tuesday (June 25), one of our prosecutors flew out of state to meet with an expert witness. In addition, we have a previously scheduled meeting with the victim's attorney on Friday, June 28.

We anticipate our prosecutors will make their decision very soon. Again, it is most important that a full investigation is done and that the process is conducted in a very thorough manner.

Broward Health North medical center incident:

Our prosecutors plan to make a final decision in this criminal investigation in the next day or two.