

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**June 8, 2016**

## **SBI investigation requested in officer-involved shooting**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – At the request of Sylasone Ackhavong's family, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office has asked the State Bureau of Investigation to investigate the April 19, 2016, death of Mr. Ackhavong.

Under state law, the District Attorney must ask for an SBI investigation when he receives a request to do so from the family of a person who was killed as a result of the use of a firearm by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty.

In cases of officer-involved shootings, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department conducts an investigation to determine whether an officer acted lawfully when he or she used deadly force, as well as a separate but parallel investigation to determine whether CMPD policies and procedures were adhered to during the course of the incident. The District Attorney's Office then reviews the investigation to determine whether an officer's use of deadly force was lawful or unlawful, focusing on North Carolina law regarding the use of deadly force.

In this case, an attorney representing Mr. Ackhavong's family recently requested an independent investigation into the incident. The District Attorney has asked the SBI to investigate, pursuant to [N.C. General Statute §147-90](#). The District Attorney's Office will review the SBI's findings of fact and conclusions when the investigation is completed.

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.*

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