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April 17, 2025

Detective Aaron Rosen
Garden City Police Department
301 E 50th St.
Garden City, ID 83714
arosen@gardencitypolice.org

Re: CITF Investigation – Gabriel Pope

Dear Det. Rosen:

This office has reviewed the reports and videos of the incident involving the critical incident regarding Gabriel Pope on November 13th, 2024. Based on that information, the pertinent facts in this case are as follows:

At 3:05 PM on November 13th, a Boise Police Officer pulled over a vehicle with a fictitious license plate. A male sitting in the back seat of the vehicle without a seatbelt refused to identify himself, then provided a false name. The male, later identified as Gabriel Pope, told officers “shoot me.” He then left the vehicle with a knife and stabbed himself in the neck before fleeing on foot through a neighborhood. At 3:37 PM at 2034 S. Division Avenue, Boise Police Department Corporal Martinez observed Pope leaving the backyard of a home through a gate, bloody and still holding the knife. Martinez commanded Pope to stop. Pope responded with, “fuck you,” and walked towards Martinez with the knife pointed at Martinez. As he reached within lunging distance of Martinez without stopping or complying with any commands, Martinez fired and hit Pope three times.

Idaho Codes 19-202A and 18-4011 both apply to this situation. Applying the facts of this case to those statutes, Martinez justified in his actions. Idaho Law would not allow the criminal prosecution of Martinez. As Pope had shown violence, was covered in blood, and continued towards Martinez with the knife, Martinez rightly felt that every individual in the neighborhood and he himself was in danger. It is this office’s opinion that no criminal charges shall be filed against Martinez.

Please contact this office if you have questions regarding this decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erick B. Thomson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Erick B. Thomson
Gem County Prosecuting Attorney