

Report on FBI Fatal Shooting Released

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LANSING - Attorney General Mike Cox's office today announced the release of its report on the FBI fatal shooting of Luqman Ameen Abdullah. The incident took place as the FBI attempted to arrest Abdullah and four others on October 28, 2009 in Dearborn, Michigan on federal criminal charges. The review found that no Michigan laws were violated.

The Attorney General's office took on the review at the request of the FBI after the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office declined. The review was based on 82 interviews, more than 1,600 pages of files and video recordings provided by the FBI and the Dearborn Police Department.

On October 28, 2009, a FBI arrest team attempted to arrest Abdullah and others on federal felony charges, including: conspiracy to receive and sell stolen property; mail fraud; and illegal possession of firearms and body armor. The arrests were to take place during an undercover FBI sting involving what was portrayed to Abdullah as stolen televisions. Federal documents filed in the U.S. district court described Abdullah as an Imam of the Masjid Al-Haqq in Detroit who had made statements threatening the lives of law enforcement agents and been previously convicted of felonious assault. Abdullah was also described in federal court filings as a highly placed leader of a national radical fundamentalist Sunni group with the mission to create an Islamic state governed by Shariah law. According to the documents, Abdullah also preached anti-government violence and called on his followers to conduct an offensive jihad.

After the review, the report concludes that the FBI did not violate any Michigan laws during the attempted arrest. The evidence reviewed by the Attorney General's office shows that Abdullah was armed, resisted arrest, rejected repeated commands to surrender and show his hands, and still refused to comply when warned that a dog would be deployed. Instead, after the dog was deployed, Abdullah revealed a handgun and fired in the direction of law enforcement agents. Four FBI agents were directly involved in the shooting. Each reported fearing for their lives and the lives of others and, in accordance with Michigan law, returned fire in self-defense, resulting in Abdullah's death. All four of Abdullah's associates involved in the incident complied with commands by law enforcement agents and were arrested without incident.

The Attorney General's office also independently interviewed the Wayne County Medical

Examiner who performed Abdullah's autopsy in an attempt to gain insight into facial injuries suffered by Abdullah. The Medical Examiner found that there is insufficient evidence to definitively state how those injuries were caused. Theories include injury from the action of the slide on the pistol Abdullah was firing extremely close to his face, injury from being turned over by agents to facilitate handcuffing, or injury from the dog. None of the eyewitness statements, nor any of the video footage, supplies any evidence that Abdullah's facial injuries were sustained post-mortem.

"My office's review found undisputed evidence that Mr. Abdullah resisted arrest and fired a gun first in the direction of the agents," Cox said. "Under Michigan law, law enforcement agents are justified in using deadly force in these types of situations, and therefore we found no crimes."

[Click here to download the Attorney General's report.](#) Other materials may be requested via Michigan's Freedom of Information Act.

<http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-46849-244373--,00.html>