



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Office of the Attorney General**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL TO LEAD AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION  
INTO THE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING**

**Office of the Attorney General, Saipan** – Attorney General Edward Manibusan has assigned the Attorney General Investigative Division (AGID) and Chief Prosecutor John Bradley to conduct an independent review of the circumstances surrounding the use of deadly force during a hostage situation that concluded in the early morning hours of March 11, 2020.

The Department of Public Safety notified the public that officers used deadly force and reported the death of two individuals, including the adult male suspect and the adult female hostage he had been holding for over 24 hours.

“I have conferred with the Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero and he has given his full support for an independent investigation,” stated Attorney General Manibusan. He added, “the review is a standard protocol for the use of deadly force by law enforcement.” A review serves several purposes, including providing law enforcement and the public with an independent and reliable evaluation of the use of deadly force and identification of any collateral issues for further consideration by the government. “I seek the cooperation of law enforcement partners including the FBI and DPS as we undertake this important and sensitive inquiry,” concluded Attorney General Manibusan.

Chief Prosecutor Bradley has extensive experience in conducting such reviews. He has worked on similar cases in Texas.

The Attorney General stated, “I wish to extend my condolences to the family of the deceased and ask for the community’s patience as our office conducts the independent review.”

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