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JURY CLEARS TWO OFFICERS IN ROBBERY SUSPECT'S DEATH

Article Text:

Columbus police officers acted properly when they killed a man who they said was robbing a South Side bar, a grand jury concluded yesterday.

After hearing from seven witnesses -- including the aunt of Shawn David Streeter, the man who was killed -- and from the two officers who shot Streeter, the panel determined that no charges should be filed, Assistant Franklin County Prosecutor Ed Morgan said.

Streeter, 29, whose last known address was on Huy Road on the North Side, was killed about 1 a.m. Jan. 26 after he fled from the Offset Bar, 1501 S. High St.

Police had trailed Streeter, a suspect in a string of bar robberies, to the bar. Officers watched him put on a ski mask, pull out a gun and enter the bar, police said.

Witnesses in the bar said Streeter fired a shot, ordered the 10 patrons and the bartender to the floor, then robbed them.

Streeter ran out of the bar with a bag of money in one hand and the gun in the other. When ordered to stop and drop the gun, he fired at an undercover officer, witnesses said.

SWAT officers Robert Coffman and Richard Ey fired back, hitting Streeter. He stumbled to the parking lot and died minutes later.

Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien has maintained a policy that any case in which a citizen is shot by police will be taken before a grand jury to determine whether charges should be filed.

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