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Date of Release: October 29, 2025
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shooting in Eastern Laramie County Ruled Self Defense

On June 24, 2025, around 4:22 p.m., deputies from the Laramie County Sheriff's Office responded to a disturbance involving a shooting at the 1200 block of County Road 157. The investigation revealed a sequence of events that ultimately led to the fatal shooting of Kevin Hefley.

Earlier that day, Christine Hefly moved horses from her and Kevin's shared property to Patrick Gross's property, upsetting Kevin.

Kevin Hefley and Patrick Gross had a recent history of conflict. On the morning of the shooting, Hefley threatened Gross via text message, saying, "I shoulda kicked your ass right in your own home." Later, Gross was parked in his driveway when Hefley drove rapidly towards him. Just prior to being rammed by Hefley, Gross shot Hefley's radiator in an attempt to stop the vehicle. Later crash reconstruction indicated that Hefley hit Gross's truck at approximately 60 miles per hour constituting the threat of deadly force.

Hefley exited his vehicle and physically assaulted Gross by punching him multiple times, while Gross was inside his truck. During the altercation, Gross shot Hefley. Despite being shot, Hefley continued to assault Gross while holding onto the driver's door of Gross's truck as Gross tried to drive away. Hefley continued in his assault until he succumbed to his injuries.

The scene was meticulously examined, including advanced crash reconstruction analysis and digital evidence from phones and social media. Hefley's blood alcohol content was found to be nearly twice the legal limit (.143).

After a comprehensive review, the District Attorney concluded that Patrick Gross acted in self-defense. Under Wyoming Statute 6-2-602, a person has the right to use reasonable force, including deadly force, when facing an imminent threat of death or serious injury. Gross believed he was in immediate danger and acted accordingly. Wyoming Statute 6-2-602 also

affirms that there is no duty to retreat before defending oneself. Based on this, no criminal charges will be filed against Gross.

For further information, please contact Brandon Warner at (307) 633-4751 or via email at Brandon.Warner@laramiecountywv.gov.



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