



## **Loveland Police Department MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **District Attorney, Fort Collins police lead investigation**

*Criminal inquiry examines actions related to Karen Garner arrest*

**LOVELAND, April 28, 2021** – Actions by Loveland Police Department officers in connection with the arrest of resident Karen Garner are now the subject of a criminal investigation being conducted by Fort Collins Police Services in cooperation with the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney. Four Loveland officers remain on administrative leave.

The Loveland Police Department, in consultation with the District Attorney and regional law enforcement partners, sought the criminal investigation under the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) protocol, a process that preserves impartiality and integrity in the conduct of such investigations.

Documents, video footage and other records produced and compiled in connection with the Karen Garner arrest and its aftermath will be considered by investigators from the District Attorney and Fort Collins Police Services, chosen through mutual agreement to lead the investigation.

District Attorney Gordon MacLaughlin said on Monday he had personally examined videos made public that day, and issued the following statement:

“The statements on the videos are very concerning. I will consider those statements - along with all relevant evidence compiled by the CIRT- in making a charging decision. I have asked CIRT investigators to attempt to interview all relevant witnesses and assess the appropriateness of charges for anyone whom the facts indicate may bear criminal culpability.

“There is no set time frame to finish the investigation as the CIRT protocol must follow the facts and produce a thorough and reliable outcome, but I can assure you this investigation is a priority for my office. I have assigned both our Chief Investigator and our Assistant DA as liaisons to the CIRT. Everyone involved understands the

importance of this investigation in addressing community concerns and it will be conducted as expeditiously and transparently as possible. I have insisted on consistent communication with Fort Collins Police Services investigators and I am confident progress is being made in uncovering the details of what occurred."

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