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Milwaukee County

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July 30, 2021

Sheriff Earnell Lucas
Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office
821 W. State Street, Room 107
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Re: In custody death of Joseph A. Behling [REDACTED]

Dear Sheriff Lucas:

On November 27, 2020, Joseph A. Behling died at Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital after being transported there three days earlier from the Milwaukee County Jail, where he was an inmate. He was thirty-eight years old. The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office determined the cause of death to be [REDACTED]

The Waukesha County Sheriff's Office conducted a comprehensive investigation into the death of Mr. Behling. The investigative file includes: video of the jail pod housing Mr. Behling, which shows contact between jail officials and Mr. Behling in the minutes leading up to his death, as well as the swift response by Sheriff's personnel in their efforts to save his life; pertinent personal materials of Mr. Behling; and interviews with witnesses and attending Sheriff's Office personnel.

After reviewing the investigative file in this matter, I find no basis for criminal liability related to the death of Mr. Behling on the part of any other person, including any employee of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

My office is now closing this matter.

Sincerely,

Kent Lovern
Chief Deputy District Attorney

cc: Waukesha County Sheriff Eric Severson

AUG 05 2021
[Handwritten initials]