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**\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009**

**CITY SECURES DEFENSE VERDICT IN  
\$1.9 MILLION EXCESSIVE FORCE CASE  
BROUGHT AGAINST LAPD OFFICERS**

**LOS ANGELES** – A Los Angeles Superior Court jury has returned a unanimous defense verdict in which Los Angeles Police Officers were sued for more than \$1.9 million. The lawsuit was filed after officers shot and killed an approaching, knife-wielding suspect who had failed to yield to their instructions to stand down. The case was successfully defended by Deputy City Attorney Rena Shahandeh of the City Attorney's Police Litigation Unit.

In the early morning hours of July 24, 2007, Hollywood officers responded to a call of one housemate being stabbed by another. While the victim was receiving treatment by paramedics in front of the residence, the suspect, Mark Gregg, exited the residence with a knife in his left hand. Gregg continued to walk toward the ambulance where the victim was being treated despite repeated officer warnings to drop the weapon. Responding officers shot and killed Gregg after he turned toward them and advanced and threatened them with the knife.

Mark Gregg's relatives sued the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Police Department, Chief William Bratton and the involved officers claiming police used excessive force, demanding \$1,995,000 at the time of trial. At the conclusion of the trial before Judge Gary Allen Fees, the jury returned a unanimous defense verdict, finding the shooting was reasonable, given the threatening and fast-moving circumstances.

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