

City of Richmond, California
 Community Police Review Commission
PUBLIC CASE SUMMARY

Case #	Date Received	Date Completed
2019-4 (Ciel, Luk)	4/11/2019	4/7/2021

CATEGORY OF CONDUCT: (check one)

Unnecessary Force	Racial Bias
<u>X</u>	

FINDING OF FACT: (brief summary of complaint and investigation)

On April 11, 2019, RPD officers responded to a call for service involving a suspected home invasion, which dispatch later updated to a subject armed with a knife who had stabbed a family member. This call was ultimately determined to be a domestic violence call involving the father, Luc Ciel, who stabbed his son and wife. When officers arrived, the suspect, Luc Ciel, was located inside the residence, armed with a hunting knife and trying to stab his children. His wife left the resident covered in blood, and officers quickly entered and confronted Ciel. Ciel ignored officers’ verbal commands to drop the knife, began advancing on officers and his child, and was shot by three uniformed officers. Ciel died at the scene from the gunshot wounds inflicted by the officers’ gunshots.

The evidence clearly showed that the first two officers who entered and fired upon Ciel faced an imminent threat of deadly force by Ciel against his children and officers. The third officer to fire shots at Ciel entered after the other officers had fired, and Ciel lay face down on the ground, unmoving. The third officer fired immediately upon seeing Ciel and without pausing to assess the situation fully.

The Commission found that the first two officers who fired at Ciel faced an imminent threat of death to the children and themselves. Therefore, they should be “**Exonerated**” of using unreasonable force.

The Commission further found that, for the third officer who fired at Ciel, it was unclear whether the deadly force used was reasonable. Nevertheless, the Commission could not find that the force was unreasonable by clear and convincing evidence, as required by the CPRC Ordinance. The Commission therefore found that for this officer, the finding should be “**Not Sustained.**”

RECOMMENDED FINDINGS: (check one)

<u>SUSTAINED</u>	<u>NOT-SUSTAINED</u>	<u>UNFOUNDED</u>	<u>EXONERATED</u>
	<u>X</u>		<u>X X</u>