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NEWS RELEASE  
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### **STATE ATTORNEY'S MEETING WITH THE FAMILY OF SALAYTHIS MELVIN**

ORLANDO, FL – Today, State Attorney Monique Worrell met with the family of Mr. Salaythis Melvin to address the status of the ongoing investigation of the deputy-involved shooting that resulted in the death of Mr. Melvin on August 7, 2020, outside of Florida Mall. While there has been no determination concerning this critical incident, we sought to provide the family with an opportunity to speak with the Office to address any questions they may have.

As outlined in the Officer-Involved Critical Incident Policy, investigations of officer-involved critical incidents must be objectively examined. Utilizing an agency not affiliated with the incident will reassure the public that the investigation was conducted without bias or direct connection to the officer(s) involved. As such, the law enforcement agencies in the Ninth Judicial Circuit have designated the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (“FDLE”) as the independent investigative agency in these incidents. In addition, the Office will conduct an independent investigation alongside FDLE in all *future* cases. This is important.

It is important to understand that while this case has been investigated by other agencies for eight months, this investigation has only been investigated by the Office of the State Attorney since January 5, 2021, when State Attorney Worrell took office. As such, the State Attorney will continue independently investigating this case in accordance with the Officer-Involved Critical Incident Policy. We will use FDLE’s findings, in addition to any newly discovered evidence. We want to be clear in stating that no determinations have been made and we are still actively investigating this critical incident. If there are any witnesses with information on this case, we ask that you contact the State Attorney’s Office immediately.

For general media inquiries, please contact: [PIO@sao9.org](mailto:PIO@sao9.org).

For media records request, please contact: [mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org](mailto:mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org).

For specific media inquiries pertaining to State Attorney Monique Worrell, please contact Keisha Mulfort at [kmulfort@sao9.org](mailto:kmulfort@sao9.org).