

Judicial Grievance – Acquittal of Officer Connor Grubb / Killing of Ta’Kiya Young

SUBMISSION ADDRESS

Court of Appeals of Ohio – Tenth Appellate District
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Recommended Submission Method: Certified Mail addressed to the Clerk of Courts.
Electronic submissions vary by attorney status; pro se filers should submit by mail unless otherwise directed.

To the Honorable Judges of the Tenth District Court of Appeals:

This judicial grievance is submitted concerning the acquittal of Officer Connor Grubb in the killing of Ta’Kiya Young and her unborn child. This filing seeks judicial and oversight review of constitutional violations, officer-created jeopardy, failures of proportionality in use-of-force determinations, and systemic concerns regarding the administration of justice that undermine public trust and equal protection guarantees.

Ta’Kiya Young lost her life following an encounter rooted in an alleged shoplifting accusation—an offense that, under all constitutional standards, does not justify escalation to deadly force. Rather than follow accepted policing practices, Officer Grubb placed himself directly in front of Ms. Young’s vehicle, creating a lethal hazard where none existed. This constitutes textbook **officer-created jeopardy**, a prohibited deviation from constitutional policing norms recognized nationwide.

Under clearly established law, officers must avoid positioning themselves in the path of a moving vehicle when safer alternatives exist. Documenting the license plate, collecting surveillance footage, and issuing a summons would have resolved the situation without loss of life. Officer Grubb’s actions instead escalated an otherwise nonviolent encounter into a fatal confrontation.

In *Tennessee v. Garner*, 471 U.S. 1 (1985), the Supreme Court held that lethal force is unconstitutional unless a suspect poses an immediate threat of death or serious bodily harm. Ta’Kiya Young did not meet that standard. She was not a violent felon, and any perceived threat resulted solely from Officer Grubb’s decision to stand in front of her vehicle.

In *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989), the Court established that use-of-force assessments must reflect the actions of a *reasonable officer* following constitutional boundaries—not an officer who manufactures the justification for lethal force through reckless positioning or tactical violations.

Serious systemic questions arise regarding:

- Whether the acquittal misapplied constitutional use-of-force doctrine
- Whether officer-created jeopardy was ignored or improperly excluded
- Whether less intrusive alternatives were considered

- Whether implicit bias or disparate impact affected charging, prosecution, or adjudication
- Whether existing policing standards were applied consistently with state and federal law

This grievance respectfully requests that the Court or appropriate oversight authorities:

1. Conduct a review of the acquittal record for constitutional and procedural deficiencies.
2. Evaluate whether officer-created jeopardy was improperly disregarded.
3. Assess whether the use of deadly force comported with *Garner*, *Graham*, and widely accepted policing standards.
4. Determine whether systemic biases or unequal application of law contributed to the outcome.
5. Recommend corrective measures or referral to oversight bodies to prevent future violations.

Ta'Kiya Young's death was preventable. Her children deserve accountability, and the public deserves assurance that deadly force is not justified by officer-created danger or unlawful escalation. This grievance is submitted in the interest of justice, constitutional fidelity, and the protection of civil rights.

Respectfully submitted,

[Your Name]
[Your City, State]
[Your Email Address]
[Date]