



**STEPHEN B. RUSSELL**  
*Office of the State Attorney*  
*20th Judicial Circuit*

**Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee**

March 23, 2017

The State Attorney's Office has completed the review of the shooting death of Ryan Modell that occurred on March 20, 2016 in Lee County. Our office has been in contact with Sandy Modell, the father of Ryan Modell, through the family attorney, Mark O'Mara. Previously, Mr. O'Mara had requested that all communication regarding our review of this incident be directed to him and this office complied with that request.

Assistant State Attorney Daniel Feinberg of the Homicide Unit thoroughly reviewed all of the facts and evidence as presented by the Lee County Sheriff's Office investigation. Additionally, he reviewed information provided to him by a private investigator hired by the Modell family.

After considering all of the evidence, it has been determined that the application of Florida's "Stand Your Ground" law is appropriate and justifies the use of deadly force by James Taylor. Mr. Taylor was defending himself and his wife at his residence in the very early morning hours of March 20 when he shot Ryan Modell. A comprehensive review of the facts and conclusions are contained in the attached memorandum.

There is a previously scheduled appointment with Mr. O'Mara and Mr. Modell in the near future to discuss our conclusions in greater detail privately. This review has been provided to them.

The State Attorney's Office wishes to express our deepest condolences to the Modell family over the tragic death of Ryan.

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