

Shooting of 17-year-old Cyrus Green justified, fatality inquiry finds

BY BRENT WITTMER, EDMONTON JOURNAL AUGUST 18, 2014 11:38 AM



Cyrus Green was shot dead by police after a robbery incident in February 2011.

Photograph by: Bruce Edwards, Bruce Edwards

Police had no choice but to shoot 17-year-old Cyrus Green, a fatality inquiry into the teen's death has found.

Green died after police shot him three times around 4:30 a.m. on Feb. 5, 2011, following a robbery call near the Coliseum LRT Station.

At hearings in March, officers testified about the confrontation, which happened in an alley near 118th Avenue and Wayne Gretzky Drive. Green refused to drop a knife and baseball bat, officers testified, yelling, "You're going to have to shoot me," before sprinting toward Const. Jack Redlick.

The officer pulled the trigger three times from roughly three metres away. The teen collapsed at Redlick's feet.

In a fatality inquiry report released Monday, Judge Robert Philp ruled Redlick's actions were justified and that he made a "reasonable conclusion" in assessing Green as a lethal threat. Philp's report offered no recommendations.

“There is nothing to recommend that would prevent similar deaths,” Philp ruled. “The officers in the circumstance were faced with lethal force and could only respond with lethal force.”

An investigation by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team also cleared Redlick of wrongdoing in December 2011.

Green’s family has sued police and been deeply critical of the investigation. The lawyer representing Green’s mother argued Redlick’s testimony was contradictory and alleged Redlick fabricated testimony that the grievously wounded Green told Redlick to shoot him again. The lawyer for Green’s father criticized police for failing to find an aboriginal investigator to look into Green’s death.

Fatality inquiries are automatic in cases of police-involved killings.

bwittmeier@edmontonjournal.com

twitter.com/wittmeier

© Copyright (c) The Edmonton Journal

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)



Cyrus Green was shot dead by police after a robbery incident in February 2011.

Photograph by: Bruce Edwards, Bruce Edwards

