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For Immediate Release

Re: Murder Acquittal of Former Bastrop County Sheriff's Deputy Daniel Willis

I am please to announce that after hearing 7 days of evidence in this case, the Honorable Albert M. McCaig, Jr., sitting by assignment in Bastrop County, acquitted Daniel Willis of the offense of Murder.

This verdict of "Not Guilty" sends a strong and direct message that the Court recognizes that, although any death is tragic, officers are often forced to make split-second judgments in circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving.

The shooting of Yvette Smith, although unfortunate, was objectively reasonable and fully justified given the information that Daniel Willis knew at the time he was forced to act.

This acquittal brings closure to this dark event that has haunted Daniel Willis for the past two years and we hope that he can now move on with his life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. McCabe', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert M. McCabe
Attorney for Daniel Willis