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**PRESS RELEASE** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On behalf of the Texas Municipal Police Association, I have been retained to represent Schertz Police Officer Frank Chavarria concerning his involvement in the arrest of Zekee Rayford on November 2, 2020.

Mr. Rayford could have made the legal and rational choice to stop when the police attempted to pull him over for running a red light. Instead, he elevated what was a simple traffic stop into a dangerous vehicle pursuit. Mr. Rayford could have safely stopped at any point and ended this encounter with the police immediately. He chose not to do so and made the voluntary choice to evade police all the way to his home. Mr. Rayford could have exited the vehicle at that point and surrendered to the officers. Instead, he fled on foot in an attempt to escape responsibility for his crimes, including felony evading in a motor vehicle.

Mr. Rayford unjustly and unnecessarily fled from police and endangered the citizens of Schertz and the lives of the officers because he wanted to escape accountability for his criminal deeds. Mr. Rayford has an extensive and disturbing criminal history and a continued pattern of criminal behavior and should be held accountable for his conduct. Mr. Rayford appears to now be simply looking to blame others for his poor choices, shake down the City of Schertz for a payout and pressure the District Attorney to show leniency on him.

The officers’ pursuit of Mr. Rayford was lawful, as was their use of force against him and we expect a full, fair and just result from this investigation.

Robert M. McCabe

Attorney for Frank Chavarria