



Dear Sheriff Weekly,

We are reaching out in the wake of District Attorney George Brauchler's decision not to file charges against Deputy Nicholas Moore for the killing of 23-year-old Jalin Seabron. While we strongly condemn DA Brauchler's decision, we also urge you—as the **highest-ranking officer in the Douglas County Sheriff's Office—to take meaningful action and ensure Deputy Moore is terminated from his position.** You have the authority and the responsibility to act in the interest of public safety and community trust. We are calling on you to do the right thing.

Jalin Seabron was a young Black man carrying a firearm in Douglas County, a jurisdiction that actively promotes gun ownership and open carry. In 2014, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners replaced two resolutions banning open carry in county facilities, parks, trails, and open spaces with a new resolution that expressly allows firearms in those same locations. In 2024, your Board of Commissioners further opted out of new state legislation aimed at prohibiting firearms in sensitive spaces—continuing to allow the lawful possession of firearms in county government buildings. This signals a clear and intentional culture of encouraging armed civilian presence in public spaces that has been longstanding in Douglas County.

If Douglas County is going to promote open carry as part of its political identity, then its law enforcement officers must be adequately prepared to respond to complex situations where multiple individuals may legally have weapons drawn—particularly during active-shooter incidents. The right to bear arms—especially in a county that rejects more restrictive state firearm laws—cannot depend on who an officer feels afraid of. Fear is not neutral; it is shaped by race, bias, and perception. Too often, that fear is weaponized to justify killing Black people for actions that would not raise suspicion if done by someone white. When an officer arrives on scene and shoots someone simply for possessing a firearm, the risk of killing a person who is not a public threat—like Jalin—skyrockets. That risk is even greater for Black individuals, who are disproportionately criminalized and misidentified as threats.

There is no excuse for Deputy Moore's actions. Jalin never fired his weapon. He was defending himself from armed individuals who were pursuing him and his pregnant partner, a fact that has been overshadowed by racialized assumptions about Black gun ownership. **It is unacceptable that Deputy Moore, after killing two people in less than three years, is still on the force—let alone training other deputies.**

According to national data, 80% of officers involved in officer involved shootings had never previously discharged their weapon on duty. Only 15% had one prior incident. That means Deputy Moore falls into a category comprising just 15% of all officers involved in shootings. Furthermore, 78.5% of people shot by police sustain injuries, but only 34% of those injuries

result in death. **Yet both times Deputy Moore discharged his weapon, he killed someone. This is not normal. This is not acceptable. This is a pattern.**

Keeping Deputy Moore on your force—particularly in a training capacity—sends the message that repeated use of deadly force is acceptable and encouraged. Firing him would be the first step toward ensuring that the Douglas County Sheriff's Office is aligned with the community's safety.

We urge you to:

- **Immediately terminate Deputy Nicholas Moore's employment** based on his repeated involvement in deadly force incidents;
- **Review and reform use-of-force training and policy** to reflect the unique challenges posed by legal open carry in Douglas County.
- **Implement comprehensive de-escalation training** that prepares deputies to assess and respond to active-shooter situations involving armed individuals.

We understand that permissive open carry laws make law enforcement work more complex and high-risk. That difficulty only increases in jurisdictions like Douglas County, where such laws are actively promoted. But it is your responsibility to ensure your deputies are held to the standards those laws require. **Jalin Seabron's life mattered. The refusal to hold his killer accountable in a court of law does not absolve the Douglas County Sheriff's Office of its duty to act. The community is watching, and your decision will show whether your department chooses justice—or protects impunity.**

Sincerely,
Denver Justice Project