

From: Adams, Chaney
To: Pardue, Doug <dpardue@postandcourier.com>
Date: 6/15/2015 4:38:01 PM
Subject: RE: Question

The governor will take a close look at the study.

From: Pardue, Doug [<mailto:dpardue@postandcourier.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 10:32 AM
To: Adams, Chaney
Subject: Question

Chaney,

Here's a question for which we need an answer from Gov. Haley.

A couple of weeks ago we ran a series called "Shots Fired" in which we analyzed all 245 SLED investigation of police-involved shootings for the last six years.

postandcourier.com/shots-fired

In a quick summary, the series found that SLED's investigations tilt in favor of police. Not only are officers given a couple of days – often more, to give their side of the story. They often didn't even undergo questioning and simply submit a statement or their account. In addition, while the people the officers shoot at are given thorough background checks, including criminal and traffic, the reports show no indication that the officers' backgrounds are checked, including no checks of any disciplinary reports, which might indicate propensity toward use of deadly force. The only backgrounds done on the officers are checks on firearms proficiency and criminal justice academy attendance.

The newspaper's report also revealed several questionable shootings where officers fire their guns into the cars of fleeing suspects. In one case a child was in the car along with an innocent hitchhiker.

My question: In light of these findings about SLED's investigations of police-involved shootings, and considering that the Governor has promoted using SLED as an independent investigator of such shootings does the Governor plan to ask SLED to conduct more thorough investigations – including background investigations of the officers involved?

Thanks,
Doug

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