



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **RESPONSE TO ACLU STATEMENTS**

The Denver District Attorney's Office continues to have the most open, transparent protocol regarding officer-involved shooting reviews in the country.

Numerous statements by Mark Silverstein of the ACLU today regarding the Denver District Attorney officer-involved shooting protocol are wrong and misleading.

Changes by the City of Denver (enacted by ordinance) that created a Citizen Oversight Board and an independent police monitor prompted adjustments by the Denver District Attorney's protocol in 2005 which are outlined in a memo by DA Mitch Morrissey dated October 28, 2005 and which are explained fully in a protocol that has been posted on the DA's web site for at least a year:  
[http://www.denverda.org/News\\_Release/Officer-involved\\_shooting\\_investigations.htm](http://www.denverda.org/News_Release/Officer-involved_shooting_investigations.htm)

The responsibility for an exhaustive in-depth written review letter of officer-involved shootings in Denver now lies with the Denver Manager of Safety, following the completion of an administrative review. The DA's office adjusted to this new process by issuing a decision letter regarding the *criminal review* of police shootings are now somewhat briefer and allow the administrative review to begin more quickly. The DA's decision letters are now somewhat briefer as a result.

The DA's office, to protect the integrity of the administrative review, has agreed to open our copy of the investigative file once that administrative process and written review have been completed.