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PRESS STATEMENT

SETTLEMENT REACHED IN EURIE STAMPS CASE

FRAMINGHAM, MA - The Town of Framingham announced today that its insurance underwriter reached a settlement agreement with the estate and family of Eurie Stamps in the amount of \$3.75 million, settling all claims against the Town stemming from the tragic 2011 accidental shooting of Mr. Stamps that led to his death.

In announcing the settlement, the Board of Selectmen recognized that no sum of money will compensate for the grief, sorrow, and loss experienced by the Stamps family.

Selectmen Chairman, Cheryl Tully Stoll said, "My heart goes out to the Stamps family. There is nothing we can do that will make up for the tragic death of Mr. Stamps. I pray that the family will someday be able to move forward and find peace."

The Town was represented by legal counsel assigned by its insurance company, the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA), as stipulated in the Town's coverage policy. While the attorneys for MIIA took the lead in the defense of the Town, the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Chief of Police, and Town Counsel were active participants throughout the case and consistently voiced their belief that the Stamps family had suffered a tragic loss and should be treated with respect, dignity and fairness. The Town Counsel actively participated in the mediation that led to this settlement.

Town Counsel Christopher Petrini said that "Of the hundreds of cases I have handled as Town Counsel since 2001, this case has been the most troubling. While a financial settlement cannot fully compensate the Stamps family for their loss, I hope this settlement and the dismissal of the case will help the family achieve some degree of closure from this difficult experience."

In the years since this tragic accident the Town and the Police Department have worked hard to learn from this tragedy and to take steps to ensure that it not occur again.

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Among the steps taken by the Town and the Framingham Police Department since the loss of Mr. Stamps' life are:

1. It disbanded the Framingham Police Department SWAT Team and now collaborates with the SWAT Team of the Massachusetts State Police.
2. Both the Town of Framingham and the Framingham Police Department participate in a partnership with the Framingham Comes Together initiative organized by the Framingham Interfaith Clergy Association to improve racial understanding.
3. The Framingham Police Department is exploring a pilot program in the use of body cameras and the introduction of TASERS as an alternative to firearms

Chief Kenneth Ferguson stated, "This has been an extremely difficult time for the Stamps family; no amount of financial compensation can replace a lost loved one. The Framingham Police Department has provided additional training to our officers and will continue to do so. Our goal is to provide the highest level of police services to the residents of Framingham and to prevent as much as humanly possible any other family from experiencing the sorrow that the Stamps family has endured."

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