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For Immediate Release

Romulus Mother Acted in Self-Defense in Stabbing of 16-Year-Old Son

Prosecutor Kym Worthy has determined that a Romulus mother will not be charged in connection with the non-fatal stabbing of her 16-year-old son. On Monday October 10, 2016 at 6:15 p.m., the Romulus Police Department received two calls that a 45-year-old mother was having a domestic dispute with her son at their home located in the 6000 block of Chamberlain Street. Officers were dispatched to the location and when they arrived, they observed a 16-year-old male bleeding from his leg while his mother was applying pressure to the wound. The 16-year-old was transported by medics to a local hospital where he was treated for his wounds.

The police investigation revealed that on October 10th, the 16-year-old was expelled from school for 180 days and, as a form of punishment, his mother had taken his cell phone and radio from him. Sometime before 6:15 p.m. on the same day, the mother and son had a heated verbal argument. It is alleged that the 16-year-old has a history of assaultive behavior toward other family members. The mother called the Romulus Police Department twice to come to the house to diffuse the situation, but the police did not immediately respond to the location. The mother then called her older son to the home to assist her, but the 16-year-old continued to argue with his mother. Eventually the argument escalated and the 16-year-old grabbed his six-year-old brother in a head lock causing him to cry. The 16-year-old released the child and then began hitting his mother repeatedly in the head and jaw causing her head to bruise and swell. The mother got a knife from the top of the refrigerator in the kitchen to defend herself from the blows when she struck her 16-year-old son twice in the leg and the back. These facts were corroborated by the woman's 15-year-old daughter and her older son.

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After a thorough review of the facts and evidence in the case, it has been determined that no charges will issue. Under the law of self defense, the mother was under no duty to retreat in her own home and she had an honest and reasonable belief that the use of deadly force was necessary to prevent imminent death or imminent great bodily harm when she struck her son twice with the knife. For these reasons the warrant request has been denied.

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