

NEWS SERVICE

JOHN BURRIS PRESS CONFERENCE

Noon Thursday, Oct. 15, outside the Ely home, [4141 Mariposa Dr., Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara.](#)

New evidence in police shooting of Tarzan actor's son; family condemns district attorney's report exonerating deputies

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media: Attorney John Burris, DeWitt Lacy and Ely family members are available for interviews.

AMENDED COMPLAINT & PHOTOGRAPHS

<https://johnburrislaw.com/ely-v-county-of-santa-barbara/>

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., Oct. 15 – Attorneys for the family of Tarzan actor Ron Ely will present new evidence that Santa Barbara County Sheriff's deputies engaged in the unjustified use of deadly force and denial of medical care, resulting in the deaths of Ely's wife and son exactly one year earlier.

At a **noon Thursday press conference** outside their family home, Ely's daughters also will respond to a report from the Santa Barbara District Attorney's office which they say wrongly concluded that the police shooting of their brother Cameron Ely was a justified use of deadly force. Cameron Ely, 30, was shot 22 times and died in the family's backyard. He was unarmed.

A video reconstruction of the events of Oct. 15, 2019, refuting the district attorney's account, will be played for the first time at the press conference, **to be held at [4141 Mariposa Dr., Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara.](#)**

"The deputies engaged in a summary execution of Cameron Ely and intentionally denied lifesaving medical care to Valerie Ely, in contrast with protocol and longstanding practice," said [DeWitt M. Lacy](#), a civil rights attorney with the Law Offices of John L. Burris, which represents the Ely family.

A federal civil rights lawsuit, filed last month, says Santa Barbara County Sheriff's deputies responding to Cameron's 911 call for emergency services that night found Ely's wife Valerie, 62, lying on the floor suffering from multiple stab wounds. Rather than assist, deputies prevented attempts to render aid, the lawsuit says.

Approximately 90 minutes after their arrival, deputies outside the home were contacted by Cameron Ely, who was clearly suffering from severe injuries, the lawsuit says. The former football player began to approach with his hands up when deputies opened fire without warning about 20 seconds later. He was shot 22 times, according to the lawsuit, which adds that Cameron was denied medical aid for at least 13 minutes.

Their deaths were the direct result of “intentional, malicious, extreme, outrageous, wanton, and oppressive conduct” by responding officers, according to the lawsuit.

The Ely family’s lawsuit against Santa Barbara County, the Sheriff’s Office and four named deputies, seeks general and punitive damages in addition to survival, wrongful death, and other compensatory damages to be determined by a jury.

The complaint, 2:20-cv-06549-DMG-SK, was filed Sept. 25 in U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Los Angeles.

PRESS CONFERENCE

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On-site media contact is John Burris (510) 928-5392

About Attorney John Burris

***John Burris** who is featured in the current ABA Journal is an American civil rights attorney, based in Oakland, California, with offices in Beverly Hills is known for his work in police brutality cases representing plaintiffs. Clients included Rodney King, Oscar Grant, Willie McCoy and Sean Monterrosa.*

About DeWitt M. Lacy

***DeWitt M. Lacy** has been practicing civil rights law for over a decade, joining the Law Office of John L. Burris in 2011. He has significant experience in civil rights litigation, police abuse, employment discrimination, and personal injury matters.*