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**A Message from the Attorney General's Office**

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**From** Attorney General's Office <ncago@ncdoj.gov>

Tue, May 07, 2019 04:44 PM

**Subject** Message from the Attorney General's Office**To** : pooker@atmc.net**Reply-To** reply@ncdoj.govExternal images are not displayed. [Display images below](#)

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May 7, 2019

Dear Mr. Parker:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the death of Brandon Webster. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Like you, I am saddened by the tragic loss of Brandon Webster. Law enforcement use of force is an area of great concern for many, and one that I take seriously. After conducting a thorough review of the actions taken by North Carolina State Highway Patrol Trooper Scott Collins, however, I determined that the evidence showed Trooper Collins acted reasonably in the face of a deadly threat. A reasonable officer in the same situation would have reasonably believed that the truck, rapidly accelerating toward him, posed an imminent threat of deadly physical force.

When the life of an officer or other person is threatened, an officer may reasonably respond with force in self-defense or the defense of others. I remain committed to training law enforcement officers in de-escalation techniques and other strategies to avoid the use of force whenever possible.

As Attorney General, protecting the people of North Carolina is my top priority. If you'd like to discuss this matter further, please contact my Special Deputy Attorney General and Director of Public Protection, Jasmine McGhee, at [JMcghee@ncdoj.gov](mailto:JMcghee@ncdoj.gov). Hearing views from people across the state helps me better do my job as your Attorney General. Again, thank you for contacting me, and please continue to keep in touch on matters of concern.

Sincerely,

Josh Stein  
Attorney General of North Carolina

JS/cc