



Monday, June 1, 2026

Statement issued from Shelby City Manager, Justin Merritt

Officer involved incident on Friday, May 29, 2026

“Our Police Department has been working in full cooperation with the State Bureau of Investigation throughout the weekend as they investigate the tragic incident involving a now former Officer of the Shelby Police Department.

The SBI (*State Bureau of Investigation*) has now completed their initial investigation. Karson Hyder has been charged with Misdemeanor Assault Inflicting Serious Injury. Mr. Hyder turned himself in to the Cleveland County Detention Center at 10:00am, where he was processed and released on a \$10,000 secured bond.

As you all know, this incident has sent shockwaves throughout our community. I understand these concerns and we will work to address those questions and concerns over the coming days and weeks. We are committed to full transparency and community engagement, as we work to restore the trust we have spent decades building.

As we move forward, I ask that our Shelby Police Department and its Officers not be judged by the actions of one individual. The actions seen in the video circulating on social media are horrific and do not reflect the training or protocols of our Department. Our officers are trained to serve with compassion, honesty, teamwork, integrity, professionalism and respect. We will continue to reinforce these values and live them through our actions every day. If we fail to meet these

standards, we will hold ourselves accountable and take the appropriate corrective actions.

I also want to thank the community for their support as we have navigated this difficult time.

This is an ongoing SBI investigation and I am limited in what I can say, however, if Council has any questions, I am happy to address them, as best I can.”