

October 21, 2025

State Attorney William Scheiner Office of the State Attorney 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building D Viera, FL,32940

RE: Formal Complaint regarding Investigation of Incident and Death

Date of Incidents: 5/6/24 and 1/11/25

Involved Parties: Decedent, Mark Senti, Defendants Gavin Smith and Warrick Smith Location: Ichabod's Dockside Restaurant, 2210 Front St., Melbourne, FL 32901

Dear State Attorney Scheiner,

Please be advised that I represent the Estate of Mark Senti in the civil wrongful death and negligence action arising from the violent assault that occurred at Ichabod's Dockside Restaurant on May 6, 2024, and Mr. Senti's tragic and premature death on January 11, 2025. In addition to representing the Estate, I have been retained by the Senti Family to submit a formal complaint to both the Melbourne Police Department and the Office of the State Attorney for the 18th Judicial Circuit regarding the serious mishandling of the criminal investigation into this matter.

It has become abundantly clear that both the Melbourne Police Department and the Office of the State Attorney have failed in their duties to fully and properly investigate and prosecute Warrick Smith and Gavin Smith for the crimes committed against Mark Senti on May 6, 2024. The cumulative effect of these failures has denied justice to Mark Senti and to his family and undermines public confidence in our criminal justice system.

As you are aware, on May 6, 2024, Mr. Senti was brutally assaulted by Gavin Smith and Warrick Smith, as clearly captured on video surveillance in the possession of both the Melbourne Police Department and your office. Despite the indisputable evidence of a violent battery, no arrests have ever been made for the crimes committed against Mark Senti, despite Mark's wishes and intent to pursue criminal charges against Warrick Smith and Gavin Smith.

Strangely, Officer Hamilton with the Melbourne Police Department completed a capias request for battery against Warrick Smith, and additional charges were prepared against Gavin Smith. Yet, these charges were never filed on behalf of Mr. Senti, even though law enforcement was fully aware of his desire for prosecution. The reasons for this omission remain unclear. To date,

your office has not provided any information regarding the non-arrest case against Warrick Smith, nor any justification as to why Gavin Smith was never charged in the first place.

On June 14, 2024, the Senti Family wrote to your office urging prosecution of Gavin Smith and Warrick Smith. Following that letter, one of your Assistant State Attorneys spoke with Mark's son, Wade Senti. During that conversation, Wade Senti provided detailed information regarding the May 6, 2024 attack and the severity of Mark Senti's injuries. Your Assistant State Attorney advised that your office "had everything they needed" and the investigation was well under way, leading the Senti Family to believe that formal charges were forthcoming. Despite your office acknowledging the severity of Mark's injuries and confirming your office had sufficient evidence to move forward, no prosecution followed.

In July 2024, I personally spoke with the same Assistant State Attorney and provided additional detailed medical documentation regarding the traumatic brain injury, broken jaw, and other severe injuries that Mark sustained at the hands of his assailants. Again, no prosecution of Warrick Smith or Gavin Smith followed.

On January 11, 2025, Mark Senti succumbed to the injuries he suffered during the May 6, 2024, assault, and died.

Nearly a year later, in May 2025, Detective Harrison was belatedly assigned to revisit the case. To avoid delay, I personally supplied your office with Mr. Senti's complete medical records. Despite multiple meetings in August of 2025 between the Senti family, Detective Harrison, and Assistant State Attorney, Ann Perrin, and myself, no action was taken.

Then, on September 8, 2025, to the shock and dismay of both the Senti family, myself, and the entire Brevard County community, Detective Harrison issued a report finding "no probable cause" and closed this case. Such a conclusion, in light of the egregious facts and evidence, is legally indefensible and only further substantiates the mishandling of this case. To conclude no probable cause in this case defies both law and logic.

Under Article V, Section 17 of the Florida Constitution, the State Attorney serves as "the prosecuting officer of all trial courts in that circuit" and bears the solemn duty to seek justice on behalf of the People of the State of Florida. That duty demands that those who commit violent acts be held accountable under the law, not shielded by inaction.

The discretion afforded to your office in determining whether to prosecute must be exercised in good faith and based on a complete, competent, and unbiased investigation. That standard was not met in this case. The Senti family and the citizens of Brevard County deserve better than a cursory finding of "no probable cause" when overwhelming video and medical evidence demonstrate that a violent crime occurred, resulting in the ultimate death of a man who contributed immeasurably to this community.

Before his untimely death, Mark Senti was a beloved father, grandfather, entrepreneur, and community leader in Florida's Space Coast for more than three decades. As the founder and owner of Advanced Magnet Lab, Inc. (AML), Mr. Senti was a visionary in technology and

innovation, contributing substantially to the advancement of magnetic and superconducting systems. His achievements were recognized nationally — he received a Congressional Special Recognition Lifetime Achievement in Technology Award (2015) and was named Business Leader of the Year (2017) by *Space Coast Business Magazine*. His sudden and preventable death has left an immeasurable void in the lives of his loved ones and in the broader Brevard County community.

Due to the failure to properly investigate and prosecute this case, the Senti family continues to suffer not only the profound loss, but also ongoing emotional anguish knowing that the individuals responsible for Mark's death have not been held accountable. The denial of justice has compounded their grief, leaving them with the painful understanding that the system meant to protect and advocate for victims failed entirely.

As such, on behalf of the Estate of Mark Senti and his family, we respectfully request that your office reopen and review this case for prosecution. We further request that it be assigned to a Senior Assistant State Attorney not previously involved to ensure independent and objective evaluation.

Failure to prosecute the cases against Warrick Smith and Gavin Smith sends a dangerous message that justice is discretionary and that some lives are less worthy of protection. That cannot be the legacy of your office. The role of the State Attorney is not to shield law enforcement from scrutiny, but to pursue justice on behalf of the People of the State of Florida.

Please provide written confirmation within thirty (30) days that this case will be reopened for review and prosecution. If no such action is taken, the family will consider all available avenues for oversight and public redress.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Alexa A. Moia, Esq.

Attorney for the Estate of Mark Senti