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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 25, 2026

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S STATEMENT ON OFFICER FRANCIS COLLIER**

We are deeply troubled by the tragic and disturbing developments involving Officer Francis Collier, who had been charged with Rape of a Child, Aggravated Indecent Assault of a Child, and other serious sexual offenses. These allegations represent profound violations of trust and have doubtlessly caused unfathomable harm.

Mr. Collier is now deceased following an officer-involved incident in which he reportedly engaged in actions that led to what has been described as "suicide by cop." This occurred in Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, and our office is not involved in any resulting investigation. While the criminal process will no longer move forward, the impact of these events remains very real for those affected.

"Although the defendant's death brings the criminal case to an end, it does not erase the seriousness of the allegations or the harm that he caused. We recognize the immense courage it takes to speak out, and we remain committed to supporting survivors." said District Attorney Tanner Rouse.

We want to thank the Office of the Attorney General, who played the lead role in investigating these allegations. We sincerely value our partnership and the collaboration that helped ensure all necessary actions were taken.

We understand that this news may bring a range of complex emotions including anger, grief, frustration, and confusion. Anyone impacted by these circumstances is encouraged to seek support from trusted resources, loved ones, or professional services. As always, we remain committed to supporting survivors, promoting accountability, and protecting the well-being of our community.

**RAINN's National Sexual Assault Hotline:** 800-656-HOPE

**Friends for Survival – Suicide Loss Support Helpline:** 800-646-7322

For press inquiries, please contact Kelly Wilson – Public Relations Director, Delaware County District Attorney's Office, 610-891-4185.

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