

Subject: Dana Jones homicide complaint
From: Lisa Jones [REDACTED]
To: Anitra.Dempsey@longbeach.gov;
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 12:36 PM

Dear Ms. Dempsey -- I would like to initiate a citizen police complaint in reference to coroner case #201401724. There's a homicide victim in Long Beach named Dana Jones, and a grossly negligent homicide investigator in the Long Beach Police Department. As a result, there is a dead woman, a coroner case, and a botched police investigation.

Dana sustained a severe, skull-fracturing blow to the back of her head on Monday, March 3, 2014. Her husband claimed that she sustained the injury while doing yoga at home in an accidental fall that no one witnessed.

Dana never regained consciousness. She was officially declared brain dead on Tuesday, March 4th. Dr. [REDACTED], the vascular surgeon who treated Dana's wounds at St. Mary hospital in Long Beach, alerted police that the husband's story was not consistent with Dana's injuries, and Dana's death was no accident.

On the night of March 4th, approximately one dozen patrol cars and other police vehicles with detectives went to Dana's house at [REDACTED] in Long Beach. What happened next was a jaw-dropping display of investigative incompetence.

Dana's husband [REDACTED] a.k.a. [REDACTED] a.k.a. [REDACTED] a.k.a. [REDACTED] arrived at the house along with my brother [REDACTED]. I followed them from the hospital in a separate car with my parents. Dana Jones was my older sister and lifelong best friend.

Upon arrival at the house, [REDACTED] boasted to police that the whole house was wired and that there were cameras everywhere. It was a super cool "smart home," he said. My brother told me that he remembered thinking [REDACTED] should just keep his mouth shut. But [REDACTED] would not shut up. [REDACTED] kept talking about how technologically advanced his house was, and police became very interested in learning about the fantastic camera setup Huck was describing.

In fact, the cameras captured only selective views of the interior and exterior, and no one -- especially not Dana -- ever understood why [REDACTED] had designed and installed such an expensive and mostly useless security camera system in the first place. [REDACTED] is an expert in the design and installation of home electronics.

Notably, there was no camera monitoring the room in which the alleged accident occurred.

[REDACTED] directed the attention of investigators to the home camera system -- a system that [REDACTED] alone had designed, installed, monitored, and managed. Police investigators focused on the cameras to the exclusion of everything else. Police were willfully blind to homicide evidence that was right in front of their eyes.

Yesterday, March 10, 2014, I spoke at length with Detective Johnson from Long Beach homicide. The detective told me that there was no case and no further investigation because the video from the cameras appeared to corroborate [REDACTED]'s version of events. The bulk of my conversation with Detective Johnson involved my telling him about evidence that he had ignored.

[REDACTED] gave my family and me a tour of the scene of Dana's alleged accident on the night of March 5th, the day after Detective Johnson and police had searched the house. I was able to see for myself Detective Johnson's astounding negligence.

For example, approximately one dozen free-weight dumbbells with octagonal edges were visible on the floor next to the exterior door of the room where the alleged accident happened.

Nurse [REDACTED] at St. Mary hospital had walked my family and me through a series of scans of Dana's brain. The

nurse reported that Dana had sustained a heavy blow with significant force to fracture her skull. There were two points, located an inch or so apart, where the impact appeared to be greatest. The nurse reported that doctors had surgically repaired a deep laceration in Dana's scalp that was in the shape of an upsidedown "L." How could investigators see the dumbbells and not instantly suspect that one of them could've inflicted the wounds described to us by Nurse [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

I recorded a video of the room that night and observed and photographed what appeared to be, possibly, dried blood on one of the dumbbells. [REDACTED] had already scrubbed Dana's blood from the floor so vigorously that, in patches, the decorative stain on the concrete floor had been worn away. Detective Johnson said that he saw this, too, but did not find it unusual. Several yoga pads were visible in the room but [REDACTED] claimed that Dana had been doing yoga on a concrete floor without a pad. Detective Johnson said that he believed Dana had fallen and hit her head on the bare floor, despite what [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had documented about Dana's injuries.

Further, I asked where all the blood had gone. Dr. [REDACTED] told me that Dana's wound would have bled profusely. Detective Johnson said that it had been trash day on Dana's street, so anything with blood would've been taken away in the trash before police got there. I asked why police had not examined the contents of two large, white trash bags on the floor of the master bedroom closet. [REDACTED] pointed out the bags to me twice, oddly, saying that he was supposed to put them out on the curb for clothing donation pick-up on the morning Dana sustained the fatal blow.

I pointed out to Detective Johnson that those bags would've been a good place to hide bloody clothes or towels -- hidden in plain sight. Detective Johnson told me that police had photographed the scene thoroughly. But they did not look in the bags.

As Detective Johnson talked with [REDACTED] on the night of March 4th, I spoke with Officer Stephan Richie at the scene. I said that, knowing everything I know about Dana and her relationship with [REDACTED], her injury was not an accident but had probably been meticulously planned, and the murder motive was money. I do not know if my statement was ever communicated to Detective Johnson.

In my conversation with Detective Johnson yesterday, I told him that I believe [REDACTED] motive for killing Dana was financial gain. Detective Johnson dismissed this immediately, saying that Dana had a life insurance policy, but it was "14 years old." How Detective Johnson discovered or verified this information, I do not know. To my knowledge, this is not factual. She had a life insurance policy, but I think it was issued fairly recently.

I informed Detective Johnson that on the night of March 5th, I scooped up many of Dana's financial documents -- tax returns, bank statements, etc. -- from her house and stuffed them in my bag. A financial planning document from a meeting that Dana and [REDACTED] had with an advisor in 2011 conservatively estimated Dana's personal net worth at \$445,000 and rising. From these documents I learned that [REDACTED] has not worked and has not earned income in at least the past six years. For the past two years Dana and [REDACTED] have filed tax returns jointly and [REDACTED] occupation is specified as "not working." I have not yet examined all the papers I gathered.

I asked Detective Johnson why I was able to put my hands on such detailed personal financial records at a crime scene that he had investigated just a day earlier, and from which he had supposedly collected all relevant information. I don't recall that he answered this question.

I told Detective Johnson that I have spent the past week speaking with medical staff as well as friends and clients of Dana. I have a list of seven people who are not family members who are willing to speak with investigators regarding various topics such as: [REDACTED] strange affect presented to medical staff on the day Dana was brought to the hospital, the history of violence and controlling behavior in Dana and [REDACTED]'s relationship, fibs and inconsistencies in [REDACTED]'s accounts regarding events surrounding Dana's death, Dana's physical fitness and state of mind in the weeks and days prior to her death, questions raised before her death about the nature and purpose of the home security cameras, and more. I told Detective Johnson that I could put him in touch with these people. He declined this information.

Detective Johnson told me that the only way he could make an arrest at this point was if someone came in and confessed to murder.

There is a dead woman, a coroner case, and a botched police investigation.

Please look into it.

Best,
Lisa Jones



**RESPONSES FROM CPCC and LBPD
INTERNAL AFFAIRS attached (scroll down)**



CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

CITIZEN POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSION

333 West Ocean Boulevard, 13th Floor • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6891 • FAX (562) 570-7613

PATRICK H. WEST
City Manager

ANITRA DEMPSEY
Executive Director

July 9, 2014

CPCC: 14-035
IA: CIT2014-0046

Ms. Lisa Jones


Dear Ms. Jones:

Please know that because of the nature of your concern, your allegation of police misconduct was forwarded to the Internal Affairs Division of the Long Beach Police Department. A Citizen Police Complaint Commission (CPCC) investigator independently examined IA's findings. It has been determined by the Police Department's review staff and the CPCC staff that *no further action* will be taken on your complaint because the allegation that officers failed to conduct an investigation was either disproved by independent witnesses or physical evidence.

Although your complaint will not be presented to the commission for formal findings, it will remain in our files and is considered when evaluating overall community/police relations. Should you have additional evidence, witness testimony or new information that you believe will support your claim of police misconduct, it must be submitted within one year of the date when your complaint was originally filed. Your case may be reopened for further investigation, depending on the merit of the submitted facts.

In addition, you can appeal the *No Further Action* determination to the full Commission during Public Session at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The CPCC meets the second Thursday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 333 West Ocean Boulevard, lobby level. Please contact this office if you would like information on addressing the Commission or have questions about the classification of your complaint.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,



ANITRA DEMPSEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CPCC

ADD:cs

Copied: Robert Smith, Commander, LBPD/IA
Jones NFA 14-035 2



CITY OF LONG BEACH

Police Department

400 WEST BROADWAY LONG BEACH CALIFORNIA 90802

Jim McDonnell

Chief of Police

Ref 1.1 IA

July 15, 2014

Lisa Jones


Dear Ms. Jones:

The Internal Affairs Division of the Office of the Chief of Police has investigated your complaint against a member of the Long Beach Police Department received on **March 11, 2014**.

Thank you for bringing this information to our attention. It is Police Department policy to thoroughly investigate every allegation of misconduct. Please keep in mind that personnel issues are confidential by law. Each case is reviewed for violations of Department Rules and Regulations and appropriate action is taken as necessary. In addition, complaints made by members of the public are reviewed by the independent Citizen Police Complaint Commission (CPCC). The CPCC will notify you at the conclusion of their review of your complaint.

We continually strive to provide the best possible service to all who live in, work in, and visit the City of Long Beach. The input we receive from those we serve is instrumental in our efforts. Should you have any questions, please call the Internal Affairs Division at (562) 570-7343.

Sincerely,

Robert Smith, Commander
Internal Affairs Division

RS:at