



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

DATE: November 30, 2007 **TIME:** 1100 **LOG #:** 07010953

OFFICER: Capt. Denis Pierce

INCIDENT: Fatal MVA

REPORT: On the above date and time I met with Chief John Romero regarding the investigation into the fatal motor vehicle accident of Ryan Bourque which occurred on November 25, 2007. Chief Romero provided me with a copy of an e-mail dated November 28, 2007 sent to the Chief by Mayor Michael Sullivan. Mayor Sullivan is aware that investigators from the Lawrence Police are currently investigating Mr. Bourque's activities leading up to the accident, including the possibility that Mr. Bourque consumed alcoholic beverage prior to the accident. Mayor Sullivan requested in the email that the investigation include the exploration of an allegation he received that Mr. Bourque had been drinking at 8 Burlington Street, Lawrence, MA, which is Mayor Sullivan's own home.

In light of this information I requested an interview with the Mayor. I did in fact interview him at his office at Lawrence City Hall on November 30, 2007 at 1100 hours. I inquired of Mayor Sullivan what activities took place at his home on Saturday evening, November 24, 2007 into the early morning hours of Sunday, November 25, 2007. Mayor Sullivan stated that he was in and out of his home several times during the early evening hours before arriving at home to stay at approximately 2100 hours. Mayor Sullivan stated that his children came and went several times during the evening but the only non-family members that were at his home at all that evening were two female friends of his daughter Gina who is a college freshmen and who was home for the holiday weekend. Mayor Sullivan stated that at no time during that evening or into Sunday morning was there a party or any underage drinking at his home.

Mayor Sullivan informed me that he received the information about this allegation from Planning Director Michael Sweeney.

At 1115 hours I met with and interviewed Michael Sweeney at City Hall.

I asked Mr. Sweeney for all information that he had regarding the activities of Ryan Bourque prior to the accident.

Mr. Sweeney told me that the day after the accident he had received a phone call from a Thomas Duggan Jr. of the Valley Patriot Newspaper. Sweeney stated that he was told by Duggan that Duggan heard that Ryan Bourque was at the Mayor Sullivan's house Saturday evening drinking and that the Mayor was aware and/or present. Mr. Sweeney told me that Tom Duggan was told this by Mike Gagliardi.

Sweeney told me that Duggan told him that Gagliardi called him 7, 8 or 9 times on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 regarding this issue and also stated to Duggan, "If you don't run this story I'll go to the Boston press with it."



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

Sweeney stated that Duggan told him Gagliardi heard this story from City Council President Patrick Blanchette.

Sweeney stated that Duggan told him that Gagliardi verified the story two ways to him as follows; 1. Either Blanchette had a friend in that teenage age group or a friend with a child in that teenage age group the heard the story and related it to Blanchette;

2. Duggan said Gagliardi that Blanchette had a friend and/or source who lives across the street from Mayor Sullivan and witnessed the comings and goings that night.

Sweeney stated that Duggan told him that Gagliardi told him that he knew a couple of kids that were drinking with Ryan Bourque that night and he(Gagliardi)would send then to Duggan for a story and that Blanchette had a source/neighbor on Burlington Street who was a witness that saw Bourque's Car at the Mayor's house.

On November 30, 2007 at 1205 hours I contacted Thomas Duggan Jr. by telephone [REDACTED] Duggan stated that he received 2 tips from the same person, one on the day after the accident. During this interview Duggan referred to the tipster as 'source' for the majority of this interview but at the end of the interview revealed that the source was Michael "Mike" Gagliardi [REDACTED].

Duggan told me that Gagliardi told him he had evidence that Bourque was drinking at the Mayor's house. Duggan stated that Gagliardi asked him, "If I gave you some witnesses that said the kid left the mayor's house drunk 5 minutes before the accident, would you print it.

Duggan stated to me that he then asked Gagliardi where he heard this and Gagliardi asked him, "How do you get along with the council president?"

Duggan stated that he answered, "Not good."

Duggan stated that Gagliardi told him, "I'll try to pass on to you what I get. I need witnesses if Blanchette didn't see it himself.

Duggan stated that Gagliardi called him today and stated, "Did you see the Tribune today. He must have come from the Mayor's house, a gap is mentioned in the paper.

At 1215 we ended this phone conversation, Duggan stated that he needed to confer with a partner before disclosing the source's name. At 1220 hours Duggan called back and told me that the source of the above information was Mike Gagliardi of the Laborers Union off Railroad Street, Methuen. Mr. Duggan stated that he would call Gagliardi and have him call me. At 1405 hours Mr. Duggan provided me with Gagliardi's phone number, [REDACTED]

At 1410 hours I contacted Mike Gagliardi by phone at [REDACTED] I informed Gagliardi that I was one of the investigators into the Ryan Bourque investigation and that I had learned that he had information that would be helpful to the investigation and that I would like to interview him as soon as possible. Gagliardi stated that he could not meet with me until Monday as he was home for the day in Westford and he was traveling to Philadelphia by air tomorrow. Gagliardi told me that he did not have the names of two



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

kids who were at the mayor's house drinking Saturday night but he was waiting for the names. I requested to meet with him this afternoon and offered to drive to Westford to his home or any place convenient today but Gagliardi stated that he would have his lawyer with him on Monday when we meet. I confirmed the 10:00 am meeting on Monday, December 3, 2007.

ADDED DECEMBER 3, 2007 1300 hours.

Mike Gagliardi failed to present at his scheduled interview this morning, December 3, 2007 at 1000 hours. Mr. Gagliardi did not notify this office either directly or by leaving a message on the detective division voicemail or Capt. Pierce's voicemail, that he would not be coming in. I called his cell phone [REDACTED] at 1040 hours which went unanswered. I left a voice mail on the cell, the recording on which identifies it as Michael Gagliardi's phone.

I called the same phone at 1240 hours and left another message. As of the time of this writing Mr. Gagliardi has not returned his calls to this investigator.

ADDED December 4, 2007 0945 hours: I called Michael Gagliardi [REDACTED] and left another voice mail for him to call me to reschedule interview. I did not receive a return call so at 1100 hours I drove to the office of Laborers Local 175 at 55 Union Street, Methuen, MA with Sgt. Gene Hatem. There we found Michael Gagliardi in his office, we identified ourselves and after a brief wait, we were invited my Gagliardi into his office. I explained to Gagliardi that I understood that he had information that may further the investigation into the fatal auto accident of Ryan Bourque. Mr. Gagliardi stated that he did not wish to speak without talking to his attorney. He then made a speakerphone call in our presence to his attorney. Who identified himself to us as Robert Cassesso of Mass. Laborers Legal Services, 14 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA [REDACTED]

Via speakerphone I explained to Atty. Cassesso the nature of our inquiry to Mr. Gagliardi. Sgt. Hatem and I left the room for Gagliardi and Atty. Cassesso to confer privately. When we returned, Atty. Cassesso informed us that he needed more time to meet with Gagliardi before Gagliardi spoke to us and that tomorrow afternoon would work. We agreed to speak by phone the following morning and then schedule an afternoon meeting. The phone call ended and Sgt Hatem and I began walking toward the exit when Mr. Gagliardi stated that he understood our position of investigating the teenager's activities and he was sorry for delaying things this much.

Sgt. Hatem and I had actually exited Gagliardi's office and we were in the lobby when Gagliardi said, "OK, sit down."

I asked Gagliardi if he was now changing his mind and wished to speak to us without his attorney.

Mr. Gagliardi answered, "Yes, sit down and I'll tell you what I know."

I read a Lawrence Police Dept. electronic recording waiver to Mr. Gagliardi and he declined and signed the form. I wrote the statement out. When we were finished, I read it



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

to Gagliardi, he added a brief sentence at the end in his own writing and signed the end of the statement and signed both pages of the two page statement in the margin.

The following is the typed version of Michael Gagliardi's signed statement given on December 4, 2007.

Interview of:
Michael Gagliardi

[REDACTED]
Westford, MA
DOB 12-01-66
[REDACTED]

Given at 55 Union Street
 Methuen, MA

Present: Capt. Denis Pierce
 Sgt. Gene Hatem

Begin 11:20 a.m.

It's come to our/my attention from two individuals that there was a party at the Mayor's house. I didn't know the date of the party but it was the day of the accident. I don't know the name of the kid that got killed. I did not see the party. I don't know where the Mayor lives. I've never been to his house. We don't like each other. Someone told me all of this. Two people told me this. They are Carlos Matos and Patrick Blanchette.

Matos was here at my office one day last week, I think it was 11-30-07. He was here on business to talk about a grant. Matos said the kid that got killed at the White Hen (my secretary interrupted and said "No, the Central Catholic student." She then pulled up the story online from the Eagle Tribune website.), Matos continued, the kid was at a party at the Mayor Sullivan's house that night. I asked how he knew and Matos said, "I'm not going to say. I didn't ask again. Matos was the first one I heard it from.

I told him I was going to have someone do a (press) story to see if they could track down the truth. I called Tommy Duggan. Matos was still here. Matos told me he would find out who was at the party. I asked him at least once after if he found out anything else about the party and he said, "No.". That last conversation was Monday, yesterday, late morning and he didn't know any more.

Same day I heard this first from Matos, Patrick Blanchette, City Council President, called by phone. I asked Blanchette if he heard about the kid from Central getting killed. We both agreed that we heard the kid was coming from the Mayor's house. Blanchette said that there were five to six cars at the Mayor's house and one was the kid's who got killed. Blanchette said there was a party there every weekend and that a retired cop lived across the street. Blanchette said someone should talk to the retired cop. Blanchette did



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

not say the cop's name. I don't know it. I told Blanchette that Matos told me about the kid that got killed being at the Mayor's house also. I have not spoken to Blanchette since.

ADDED BY MR. GAGLIARDI IN HIS WRITING: *To the best of my knowledge but we did not speak about the incident again. (init. MPG)*

ENDED 12:10 p.m.

SIGNED MICHAEL GAGLIARDI

CONTINUING REPORT OF CAPT. PIERCE

ADDED 12-04-07

On 12-04-07 at 1255 I called [REDACTED] a cell phone which I believe is that of Carlos Matos and left a message.

At 1320 hours Carlos Matos returned my call at my desk. He immediately stated that he only had rumors. I explained that what he had may still move our investigation forward if it brought us a stop closer to direct information. Matos stated he did not want to make his information part of the public record. I explained the police responsibility in a death investigation. He agreed to come to the police station at 1600 today to be interviewed. This time was his earliest convenience.

Carlos Matos presented at Lawrence Police Headquarters at 1620 hours. Mr. Matos gave the following statement during and interview with Sgt. Hatem and me in the second floor interview room. At the conclusion of the interview I read the statement back to Matos and gave it to him to read and sign, which he did on each of two pages which I hand wrote during the interview.

Interview of Carlos Matos

[REDACTED]
Lawrence, MA 01843

DOB 11-7-62
[REDACTED]

Cell Ph. [REDACTED]

Home Ph. [REDACTED]

Present

Capt. Pierce

Sgt. Hatem

Workplace

29 South Canal Street

Lawrence, MA

Self Employed in Business Development &

With Local 175 on a Grant



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

I heard two things, that some kid crashed into a White Hen and that he had come from a party at Mayor Sullivan's house. I discussed this with other people who said the kid came from a party at Gonzalez' house, a senior at Central(CCHS). I don't remember who told me that the kid came from the Mayor's house. I didn't think I heard then that the kid was drunk. I don't remember when that conversation about the party at the Mayor's house occurred. I didn't think it was true. I don't remember if I heard it from more than one person.

Regarding the second conversation on the 'Gonzalez party', I was speaking with Mike Gagliardi on Wednesday or Thursday last week. I asked if he heard about the kid coming from the Mayor's house party. His (Gagliardi's) secretary pulled up the article on EagleTribune.com and it said that nothing correlated with what I heard. The secretary called a parent of a kid from Central and everybody (the kids) said the kid had come from a CCHS senior's, named (unknown first) Gonzalez. Mike Gagliardi called Tommy Duggan and asked him if he heard about the Mayor's party and asked him to find out if it was true. After we heard about the Gonzalez party I told Mike Gagliardi to call Duggan back and tell him that the first story was bull.

I don't think I talked about this to anybody else but I'm not sure. I have not talked to Mike Gagliardi since last Friday or Saturday.

ENDED 1705 hours.

SIGNED CARLOS MATOS

On December 5, 2005 at 0930 hours I called Patrick Blanchette on his cell phone [REDACTED] and left a message for him to call me back. He returned my call and left a message on my office voice mail at 1317 hours which I was unable to return until the next morning. He returned my call and we spoke at 1205 p.m. on December 6, 2007.

I informed Mr. Blanchette that I had received word that he may have information which could help in the investigation into Ryan Bourque's fatal accident. I requested a meeting with Mr. Blanchette so as to interview him. Mr. Blanchette told me emphatically that he had no information about Ryan Bourque's activities on the night he died. I informed Blanchette that his name was given to me by an individual who said he had spoken to him about a party that Bourque had come from. Blanchette repeatedly denied having had such a conversation with anyone. I requested that he meet with me today regarding this matter and he told me that he did not want to meet with me because he had no information for me. Blanchette asked me who told me they had spoken to him about the accident and I informed him that at this point I would not be disclosing that to him. I requested several more times to meet with me as I did not care to discuss this any other way than in person. Mr. Blanchette again told me that he had absolutely no information about Bourque or his activities or whereabouts the night he died. Blanchette repeatedly denied having any conversations with anyone since the accident other than general discussions concerning the tragedy of the Bourque's death, and nothing more specific.



Lawrence Police Department Incident Report

With the knowledge that retired Lawrence Police Captain Calvin Deyermond lives across the street from Mayor Sullivan at [REDACTED] Burlington Street and is, to the best of the collective knowledge of this Detective Division, the only retired police officer¹ that lives on Burlington Street, I telephoned Deyermond at [REDACTED] cell ph) on December 6, 2007 at 1500 hours.

I informed Deyermond of the nature of my call and inquiry. Deyermond stated that he did not have any knowledge of the activities or whereabouts of Ryan Bourque on the night of his fatal accident. Deyermond stated that he did not know what Bourque looked like or what kind of car he drove. He stated that he had no knowledge of Ryan Bourque being at Mayor Sullivan's house that night or any other night. Deyermond stated that he believed there was a party at Mayor Sullivan's house that night. I asked him what led him to believe there was a party at Mayor Sullivan's house that night. Deyermond stated that he observed approximately five cars parked on Burlington Street near the Mayors house at about 10:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

Deyermond stated that there was a path next to Mayor Sullivan's house that led through the woods and to the Frost School and that often, kids will park on Burlington Street and then go into the woods to drink. Deyermond made no observations of any drinking in the area that night.

I then telephoned the other occupant of 5 Burlington Street, Glen Fleming, at his office, [REDACTED] which is the City of Lawrence Inspectional Services. Mr. Fleming is employed as a Plumbing Inspector for the City. I made the same inquiry of Mr. Fleming and he stated that he had absolutely no knowledge of the activities or whereabouts of Ryan Bourque on the night he died. He stated that he did not know what Bourque looked like or what vehicle he drove. Fleming stated that he had no information whatsoever regarding Bourque.

From November 30, 2007 until today, December 6, 2007, I have interviewed all known persons whose names emerged as allegedly having information relating to the possibility that Ryan Bourque was at 8 Burlington Street, Lawrence, MA at anytime on November 24 or 25, 2007. Additionally, other individuals who were, in fact, with Ryan Bourque and who had direct knowledge of his activities and movements during that time period have been interviewed by Lawrence Police Detectives including Timothy Levesque, Brian Burokas and Detective Sergeant Gene Hatem. Those interviews are documented separately.

The collective information from this entire investigation, including all eye witness statements, recordings, documents and all other evidence includes not one single item that suggests that Ryan Bourque was at or near 8 Burlington Street, Lawrence, MA prior to his fatal motor vehicle accident. The information that prompted this portion of the investigation into Ryan Bourque's death, as indicated by the evidence, was nothing more than rumor.

¹ In an earlier interview, Michael Gagliardi quoted Patrick Blanchette as saying to him, "Someone should talk to the retired cop who lives across the street from the Mayor."