

September 9, 2008

E-64

Steve Tucker
Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney
1100 West Mallon Avenue
Spokane, WA 99260-0270
(509) 477-3662

Dear Mr. Tucker:

In a September 6, 2008, *Spokesman-Review* article titled “Garage probe uncovers no fraud,” you stated you received four boxes of evidence pertaining to my first degree manslaughter complaint concerning the death of Jo Savage. That article went on to state: “Tucker said Friday he will review the four boxes of evidence with the chief criminal deputy prosecutor, Jack Driscoll, before making a decision on the next step. He envisioned three possibilities . . .” The second of the possibilities you advised was: “They could conclude that there is enough evidence to determine no criminal charges should be filed, based on that investigation.”

How can you even entertain that as an option? How could you ethically make that determination based on an incomplete investigation? For you to even make that statement was not responsible or ethical. The FBI did not conduct a complete investigation. To this date, among other investigative omissions, the prime witnesses I identified in my complaint still have not been contacted. It appears that may have been because many of those witnesses have identified criminal conduct by public officials.

Having been endorsed by the *Spokesman-Review* (which is owned by the suspects in this case) in your bids for your position as prosecutor, I believe you have a major conflict of interest. You have already demonstrated your protective bias toward the suspects by your failure to call for a grand jury or to call for a proper police investigation at the time of Savage’s death over two years ago. As the Spokane County prosecutor and a former Washington State Patrol officer, you certainly should have recognized probable cause and facilitated the correct action of calling for a grand jury, as requested of you by a Spokane city councilman. At the minimum, you had an obligation to call for a police investigation yourself.

The complaint I filed for first degree manslaughter with Chief Kirkpatrick and Sheriff Knezovich is one of the strongest and most repugnant criminal cases I have witnessed in my entire law enforcement career. Strong – as it is replete with sound evidence and abounds with credible witnesses. Repugnant – as it was a needless death caused by the greed of the most powerful and wealthy media family in the Inland Northwest – and also repugnant as it was covered-up by persons in positions of public trust, power and leadership.

Even without the advantage of a complete investigation, U.S. Deputy Attorney Westinghouse publicly stated: “There are, of course, various degrees of manslaughter that may be of some concern.” Further, the newspaper stated that David Savage, former husband of Jo Savage and a past president of the Washington State Bar Association, “. . . believes there are substantial grounds for a criminal prosecution for manslaughter based on information he learned during a civil suit on the matter.”

In regard to my first degree manslaughter complaint and in consideration of the questionable actions surrounding my complaint to date, I ask you to make a request of the Washington State Patrol to complete the investigation into my complaint and then request and submit their findings to a Washington State Grand

Jury. This should be an action open to the public and should involve only judges and elected officials who have not received political endorsements from the *Spokesman-Review*. The *Spokesman-Review*'s practice of endorsing elected political candidates is not only unfair to the public and the candidates running for political office, it is highly unethical, as it ingratiates those public officials to the owners of the *Spokesman-Review*. Most significantly, it allows the Cowles family control of our government, as has been historically documented. This practice of endorsing politicians has already proven to be connected to questionable and biased decisions by judges and other elected officials in the RPS matter, which I believe includes yourself.

During your tenure as Spokane's prosecuting attorney you have not established a reputation of acting in the public's best interest. I have studied your career and find that you appear to have established a pattern of nonfeasance, malfeasance and misfeasance concerning your duties involving crimes committed by public officials and people in positions of power. The latest example of what appears to be malfeasance appeared in the September 9, 2008, issue of the *Spokesman-Review*, which stated: "The federal judge dismissed another cause of action, sexual exploitation of a minor because no criminal charges were filed against Ross by Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney Steve Tucker." Unless I missed something that was never made public, it appears there was probable cause to believe a Class B felony was committed on a 16-year-old girl by a public official, and you have again failed to perform the duties of your office for what appears to be the protection of a city-employed child molester.

There is a remedy for failure to act in the public's best interest and for nonfeasance, malfeasance and misfeasance in public office. I believe that remedy trumps prosecutorial discretion when it involves public officials committing crimes and other public officials covering-up those crimes. That remedy is stated in RCW 2A.56.110.

Sincerely,

Tony Bamonte