

February 2, 2009

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P.O. Box 8625
Spokane, WA 99203

Steve Tucker, Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney
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Dear Mr. Tucker:

In response to the article in the January 31, 2009, *Spokesman-Review*, wherein you advised the public that you may have the State attorney general examine the evidence turned over by the federal prosecutors regarding the RPS Jo Savage incident, please be advised that the investigation into the death of Jo Savage will not be complete until all of the evidence is obtained and considered. This includes statements from all witnesses, especially the primary witnesses. This has not been done yet. You have a duty to acquire and provide this information to the attorney general. This should also include all the correspondence I provided you and all other public officials (this correspondence establishes powerful evidence that public officials have continued to ignore criminal activity that led directly to the death of Jo Ellen Savage in the River Park Square parking garage on April 8, 2006) .

Based on the evidence I have gathered to this point, it appears that for over two-and-a-half years of a three-year statute of limitations, you and other public officials have demonstrated omissions to do what the law requires of you to protect the public and fulfill your duties and the oaths of your offices. You, Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich, Chief Anne Kirkpatrick and Spokane Mayor Mary Verner are failing to perform the duties of your offices through your inexcusable delays and neglect in obtaining evidence, thus demonstrating a clear and illegal prejudice toward the suspects. The circumstances of these omissions, and other illegal acts, have established both a donative and protective intent towards specific members of the Cowles family and specific public officials – all who are suspects in a “covered-up” Class A felony involving a tragic death.

You have already demonstrated a nonfeasance of your office and shown a favorable bias toward the suspects when, in 2006, shortly after the death of Jo Savage, you failed to call for a grand jury investigation when requested to do so by a member of the city council. Your public statement at that time was that you would not call a grand jury unless there was a police investigation and yet you failed to request a police investigation. Based on your former position as a Washington State patrolman and your current position as the Spokane County prosecutor, you surely had to recognize probable cause that a crime had been committed. Also, based on the fact that you have been publicly endorsed during both of your political campaigns for your position as county prosecutor in the Cowles media, you have a major conflict of interest. The favor of a Cowles political endorsement in their newspaper appears to have motivated your return favor to them of not investigating their culpability in the matter of Ms. Savage’s death. This represents a gross miscarriage of justice on your part and a betrayal of your oath of office.

Mr. Tucker, a major crime has been committed resulting in a tragic and agonizing death. The primary suspects are members of Spokane’s most powerful and influential family and specific identified elected and public officials. The evidence of this crime is abundant and substantial in quantity and quality and now the evidence of a cover-up by public officials is also abundant and substantial in quantity and quality.

I have vested over 25 years in law enforcement, 12 of those as the elected sheriff of a Washington State county and am well-associated with the justice system. There is only one element in this case that applies to first degree manslaughter: “recklessly causes the death of another person.” Under the term Recklessness in RCW 9A.08.010, the element of the crime clearly fits the combined actions and inactions of the suspects. Please be assured that if you do not conduct yourself with the utmost integrity and professionalism in regards to my criminal complaint and public safety concerns, I will take whatever action necessary to expose your questionable actions and initiate an action to expose you and all other public officials involved in this miscarriage of justice.

I am also concerned with the lack of investigative materials that you apparently plan to furnish the Washington State Attorney General. Since a complete investigation has never been conducted concerning my complaint, how will the attorney general be able to make a fair and impartial decision?

The statement and your quote in the January 31, 2009, Spokesman-Review article, “An examination by the state would provide assurance ‘for some who thought the Cowles family was pushing me around,’ Tucker said. ‘The more people who look at it and are in some type of agreement, the better.’” Mr. Tucker, that is a suspicious statement. It connotes that you are going to attempt to influence the Washington State Attorney general to go along with your past dismissal of this felony complaint. This connotation is strongly enforced by your failure to insure the investigation is complete. Are you in the process of attempting a fix Mr. Tucker? Why aren't you calling for a state grand jury as the law prescribes specifically for this type of corruption?

In an effort to assist both you and the Washington State attorney general, I am enclosing (selected) copies of some correspondence I have generated or obtained concerning this case:

- August 18, 2007, letter to Sheriff Knezovich and Chief Kirkpatrick. This letter was my original complaint to the sheriff and police chief. It identifies my original probable cause, which was later added to.
- April 25, 2008, letter to FBI agents Frank Harrill and Egon Dezihan. This letter identifies evidence and witnesses (to this date the primary witnesses have still not been contacted).
- September 13, 2008, letter to Breean Beggs (center for justice CEO). This letter identifies a major conflict of interest with the United State's Attorney General's investigation.
- **November 5, 2008, statement from former City of Spokane real estate manager Dennis Beringer. This is the second statement from Mr. Beringer that incriminates high ranking public officials in the death of Jo Savage. It also expresses his outrage that city officials failed to protect the public. He is one of the primary witnesses. I made written requests to both Sheriff Knezovich and Mayor Verner that they take his statement. This has still not been done. This clearly suggests attempts on the part of many public official to suppress evidence of culpability on the part of the City of Spokane in Ms. Savage's death.**
- January 14, 2009, letter to the Spokane City Council. This letter again brings to their attention the present dangers of the RPS parking garage and asks specific questions, which they have not answered.
- January 20, 2009, letter to Sheriff Knezovich. The sheriff's lack of response to this letter, among other things, again strongly emphasizes the current public danger of the RPS parking garage and the intent to

protect Cowles family members and public officials from criminal charges at the expense of the public's safety. It also demonstrates Sheriff Knezovich's intent to deceive the public concerning his actions.

- January 26, 2009, letter to Blake Nordstrom, the president of Nordstrom's store (an anchor tenant for RPS) whose patrons park in the RPS garage. This letter advises Mr. Nordstrom of the dangers of the RPS garage and asks him to take the appropriate steps to protect the safety of his customers.
- February 2, 2009, photos and narration documenting the existence of a known and ignored life-threatening condition at the RPS public parking garage. This is self-explanatory and very powerful evidence of the crime I allege.

I again emphasize the public dangers of the RPS parking garage. I base this emphasis on the damning RPS parking garage engineers' reports, which I have referred you and other public officials to on numerous occasions – which to this date have not been addressed or properly corrected.

Contained in these engineer reports you will find terms used such as the following:

... "sub-standard materials," "sub-standard construction," "steel corrosion related stress occurring on the parking deck slabs, slab soffits, beams, girders and precast spandrels." "These findings are serious and indicate an imperative for actions to repair, restore and protect..." "the 1999 addition to the freestanding parking garage was not built to a first class condition," "the parking garage has not been operated and maintained in a first class order, condition and repair." "many precast spandrels are in poor physical condition with scaling and delaminations present," "inferior quality concrete finishes in many locations," "much, if not most of the restoration was not performed on the original Circa 1974 garage, during or after the Circa 1998 parking garage expansion project," "Petrographic analysis of concrete core samples indicates the concrete is of relatively poor quality in terms of it having moderately to poor cement past-aggregate bond." Assume that the panels [barriers] will fail and add steel cables to stop vehicles before they impact the panels." Etc. . . .

Mr. Tucker, based on three separate engineers' inspection reports and other evidence that has been uncovered, I am concerned about the following, which is also information I request you provide the Attorney General:

- The RPS public parking garage is a dangerous and already proven death trap that, to this date and in violation of city code and mandates, remains illegally uncorrected and uninspected.
- The deadly dangers of this public garage, documented in three separate engineer reports, has never been made known to the general public, who continues to patronize this garage on a daily basis.
- Except for the reporting in the article "Death by Parking" at www.girlfromhotsprings.com. the public has never been given the knowledge that the Cowles RPS public parking garage was never inspected by city, which is in violation of the city's code and mandate (also see attached Beringer statement), and it appears this knowledge is being suppressed by the Cowles suspects in complicity with public officials, including yourself. The suppression of this deadly knowledge by city officials is unconscionable and further establishes an ongoing recklessness and disregard for the public's safety by both city officials and members of the Cowles family.

Most importantly, based on the information you, the sheriff, the police chief, and the mayor have

been provided to this date, what is the basis for allowing the RPS garage to go uninspected and to remain a public danger? And again I ask you: Why aren't you calling for a state grand jury as the law prescribes specifically for this type of corruption?

I ask that you respond to these two questions by February 10, 2009. I also request that in your dealings with the state attorney general, you provide him with this correspondence and all other correspondence that has been provided to you by the sheriff, police chief, mayor and city council. If the sheriff, police chief and mayor have not provided you with my correspondence to them, as I requested of them, please advise me and I will provide that correspondence to you. I also request that you provide me with documentation that you have done so.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance in providing any of this important information to the Washington State Attorney General.

Sincerely,

Tony Bamonte

Eight enclosures