

From: Catherine Broad [REDACTED]
Subject: Meeting on Monday
Date: April 16, 2024 at 4:31 PM
To: David Williams [REDACTED] oakgov.com, VanWert, Robert William [REDACTED] oakgov.com
Cc: Chris King [REDACTED]

Dear David and Rob,

Thank you for the update on Monday and thank you for putting in the time [REDACTED]

Chris and I were again struck by the fact that had outside agencies (Wayne County and now Oakland County) not pushed for additional testing in this case, the MSP and the state lab would have left many more evidentiary stones unturned in this case. Every time there were notable advances in DNA testing or grant money provided by the state for use in DNA testing, the OCCK case should have been at the top of the list. It still is at the top of the list. We have nothing to lose by retesting all of the evidence in this case. This case is Michigan's Jack the Ripper with little kids.

[REDACTED] It bears repeating that male DNA was found on a vaginal swab of a child police, prosecutors and eventually the ME's office, steadfastly maintained (after initial, brief controversy covered by the press) was not sexually assaulted. As I mentioned many months ago, the now late Ed Sosnic was present at Kristine's autopsy representing the prosecutor's office and knew what went on in that room.

It is unclear to us what position the state lab is taking regarding all of the other evidence from four homicides. We realize the hair evidence (partial mtDNA sequences) is not amenable to genetic genealogy analysis. But what about the other evidence? It is an obvious and legitimate question. We want a detailed written explanation from the state lab regarding the following: When was each piece of evidence tested, how many times, and by whom. Which third party labs were consulted and what was the basis for them rejecting the idea of further testing? We want a full explanation and account of any chain of custody or other failures. We want an explanation of how and when evidence was extinguished to the point that further testing is deemed useless. We want Brandon Good to explain, in writing, how this case got here. How, once law enforcement said the only way to solve this case is through DNA, it turns out there is no DNA but for a partial Y-str and partial mtDNA from degraded hair evidence. Whatever Good told the third party labs which resulted in them rejecting this case should be made very plain and we await the written explanation.

As we discussed, the "Allen letter" (envelope, stamp and the letter itself) should be tested for DNA. It is listed in the Excel spreadsheet of the evidence in this case and should be easy enough to locate. If they are unwilling to test these items, I will again request a copy of the actual letter (someone would have recognized that handwriting back in the day) which the MSP withheld because they are so actively working this "open" case.

The failure of the MSP to have already digitized this case is indefensible. When Det/Sgt Garry Gray was put in charge of the OCCK case in 2005 (his early retirement package), the newspapers reported that the MSP had been given a grant to digitize the case, accompanied by a photo of file cabinets being moved into yet another tomb at the MSP. Gray himself told Chris and my dad they were digitizing the case, while he and Dave Robertson gestured to the many boxes and file cabinets in their new digs. What happened to that grant money? We are so incredibly tired of being lied to.

Here we are almost 20 years later and the files are not digitized. This could be incredibly useful if any genetic genealogy results are to be followed up on in an efficient manner. The MSP has a program in place with MSU and WMU they are already using taxpayer dollars to fund. They want to scan and digitize "in house" but have not lifted a finger to do so. Time is up. Utilizing the college student program will be the most cost-effective and efficient solution. The students would be good stewards of the case files and if they don't trust them to do this job, why have the program at all?

I asked many months ago about receiving an unredacted copy of the "sauna report." There are also four other documents that were illegibly copied (darkened to the point they are impossible to read) and one of the pages contains an improper redaction (in two places) of a polygrapher's name, while leaving the name of MSP polygrapher Ralph Cabot. There is no exception or exclusion in Michigan FOIA laws allowing the redaction of the name of a polygrapher.

These four documents are attached and are Bates stamped as received in the \$11,000 FOIA response to my dad, so in spite of the fact the case file is not digitized, they should be easy enough to track down. If the MSP is truly interested in transparency, they should provide legible copies of these documents, minus the two improper redactions. If the MSP is unwilling to provide these documents through your office, please advise and I will file another FOIA request with the MSP.

If you need me to resend the "sauna report" for reference, please let me know.

Thanks for your time.

Cathy Broad



Documents