

Catherine K. Broad



Prosecutor Karen McDonald
Office of the Oakland County Prosecutor
1200 N. Telegraph
West Wing, Building #14E
Pontiac, MI 48341

January 26, 2021

Re: Oakland County Child Killer Investigation

Dear Prosecutor McDonald:

I appreciated your phone call on January 11. As a follow-up to my letter of January 6, I have compiled information about gaps in the investigation into the child killings. This information, while not comprehensive, is an important overview of where, after more than four decades, this cold case stands.

Once these investigative gaps are closed, I believe a more complete and true picture of how these crimes took place and who was involved will finally evolve. This will allow an acknowledgment of the major mistakes and bad practices that were woven into this case. More importantly, it will allow you to provide assurances to your constituents that this will never happen on your watch because your office's dealings with law enforcement will be transparent and at arm's length. Because you will not be afraid to refer cases to independent agencies when necessary. Because you will not tolerate cronyism, poor evidence collection or storage, destruction of evidence, territorialism by law enforcement, leniency and disparity in sentencing, poor and vindictive communications with victims and families, abuses of FOIA laws, or lies to the media. Such an approach would be a complete contrast to what has gone before in the child killer cases. It will set the expectations for prosecutors and law enforcement in Oakland County.

An accounting of all of the evidence in this case is necessary and overdue.

A master list of all the evidence in this case is needed. Due to evidence destruction and poor storage protocols in this case, not to mention the poor evidence collection in these crimes in 1976 and 1977 and ineptitude of then Oakland County Medical Examiner Robert Sillery, the evidence in this case could be worthless. In spite of all of these facts, your predecessor and the Michigan State Police have elevated this case to a DNA-only resolution status. Therefore, the

MSP should account for all of the evidence and testing. What has been tested? What has been retested? What evidence has been extinguished during testing? Where is the remaining physical evidence being stored? Has all of the evidence been returned from the various labs? Everything that can be retested should be, using the most up-to-date DNA testing. It should all be evaluated for potential genetic genealogy searches. Why has the evidence obtained during the search of 3310 Morningview Terrace not been processed? What is the plan for this evidence?

A new and very promising DNA testing method is on pace to be available for use this spring. <https://www.wired.com/story/cops-are-getting-a-new-tool-for-family-tree-sleuthing/>. It would be nice if the MSP was ready to go.

The final pages of Inspector Williams' notes detail leads he believes need further investigation.

The final pages of Inspector Williams' notes just prior to his retirement from Wayne County detail final leads he believed needed to be followed and are attached. These leads include:

The lead into retired Berkley Police Officer James "Jim" Cox.

For more on this disturbing information, see The Snow Killings at pages 227-229. The Berkley city attorney would not allow Williams to see the personnel file without a subpoena or a search warrant. A few months ago Bloomfield Hills PD responded promptly and fully to a Marney Keenan's FOIA request about Corporal Richard McNamee, the officer who responded to the Busch death scene. Berkley PD should turn this information over to you, as well as the personnel file of the late Ray Anger. There is no basis to withhold this information. Berkley PD could well have destroyed Cox's file after this inquiry. Cox should be polygraphed and/or called to testify under oath.

James Vincent Gunnels

Gunnels, a victim of and lure for Christopher Busch, as well as probable accessory to one or more of the child killings, agreed to be hypnotized concerning memory of these crimes after failing two polygraphs about Kristine Mihelich's death. The state police never followed up on this. Not only has Gunnels failed two polygraphs, a mtDNA match exists linking him to a hair found on Kristine Mihelich's body. Person after person has linked Gunnels to these killings, much like Texas serial killer Dean Corll used two teenage accomplices to lure boys to their death.

Robert Delproposto

A tip was called in on suspect Robert Delproposto, who lived across the street from convicted and incarcerated pedophile Arch Sloan during the time of the child killings. Hairs found in

Sloan's car (searched in the wake of Mark Stebbins' abduction and murder) allegedly cannot be ruled out as a match to hairs found on the body of the boys.

Living victim of the Oakland County Child Pornography and Sex Ring

A lead based on the letter of a Michigan attorney who is representing a victim of this illegal ring operating in Oakland County in the 1970s has not been followed up on. Inspector Williams notes that his first reaction is that "this person is trying to connect everyone that's been a suspect recent years." Respectfully, having spoken with this person and her representatives, I would submit that this is because **all of these people are in fact connected. This is where the answers are.**

This person met with law enforcement in January 2019 to detail information and stood up to over three hours of questioning. It was never followed up on, the attorney's calls months later requesting an update were not returned. Now, due in part to actions by the state police, the witness has safety concerns that will need to be concretely addressed going forward.

The connection between the child pornography rings and the OCKK case needs to be fully investigated and time is of the essence.

As Marney Keenan describes in the attached email, "**this is the key to why this case hasn't been solved.**" I have redacted the email to omit the names of victims and identifying information.

The late Everell E. Fisher, Jr. must be investigated fully in connection with this case, Christopher Busch and the child porn/sex ring.

Fisher and pedophile cop Richard McNamee demonstrate how the vacuum in this investigation has left people with nowhere to go with information about this case after reading Marney Keenan's book, viewing Children of the Snow, or reading my blog. A number of tips were turned in on Everell Fisher in March 1977. At one point he was interviewed by police at his attorney's office. The information in the tip sheets is chilling. A member of the GM/Fisher Body Fisher family, he was summarily dismissed as a suspect.

Six years ago a man who was the son of a woman Fisher was dating during the time of the child killings came forward with information linking Fisher and Chris Busch and pedophile activities they engaged in. As I described in my previous letter, this man was in his late fifties and died very soon after meeting with my Dad and my brother to discuss this information. He contacted my Dad because police would not listen to him. His mother and her other three sons, one of whom I believe was victimized by Fisher, are still alive.

This month I received a phone call from a woman who was related to Fisher's first wife, Betty. She was young when she met Fisher but stayed close to Betty for many years. Here is what she told me. She said the marriage was never consummated because Fisher, who had polio at

age 9, was incapable of having an erection, that his penis stopped growing at age 9 and was tiny, that Betty divorced him after a short time because he liked little boys more than he loved her (divorced before child killings), that Betty is still alive but physically very ill and living in a nursing home, that Betty may or may not be willing to talk about Fisher, but that she is not going to live for much longer due to her condition, and that the Fisher family would never permit the obtaining of DNA.

Suspect John Hastings has been cleared time and again, even after failing a polygraph administered by the Georgia Highway Patrol Polygraph Division in October 2009.

Suspect John Hastings has been cleared by police time and again. He must be laughing at law enforcement. He was a neighbor of Chris Busch--literally walking distance away from both Busch and pedophile cop Richard McNamee. He was the same age as Busch, was underemployed like Busch and also had a corporate father in the car industry. I attach a copy of the FOIA document with the results of that 2009 polygraph. MSP detectives Gray and Robertson had no problem with the results and pursued it no further. These detectives did not share the polygraph with Cory Williams, who was "kicked off" the task force during this time period. Instead, they buried the information.

The letter from the victim's attorney, attached to Inspector Williams' notes, specifically states his client knew John Hastings hunted children with Busch, Greene and Gunnels. In an interview with the task force prior to the 2009 polygraph, Hastings denied knowing Busch.

There is a lot of information in the FOIA documents and that has been collected over the years by numerous people. But no one in law enforcement will act on this. The most recent address I can find for him is 2824 Buford Hwy NE, Apt. 8, Brookhaven, GA 30329-2136. One of his four siblings, older sister Mary Mergos, still lives in Michigan and I believe was a paralegal at the Fieger Law in Southfield, before retiring. Hastings, like Vince Gunnels, is walking free.

The September 1977 murder of Birmingham art gallery owner John McKinney may be linked to the OCCK case.

Birmingham PD will never reopen the murder case of John McKinney, who was murdered at his Birmingham Gallery six months after my brother Tim was murdered. The long view of this case, certainly not one ever taken by the MSP, demonstrates that Birmingham was an epicenter for "high end/high paying" pedophiles. McKinney's silent partners in his gallery were our neighbors. Was he connected with Everell Fisher who had an interior design store/gallery about a mile away? These are questions that should still be asked, especially in view of a letter sent to Birmingham police about McKinney's possible connection to these crimes. I attach a copy of this disturbing letter.

The rumor comes up time and again that Birmingham police killed McKinney, suspecting that he was the child killer. Everyone just demurs, saying McKinney, much like Busch, was a homicide waiting to happen. You will never get the truth out of Birmingham PD, but the failure to seriously

investigate this man's "dark side" and his murder is another reason why the OCK case was never publicly solved.

The following people should be aggressively interviewed, preferably under oath, concerning the crimes, related crimes and/or the investigation itself.

These interrogations should also include relevant questions about Richard McNamee, Everell E. Fisher, Jr., John McKinney, John Hastings and the child porn/sex ring operating in Oakland County. Due to the ages of some of these people, time is of the essence.

1. Charles Busch, his wife Nancy and son Alexander Busch
2. Don Studt, retired police chief of Birmingham PD
3. Richard Thompson, retired from the OCP office
4. Jack Kalbfleisch, retired Birmingham PD (living in Fort Myers, FL)
5. Jim Cox, retired Berkely PD
6. Dave Piche, Berkely PD
7. John Hastings
8. Vince Gunnels
9. Paul Gunnels (Vince's younger brother)
10. Scott Busch, nephew of Chris Busch; a victim of Busch as well as used as a lure
11. Larry Wasser, polygrapher (never interviewed under oath)
12. Larry Burgess, attorney, who was clearly lying in his interview with Cory Williams
13. R. Keith Stark, who represented Chris Busch at least up until the day before Tim King was abducted and who was mentioned in the FBI interview of Charles Busch as Chris' attorney at the time of his suicide.
14. Jessica Cooper
15. Paul Walton
16. Garry Gray
17. Dave Robertson
18. Everell E. Fisher, Jr.'s first wife, Betty
19. Everell E. Fisher, Jr.'s girlfriend in March 1977, Bonnie Karrick
20. Living sons of Bonnie Karrick
21. Others determined to have knowledge of the crimes or the investigation

DNA testing of any incarcerated sex offender in Michigan over the age of 60 who does not have a DNA sample on record

If there are inmates over the age of 60 who are incarcerated in Michigan for sex crimes with children and, due to the length and timing of their sentence, were never required to produce a DNA sample, they should be tested and their DNA tested against the evidence in this case. This would apply to any such offender over the age of 60. If there are warehoused sex offenders in Michigan prisons who are of the right age and for whom no DNA was ever acquired, this would be an easy way to check an obvious suspect pool. I am told that

corrections officers at a prison in Western Michigan were "well aware" that one of the inmates, someone apparently not previously named or investigated, was involved in the child killings.

Other loose ends in the wake of Marney Keenan's research

As noted in Marney Keenan's attached email, other issues that are germane to the investigation and should be followed up on include:

- Gregory Greene's death in prison.
- Was Chris Busch an FBI informant?
- Who was the "rogue police officer" named in written letters to Jill Robinson's sister, Alene Robinson Strole, in Suttons Bay, around 2013?
- Further investigation into the late Dr. Herbert Raskin, Busch's psychiatrist in Birmingham.

Suggested additional investigative steps to consider

I also incorporate by reference a document prepared by retired FBI agent and Birmingham resident Bill Beachum, concerning additional investigative steps he suggested in May of 2011. Many of these steps have not been taken a decade later. A copy is attached.

The 1978 murder of Troy resident Gail Webster

This cold case is currently being investigated by a cold case team at Troy PD. Is this case in any way related to the OCCK crimes? Did Gail Webster overhear something or threaten to expose someone in the OCCK case? It is a long shot, but it's possible. The Troy cold case team seems very serious about this case and is working closely with Gail Webster's daughters to help solve the case.

FOIA requests and expenses

My family and Marney Keenan have spent excessive amounts of money to obtain documentation in this case because the MSP, the OCP and local police departments have failed to fully investigate leads in the case or answer questions. "Open case" is the constant refrain, yet we know no action is being taken in this case. As a victim, I would like the following information provided to me free of charge (after paying well over \$11,000 for documents in this case).

1. The personnel files of James Cox and Ray Anger from Berkley PD
2. The reports and recording of the polygraph of John Hastings in 2009
3. A copy of the "Allen" letter (the actual letter, not the typed up version in the newspapers)
4. A copy of the recording of the call to Dr. Bruce Danto by "Allen"
5. Any files with the Birmingham PD concerning my brother's murder, including an incident report of a visit by a man to the Manley-Bailey Funeral Home in Birmingham, who went

to the funeral home after hours, misrepresented himself as a member of our family and asked to see Tim's body.

6. Someone should look again at the photos taken at the funerals of the four kids. I know in our case we had to look at some 1500 black and white photos to tell police who we did and did not recognize. Knowing what we know now, Marney Keenan or my brother Chris should be able to look at all of those photos to see who attended those funerals. I don't expect them to be recopied, but they should be provided by the MSP to your office and one of us should be able to review them again.

Under the circumstances, I do not think this is too much to ask. I cannot even imagine what the MSP or Birmingham PD will put me through if I make a FOIA request for these items.

There has been an investigative vacuum in this case since the retirement of Inspector Williams. People continue to come forward with information in the wake of The Snow Killings, the documentary Children of the Snow and numerous podcasts about the OCKK crimes. Who are they supposed to call? The MSP shut down its tip line. The Oakland County sheriff cannot be trusted in this case as I have detailed previously. Why won't anyone address these investigative gaps and at least tell the public what the status of this case is and if anything can ever be done to move the dial in this case? Who do they call now with information?

I understand your reluctance to meet at this time with the group I suggested in my January 6 letter, I hope such a meeting can eventually be arranged or that you are able to speak directly with each person, especially Prosecutor Worthy. I have spoken with Assistant Michigan AG Danielle Hagaman-Clark, who called me to thank me for sending a copy of The Snow Killings and Cory Williams' file notes and I include her as a recipient of a copy of this letter.

With respect,

Catherine K. Broad

Copies:

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy
Assistant Attorney General Danielle Hagaman-Clark
Cory Williams
Marney Keenan
William Beachum
Chris King
Mark King

Attachments (links in email):

File Notes, Cory Williams, including letter from victim's attorney

Email with attachments, Marney Keenan

FOIA documents, polygraph of John Hastings

Letter dated September 22, 1977 from Dr. Bruce Danto to B'ham PD

Suggested Additional Investigative steps, Bill Beachum