

ESCAMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Case File No.: CF#09S-017289

VICTIM / COMPLAINANT: MELANIE BILLINGS/BYRD BILLINGS

STATUS:

- Cleared by Arrest
- Cleared Exceptional
- Cleared Unfounded
- Warrant Applied For
- Active
- Inactive

CASE OFFICER: Chief Deputy Bill Chavers, #002

DATE: 07/22/2009

OFFENSE: HOMICIDE

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION:

On 07/12/2009, I discovered that I personally knew **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.**, known to me as **Pat Poff**, an individual that I had taken Karate classes with in the 1980's. I offered my help to the Investigator's and State Attorney's Office if they felt it would assist them in questioning **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.**

Later, I was asked to call **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** and see if he would meet with me and talk about the situation. I advised that I would attempt to do so and would ask him to meet me at Flounder's on Pensacola Beach, because it was a location that he and I met numerous times in the past and it was close to his home. Shortly after I got to Flounder's and was about to call **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.**, Investigator Baggett called and told me he had already picked **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** up at his residence in Santa Rosa County and was having him transported to the Santa Rosa County Jail. During this phone call, I overheard a voice in the background and asked if that was **Patrick Gonzalez**. Investigator Baggett confirmed it was **Gonzalez's** voice and then asked **Patrick** if he knew me. I overheard **Patrick** say to Investigator Baggett "yes, I do and I'll talk to him". Investigator Baggett then stated that if **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** wanted to talk to me was I willing to drive to Milton and interview him, at which time I advised that I would and proceeded to the Santa Rosa County Jail.

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I met with **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** inside the Santa Rosa County Jail and we were directed to an interview room. I asked **Patrick** if he wanted to talk specifically to me or would he rather talk to the Investigator. **Patrick** told me that he did not trust the Investigator and asked to talk to me because he trusted me not to mislead him. I then asked **Patrick** if he had already been advised of his rights when he was picked up or sometime before when questioned by Investigators, and he stated "no he had not". I then advised **Pat(Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.)** of his Miranda Rights from a printed form and had him review it and then sign the form. **Patrick** read the form and signed it, acknowledging his understanding and his waiving of his rights to talk to me. The Rights Waiver Form was signed at 8:32 P.M. on 07/12/2009 and later turned over to Investigator Baggett.

The very first statement that **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** made to me was to ask why he was picked up. I advised him that it was over the Billings incident. **Patrick** then asked if this was about his red van, because "if it is, you can ask me anything you want, I can prove I was not in that van and haven't driven it lately". **Patrick** followed up with "I'm not guilty of anything". **Patrick** then proceeded to talk about a number of issues surrounding his whereabouts, the van, and what and who he thought might be involved in the Billings situation, and seems excited and nervous and would talk in choppy statements.

Patrick Gonzalez, Jr. explained that his mom had purchased the red van for him after she had filed for bankruptcy and needed to take back the vehicle she had originally given him. **Patrick** stated he picked up the red van and drove to his dad's (**Patrick Gonzalez, Sr.**) home because it needed some mechanical work done on it. **Patrick** stated he and his dad drove around the Pensacola area, mainly back road areas, because it did not have a tag and eventually they wound up in Alabama and had to stop at a Tom Thumb Store because the clutch was heating up. **Patrick** thought the Tom Thumb Store was in the Foley, Alabama area. **Patrick** continued, stating that they finally got the van back to Pensacola and he parked it in front of his dad's home on Palm Court, and had not driven it since. **Patrick** stated as best he could remember that event had been on a Wednesday.

Patrick Gonzalez, Jr. stated that he went to his dad's house on Thursday morning to talk to him about the van, but doesn't remember seeing it out front when he got there. **Patrick** stated he couldn't get his dad to come to the door and figured he had moved the van to work on it, so he left and returned later that afternoon around 6:30 P.M.

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Patrick stated he tried to talk to his dad but he was extremely drunk and after a while, he left again and went home. **Patrick** stated later that evening he was the news coverage of the Billings incident and the security video of a red van leaving the scene. **Patrick** stated he became concerned that it looked a lot like his van, so he tried calling his dad, but couldn't get him to answer the phone.(He felt it was because his dad, who is a heavy drinker, had passed out).

Patrick then stated at approximately 6:00 A.M. on Friday morning, he got a frantic call from his dad, who told him "we've got to move the vehicle, we've got to move the vehicle". **Patrick** stated he calmed his dad down and drove to his house. **Patrick** stated when he got to his dad's home, he noticed that the van was parked in the rear of the yard. **Patrick** then stated his dad was attempting to clean out the inside of the van and was removing some stuff(but he refused to identify "stuff"). **Patrick** stated he looked in the van and saw some "things", but also refused to identify what he saw. **Pat's** comment was "I'd rather not go into that now", and he then changed the subject.

Patrick Gonzalez, Jr. advised that, in fact, several people he knows knew of the existence of the van and where the keys to the van were kept. **Pat** suggested that one of these individuals may have taken the van, used it, and then returned it, parking it in the rear of his dad's yard, which would explain why he had not noticed the van out front before. **Patrick** alluded to the fact that his dad is a "very heavy drinker" and would generally drink himself into a drunken sleep almost every day and this would explain why he hadn't noticed the van was gone. When asked who some of these people were whom he felt would implicate him in the Billings incident, **Patrick** talked about having some personal disagreements with **Justin Billings**. **Patrick** stated he and **Justin Billings** had worked together at a car lot and had even "done jobs together" for other dealers when they had problems.(**Pat's** tone of voice and demeanor indicated that he and **Justin Billings** were used as heavies to get payments from those who were behind). Another person **Patrick** stated he had had some disagreement with was a "Thice" or "Thrice".(**Pat** later corrected me and stated the name was "**Tice**", known to everyone as Cab Tice). **Patrick** stated he felt that **Cab Tice** was upset at him for the wrong reasons and he thought they had worked out any concerns. **Pat** also indicated that there might be some others and wouldn't put it past anyone of them to set him up, but he then changed the subject again and stated "I don't think I want to go there now". Then, as he had done before, **Patrick** changed the subject.

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Patrick Gonzalez, Jr. then openly stated "I can prove I haven't been driving the van recently and I can prove I'm not guilty of anything". **Patrick** then leaned over and stated, "if this is about the killings, I didn't do it; I can prove I didn't do it, but I may know some people who may have done this, but it wasn't me Mr. Chavers. This is real deep, I'll take the heat, I'll go to prison, I'll even die if I have to because if this gets out, my family is in danger. They are in danger now because they know I'm in jail. I don't want anything to happen to my family"!

Patrick then proceeded to give a chronological account of his activity on the day of the Billings incident, stating that at approximately 3:00 P.M. he had gone to the Wal-Mart in Gulf Breeze with a couple of black male friends of his, but he refused to identify them. **Pat** then stated he drove to Midway and paid his water bill, but didn't remember the time. **Patrick** then stated he and a couple of friends, who he again refused to identify, drove to the home of another friend of his to look at her Bentley vehicle. **Patrick** did identify this person as **Pam Long**. **Patrick** recalled that his visit to **Ms. Long** was around 4:30 P.M. **Patrick** then changed the subject back to his family again.

Patrick Gonzalez, Jr. stated again that what he was involved in was "very deep" and that not only was he in danger, but his family was in danger and he needed to get out so he could take care of them. When I asked him to talk about this more in detail, **Patrick** stated that "maybe I need to talk to the Feds about this". After pausing about a minute, looking down at the floor, **Patrick** stated he had been used in the past by several car dealers in Pensacola to handle jobs for them, to "whack" folks because of his past record. When I frowned at the word "whack", **Patrick** indicated it was over business deals with the car dealers. **Patrick** then mentioned some of the car dealers were unhappy with Bud Billings over business dealings and money issues. **Patrick** stated the car dealers just did not like Billings at all and had met a couple of times to discuss the problem they were having with Bud Billings. **Patrick** then went on to state that **Cab Tice** came to him and indicated that the group wanted Billings "whacked", but he(Pat) refused the job. When I asked him to name the car dealers again, **Patrick** responded that he wasn't at the meeting, but had heard from **Cab Tice** that a **Mr. Mantis**, a **Jerry Wood**(who might be **Mantis**), a **Phillips**, and a few others. **Patrick** also stated most of these men had nicknames and he wasn't sure about their real names.

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At this time Investigator Baggett entered the room and asked **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** if he was willing to discuss the incident. **Patrick** indicated that he was not pleased with Investigator Baggett, but said he would talk. Investigator Baggett again advised **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** of his rights and had him sign another Rights Waiver Form at 9:20 P.M. I ended my session with **Patrick** at this time, telling him if he was so concerned about his family he needed to get straight with the Investigator. I then sat in with Investigator Baggett while he talked to **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.**

Patrick re-hashed some of the information he had gone over with me, including the alleged meeting between some of the car dealers and their decision to "whack" Billings, and the naming of some of these dealers, including **Cab Tice**. When it came to the Billings incident, **Patrick** then started talking in the second person by beginning his comments with "if I had done this, I would have..." When Investigator Baggett asked **Patrick** about a particular hand sign from some information he had, **Patrick** got even more excited and stated talking about the MS13 organization. **Patrick** was very candid and animated in his behavior. **Patrick** then went on to indicate that another car dealer, **Sanchez**, was also involved and that we needed to be looking at MS13's involvement in the Billings issue, because they were also very upset with Bud Billings and they way he had treated them as well. **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** then clearly indicated that there were some MS13 ties to the Billings situation.

Shortly after making the MS13 comments, **Patrick Gonzalez, Jr.** stated he did not want to talk anymore and wanted to talk to his attorney. Investigator Baggett ended the interview. **Patrick's** last request was that he not be left in the Santa Rosa County Jail for fear that he would be attacked.

TIME SPENT ON INVESTIGATION:

5 hours

bfe/07-22-2009

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