

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
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2006 DEC -1 PM 4:11

OFFICE OF
CITY ATTORNEY

Gordon and Maryann Buraczynski
2041 West Mangold Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221
(414) 281-2643

November 28, 2006

City Clerk
ATTN: CLAIMS
200 East Wells Street, Room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3567

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
2006 NOV 30 PM 3:42
RONALD O. LEONHARDT
CITY CLERK

See enclosed signed document describing the incident, date, time and place.

The incident happened at our house (Maryann and Gordon Buraczynski's) residence
2041 West Mangold Avenue on August 4, 2006.

We are asking for the \$14,000 dollars in cash that the thieves took from us. The
Traveler's checks, and our grandchildren's bonds are, or in the process of being replaced.
The damage to our house and the value of the stolen safe is being taken care of by
our insurance provider. Most of our personal and legal papers all being replaced.

o
In event that my wife and I cannot resolve this case by ourselves, we are asking for the
City of Milwaukee to pay all our legal bills.

I can account for the checks that I cashed, and the reason the cash was in our safe.

I hope you can understand that if this was some type of scam would we have extensively
damaged our home? If we were trying to collect on a false claim why wouldn't be have
made false claims of property missing which truly wasn't stolen? If needed, we would
be willing to take lie detector tests.

The reason why we feel the City of Milwaukee is responsible for our loss is because
they are the employer of Det. Tracey Becker, the detective that was assigned to our case.

Det. Becker repeatedly refused to question the subjects that we continue to believe were involved in the robbery of our house. It wasn't until five (5) days after the robbery, did Det. Becker finally question Dennis Czerwinski about the robbery. Just a short while before Det. Becker questioned Czerwinski on August 8, 2006, Dennis had called me to tell me that he was at a rummage that same weekend and that his one nephew Eric Czerwinski (another suspect of ours) was visiting him with 2 of Eric's children. Dennis also told me that he was going to go and paint another nephew's (Mark) deck in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, (our 3rd suspect) and asked what kind of paint to use.

When Det. Becker questioned Dennis Czerwinski later that evening, Dennis told Det. Becker he hadn't seen either of them for over a month. When I heard what Dennis told Becker, I told Becker the story Dennis told me. Unfortunately Det. Becker did not question Dennis Czerwinski about the conflicting stories.

I asked Det. Becker about the conflicting alibis (which you have agreed they were, which is why Dennis called me) but he didn't do anything about it. I have known Dennis for at least 40 years.

On August 7, 2006 I asked Det. Becker to trace a hang up phone call to our house on the morning of the robbery, but he declined saying it cost too much money and time. Finally 5 weeks later after writing a letter to the chief of police, a Lt. Det., Jim Timm had the call traced only to find out it no longer existed on record. If Becker would have traced this call, all of this unnecessary paper work wouldn't be required.

Weeks ago I asked to have the phone calls made by the robbery suspects traced and as of this day my request has been denied.

Det. Becker spoke to only the 3 suspects and only our neighbor living at 2105 West

Mangold. He made no attempt to talk to anyone else. I thought the job of
A detective was to investigate to get information. Enough time passed between
the day of the robbery until Becker interviewed the first suspect whereas a
suspect could have taken a cruise in the Caribbean or taken a round trip to
Australia.

One of the reasons I feel that we should be paid to be made whole is that when police
Officers and detectives feel they weren't promoted or treated equally they sue and I feel
I should be treated in the same matter.

I can only wonder how many other robberies were investigated as poorly as ours!

On the evening of August 7, 2006 Det. Becker called our house and called me a
Scammer several times accusing me of not paying my share of federal and state
taxes. His superiors might and should remind him that he is not employed by
the tax department. Employee's are like an investment such as a stock, if
the investment is bad, get rid of it and take the loss before it costs you more
money

Josephine Swaczynski 11-30-06
Jordan Swaczynski 11-30-06

. Robbery.

Incident 062160282

Date of Incident August 4, 2006

Detective – Tracy Becker

On Friday, August 4, 2006 I arrived home at approximately 2:30 PM only to find our garage door and back door entering into our house open, and our 125 lb dog loose on our front driveway. I then entered my house with my dog beside me who began to growl at the top of the basement stairs. Then with the dog at my side I preceded to inspect the basement only to realize that our 250-lb+ safe was missing. I immediately went upstairs to call the police department when I noticed that whoever burglarized our house had broken our patio door window to enter our house. Since our dog has the run of the house at all times the culprit(s) had to face him eye to eye. Within 15 minutes a police officer responded with whom I explained our dilemma. About 3:00 PM the officer called for a detective, but was informed no detectives were available since they were on roll call and a detective would respond after it was completed. The first responding officer kindly stayed at our house until a detective arrived about 5:00 PM on 8/4/06 about 2 hours later. It was then that the detective called downtown for someone to take pictures and look for prints, of which they found none. After giving the specifics of the burglary to the detective we offered to give the detective names of people we thought might be involved in the burglary. Detective Becker said that he would need evidence in order to question anyone.

Note: The next day at a party on 8/5/06 we happened to speak to a New Berlin detective who informed us that their department would interview anyone that would be a possible suspect.

Detective Becker left little encouragement that anything would be done to find out who was responsible for this crime. The last we heard from Detective Becker (or anyone else was on Friday 8/4/06 at 6:30 PM). On Sunday, 8/6/06 my husband called police headquarters and asked to speak to Detective Becker, when we were told that he was off that weekend. Detective Becker never mentioned that he was off that weekend. (48 hours had already passed without anything being done about the burglary) my husband spoke with Lt. Web and explained our problem, this was around 10:00 PM on Sunday 8/6/06. Lt. Web informed my husband that she would have a detective get back to us. A Detective Gordon called back around 45 minutes later and asked about the particulars of the crime. (No action came from either of these telephone calls).

Monday evening 8/7/06 (now 72 hours have passed before Detective Becker called us back, he is on 2nd shift) – upset that we called headquarters and talked to Lt. Web about the burglary and to ask if anything was being done.

After my husband explained what the New Berlin detective said, Detective Becker finally agreed to speak to the people we felt were involved with the burglary. Of course by then any evidence that they may have found was long gone. We also informed Detective Becker of a telephone call that we received on our answering machine on Friday, 8/4 around 10:47 AM and asked if there was a way he could trace the number since it was a

hang up – we thought possibly to check to see if anyone was home. Detective Becker said he wouldn't have it traced since it was too costly both money and time. It sure is strange telephone calls were traced in regards to the police officer Jon Bartlett's case. We heard from Detective Becker on Tuesday, 8/6/06 and on Friday, 8/11/06 with no indication that anything further would be done on our case until the safe was found – but that to was a remote possibly – (what some encouragement). Detective Becker seemed satisfied with the answers that he received from the 3 people that he interviewed. (We felt that he did this to pacify us). Another known fact is that Detective Becker did not interview a single neighbor for evidence of the burglary.

Our feelings at this point are that the Milwaukee Police Department did almost nothing and we were just another write-off and blew us away.

Statements were made about us living in a nice house and looking like we might have money in the house that is not an excuse to rob someone and it does not explain why the thieves went straight to the basement and took the safe and touched nothing else.

We live in a quite neighborhood not a rich one where most people go to work everyday. The amount of property taxes we pay and the services (police protection/help) is just ridiculous. We realize that we are not the only people in the city with problems but we did expect to get much better service from the police department. (I can't believe that Milwaukee's taxpayers are paying almost a quarter of a billion dollars for protection). We feel very violated and angry over how the situation was handled. I cannot help but wonder how Detective Becker would feel if he was the one who was violated. I'd bet money on it that there would be an ongoing investigation. If Detective Becker knew he was off the weekend why did he or the captain of detectives not assign another detective to the case instead of waiting 72 hours to call us back with nothing. After 72 hours no one is going to keep a safe around.

Again we cannot understand why the only the safe was taken, but I'll bet they will be back.

We want some satisfaction including a new investigation. The detective, crime investigator and police all agree that this was an inside job, in fact anyone that we tell this story to agrees.

It has now been 21 days as of the mailing of this letter and we still do not have an incident report. I have called open records three times in the past week and I have been told the original report has not been approved.

Addendum

On the evening of 8/6/06 Detective Becker called us and asked me how I could refer to other people as scammers when I, Gordon Buraczynski was a scammer (that is the word he used on several occasions). Naturally, I was shocked here is Detective Becker, 5 days later who is being paid by myself and all other taxpayers in Milwaukee to investigate a crime inflicted on my wife and myself is questioning my honesty. (Does he think he is working for the FBI or works for the Internal Revenue?) Just maybe if he was doing the job he is being paid for, instead of pointing unnecessary fingers at us something would have been solved). It was at this time I told Detective Becker that I have nothing to hide and that he could place this fact on the front paper of the newspaper. I am a retired painter that worked for the City of Milwaukee and now I work part-time as a painter and I hired one of the subjects in question occasionally. Detective Becker accused me of paying one of the crime subjects under the table.

On August 11, 2006 – the last time we heard from Detective Becker – I informed him that I am honest and report all my income on my income taxes and that the subject in question was paid in cash since he was my sub-contractor and it is his responsibility to pay his own taxes. As of today August 26, 2006 (that is over 2 weeks) we have not heard from Detective Becker or anyone else from the Police Department. Maybe its time to remind the police force that they are Civil Servants and the taxpayers are the Employers.