

INCIDENT/OFFENSE REPORT SUPPLEMENT

Agency ORI AR0 6800 00		Agency Name SHARP COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.		Date and Time of this Report <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>Month: 01 Day: 29 Year: 96</div> <div>Time: 5:35PM</div> </div>				Agency Case Number 121-00-96		
EVENT	Victim Name as on Original Report (Last, First, Middle) Byers, Melissa			Date Original Report 3/29/96		Type Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Followup		Page 3 of 3		
	Original Incident/Offense Unexplained Death			New Incident/Offense if Changed		From CJIS/NCIC Off. Code		To CJIS/NCIC Off. Code		
	Has an Arrest Been Made? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Arrest No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No			Date of Arrest Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____		Has a Warrant Been Obtained? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Warrant No. _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Date of Warrant Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contacted Complainant _____ Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No Additional Information			<input type="checkbox"/> Contracted Witness/s Listed _____ Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No Additional Information		<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Contact Complainant and/or Witness/s Listed Date: _____				
FOLLOW-UP	INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP OR SUPPLEMENTAL USAGE Under Narrative record your activity and all developments in the case subsequent to last report. Describe and record value of any property recovered, names and arrest numbers of any persons arrested. Explain any offense classification change. Clearly show disposition of recovered property and inventory numbers.									
	<p>Mark's neighbor, Norm Metz and lived next door at 73 Skyline and he had telephoned for the ambulance at John Mark's request.</p> <p>I requested Chief Rose and Officer Slayton to secure the Byers' home and property and told them I was going to escort the ambulance to E.O.R. Hospital which I did.</p> <p>At the hospital Dr. David Kauffman and staff started treating Melissa while I stayed with John Mark. While I was with John mark, I wrote his voluntary statement which he signed. (See attached, #1)</p> <p>At approximately 6:30PM, Dr. Kauffman came from Melissa's treatment room and told John Mark, Melissa had expired.</p> <p>John Mark then signed papers for the ambulance and hospital and was asked by Dr. Kauffman, if he wanted to have an autopsy on Melissa, at his request.</p> <p>John Mark said "he didn't know what to do." He then turned to me and asked</p>									
NARRATIVE										
VALUE	Currency, Notes, etc. \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Jewelry & Precious Metals \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Furs & Clothing \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Locally Stolen Vehicles \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Office Equipment \$ _____ S \$ _____ R	
	T.V., Radios, Cameras, etc. \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Firearms \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Household Goods \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Consumable Goods \$ _____ S \$ _____ R		Livestock \$ _____ S \$ _____ R	
ADMINISTRATIVE	Case Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Inactive <input type="checkbox"/> Closed		Case Disposition <input type="checkbox"/> Cleared by Arrest (Def. under 18 yrs.) <input type="checkbox"/> Cleared by Arrest (Def. 18 yrs. or over) <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally Cleared <input type="checkbox"/> Unfounded		Arrest Made? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Arrest No. _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Entered CJIS/NCIC Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____ Time: _____			
					Reporting Officer No. 1 Fred Waser Number 107		<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Gun <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Article <input type="checkbox"/> Security			
	Investigator Assigned				Approving Officer <i>T. G. Sommy</i> <i>Paul</i>		UCR Offense Classification em			

101-674-96

ADDITIONAL INCIDENT/OFFENSE
NARRATIVE - continued

Date and Time of this Report

Month Day Year Time

Agency Case Number

Type Report: ☐ Continuation ☐ Follow-Up

On my arrival at approximately 9:30PM, I was met by Chief Rose, Officer Slayton, C.V. Officer Stan Haney and C.V. Officer Mike Doyle. Chief Rose told me that no one had entered the home since my departure for the hospital. I requested they stay at the house until the A.S.P. investigation team made their entry.

Officer Haney told me John Mark was concerned with the whereabouts of his step-son, Ryan, because he (John Mark) had told him to take his girlfriend Amanda home and come right back. I requested that Officers Rose, Slayton and Doyle look for Ryan and Amanda after they were relieved by the investigators, to which they agreed.

I then walked down to the carport where John Mark was sitting with a white female known to me as Mandy Beasley. I told John Mark we were about to start the search and I would tell him when he could come in his house. I asked why Mandy was there and was told she is a friend of the family.

At approximately 9:45PM the team arrived at the Byers residence. Officer Witt requested I log who entered and exited the home and at what times, which I did, (see attached), and turned the original over to Officer Witt.

At approximately 10:30PM, a black Ford Ranger pulled into the Byers' driveway, exiting the vehicle was a white male who identified himself as James Lawrence, and was a friend of the family, which John Mark confirmed.

At approximately 10:34PM the telephone rang and was answered by Officer Huddleston. The caller was K. A. DeFir, at [REDACTED], Memphis, TN, who is John Mark's father-in-law. He requested to talk to John Mark about Melissa's death. At 10:40PM John Mark was allowed to enter the kitchen of his house and take the call from K. A. DeFir. After completing the call, John Mark was sat at the kitchen table and at 10:45PM Manda Beasley and James Lawrence were also allowed to enter the kitchen and

Continue on additional Supplement

INCIDENT/OFFENSE REPORT SUPPLEMENT

Agency ORI AR0 6800 00		Agency Name SHARP COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.		Date and Time of this Report Month: 01 Day: 30 Year: 96 Time: 7:00PM				Agency Case Number 121-00-96		
EVENT	Victim Name as on Original Report (Last, First, Middle) Byers, Melissa D.			Date Original Report 03/29/96		Type Report <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow-up		Page 1 of 1		
	Original Incident/Offense Unexplained Death			New Incident/Offense if Changed		From CJIS/NCIC Off. Code		To CJIS/NCIC Off. Code		
	Has an Arrest Been Made? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Arrest No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			Date of Arrest Month: 03 Day: 30 Year: 96		Has a Warrant Been Obtained? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Warrant No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Date of Warrant Month: Day: Year: 		
FOLLOW-UP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contacted Complainant 03/30/96 Date: 03/30/96 Time: 7:00PM			<input type="checkbox"/> Contracted Witness/s Listed Date: Time: 			<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Contact Complainant and/or Witness/s Listed Date: Time: 			
	<input type="checkbox"/> No Additional Information			<input type="checkbox"/> No Additional Information						
INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP OR SUPPLEMENTAL USAGE Under Narrative record your activity and all developments in the case subsequent to last report. Describe and record value of any property recovered, names and arrest numbers of any persons arrested. Explain any offense classification change. Clearly show disposition of recovered property and inventory numbers.										
NARRATIVE	On Saturday, 3/30/96 at approximately 7:00PM I traveled to the John Mark Byers residence reference copies of evidence siezed and Permission to Search for John Mark's records. After giving the copies to John Mark, he stated he needed to talk to me. I told him I had time to listen to anything he wanted to tell me. He then asked me to come into his livingroom and sit down.									
	John Mark said he talked to his brother-in-law, Dennis DeFir who is a policeman at Greenville, Mississippi. John Mark said Dennis and his father-in-law had brought Ryan Clark, John Mark's stepson back from Memphis today and that was where Ryan went to last night when he left his home on Skyline last night.									
	Dennis advised John Mark to tell the police in Sharp County about Melissa's re-occurring drug problem, and he wanted to tell me about it.									
	John Mark stated Melissa's drug of preference was DILAUEDE over the									
VALUE	Currency, Notes, etc. \$ R 		Jewelry & Precious Metals \$ R 		Furs & Clothing \$ R 		Locally Stolen Vehicles \$ R 		Office Equipment \$ F 	
	T.V., Radios, Cameras, etc. \$ S R 		Firearms \$ S R 		Household Goods \$ S R 		Consumable Goods \$ S R 		Livestock \$ S R 	
ADMINISTRATIVE	Case Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Inactive <input type="checkbox"/> Closed		Case Disposition <input type="checkbox"/> Cleared by Arrest (Def. under 18 yrs.) <input type="checkbox"/> Cleared by Arrest (Def. 18 yrs. or over) <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptionally Cleared <input type="checkbox"/> Unfounded		Arrest Made? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Arrest No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Entered CJIS/NCIC Month: Day: Year: Time: 			
					Reporting Officer No. 1 Fred Waser Number 107		<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Gun			
					Reporting Officer No. 2 Number 		<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Article <input type="checkbox"/> Security			
Investigator Assigned J. S. Somers					Approving Officer J. S. Somers		UCR Offense Classification em			

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course of their 8 year marriage. He said he had taken Melissa, on several occasions to Greenleaf and to Rehab at West Plains, Mo., but he could not watch her 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

He continued that there had been problems in the marriage and Melissa left him and went to stay with her mother and father (K.A. DeFir) in Memphis and she had returned home 2 or 3 weeks ago when Ryan, her son had returned from his father's after a 6 month stay.

He felt Melissa may have brought some DILAUEDE back with her from Memphis but didn't know for sure.

I advised John Mark that the autopsy would tell if she had any drugs in her system.

I then asked to speak to Ryan because I needed his statement about the events of 3/29/96. John Mark told me Ryan was out with friends and may stay out awhile. I told him to call the Sheriff's Office when Ryan returned home. He said he would.

At approximately 9:30PM I was advised by dispatch to telephone 257- [REDACTED] which I did. John Mark answered the phone and told me Ryan was home but was sick and lying down and could I wait until tomorrow to interview him. I told John Mark I would come by the home between 5:00 and 5:30PM on Sunday, 3/31/96.

Pending, further investigation.

Fred Waser #107 S.C.S.O.

Continue on additional Supplement

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

ASP-3-A

DATE: APRIL 1, 1996
DICTATED BY: INV. STAN WITT
DATE TYPED: APRIL 12, 1996 GM
COPIES TO: INV. STAN WITT (2)

TYPED	_____
INDEXED	_____
LOGGED	_____
PROOFED	_____
QUAL. CON.	_____
COPIED	_____
FILED	_____

pm 4-18

INTERVIEW OF WITNESS

NORM METZ
W/M, DOB: [REDACTED] 40
73 SKYLINE DRIVE
CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS
PH: [REDACTED]

METZ was interviewed on March 29, 1996, at 11:58 p.m., at his residence in Cherokee Village by this Investigator. The interview was witnessed by Sharp County Deputy, FRED WASER. METZ gave the following information.

METZ advised that on March 29, 1996, he left his home around 7:10 a.m., ate breakfast, and ran other errands. He advised he got home around 9:45 a.m., and the BYERS vehicle was not home. METZ advised that he visited another neighbor and returned home around 10:30 a.m., at which time he noticed the BYERS's vehicle at home. He advised they were cleaning out their car, looking for a 20 amp fuse and JOHN MARK BYERS came to his house to borrow a flash light. METZ advised that he was home the remainder of the day, sharpening chain saws and cutting wood, until approximately 4:00 p.m. He advised that a friend named MIKE FRIEND, came by his residence and visited until about 4:45 p.m. METZ advised that a little after 5:00 p.m., JOHN MARK BYERS called him and advised him that he could not wake up MELISSA and ask him to cover over to see if she had a pulse. He advised he ask him why he didn't call the ambulance, and he said, "Well, come over, come through the kitchen door".

METZ advised that he went to the BYERS's residence and went inside through the door leading from the carport and saw the BYERS's son, RYAN CLARK, and his girlfriend nude on the couch. He advised he went immediately to the bedroom and saw that MELISSA was totally naked lying on the far side of the bed on her back. He advised her mouth was wide open, her eyes were closed, she was totally limp, and her arms were down by her side. METZ advised he checked for a pulse, lifted her eyelid, and looked at her eyes. He advised that he told JOHN MARK to do CPR on her and he started it. He advised that she gurgled up some fluids, and he told MARK he was going to call EMS.

FILE NUMBER:01-674-96

CRIME:POSSIBLE HOMICIDE

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

NAME: John Mark Byers CASE: 121-00-96
 ADDRESS: 75 Skyline Drive DATE: 3/29/96
Cherokee Village, AR DOB: [REDACTED] 57
 TELEPHONE NO: 257 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]

Melissa Byers DOB [REDACTED] 56 12:00PM They went to bed, spent some
time talking, had intercourse (intercourse) and went to sleep, at app-
roximately 2:30PM they went to sleep. At approximately 3:20PM the Byers'
son, (Ryan) knocked on their bedroom door to let them know he was home
from School. Melissa asked John if that was Ryan knocking at the door,
John said yes, he thinks.. John then fell back to sleep He awoke again
went to the kitchen for a glass of milk and returned to Melissa laying
on the bed. He asked her if she wanted something to drink. She didn't
respond. John then sat on the right side of bed. He then laided (laid)
back down he touched her and she didn't fell (feel) right. John then
shooker (shook her), went and got a wet wash rag and wiped her face. He
then felt for a pulse he could not find a one. He then started C.P.R.
After a short time Melissa through (threw) up some liquid. John then
called his next door neighbor, Norm Metz at [REDACTED] to ask him to call
ambulance. John then started C.P.R. on Melissa again until the ambu-
lance people took over C.P.R.

Written by Deputy Fred Waser on 3/29/96 at 6:30PM

typewritten copy of original statement

WITNESS: Fred Waser

SIGNATURE: John Mark Byers

em

01-674-96