

Mal Police Department Report: Follow Up Report of Det. Rusty Flanagan

Suspect:

Samuel L. Griffith, 2323 S.E. 6th Mal, OR
503-433-1112
39 - 6'1" - 197 lbs.

Persons Interviewed:

Samuel Griffith	2323 SE 6 th , Mal, OR	503-433-1112
Dr. Mamoud	Appleton Hospital, Salem, OR	(B) 503- 207-1122
Bob Oos	All Farm Insurance 1900 Main Street, Mal, OR	(B) 503-333-1497
Alexandra Torres	200 Peach Tree Lane Macminville, OR	(H) 503- 333-7854

8/20/20XX- 16 1830 hrs. Detective R. Flanagan dispatched to Gun Lodge on Priest Lake. Upon arrival met with officer Styles who briefed me on what had occurred. According to the officer, Sam and Marian Griffith had been boating and swimming. Marian drowned when struck by their capsized raft. Marian had been transported from the scene. I know the Griffiths because Sam works for the *Mal Gazette* and we go to the same church.

8/20/20XX-16 1900 hrs. Interviewed Samuel Griffith in the upstairs lounge of Gun Lodge. Griffith stated that he and his wife were swimming near their raft in Portage Bay some distance from the beach in front of the lodge. Said that Marian developed a leg cramp and was clinging to the raft when the wake of a passing speedboat caused the raft to capsize and his wife went underwater. He said that he was able to turn the raft over, pull his wife into the raft and row back to the Lodge's dock. Marian was dead by the time they reached the dock. Advised Griffith of his rights and took a written statement.

8/21/20XX-16 0835 hrs. I attended the autopsy conducted by Dr. Mamoud, Oregon's Medical Examiner. Dr. Mamoud found no marks on Marian's body, and opined that she died from asphyxia due to drowning. Dr. Mamoud classified the death as "possible accident."

8/22/20XX-16 0930 hrs. Called Sam Griffith and learned that his wife was insured for \$250,000 and that he was the primary beneficiary.

8/22/20XX-16 1530 hrs. Went to speak with Bob Oos, whom Griffith had told me was his insurance agent. Oos inform me that Sam Griffith had already been in contact with him to determine how he might collect on the insurance.

8/26/20XX-16 1300 hrs. Went to Gun Lodge and met with life guards Bonny Peters and Bob Luby. We attempted to recreate the situation described by Sam Griffith using the Griffiths' Sevylor raft. Both Peters and Luby got in the water in Portage Bay with Bonny hanging onto the raft. We then ran various motor boats of different sizes by the raft to generate large wakes. Despite several efforts to overturn the raft with boat wakes, the raft stayed upright. Videotaped all.

8/27/20XX-16 1030 hrs. Presented the case to District Attorney Alsdorf. Alsdorf indicated that at this stage the District Attorney's office declined to prosecute. Case closed.

9/8/20XX 0903 hrs. Telephone call from Ruston Police Homicide Cold Case Detective Michael Doerty. Doerty states that Samuel Griffith's second wife has been stabbed to death. Doerty request access to our case file because Ruston PD is investigating Sam Griffith as a suspect in his wife's death. Overnighted our case file to Doerty. Agreed to assist Ruston PD. Decided that we should reopen our case and decided to go to Portage Bay and knock on doors tomorrow.

9/9/20XX 1300 hrs. Went cabin to cabin along the Lake shore path in Portage Bay. Located a witness, Alexandra Torres, who was never contacted during the initial investigation. She recalled the incident because of the news about the drowning near Gun Lodge. The day of the reported drowning, Ms. Torres states that she was sitting on her cabin porch facing out towards Portage Bay and reading. She recalls a couple paddling into the Bay. The raft was around 150 yards away when the couple got in the water to swim. She saw the man pull the woman into the raft and row back towards Gun Lodge. Ms. Torres never saw the raft capsize. At the time she didn't think it was important to report. Took a statement from Ms. Torres and FAXed it to Doerty.