



MORE ASSASSINATION PLOTS?!

Tulsa Homicide Detective, Witness Said to Be Targets of Three Now Jailed Suspects

LeSure Says She'll Take More Time Extended Leave With Pay Chosen

By ROBERT E. BARNES
Special to the Chronicle



LeSure

The beleaguered judge accused of fraud and perjury has decided to take an extended leave of absence from the courthouse.

Oklahoma County District Judge Tammy Bass LeSure, 43, was charged two weeks ago with 30 counts of making a fraudulent claim against the state and two counts of perjury.

Her husband, Karlos Antonio LeSure, 46, was charged with two counts of making a fraudulent claim against the state and two counts of perjury.

Judge LeSure was asked by the presiding judge to take all of last week.

She now has decided to stay away longer while she

(continued on page A7)



Pushing Innovation

President Barack Obama, accompanied by Neal Verfuert, founder and president of Orton Energy Systems, tours the company in Manitowoc, Wis., last week after his State of the Union Address. The president announced his campaign for industrial innovation. Orton Energy Systems makes high-efficiency lighting and renewable solar technology for businesses.

Summers, Already Behind Bars, Said To Scheme to Kill a Cop

Undercover Officer Is Contacted

By JOHN W. SIMMS
Special to the Chronicle



Summers

Bell

TULSA—Second and third assassination plots allegedly hatched by jailed men has been uncovered in Tulsa, prosecutors revealed late last week.

The most recently-unveiled schemes involved a man already behind bars in the Tulsa Jail, who, prosecutors said, plotted (with two others) to kill Sgt. Michael "Mike" Huff, a homicide police detective.

Separate plots to kill the Tulsa Police Department's head homicide detective and a witness cooperating with authorities investigating a high-profile homicide case were described in search warrant affidavits and jail records.

Affidavits show that former death-row inmate Phillip Summers was communicating from the Tulsa Jail with an undercover detective, who, at Mr. Summers' request, told Mr. Summers he could get the address of Sgt. Huff.

Mr. Summers told the undercover officer that he would provide an accomplice who would kill the homicide detective, according to documents filed in county district court.

Separate affidavits filed Friday allege that Alonzo Johnson, who is charged with murder and



Lucas

conspiracy to commit murder in the 2008 slaying of Neal Sweeney, was plotting to kill a witness who testified against the Sweeney defendants at a preliminary hearing in November.

Mr. Summers and Mr. Johnson, along with several other men in the Tulsa Jail, are also named in court documents as being involved in a plot to kill Tulsa County District Attorney Timothy "Tim" Harris.

That alleged plot was uncovered just a few weeks ago, in December.

The new search warrant affidavits, filed by Detective Vic Regalado, describe recorded conversations between Mr. Summers, the undercover officer and Mr. Summers' alleged accomplices outside the jail.

Named in the alleged plot to kill Sgt. Huff are Mr. Summers, 25; Demonte Bell, 25; and Michael Jawan Lucas, 23.

Mr. Bell and Mr. Lucas

(continued on page A7)



Shiron Davis (center) and relatives leave the courtroom of Tulsa County District Judge Rebecca Nightingale after his conviction was thrown out.

Tied to Cop Probe

Thanks to Corruption Scandal, Judges Throw Out Two Convictions

By THOMAS E. SEWARD
Special to the Chronicle

TULSA—Judges threw out felony convictions Thursday for two men, but a third man was denied post-conviction relief as the effects of a police corruption probe in Tulsa continue to unfold.

To date, 31 men and women have either been freed from prison, had felony cases dismissed, had sentences reduced or have been granted new trials due to a federal investigation of police misconduct.

The names of eight current and former police officers and one former federal agent have surfaced in the federal probe.

The list of officers whose names have been linked to the investigation includes five former and current police officers indicted July 20 for civil rights violations and various other crimes.

Also, a former Tulsa police officer and a former federal agent have pleaded guilty in the corruption probe and are cooperating

(continued on page A7)

Rapist Given Five Consecutive Life Terms by Judge

38 Years Behind Bars for Each Woman He Assaulted

By THOMAS E. SEWARD
Special to the Chronicle

An Oklahoma City man who pleaded guilty for being a serial rapist was sentenced to five consecutive life terms with no possibility of parole.

John Earl Stepney Jr., 33, pleaded guilty in October to raping five women.

On Friday, Oklahoma County District Judge Kenneth Watson gave him five life sentences without parole. . . .one 38-year term for each victim.

Mr. Stepney blamed drugs and pornography.

"[He] should never, ever, ever, ever be free again," Judge Watson said at the sentencing hearing on Friday.

One of the five rape victims was kidnapped as she walked out of Penn Square Mall two days before Christmas in 2008.

"Things are still not back to . . . normal," she told the judge on Friday. "I do not ever sleep well. I hear every little noise and I am jolted awake multiple times every night. Every time I have to walk to my car alone I have such pain and tightness in my chest it is almost unbearable."

"What are you doing not paying attention?," the Penn Square Mall rape victim told investigating policemen her assailant said to her when the rape occurred.

"Don't look at me!" she said the therapist commanded at the time. "Do you want a .45 bullet to your head?!"

"I wonder if I could let the penitentiary take care of it [if something like that happened to my own daughter]," the judge said, "rather than taking care of it myself."

"I made some bad decisions," the convicted man said in a pre-sentence report. "I have wrecked lives, including my own. I have always had a problem with pornography."

He also said he was using drugs when "my crimes happened." "The drugs make you feel like you must have everything you want," he said. "They take over you."

"All I can really ask for is to be forgiven."

The judge was told Mr. Stepney attacked the first rape victim as she slept in her apartment Nov. 17, 2008. Next, he attacked a woman walking home from work late Dec. 7, 2008.

His third victim was the woman who was doing Christmas shopping the afternoon of Dec. 23, 2008, at Penn Square Mall. His fourth victim was attacked Jan. 5, 2009, as she was doing laundry at her apartment complex.

The fifth victim was attacked on Jan. 7, 2009, as she was vacuuming her car at a car wash.

(continued on page A7)

'Do Something Different'

McIntyre Says She Won't Seek Another Term in State Senate

By W. ORLANDO PIERCE
Special to the Chronicle

State Sen. Judy Eason McIntyre (Dem., Tulsa) announced last week that she will not seek reelection in 2012.

The retired social worker and former member of the school board in Tulsa said she plans to travel, do artwork and volunteer.

At the end of her current term, the Tulsa Democrat will have served two years in the Oklahoma House and eight years in the State Senate.

The veteran legislator said she will still be raising money to get her through her current term.

State Sen. McIntyre, who had a double mastectomy in 2006 as part of her fight against breast cancer, will have been cancer-free for five years in October, she



State Sen. Judy Eason McIntyre

