

Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]
Winchester, Virginia

Via Facsimile and Certified Mail

January 22, 2020

Dear Sir/Madame:

I am a Forensic Intelligence Analyst and a congressional consultant. I am also a paralegal with extensive experience regarding informant practices related to the FBI and their handling of taxpayer-funded, Top Echelon informants. I've been in documentaries, national and international newspapers, and many television news appearances discussing informants who commit serious crimes while working under FBI auspices. Additionally, I was an independent consultant and lead talent on the Spike documentary, "Gone -- The Forgotten Women of Ohio." That series, submitted for a Peabody award, ran for eight episodes about, in part, murdered and missing women and informants; corruption; and human and drug trafficking. These matters are all addressed in this request.

This request pertains to Jeffery Epstein, born January 20, 1953 in Brooklyn, New York, and deceased August 10, 2019 in the federal Metropolitan Correctional Center New York. A copy of his obituary is attached to this letter. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. § 552), and President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992, (44 U.S.C. §2107), I request that the Federal Bureau of Investigation produce copies of any informant files, records or materials on or pertaining to Jeffrey Epstein, including but not limited to any informant file or Top Echelon (TE) informant file, Confidential Human Source (CHS) Reporting documents, and any Federal Central Inmate Monitoring System (CIMS) records wherever they may be located or filed and in whatever form or format they may be maintained.

I further request photographic copies of all photographs of Mr. Epstein. I'd like to expand the photos, images or aerial images or any metadata pertaining thereto. With respect to electronic surveillance materials, please provide not only the transcripts, logs, and other written materials pertaining thereto, but also any audio or videotapes in the format in which they were recorded.

Please include copies of any agreements with Epstein, or draft copy, or proffer agreement with Epstein and the FBI.

Include in this request all correspondence, memoranda, documents, reports, records, statements, audits, lists of names, applications, diskettes, flash drives, letters, expense logs, and receipts, calendar or diary logs, facsimile logs, flight logs, telephone records, call sheets, tape recordings, video/movie recordings, notes, ticklers, numbered and lettered subfiles, 1A envelopes, enclosures behind files, (EBF's), file covers, bulky exhibits ('Bulkies'), control files, and 'JUNE' or 'JUNE MAIL' files or records, examinations, opinions, folders, files, books, manuals, magazines, main discs, any mini storage files and records including and relating to mini storage 989-9779, and any records in file number storage unit files and records, archival storage unit files and records, pamphlets, forms, closed or transferred subfiles, jottings, telephone messages, message slips, post it notes or sticky's, drawings, charts, photographs, electronic mail, and other documents and records or materials that refer or relate to Epstein and/or the 7 categories below in any way, within twenty (20) business days.

JAN 28 2020

In conducting the search, please use all nicknames, aliases, pseudonyms, code names or code numbers used by, or applied to, Mr. Epstein. In addition, when searching under Mr. Epstein's name, please employ all logical buildups, breakdowns, and variations of his name.

In this request, please search the Central Records System ("CRS") for all main files and all cross-references. This includes all index references to Epstein, including not only the Central Records System ("CRS") indices and ELSUR indices, but any informant or confidential source indices and any indices to any office, bureau, section, division, unit or other component of the FBI which may have records pertaining to him. In providing cross-reference materials, the FBI should provide not only the initial page of the cross-referenced document and those pages to which Jeffrey Epstein's name is indexed but also the entire document. The search of the CRS is not to be limited to the Universal Index component of the CRS, but also must include searches of other components including those specified in Negley v. E.B.L., 658 F. Supp. 2d 50, n.3 (D.D.C. 2009).

In the search of the Electronic ("ELSUR") Indices include a search for not only those ELSUR materials that Mr. Epstein is subject of, but also must include any "mentions" or "overhears."

The search should include files in the FBI Director's Office, the files or folders maintained by any FBI supervisory official in office safes, drawers or file cabinets, and the files maintained by Assistant FBI Directors and files in the office of the SAC in Cincinnati from 1993 to January, 2020 particularly including the current and former office of [REDACTED] both in Washington, D.C., Cincinnati and Columbus.

The FBI search must include each field office that maintains records on Epstein, for records that are responsive to my request. The FBI Headquarters is aware of all FBI field offices which maintain records on Epstein, whereas I am not. Requiring me to submit requests to each of the approximate 59 field offices would be unduly burdensome and thwart the purpose of the FOIA to facilitate easy and prompt access to information.

Mr. Epstein's file may contain information beginning from an arrest and guilty plea that took place in federal court for a charge of conspiring to steal U.S. Treasury Checks in 1993 or earlier and ending August 10, 2019 the date of his death. I wish to limit the above request to the first 500 pages which fall within the following 7 categories listed below:

1. All warrants or drafts of warrants based in whole or in part on information submitted or provided by Mr. Epstein, including all information submitted by Epstein which was used to support warrants or drafts of warrants based on information provided by him. These records are of particular interest because Mr. Epstein was identified as cooperating with the FBI in an FBI document dated 9/18/08 on a child prostitution and forfeiture case against him. In this document the case agent advised that no federal prosecution would occur as long as Epstein continued to uphold his agreement.¹

2. Any and all information related to Mr. Epstein in which the FBI identified an associate of Mr. Epstein's criminal activities or his criminal enterprise. Please include in those records where identification was made of a **victim** or an **associate or recruiter of Mr. Epstein's that left from, or were taken to**, ANY locations in Kentucky, New Jersey, Ohio, or Palm Beach, Florida. Please also include records identifying what geographical areas the victims, criminal

¹ This is the same type of unwarranted protection that took place with Top Echelon informant Gregory Scarpa Sr. by his FBI handler R. Lindley DeVecchio which was identified in my case Clemente v. FBI. In addressing that case in 2005, my now deceased partner Dr. Stephen Dresch and I provided the Brooklyn District Attorney's office a homicide referral that later led to Agent DeVecchio's indictment of four counts of second-degree murder in 2007. See attached.

targets, or Epstein's associates were from, such as the counties, cities, towns, suburbs, and any unincorporated communities' name. Please also identify and release all records in the files that mention criminal targets or associates of Epstein that held positions in public office or were identified as attorneys or judges located in the state of Ohio. This material is important because, during my investigation in Ohio, both on and after the series had ended and through to the present date, several attorneys and I have communicated with senior agents at the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General. During these communications I/we provided information related, in part, to corruption and a human and drug trafficking ring that involves girls that were being trafficked from or were recruited from Ohio and Kentucky and were taken to Palm Beach, Florida and other areas of Ohio, New Jersey and other states. Our reports additionally involved informant[s] who have admitted participation in at least two homicides. One of these murder victims is still missing. The woman that is still missing was a client of a defense attorney who was the subject of an interstate human and drug trafficking investigation in which the DEA provided to and referred to the FBI that included trafficking females to Palm Beach, Florida, New Jersey and other states throughout the U.S.

One of the subject traffickers was identified in a DEA document as being part of the "Eubanks/Mearan organization." A subject in this same case has explained that he would meet with the defense attorney in Columbus with guys from out of state. Some of the girls were from Portsmouth, Chillicothe, and Columbus, Ohio and that the defense attorney was always eager to obtain company to go with him and his buddies to Palm Beach.²

Aside from the DEA referral, in 2017 the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General received from the Senate Judiciary's office and me information about this and other concerns with Ohio that was directed to the FBI's INSD Division for further investigation. My colleagues and I (which included multiple attorneys) were then referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio over concerns related to the public corruption aspect, which included information on an FBI agent, a State of Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Agent, a lead detective on a federal task force for murdered and missing women, and an attorney and a judge. The judge has since been suspended in a separate matter, and is now retired. The defense attorney is currently under an investigation involving human trafficking and other major crimes. The detective on the federal task force has been removed from his position with the federal authorities and thereafter abruptly resigned from his position with the Sheriff's Office of Ross County, Ohio, which he was employed by while working on the federal task force.

A detective who, on information and belief, possessed a fictitious New Jersey ID, was also under both state/federal investigation and has been since retirement in 2019. **See Attached Letter to Ohio Auditor's Office.** The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio is scheduling an upcoming appointment to further discuss matters related to potential physical evidence in the above related matter of human trafficking, public corruption and homicide. The records that I am requesting here will shed light on the government operations that are flawed in which it appears to have essentially provided a ripe opportunity for more victims to be victimized and sexually exploited by informant[s], and those who hold a position in public office in which these victims and their communities were reliant upon for their safety and the proper application of the law.

² This was a sealed DEA warrant application that was made public information by Cincinnati Enquirer on 3/21/19 and again by USA today in the same year. <https://www.cincinnati.com/in-depth/news/2019/03/21/sex-trafficking-trapped-and-trafficked-portsmouth-ohio/2839816002/>

3. All records pertaining to or referencing Portsmouth, Ohio Attorney Michael Mearan. Also include records pertaining to or referencing William Marshall or Mark Eubanks.

4. All records in any informant file in chronological sequence, commencing with the present year 2020 through to the earliest date.

5. All records that has [REDACTED] name, or codename, or signature, or initials on them pertaining to any Epstein investigation related to Ohio or mentioning Ohio, New York, New Jersey, or Palm Beach, Florida. Many cases that I, and law enforcement officials, have requested the FBI to investigate issues related to FBI informants and their handlers' informant practices were regularly dismissed by [REDACTED] and the offices in which she was employed [REDACTED] former office was located in Cincinnati, where she was a Special Agent in Charge (SAC). At the time, she was an SAC over one of the FBI agents and a BCI agent that the DOJ IG's office submitted to the FBI's INSD division (a division in which she had previously been employed) for further investigation. But not one witness that agreed to cooperate with the FBI officials, including former and current law enforcement officials, was contacted by the FBI. Moreover, one local low-level informant was willing to provide the location of the body of a woman who remains missing, but the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation Agent who was on the federal task force. The FBI Agent chose to never contact the informant, who was a participant in the woman's homicide. The lead detective on that case was the detective that was also on the federal task force with the FBI and BCI Agent mentioned above, and he has since resigned from his position after the discovery of misconduct related directly to him. The missing victim was a client of the defense attorney who was under investigation for trafficking women to Palm Beach, Florida and other states. I suspect these documents' release will shed light on the FBI's failures to protect murdered and missing women in Ohio, and those trafficked to Palm Beach, Florida, New Jersey and other states. One of Jeffrey Epstein's victims has been recently reported to say that she was taken to one of Epstein's associates homes, in Ohio, and assaulted there. A lawsuit is pending on this issue.

6. All records pertaining to Epstein victims associated in any way with Ohio or pertaining to Ohio, Kentucky or New Jersey that were taken to Palm Beach, Florida or were brought from Palm Beach, Florida to other states or countries including which states or countries the victims were brought to by Epstein or his associates.

7. All records pertaining to any FBI internal investigations related to Epstein, or Epstein and Ohio, whether located in the FBI Inspection Division (FBI-INSD), National and Transnational Organized Crime section, Office of Professional Responsibility, Public Corruption Division, Units, or Offices, Violent Crime Divisions, FBI Cincinnati Field Division (White Slave Trafficking investigation) FBI Cincinnati Field Division Human trafficking investigations, FBI Detroit Field Division Extortion Investigation, FBI Cincinnati Field Division Mexican Drug Trafficking Organization investigation files, FBI Cincinnati Field Division Violent Gang investigation or DEA Cincinnati Resident Office Investigation referrals to the FBI; and also FBI civil litigation division files or records of any kind whatsoever, and Counter-Intelligence Sections.

If after the 500-page limit has been reached other informant materials remain, please advise us of the approximate number of pages they comprise.

Please also advise us that you have placed my request in the "short hit" queue and inform us of an approximate date when I will begin receiving the requested records.

If any responsive record or portion thereof is claimed to be exempt from production under FOIA, sufficient identifying information (with respect to each allegedly exempt record or portion

thereof) must be provided to allow the assessment of the propriety of the claimed exemption. *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir 1973), cert denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Additionally, any reasonably segregable portion of a responsive record must be provided to me after redactions of any allegedly exempt material, as the law requires. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). In order to help to determine my status for purposes of determining the applicability of any fees, you should know that I am a

I am willing to pay fees up to \$50.00. If the fees will exceed this amount, please inform me before fees are incurred. I can be contacted at Angelaclemente_forensics@gmail.com, if necessary to discuss any aspect of this request. Under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii), I hereby request a full fee waiver for public interest. The materials that I seek will shed significant light on government operations and activities with informant practices similar to those I have already successfully helped to correct flaws. See, for example, DOJ-IG Special Report from September 2005, regarding in part a case I was involved in related to Top Echelon Informant Gregory Scarpa Sr. and his handler Lindley DeVecchio. This was information that I provided to the U.S. House of Representatives that was later submitted by them to the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General (DOJ IG). The DOJ-IG also used my case as an example in their Special Report. Similarly, the materials requested here will, among other things, shed light on (1) what the FBI knew about Epstein's criminal activities while he was serving as an FBI informant; (2) the extent to which Epstein's relationship to the FBI corrupted the system of justice; (3) how many victims were identified after the FBI chose to not prosecute Epstein in 2008; (4) whether Epstein was working and conspiring with others in public office who facilitated his conduct, by among other things, contacting victims and scheduling or facilitating sexual encounters with Epstein or his associates (some of whom are or may currently be under state and federal investigation in geographical areas such as Scioto, Ross and Franklin Counties, Ohio), especially as related to interstate human trafficking and murder. I have already been directly investigating and have been in direct communication with the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio, Chief of the Criminal Division Kenneth Parker, regarding many of the human trafficking cases in Ohio. I was directed to Mr. Parker after the DOJ-IG referred some of these cases over to the FBI's INSD for review.

I am capable of disseminating the information to the public. Indeed, prominent members of the news media have indicated their interest in covering not only the disclosure of any records pursuant to my request but the filing of Freedom of Information lawsuit to obtain them. I look forward to receiving the requested documents and a full fee waiver within twenty business days.

Please address any further correspondence to this request to both me and to my attorneys Julia Greenberg, Jim Lesar, and Jay Hurst at the following addresses:

Jay Hurst
1890 Star Shoot Parkway
Suite 170, PMB 371
Lexington, Kentucky 40509

Jim Lesar
930 Wayne Avenue
Unit 1111
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Julia Greenberg
160 Broadway
4th Floor
New York, New York 10038

v.05-01-2008)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 09/18/2008

To: Miami

Attn: SA [redacted]
PB-1, PBCRA

From: Miami

PB-1, PBCRA

Contact: AFI [redacted]

b6 -2
b7c -2

Approved By: [redacted] *bs/af*

Drafted By: [redacted] PGM

Case ID [redacted] (Pending)

Title: GENERAL FORFEITURE MATTERS
JEFFREY EPSTEIN
WSTA - CHILD PROSTITUTION

Synopsis: Request closing of forfeiture subfile FF.

Details: Investigation has revealed that [redacted]

b6 -1, -2,
b7c -1, -2
b5 -2

[redacted] AFI [redacted]
[redacted] Palm Beach, FL which is [redacted]
[redacted]

On 9/11/08, case agent advised writer that Epstein is currently being prosecuted by the State of Florida and is complying with all conditions of his plea with the State of Florida. Epstein has also provided information to the FBI as agreed upon. Case agent advised that no federal prosecution will occur in this matter as long as Epstein continues to uphold his agreement with the State of Florida. Case agent also advised that no further forfeiture assistance will be required for this case. Case agent is requested to contact writer in the event this matter moves forward on a federal level.

In that no further forfeiture related action is deemed necessary in this matter, it is requested that subfile FF be closed.

**

imp 9/17/08
[initials]

[initials]

ANGELA CLEMENTE & ASSOCIATES

*CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTING/FORENSIC INTELLIGENCE OFFICES

P.O. Box 901 Rio Grande, NJ 08242

*Telephone 609-972-3162

Angela.clemente.forensics@gmail.com

January 17, 2019

State of Ohio Auditor's Office
Mr. David Yost
Public Integrity Assurance
88 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 1140
Columbus, Ohio 43215

(Corrected Version dated 1/17/19)

Sent via Certified Mail # 7018 0360 0001 8355 1082

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. David Yost:

This letter is to notify your office about several very serious unconfirmed allegations and information that I've been made aware of regarding the Ross County Sheriff's Office and official[s] within that office and to request an immediate investigation to determine its accuracy and take action (if confirmed) where it is necessary. These reports also extend into other offices in Ross County including the Ross County Prosecution office, specifically regarding the risk of a significant conflict of interest that may arise if it is involved in any capacity in investigating these specific allegations.

The allegations and information involve a detective's alleged conduct while he was on duty working both regular and overtime hours. The official is John Winfield who was a detective from the Ross County Sheriff's Office and the Sheriff's lead detective on a local, State and Federal Task Force of the murdered and missing women of Ross County, which included victim's Charlotte Trego, Tameka Lynch, Timberly Claytor, Tiffany Sayre, and Wanda Lemons. It may also include victims Megan Kellough, Chanelle Watkins, and Angela Dyer.

On the State and Federal Task Force, Detective John Winfield was working with Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (Agent Larry McCoy and Ryan Scheiderer). It is my understanding that he was also federally deputized to work with the Federal Bureau of Investigation under Agent David Knight. BCI Agents Larry McCoy and Ryan Scheiderer were also deputized to work on the Federal Task Force. It is reported that Ross County Prosecutor Matthew Schmidt was involved with the Task Force and was reported to have met with them regularly.

The residents of Ross and Scioto Counties and the families of the murdered and missing women in both counties signed a petition last year for Ross County Prosecutor Matt Schmidt and Judge Ater to be removed from their cases for reasons of bias and their legitimate concerns that Judge Michael Ater and Prosecutor Matt Schmidt provided leniency to and potentially protected an alleged longtime informant, Earnest "Dollar Bill" Moore and because they felt their cases were not being properly investigated or addressed. The community and victim's families petitioned the U.S. Attorney General to assign a special prosecutor to remove Judge Michael Ater and Prosecutor Matt Schmidt. This petition received over 2000 signatures. Scioto County citizens also requested that a special prosecutor be assigned on their cases citing similar concerns.

The missing women's task force was comprised of the following entities and individuals:

Ross County Sheriff's Chief Deputy T.J. Hollis- He led the local task force.

Ross County Sheriff's Office Detective John Winfield- Lead detective on the missing women's task force. (Federally Deputized)

Chillicothe Police Department

Federal Bureau of Investigation- Agent David Knight (SAC- [REDACTED])

Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation- Agent Larry McCoy and Ryan Scheiderer (Federally Deputized)

The current unconfirmed allegations and information include the contents below:

Detective John Winfield received approximately \$13,000 in overtime compensation, portions of which were federal funds provided to the Ross County Sheriff's office where he was employed. Because he was the lead detective on the missing women's cases, these allegations and reports require serious review for both criminal and civil action and demand a very thorough investigation.

It is reported that while he was compensated, Detective Winfield used company equipment (i.e. his official vehicle) and falsely reported that he was working when he was not. He was also engaged in an extramarital affair with another deputy from the same office, Ross County Sheriff's Deputy Jena Horiack. His conduct allegedly caused harm to that deputy as she was a victim of physical abuse, pregnant and was reported to have allegedly lost an unborn baby. She has since left her employment at the Ross County Sheriff's Office and was subsequently offered employment by the Ross County Prosecution office allegedly as a result of the circumstances that Detective Winfield placed her in. Detective Winfield's behavior was reported to Mike Preston from the Ross County Sheriff's Office and it is my understanding that Sergeant Lawhorn filed charges on him. He was then placed on administrative leave but stayed on the roster.

Ohio citizens who are taxpayers help fund these local, federal and state entities who are in place to protect and preserve life and they have every right to know where and how their tax dollars are

being spent. The reports and allegations additionally include that the Ross County Prosecutor's office "quietly" worked out a deal that Detective Winfield was to attend a six-month inpatient rehabilitation program in Kentucky where he was allegedly ordered to be treated for sex, drug, and alcohol abuse. However, he left approximately two months early, immediately violating the "leniency" that he was being given and subsequently committed a fourth-degree felony of criminal trespass on his wife's property.

After receiving this information, I checked for verification purposes which showed the court docket sheet displaying a criminal trespass charge on 9/26/2018 filed by his wife Michelle Winfield. The violation time was 9:10. Ticket number was S1983 and was visible on the court docket as a 4th degree misdemeanor Section 2911.21. The case number was CRB 1803360. Detective Winfield's date of birth is 3-5-82. The case was in the Chillicothe Municipal Court.

There is another pending case which is most likely a result of the above related incident. That case is 18 DR 000417. The case is a Dissolution with Children case that is currently being handled under Judge Michael Ater. This case is located with the Ross County Court of Common Pleas. Judge Ater's wife works for the Ross County Prosecutor's Office under former Prosecutor Matthew Schmidt and now it is alleged that Detective Winfield's victim (his former mistress) also works with the Ross County Prosecutor's office. Judge Matthew Schmidt is now working with Judge Michael Ater. Former Prosecutor Matthew Schmidt's wife works for the Ross County Sheriff's Office.

On a related note I have received numerous reports that Detective Winfield did not properly handle information from willing witnesses related to the murdered and missing women's cases. He did not act on information from those reporting parties or others nor did he follow up on information that was provided by people who contacted him directly or who contacted the Sheriff's office or others where he was the lead detective and they felt that he did not investigate the information he received.

The implications of these allegations are significant because the perpetrator[s] have not been arrested and because it raises the possibility if these charges are verified that some of these deaths could have been prevented if he had followed up on the information received or spoke to the reporting parties who could have provided information and/or physical evidence.

Below is a list of the information and allegations that Detective Winfield was allegedly engaged in while using his state and federal authorized time on duty that were not work related. These allegations have not been verified or confirmed and should be investigated:

- Theft in office
- Fraud
- Misappropriation of funds (fraudulent use of local, state, and federal tax dollars)

- Drug and Alcohol abuse
- Assault
- Insubordination
- Dereliction of Duty

I am sure the community does not care about the allegations of his extramarital affairs with another deputy, as that is a personal issue that should not be disclosed. However, they do care about his conduct as the lead detective on a federal task force for the murdered and missing women; especially if any deaths could have been prevented if he had followed up on witness reports or if he was actually working while he was supposed to be on duty as an official with the task force. Equally concerning is that federal funds and tax payer dollars may have been misappropriated to this detective in spite of his problematic conduct, including the allegations of theft in office and other misconduct which, if verified, should have led to criminal charges.

The following questions regarding Detective Winfield arise:

1. Were any emergency calls or any calls missed while he was on duty but not actually working that may have placed any lives in jeopardy?
2. Were any lives lost because he did not act on any leads or information that was provided by citizens on the murdered and missing women's cases?
3. Who investigated Detective Winfield's actions? Were they a biased party? What were the consequences of that investigation since it is reported that he terminated the alleged mandatory rehabilitation early?
4. Why was he reassigned a new position in Waverly after allegedly being demoted by the Ross County Sheriff's Office in spite of the fact that he allegedly prematurely left his ordered mandatory rehabilitation in Kentucky and had a trespass complaint against him?
5. Were the funds that he received in overtime and on the clock refunded if he was not working during the hours that he reported he was working?
6. Were the federal authorities notified that the funds were potentially misappropriated?
7. Has the Internal Revenue Service been contacted about the theft in office?
8. Has the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General been notified since he was on the federal task force as the lead detective for the murdered and missing women's cases and criminal acts have been allegedly committed?

9. Has an official government assessment been made as to how much money was received in a fraudulent manner that he claimed on his overtime and regular work shift specifically for the murdered and missing women's cases?

10. Were the BCI Agents that he worked with regularly, Agents Larry McCoy and Ryan Scheiderer, involved in any capacity with Detective Winfield for the allegations listed herein?

Finally, Detective Winfield is also reportedly a relative of one of the alleged killers of at least two of the murdered and missing women and should have never been placed in that position. He had already been reported to federal and congressional offices in Washington for other conduct that was problematic and questionable.

It is with this information that this request is made to (1) conduct a full independent investigation on these allegations (2) obtain the records of funding that has been expended to Detective John Winfield when he reported that he was on duty both as a federal task force officer and as a Ross County Sheriff's Deputy and (3) determine whether any deaths might have been prevented if he had followed up on any evidence or with any witnesses that claimed to have reported or attempt to report information to him.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Clemente

cc: Internal Revenue Service
Department of Justice Office of Inspector General
U.S. Attorney General

Private pathologist questions whether Jeffrey Epstein died by suicide; medical examiner stands by conclusion

Kevin Johnson Kristine Phillips
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – New York City's chief medical examiner said there's no need for a second investigation into Jeffrey Epstein's death after a pathologist hired by the family argued that injuries to the disgraced financier point to homicide, not suicide.

Epstein, 66, died while awaiting trial on federal sex trafficking charges. He was found unresponsive in his Manhattan jail cell early on Aug. 10.

New York City Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Barbara Sampson later ruled that Epstein died of suicide by hanging and refuted conspiracy theories that foul play was involved.

Michael Baden, a former New York City medical examiner who was hired by Epstein's brother, said in a Fox & Friends interview Wednesday morning that broken bones in Epstein's neck indicate a "huge amount of pressure" was applied.

"There were findings that are unusual for suicide by hanging and more consistent with ligature homicidal strangulation," Baden said.

Curiosity around one of those broken neck bones – the hyoid – has been at the center of theories about Epstein's death, which President Donald Trump has promoted.

News outlets reported in August that Epstein suffered broken bones in his neck. But The Washington Post, which first reported on the injuries, cited experts saying such breaks can occur in people who hang themselves, particularly if they are older.

In a statement Wednesday, Sampson said she stands by her conclusion that Epstein died by suicide.

"Our investigation concluded that the cause of Mr. Epstein's death was hanging and the manner of death was suicide," she said. "The original medical investigation was thorough and complete. There is no reason for a second medical investigation by our office."

Sampson said her office continues "to share information around the medical investigation with Mr. Epstein's family, their representatives, and their pathology consultant."

Baden, a Fox News contributor, said he does not know what work federal investigators have done on Epstein's death, but he called on officials to investigate further. He said the ligature that

was found wrapped around Epstein's neck was fashioned from bed sheets and would have contained DNA evidence.

Baden served as New York City's medical examiner for one year, beginning in 1978.

Prosecutors had alleged Epstein "sexually exploited and abused dozens of minor girls" at his homes in Manhattan and Palm Beach, Florida, and at other locations from at least 2002 to 2005.

After Epstein's death, Attorney General William Barr ordered multiple investigations focusing on the operations at Manhattan's Metropolitan Correctional Center, which has been plagued with staffing shortages. Those investigations are ongoing.

Federal authorities have been examining whether guards assigned to Epstein's unit slept through mandatory checks on his cell in the hours before he was found dead, and whether the guards falsified logs accounting for their time on duty.

Epstein had been placed on suicide watch after he was found semiconscious with marks on his neck just three weeks earlier, but he was removed from monitoring shortly after.

At the time of Epstein's suicide, there were more than 30 staff vacancies at the facility, said Serene Gregg, local president of the prison workers' union. Prison officials regularly assigned civilian staffers to work guard duty to plug unfilled officer positions, she said.

Ten of the 18 staffers who reported for duty on the midnight-to-8 a.m. shift – the one during which Epstein was found dead – were working overtime, according to federal prison records. On the previous shift, 4 p.m. to midnight, six of the 20 staffers were working overtime.

Contributing: Grace Hauck