

**The Portland Observer**

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# Jury Rules for Black Deputy

## Clark County liable for racism, discrimination

BY CERVANTE POPE

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A former jail employee in Vancouver has won a \$500,000 award in a civil lawsuit asserting racism and discrimination in the

workplace.

Britt Eastery and two other black employees of the Clark County Sheriff's Office claimed the department treated both African-American employees and black job applicants with "systemic and systematic" disregard for their wellbeing and fair treatment.

The other two claims, filed by Elzy Patrick Edwards and

Clifford Evelyn, are still in the Washington Court of Appeals so Eastery's case was the only one settled.

During Eastery's trial last month, his attorney Thomas Boothe mentioned many occurrences backing his claims, including instances where other jail staff allowed inmates to use racial slurs against him, and one occasion where a fellow officer

posted derisive photos of Eastery around the jail.

A juror, Rhonda Murphy, told the Columbian that the panel decided to award more money than was sought in the lawsuit to send a message.

"We wanted to prove a point. There's very much a pattern of racism. And the fear of losing your job if you report it needs to stop," she said.

## Police Give Up 48 Hour Rule

Portland's rank-and-file police union tentatively agreed to a new three-year contract Tuesday featuring higher pay while ending the so-called 48-hour rule, the controversial policy that allows officers to wait 48 hours before being interviewed about the use of deadly force.

## Couple Faces Hate Crime

A white couple accused of purposely running down a black teenager with their vehicle were charged Tuesday with an additional charge of targeting the 19-year-old because of his race. Russell Orlando Courtier, 38, and Colleen Catherine Hunt, 35, were already facing murder and hit-and-run driving in the Aug. 10 death of

## The Week in Review

Larnell Malik Bruce.

### Tupac Author Awaits Film

On the 20th anniversary of Tupac Shakur's tragic death last week, it was revealed that famed Portland journalist Randall Sullivan's investigative novel into the murder case, Labyrinth, will be adapted into a film. No one has been arrested in the case, but Sullivan hopes the film will reignite the investigation.

### Black Lives Leader Homicide

St. Louis police revealed Wednesday that prominent and outspoken Black Lives Matter and Ferguson leader Darren Seals was found

dead. The circumstances of his death are puzzling as his body had been shot and was found inside his vehicle, which had been set on fire. Police are looking into the case as a homicide.

### Lincoln High Students Walk

Students at Lincoln High School walked out of their classes last week to protest the Portland School Board's decision to delay a vote on a \$750 million construction bond until May. The protest eventually led them to City Hall, where they spoke up on the school's needs for working toilets, clean drinking water and more

space for students.

### Clinton Lynched In Effigy

A politically themed protest shocked drivers on I-5 near Sutherlin Sunday on the 15th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. An effigy of Hillary Clinton was hung from a noose attached to a crane. Billy Pinner, the man who created the display, said he has no plans of taking it down any time soon.

### School Football Canceled

Extreme hazing has prompted Philomath High School to cancel their entire varsity football season. Six players and one assistant coach face criminal charges after allegedly targeting around 11 freshmen during a team trip out town earlier this year.

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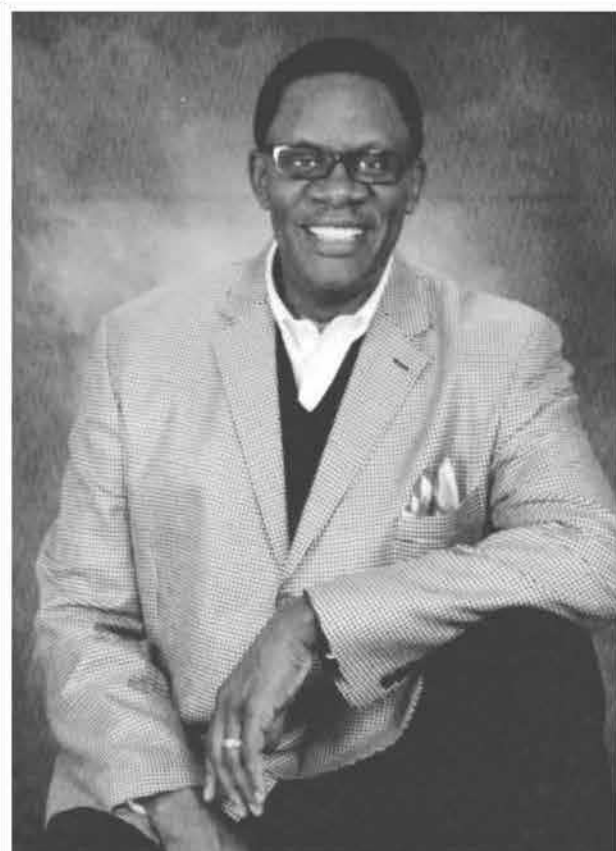
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**A:** While most people think of whiplash only as the result of a rear end collision, it can occur as a result of a fall or other sudden jolt. In car collisions, speeds as low as 5 MPH (a brisk walk) have caused whiplash. What's more, major studies show there is virtually no correlation between damage to the car and its occupants.

**Q:** How can I tell if whiplash has happened to me?

**A:** Whiplash often exhibits symptoms such as a sore neck,

arm or shoulder, nausea, blurred vision and headaches. If not treated immediately, these problems can lead to other more severe ones. To complicate matters, it sometimes takes years before whiplash symptoms occur.

**Q:** What should I do if I've had a fall or a car accident?

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