

LAW & JUSTICE

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Officer's Resignation Doesn't End Demands

AMA presses for police accountability

Despite the resignation of the police officer who shot and killed an unarmed African-American motorist last Spring, leaders with the Albina Ministerial Alliance are pressing the Portland Police Bureau to continue an administrative review of the shooting.

Jason Sery, the officer who shot and killed James Jahar Perez during a March 28 traffic stop in north Portland, resigned last week to take a job at his Beaverton church.

In a letter to Chief Derrick Foxworth, Sery



Police officer Jason Sery testifies on the witness stand during the hearing that cleared him and his partner of any wrongdoing in the James Jahar Perez shooting.

said his decision has nothing to do with the events of the last year.

The African-American alliance expressed their approval of Sery's resignation. The group had previously called for Sery to be fired.

"We are pleased that Officer Sery has resigned and we believe that this is the right decision," a statement from the AMA read. "Although Officer Sery resigned, we still want the administrative review of the actions of both officers, Sery and Sean Macomber, to continue in a timely manner."

Macomber was Sery's partner on the day of the deadly encounter in a St. Johns neighborhood.

A Multnomah County Grand Jury cleared both police officers of charges, but the shooting prompted outrage among residents and led to a public inquest.

The family of Perez has filed a \$10 million lawsuit against Sery and the city of Portland.

The death resulted in civil rights protests, a rare public inquest and a call to review the police bureau's use of force policy.

"I want to stress that my resignation has nothing to do with the events of this year," Sery said in his resignation letter. "Rather, I am resigning because I feel that I cannot pass up the opportunity to grow in my faith and take part in this ministry."

Sery's letter said he has been asked to take a full-time ministry position with the junior high program at Southwest Bible Church, and a teaching position at Southwest Christian School.

In a statement released late Tuesday, Foxworth thanked Sery for his service to the police bureau and wished him well.

(AP contributed to this report.)

Falsely Accused Muslim Hires Attorney

Celebrity lawyer plans lawsuit

(AP)—A Portland lawyer falsely accused by the FBI of involvement in the Madrid terrorist bombings has hired one of the nation's most successful and colorful attorneys to represent him in a lawsuit against the U.S. government.

Brandon Mayfield, who received a rare apology from the FBI after his release from two weeks of detention, has hired Gerry Spence, a celebrity attorney known as much for his success in the courtroom as for his buckskin jackets.

Spence said he intends to file a lawsuit in federal court on Mayfield's behalf.

Spence has won all his criminal cases and has not lost a civil lawsuit since 1969. His successes include victories for former Philippines first lady Imelda Marcos, white supremacist Randy Weaver and plutonium factory worker Karen Silkwood.

Mayfield was taken away from his Portland law office by FBI agents on May 6 after his finger-



Brandon Mayfield (AP photo)

print was incorrectly matched to ones found on a bag of detonators near a Madrid train station. The March 11 train bombings in Spain killed 191 people and injured about 2,000.

FBI agents seized Mayfield's computers, modem, safe deposit key, assorted papers, as well as copies of the Quran and "Spanish documents" — later determined to be his son's Spanish homework.

"It was humiliating," said

Mayfield, soon after his release. "This whole process has been a harrowing ordeal. It shouldn't happen to anybody."

While Mayfield was being detained, U.S. officials insisted the fingerprints on the bag matched those of the Portland attorney — even though Spanish officials disagreed.

Finally, the FBI conceded it had made a mistake and apologized to Mayfield.



CRIME STOPPERS

(503) 823-HELP 111 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204

Con Artist Warning

Money stolen from seniors in scam

Portland Police, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for help in identifying and catching con artists who are targeting senior citizens and in some cases getting away with a large sum of money.

The suspects approach victims at grocery stores or in parking lots and tell the victim they are from Africa or South Africa, and have come into possession of a lot of money. One person may flash a wad of bills saying they got an inheritance or insurance settlement. He or she will tell the victim they can't take the money back to their country and are looking for a church or charitable organiza-

tion to donate it to. The victim is asked for help finding a place to give away the money and usually asked to be driven somewhere. The scam artist may also tell the victim they want to give the victim the money.

At this point, the suspect is joined by an accomplice posing as an unsuspecting third party, who suggests to the victim that the victim should provide money of their own, usually \$10,000, as proof they are trustworthy. They go to the victim's bank, the victim withdraws the money and hands it to the suspect to hold for a few minutes, or even to walk around the block with, as a sign of good faith. Of course,



Police sketches identify two suspects in a scam targeting senior citizens.

The suspect is never seen again. Neither is the money.

The main suspect is a black female in her 20s or 30s. She speaks with an accent. She has a thin build, straight black hair and a ponytail. The accomplice has been a black female and a black male. The male is described as about 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 200 pounds. His hair is short and neat. He is clean-shaven and well dressed.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to the arrest of the suspect in this case, or any unsolved felony, and you may remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-4357.

Kerry Accuser Admits Lie

Prosecutor suspended pending investigation

(AP)—A prosecutor who called John Kerry a liar in a political com-

mercial has acknowledged that he lied about an extramarital affair with a secretary.

The Clackamas County district attorney's office placed Alfred French on a 30-day paid leave last week while it conducts an investi-

gation. French has faced scrutiny since the anti-Kerry Swift Boat Veterans for Truth ad disputed Kerry's decorated war record. French subsequently acknowledged he relied on the accounts of his friends and did not witness Kerry in combat.

Since then, he's faced pickets outside his office and complaints of unethical conduct to the state bar.

French's former boss, James O'Leary, said he asked French about the rumored affair about 10 years ago, but French denied it. O'Leary said he would have fired French if he'd admitted the relationship because it violated office policy.

French, 58, admitted to The Oregonian that he had the affair and denied it to O'Leary.

"It is an indiscretion that occurred during my employment," he said.

The woman in question still works at the district attorney's office but does not report to French, said John Foote, the current Clackamas County district attorney.

Foote declined to say what aspects of French's conduct the office would investigate.

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- ★ Rogue Ales Public House

- ★ Smokin' Swine Publick House
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- ★ Tennessee Red's
- ★ Uncle Wally's BQ
- ★ Southern Style Soul Food
- ★ Yam Yam's Southern Style BBQ

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- ★ ellis paul
- ★ jackstraw
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- ★ portland youth jazz orchestra
- ★ foghorn string band
- ★ amelia
- ★ richmond fontaine
- ★ stephanie schneiderman
- ★ the hobs
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- ★ the bad plus
- ★ natalie macmaster



Natalie Macmaster

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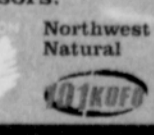
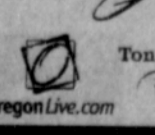

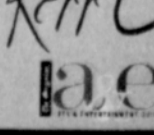


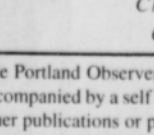
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The Portland Observer Established 1970

USPS 959-680

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington
EDITOR: Michael Leighton
REPORTER: Jaymee R. Cui
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Mark Washington
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt
OFFICE MANAGER: Kathy Linder

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

Periodical Postage paid in Portland, OR
Subscriptions are \$60.00 per year
503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015
news@portlandobserver.com
subscription@portlandobserver.com
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