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Tragedy

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attitude changed. Parrish started drinking, talking tough and hanging out with gang members.

Even though she was now a single mother with a toddler Curtis still wanted to take care of Parrish.

"I tried to get custody of Parrish many times," she says.

In fall 2009 Curtis learned he had, "pushed a kid off a bicycle" and stolen the bicycle.

"His attorney called me and said 'would you be willing to take Parrish?'" she says. She said she would, and she talked to case worker Raymond Goss. Curtis says Goss told her she needed approval from Parrish's juvenile counselor, Sylvia Martinez. She says she called about eight times, but got no response.

"She would never return my calls, and she would never talk to me, so it never happened."

Curtis once got a call from somebody at juvenile detention center, she says. But

she was out of cell phone range at the time. When she did connect with the worker, she learned Parrish was back at home. After that she only heard from him sporadically.

"He would call me every once in a while from a friend's cell phone just to let me know he was ok. I think he felt defeated. I felt defeated."

Henry Stern, a spokesperson for Multnomah County juvenile services division, confirmed that Parrish was arrested in fall 2009, shortly after LD's death. He issued this statement.

"This young man started his probation with the county in November 2009 on charges of theft II and harassment. Between that initial probation contact in November 2009 and March 28, 2011, he was held in juvenile detention six times, five of which were for probation violations. The sixth time—from March 31, 2010 to April 6, 2010—he was detained in the Donald E.

Long Juvenile Detention Home for possession of a firearm in a public place.

While we can confirm that the Juvenile Services Division was actively working with the family, state law does not allow us to comment about specific interventions and contacts in any juvenile's record. We can say that any time a juvenile comes before the court in detention, the Juvenile Services Division works with all parties to find the most suitable placement option for that young man or woman, and keeps the court informed."

Curtis and Stone say if Parrish had got the help he needed early on, he wouldn't have been running the streets. And he would never have picked up a gun in the first place.

"He had no stability," Curtis said. "He's had one emotional upheaval after another. DHS made one mistake after another."

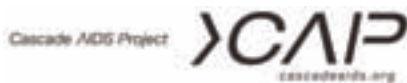
"In my heart of hearts I don't feel Parrish has the capability in his soul of doing this. If he did, it was an accident."



Parrish Bennette entered his bail hearing in ankle chains, June 24. Bail was refused.

Reporter Disclosure: The first time I heard of Parrish Bennette was in 2007, when he and my son were both students at Mt. Tabor Middle School. Parrish and my son got into an argument

and my son shoved Parrish. But although I knew his name, I never met Parrish or his father. I first met Madeline Stone and Pat Curtis after Parrish's arrest in April 2011. In June 2011, I spoke to Parrish's attorney Thaddeus Betz and his assistant. They said they could not share any information with me. At their request, I passed on contact information for Stone and Curtis.



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Cascade AIDS Project (CAP), the oldest and largest provider of HIV prevention, education, housing, advocacy and support services in Oregon and Southwest Washington, is seeking to fill the following positions: African American Minority AIDS Initiative Services Navigator and CareLink Network Navigator. Please visit www.cascadeaids.org/employment for complete postings.

10-17-12

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

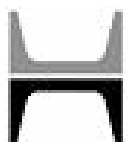
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The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is seeking progressive professionals to serve in key leadership positions as administrators, directors, deputy directors and program/section managers. OHA includes most of the state's health care programs including Public Health, the Oregon Health Plan, Healthy Kids, Addictions and Mental Health, Division of Medical Assistance programs, employee benefits and public-private partnerships. These programs are working to fundamentally improve how health care is delivered and funded. OHA is also working to reduce health disparities and to broaden the state's focus on prevention.

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