

# Man linked to gun in Goodding's killing gets 12 years

## Jamie Lee Jones apologizes for role

By Steven Dubois  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — A felon whose pistol was used in the February 2016 slaying of Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding was sentenced Monday to 12 years in federal prison.

Jamie Lee Jones, 45, apologized at the federal courthouse in downtown Portland, saying never in his wildest imagination did he think his actions would play a role in the killing.

"It's a nightmare that haunts me every day," he said. "My heart goes out to the family, it truly does."

Jones pleaded guilty in December to gun-and-drug charges not tied to Goodding's death. Other charges were dismissed in a plea agreement, including allegations that he threatened witnesses to keep them from cooperating with investigators after Goodding was shot underneath his ballistic vest while trying to make an arrest in downtown Seaside.

Goodding's fellow officer returned fire, killing Phillip Ferry, a 55-year-old transient and drug user.

Investigators linked the gun to Jones by happenstance the following morning. Police responded to Jones' house on a noise disturbance and noticed a round of ammunition on the ground. It was the same brand used to kill Goodding.

Prosecutors said Ferry stole the gun while Jones was sleeping. When Jones awoke, he became enraged after noticing the pistol was gone, as well as some methamphetamine. He punched a drug customer and fired a gun in the direction of several others.

### Not an 'excuse'

In seeking a sentence of less than 12 years, defense at-



Seaside Police Chief Dave Ham hugs Sgt. Jason Goodding's wife, Amy, at Goodding's memorial service last year.



Sgt. Jason Goodding



Jamie Lee Jones

torney Gerald Needham said Jones had a rough childhood that included an emotionally distant father, a mother left disabled by a suicide attempt and the suicides of two grandparents.

"Not to say that this is an excuse," Needham said. "It's just information for this court to make a proper judgment about Mr. Jones."

Moreover, Needham argued his client only had 20 grams of methamphetamine, and the case might not have reached federal court except for the death of the police officer.

U.S. District Judge Michael Simon reminded Needham that drug cases are treated differently when they include violence and felons in possession of a firearm.

"I appreciate that you were not the one that caused the death of the heroic law-enforcement officer — not directly — but your possession of a firearm did lead to the death of Sgt. Goodding," Simon told the defendant.

Jones was born in Las Vegas and has an extensive criminal record in Nevada, including convictions for grand larceny auto, possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of a firearm by a felon, attempted possession of stolen property and escape.

After spending most of his adult life in prison, he moved

## State Senate honors Jason Goodding

### State memorial ceremony to be held in May

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

The state Senate has unanimously approved a resolution recognizing and honoring fallen Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding for his service to the state.

The resolution is sponsored by state Sen. Betsy Johnson.

The resolution will go to the state House of Representatives before signing by the governor, Seaside Police Chief Dave Ham said.

A law enforcement memorial road sign will be placed in Goodding's honor and unveiled in May at the Oregon Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial ceremony at the Oregon Public Safety Academy.

Goodding, who was shot and killed in the line of duty in February 2016 while attempting to make a felony warrant arrest on Broadway in Seaside, was recognized as "a mentor and leader who worked to improve the lives of homeless people in Seaside and



State Senator Betsy Johnson with the father and step-mother of fallen Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding, Dean and Patty Goodding, after the Senate passed a resolution honoring Sgt. Goodding and his sacrifice.

who was loved and respected by his co-workers and the community he served."

Goodding joined the Seaside Police Department in 2003. He was promoted to sergeant in 2007. After his death in the line of duty, he was awarded the Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice, presented to his wife and daughters at his memorial service in Seaside by Gov. Kate Brown.

The Senate resolution recalls Goodding's "immense smile and his generous nature" and his "passion, ded-

ication and diligence" to his role with police.

"It was an incredibly moving day," Johnson said of the Senate's reading.

Johnson, D-Scappoose, said she shared the message she delivered at last year's memorial for Goodding. "It was a message I wanted the Legislature to hear and wanted the message in the legislative record," she said. "Jason's death is like a fresh wound. You could hear a pin drop in the chambers. It was a well-deserved tribute. But God, it must have been difficult for the parents."

to the Oregon Coast to get a fresh start. Jones said he found a job and was turning his life around before relapsing into his drug habit.

"As soon as I sprinkled meth onto my dream, it became a nightmare," he said.

Seaside Police Chief Dave Ham and other local law enforcement officials went to Portland for the sentencing. "It was a little bit of good news for us in law enforce-

ment," Ham told the Seaside City Council Monday night.

U.S. Attorney Billy J. Williams thanked the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and local law enforcement for their work on the investigation.

"The tragic and senseless death of Sgt. Goodding underscores the very real danger law enforcement officers face every day while faithfully

serving their communities," Williams said in a statement.

"We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Sgt. Goodding for his service and his loved ones for their incredible sacrifice. It is maddening to know that criminals involved in drug trafficking and the illegal possession of firearms continue to present a danger to our communities."

R.J. Marx contributed to this report.

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