



Department of Police
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Coleman A. Young, Mayor
City of Detroit

June 15, 1988

The Honorable Coleman A. Young
Mayor of the City of Detroit
1126 City-County Building
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Mayor Young:

SUBJECT: FATAL SHOOTINGS AND SUICIDE OF SUSPENDED POLICE
OFFICER HENRY JONES

This morning at approximately 4:10 AM, three people were fatally shot, one person was critically shot, and a suspended Detroit Police Officer was fatally wounded by a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The incident occurred at 5568 Alter Road on the city's east side. The preliminary investigation of this incident has revealed the following information:

On June 15, 1988, at approximately 4:15 AM, Fifth Precinct patrol units responded to a radio run at 5568 Alter Road on a shooting. Upon arrival at the scene, the Officers discovered suspended Police Officer Henry A. Jones, badge 4667, formerly assigned to the Ninth Precinct, lying on a sidewalk near the front porch steps, suffering from a gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Jones was conveyed to St. John's Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Responding Officers entered the premises and discovered the bodies of Mrs. Debra Neal, B/F/37, Ms. Rochelle Cannon, B/F/19, and Freddie Neal Jr., B/M/9, in various locations throughout the two-story family dwelling. All had suffered gunshot wounds and were obviously dead.

The Officers received further information that a fifth victim, Ms. Lashawanda Neal, B/F/18, had been conveyed to St. John's Hospital suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Her condition was listed as serious and she is expected to recover.

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Handwritten date: 6/15/88

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The investigation of occurrences leading to this incident revealed that several months ago, Police Officer Henry Jones moved into the second-story flat at 5568 Alter Road with his girlfriend, Rochelle Cannon and her 17 month old son, Brian Cannon (Officer Jones is not believed to be the natural father of Brian). The lower flat was occupied by Mrs. Debra Neal, her daughter Lashawanda Neal, and her son, Freddie Neal Jr..

At some point in time, Officer Jones and Ms. Cannon ended their relationship, and Officer Jones moved from the premises.

On June 14, 1988, at approximately 6:00 Pm, suspended Police Officer Jones went to 5568 Alter Road, took Brian Cannon from Debra Neal who was babysitting for the infant, and ran south on Alter to his vehicle which was parked on the corner of Alter and Southhampton. Ms. Debra Neal, Lashawanda Neal, and Freddie Neal Jr. all pursued Officer Jones to his vehicle. Officer Jones entered his vehicle with the infant, drove to the front of 5568 Alter, exited the vehicle, and became involved in an altercation with Debra Neal, Lashawanda Neal, and Freddie Neal Jr.. Officer Jones re-entered his vehicle and left the scene.

On June 15, 1988, at approximately 3:30 AM, Officer Jones returned to 5568 Alter Road and gained entry to the premises by climbing onto a front porch overhang and cutting a window screen on an upper front window.

Once inside the dwelling, Officer Jones fatally shot Ms. Cannon in the second-story flat, then went to the first floor, fatally shot Ms. Debra Neal and Freddie Neal Jr., and seriously wounded Ms. Lashawanda Neal.

Officer Jones then telephoned Mrs Sandra Cannon, the mother of Rochelle Cannon, and told her he had killed Rochelle. He telephoned his grandmother, Mrs. Annabelle Leverett and told her that he had killed everyone in the house.

Mrs. Annabelle Leverett responded to the Alter Road address, and as she arrived, observed Officer Jones exiting the front door of the dwelling armed with two handguns. Officer Jones told Mrs. Leverett he was tired of his life and he was going to kill himself. He then placed both handgusses to his head and fired each weapon, fatally injuring himself.

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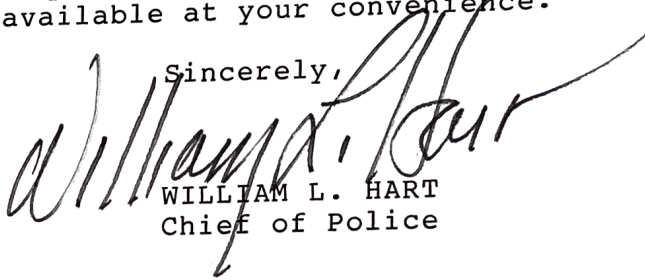
The 17 month old son of Rochelle Cannon was found unharmed in the dwelling and was given to the custody of Mrs. Sandra Cannon, the mother of Rochelle Cannon.

Our investigation of this matter is continuing.

On May 24, 1988, I suspended without pay Police Officer Henry Jones, badge 4667, appointed 1-19-87, assigned to the Ninth Precinct, for Conduct Unbecoming an Officer. Officer Jones allegedly took a payroll check belonging to another Officer from the Precinct Station and cashed it at a drug store without the Officer's knowledge or authorization.

Should you require any additional information regarding this incident, as always, I am available at your convenience.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM L. HART
Chief of Police

WLH/db