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Fwd: Confidential

1 message

Steve Jensen <steve.jensen@wvc-ut.gov>

Tue, Feb 12, 2013 at 2:08 PM

To: Phil Quinlan <Phil.Quinlan@wvc-ut.gov>, Alva Davis <Alva.Davis@wvc-ut.gov>, Darrell Dain <Darrell.Dain@wvc-ut.gov>, Ellis Maxwell <Ellis.Maxwell@wvc-ut.gov>, Mike Powell <Mike.Powell@wvc-ut.gov>, Gavin Cook <Gavin.Cook@wvc-ut.gov>, Jason Vincent <Jason.vincent@wvc-ut.gov>, Jesse Buchanan <Jesse.Buchanan@wvc-ut.gov>, "Esqueda, Carlos (USAUT)" <carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov>, Courtney Johnson <cdjohnson@utah.gov>

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Miller, Janet M. (DOC)** [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, Feb 12, 2013 at 1:58 PM

Subject: Confidential

To: "steve.jensen@wvc-ut.gov" <steve.jensen@wvc-ut.gov>

As we discussed, I received a phone call from Emily Osterberg, one of the coroners for Minneapolis, MN at approximately 1430 on 02/11/13. She informed me that Michael Powell DOB [REDACTED] son of Offender Powell, Steven #357992, had committed suicide at [REDACTED] in Minneapolis, MN. Michael Powell had jumped off a parking ramp at the condominium complex where he lived.

I called Offender Powell to my office on C-Unit at the Monroe Correctional Complex-Twin Rivers Unit with another staff member present. I told him I had bad news and told him that I had received a phone call from the coroner's office in Minneapolis. He said, "Oh my God, Oh my God," but did not exhibit any emotion. I then informed him that Michael had committed suicide and how he had done it. Powell did not exhibit any significant emotional response at the news. He started blaming law enforcement and the FBI for his son committing suicide.

Emily Osterberg requested the opportunity to speak with Powell and a call was placed to the Coroner's [REDACTED]. She asked Powell if his son had a history of alcohol or illicit substance use. Powell said Michael did not. She asked if he had any depression concerns. Powell denied that there were any concerns and that the only problem Michael had was due to a shoulder injury when he was in the military. She asked where Michael had served and he indicated England and other areas, but no Iraq or Afghanistan deployments. He said that Michael had a lot of stress due to his schooling.

Powell stated that he spoke to Michael by phone weekly or bi-weekly. He said Michael did not give any indication that he was considering suicide. He did indicate that Michael was having to deal with attorneys over the life insurance fight that is ongoing. He said he and Michael were not able to speak about important matters because he knew that his phone conversations were monitored and he didn't trust law enforcement not to twist things up to use against him.

Emily also asked about Michael's mother and if he knew how to contact her. He said he didn't know where she lived and had no way to contact her. He seemed a little agitated about that question. She asked how law enforcement could notify his daughter. He said he did not want law enforcement to notify

her because they had already destroyed his family. However, the daughter's address and phone number were verified at that time.

Powell went on to state that there was a tragedy in his family created by law enforcement and the FBI. He said they pushed his son Josh to the edge and resulted in three deaths. He went on to indicate that the harassment exhibited by these agencies was the reason Josh and Powell's grandsons were dead. He then alluded to Susan Powell's family stating that they were also part of the problem as they were trying to get the proceeds from the life insurance policies on one or all of the deceased.

The only time Powell showed any emotion was of anger when the coroner tried to gain information for contacting the daughter who lives in Puyallup, WA. He did not seem upset in the way one would expect a father to react when notified that a 30 year old son had committed suicide approximately one year after the older son had murdered his children and committed suicide.

I spoke with Powell to ask if he had any suicidal tendencies or suicidal ideations. He stated he had never contemplated suicide. He stated that all the problems faced by his family were due to law enforcement. At no time did he show any significant concern, but did ask if there was foul play in Michael's death. It was reiterated that his death was due to suicide.

In following up with staff today, they said that Powell does not appear to be upset, depressed, or in any stress, but appears to be pouting. He asked for a special visit with his daughter and remaining son outside regular visiting hours. The request was denied as they can visit during regular visit hours.

I have asked the Mailroom to exhibit due diligence in monitoring Powell's incoming and outgoing.

Should you have any need to contact me, please contact me at [REDACTED]. That call goes directly to my office phone. We are not allowed to bring our cell phones into the facility.

The mailing address is: Janet Miller, Correctional Unit Supervisor
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