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## Mother of man killed in shooting linked to Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's grandson files wrongful-death lawsuit against mayor

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The Plain Dealer

The mother of a slain man sued Mayor Frank Jackson and Police Chief Calvin Williams.

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By [Adam Ferrise, cleveland.com](#)

CLEVELAND, Ohio — The mother of a man killed in a deadly daytime shooting linked to [Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's](#) grandson is suing the mayor and the city's police chief, accusing them of impropriety in [criminal cases](#) that preceded her son's death.

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Antonio Parra's mother says those actions emboldened the mayor's grandson, Frank Q. Jackson, into committing increasing more violent crimes in the months and years leading up to her son's death, the suit says.

Andrea Parra filed the wrongful-death lawsuit Thursday on behalf of the estate of her son, who was fatally shot Aug. 28. The getaway car that sped from the scene after the shooting was registered to Frank Q. Jackson.

Frank Q. Jackson has not been arrested or charged in connection with the slaying. The case remains unsolved.

The lawsuit filed by Fairlawn attorney Peter Pattakos, who is representing Andrea Parra, accuses the mayor of obstructing justice. It also seeks damages for intentional infliction of emotional distress.

"Mayor Jackson was elected by citizens who entrusted him with the responsibility to enforce the laws in Cleveland," Pattakos said in a statement. "It was especially important that he fulfill this sworn duty with respect to criminal activity by his own family members, but he did the opposite, abusing his influence to foster a culture of impunity that only emboldened his grandsons and their affiliates to commit increasingly violent crimes."

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Pattakos argued in the lawsuit that Antonio Parra would be alive today if the mayor hadn't failed to ensure his grandson was prosecuted for a previous case in which he was accused of violently attacking an 18-year-old woman. That incident occurred months before Antonio Parra's death.

"Mayor Jackson's and Chief Williams's intentional dereliction of their duties in covering up for gang-related crimes involving the Mayor's grandsons respectively caused, and exacerbated the damage arising from, Mr. Parra's murder," the lawsuit says.

The mayor previously denied interfering in any investigation involving in his grandson. Latoya Hunter, the mayor's spokeswoman, did not immediately have a comment on the lawsuit. The case is assigned to Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge John O'Donnell.

The lawsuit draws from several cleveland.com stories published in the wake of the deadly shooting.

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The stories include one pointing out several anomalies in the investigation in the hours after Antonio Parra's death; another about a previous case in which a [city prosecutor declined to pursue charges](#) against Frank Q. Jackson in the attack on the woman; and another about suspected gang members frequenting the mayor's home, among others.

Parra, the father of a 9-year-old girl, was buying clothes for his new job [Aug. 28](#) when two men ran up to him and shot him execution-style on the sidewalk of a busy street in the city's Stockyards neighborhood, according to police and prosecutors.

The two gunmen ran back to a Volkswagen Passat [registered to Frank Q. Jackson](#) and sped away, law enforcement sources previously told cleveland.com. Officers went [to the mayor's home](#) that night looking for the mayor's grandson.

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The mayor told the officers that his grandson would voluntarily make a statement the next morning. Cleveland police officers did not arrest Frank Q. Jackson that night, and did not take a gunshot-residue test that could have determined if he had recently fired a gun, law enforcement sources told cleveland.com.

[Frank Q. Jackson](#) went to police headquarters the next morning [with his attorney](#). He declined to give a statement to officers, but told them he sold the car months earlier, the lawsuit says. However, Frank Q. Jackson received a traffic ticket in the same car about two weeks before the shooting.

The Volkswagen was found torched two days later next to an abandoned building, law enforcement sources said.

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[Cleveland.com](#) later published a story about a beating that occurred months prior, in which Assistant City Prosecutor [Aaric Kinast declined](#) to pursue charges against Frank Q. Jackson despite several witnesses telling officers he repeatedly beat a woman, [including with a metal truck hitch](#).

Kinast also did not refer the case to the county prosecutor's office, despite the fact the case appeared to rise to the level of a felony.

The mayor appoints the city's law director, who oversees the city prosecutor's office. The lawsuit accuses the mayor of having "wrongful influence" over the prosecutor's decision to not pursue charges in that case.

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"The City Prosecutor's decisions not to prosecute Jackson in this case, and not to refer the matter to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office would not have been made and were not in fact made without the Mayor's knowledge and assent," the lawsuit says.

Pattakos argues in the lawsuit that the mayor should have known that even if he did not overtly interfere with the investigation, the city prosecutor's office's decision to decline charges would "cause his grandsons and their affiliates to continue to engage in violent crime to an increasing degree, increasingly believing that they could do so with impunity."

The suit also argues that if [Frank Q. Jackson](#) had been arrested and charged in the beating case, it would have prevented Parra's death.

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor [Michael O'Malley later called](#) for Cleveland Police Chief Calvin Williams to ask an outside agency to investigate the deadly shooting, citing a [conflict-of-interest](#) for the mayor. Williams declined to do so.

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[O'Malley's office later indicted](#) Frank Q. Jackson on felonious assault charges in connection with the beating. Frank Q. Jackson has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

"Antonio Parra's murder took place in the wake of this unpunished assault, two months later, by two men who are believed to be affiliated with the Mayor's grandsons, and who murdered Parra in order to gain favor with them, thereby increasing their status in the "No Limit 700" gang in which the Mayor's grandsons are believed to be leaders," the lawsuit says.

The lawsuit also accuses the mayor and police chief of allowing gang-related activity to go unchecked at the mayor's home.

Pattakos cited a [cleveland.com story](#) about a suspected gang member who posed for a photo with a large gun in his pocket while standing in the mayor's driveway. A Cleveland police officer is visible in the near background.

standing in the mayor's driveway. A Cleveland police cruiser is visible in the rear background.

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The lawsuit also cited the [recent indictment](#) of the mayor's teenage great-grandson, who is accused of being part of the No Limit-700 gang that is accused of carrying out several armed robberies, shootings and other crimes.

Frank Q. Jackson is accused in the lawsuit of being the leader of the gang, although he has not been criminally charged with any gang-related offenses.

"Despite the Mayor's knowledge of his grandsons' proclivity toward violent and gang-related crime, the Mayor has knowingly and repeatedly used the influence of his public office to obstruct the investigation and prosecution of their criminal activity," the lawsuit says.

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