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SCENE & HEARD

Frank Jackson, Calvin Williams Sued for Wrongful Death, Obstruction of Justice

Posted By Sam Allard on Thu, Nov 7, 2019 at 10:11 am





YouTube screenshot: City of Cleveland Office of Communications

The mother of a 30-year-old man gunned down in August on Cleveland's West Side has sued Mayor Frank Jackson and Police Chief Calvin Williams for wrongful death and obstruction of justice.

Andrea Parra, mother of Antonio Parra, has alleged in a fiery legal

complaint filed Thursday morning that Jackson's repeated interference in the prosecution of his grandson and great-grandson, including both explicit and implicit directives to the police department he oversees, caused the Mayor's grandsons and their affiliates to believe that they were "above the law."

"Andrea Parra has every reason to believe that her son would be alive today if it weren't for the Mayor's efforts to cover up for his grandsons' crimes," said Peter Pattakos, lead attorney on the case,* in a statement provided to the media.

Citing an array of local print and TV media sources, the complaint presents a chronology of the Mayor's grandsons' gang-related crimes, and documents the ways in which protocol was ignored or abandoned due to the status of the suspects.

The "brutal homicide" of Antonio Parra in Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood, in which two assailants drove away in a car registered to Frank Q. Jackson, is described as the culmination of this "culture of impunity." The killing occurred two months after the violent beating of an 18-year-old woman by Frank Q. Jackson, after which a City Prosecutor failed to prosecute or pass along the case to the County Prosecutor, as is standard, despite an abundance of evidence.

The investigation of Parra's murder, the complaint says, "as with other cases involving the Mayor's grandsons, has been marked by anomalous and unexplained deviations from established policies and procedures."

Primary matters of concern were the fact that investigators did not question or arrest Frank Q. Jackson and perform a gun residue test to determine if he had recently fired a gun; and allegations, made by anonymous sources in a Channel 19 news report, that Mayor Frank Jackson asked police to turn off their body cameras while at his house. The complaint notes that in at least two previous incidents involving the Mayor's grandsons' interactions with police, no body camera footage was available.

The complaint seeks damages for the wrongful death of Antonio Parra, the obstruction of justice in the investigation and the infliction of emotional distress. The case has been assigned to Judge John O'Donnell in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas.

*The Pattakos Law Firm has legally represented Scene Magazine.

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Tags: Frank Jackson, Calvin Williams, Antonio Parra, Frank Q. Jackson, Mayor's grandson, culture of impunity, No Limit 700, Image

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