

LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICER'S REPORT

DATE: March 31, 2010

SUBJECT: Incident #2010-30129: Pamela Harper

TO: Sgt. Leshner

FROM: Detective M. Nelson

Sir,

On March 26, 2010 at approximately 0637hrs Patrol Officers were dispatched to a subject down call at 1322 Hunters Cove. On scene Officers observed a white female lying in the alley behind the residence. The female, later identified as Pamela Harper, was wearing only her underwear, a small tank top and no shoes. Officers also observed that Ms. Harper had a pair of grey sweat pants in her right hand. At 0636hrs MEMS (Unit #503) and Rescue were dispatched to the scene. Paramedic Pat Bajorak and MEMS personnel Keith Summerman were the first responders for MEMS and arrived on scene at 0649hrs. Officer Ronnie Carr advised that MEMS checked Ms. Harper's condition and advised that she was deceased. According to Officer Carr, MEMS Unit 503 stayed on scene for approximately one hour before leaving the scene. Officer Carr then notified Sgt. Helton who responded to the scene. Detective Sgt. O. Jenkins and Detective Haskins were notified and responded to the scene as well.

Contact was made with Ms. Harper's brother in law on scene, Jim Duckett (*w/m, 10-04-1939*) who lives at 1322 Hunters Cove. Mr. Duckett advised that he received a call from Ms. Harper at approximately 0115hrs on 03-26-2010. According to Mr. Duckett, Ms. Harper sounded very intoxicated and was advising that she had to get out of the house. Mr. Duckett stated that he told Ms. Harper that she needs to go to sleep and not to leave the residence. Mr. Duckett advised that Ms. Harper had said ok and then hung up the phone. Officers then made contact with Ms. Harper's husband, Tanny Harper (*w/m, 10-14-1949*), 12701 South Ridge. Mr. Harper advised that he and his wife were drinking the night before and he believes his wife was taking some pain pills. Mr. Harper last saw his wife at around midnight and advised that she had no idea she left the house.

While I was at the scene of an unrelated incident Lt. King advised me to respond to 1322 Hunters Cove in relation to a dead body. I responded to the scene at approximately 0850hrs and made contact with Detective Haskins. Detective Haskins advised me of the situation and stated that the first MEMS unit had put the sheet over Ms. Harper. Detective Haskins and I then went over to where Ms. Harper was

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lying to check her condition. When I pulled back the sheet we immediately noticed that "goose bumps" appeared on her shoulders and on her back due to the cold weather. I then observed that Ms. Harper's stomach was moving up and down and air was exhaling out of her mouth. I observed Ms. Harper take approximately ten breaths over a two minute period. Detective Haskins and I immediately covered Ms. Harper back up to keep her warm. Communications was then notified and MEMS Unit 408 and Rescue were dispatched at 0909hrs. At approximately 0905hrs Patrick McElroy with the Pulaski County Coroner Office called my phone and asked about the situation. I advised Mr. McElroy that I believed that Ms. Harper was still breathing and to stand by while I called MEMS back to the scene. I advised Sgt. Leshar of the situation at 0900hrs.

The Rescue unit responded to the scene first and noticed Ms. Harper breathing as well. Rescue immediately started CPR and hooked her up to a heart monitor. When MEMS Unit 408 arrived on scene at 0921 hrs, Paramedic Brandi Johnson hooked Ms. Harper up to their heart monitor and didn't observe any rhythm. At this time Brandi Johnson called Dr. Kennedy at Baptist Emergency Room, and explained to her that the victim had signs of lividity and she was cold. Dr. Kennedy then declared Ms. Harper dead, by phone, and stated the time of death was 0929hrs. Paramedic Brandi Johnson then explained to me that what I observed was air leaving the lungs after death. CPR efforts were stopped and MEMS Unit 408 and Rescue left the scene at 0953hrs. I again notified Sgt. Leshar of the situation at 0930hrs and told him that MEMS had declared Ms. Harper dead.

After MEMS Unit 408 declared Ms. Harper dead at 0929hrs I called Deputy Coroner Patrick McElroy at 0931 hrs and advised him to respond to the scene. Pulaski County Coroner Garland Camper, Deputy Coroner Gerone Hobbs and Deputy Coroner Patrick McElroy responded to the scene at approximately 1000hrs. I then advised the Coroners office of the situation and what I observed. While the Coroners Office was on scene, Ms. Harper began making breathing motions again. Officer Robinson then notified communications to dispatch another MEMS Unit to the scene. As the Coroner's Office and I were waiting on MEMS to arrive on scene, Ms. Harper was covered back up with the blanket to keep warm and no medical treatment was given to her. MEMS Unit 133 was dispatched at 1019hrs and arrived on scene at 1027hrs. Detective Sgt. O. Jenkins arrived on scene at this point and advised MEMS personnel to transport Ms. Harper to Baptist Hospital right away. Sgt. Leshar was notified at 1019hrs that MEMS was coming back to the scene due to Ms. Harper showing signs of life. Garland Camper then notified Dr. Kennedy of the situation and she advised to have Ms. Harper transported to Baptist Hospital immediately. MEMS Unit 133 remained on scene until 1053hrs before they transported Ms. Harper to Baptist Hospital.

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At approximately 1000hrs I received a call from Pat Bajorak (MEMS Unit 503). I asked Mr. Bajorak if at anytime did he check Ms. Harper's vitals or put her on a heart monitor to check for a pulse, at which time he advised he did not.

While at the hospital, Dr. Kennedy advised that Ms. Harpers body core temperature was very low and they were doing chest compressions and warming her back up with warm blankets. Dr. Kennedy advised that Ms. Harper would have a weak pulse every now and then but it would stop. Dr. Kennedy stated that her core temperature would have to be raised to the mid 90's before they could tell if she would respond. I left my card with the charge nurse in the emergency room and advised them to contact me with any further condition changes.

At approximately 1322hrs I contacted the charge nurse in the Baptist Hospital Emergency Room and asked for Ms. Harper's condition. The nurse advised that Ms. Harper was being moved to the Critical Care Unit with improving conditions and that she had a sustaining heart rate without chest compressions.

On March 28, 2010 at approximately 1445 hrs, Det. Simpson received a call from Vicky at Baptist Hospital. She advised that Pamela Harper had died and that the official time of death was 1423hrs. She further stated that the Coroner's Office had already been called and was on the way to pick Ms. Harper up and transport her to the Arkansas State Crime Lab.

Respectfully Submitted,

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