

Report of Investigation

Title of Investigation: WARD, Sherie	Investigation Number: 774047-15-0020	Report Number: 1
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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

OPENING REPORT- In May 2015, Lansing Police Confidential Informant #2057 was solicited by Sherie Lynn WARD (w/f, 03-06-55) in a murder for hire plot to kill her boyfriend.

(6-21-70) What - wait until I was dead to save me? *Sherie Ann*

NARRATIVE:

1. On May 21, 2015, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent (S/A) Steve Bailey was contacted by Lansing Police Detective Damian Manson who provided information that Lansing Police CI #2057 was contacted by Sherie WARD (Previously identified) for the purpose of finding someone to kill her live-in boyfriend. Det. Manson identified WARD'S boyfriend as John MORIN (W/M, 11-06-55, SID# 0743534L), who resides with WARD at 310 S. Francis Rd., Lansing, MI.

no access

2. The CI had provided information to Det. Manson that he/she had been inside WARD'S residence at 310 S. Francis on multiple occasions in the past and as recent as mid-May 2015. During that time, the CI witnessed a small marijuana grow operation in the basement of the home and several pounds of processed marijuana throughout the house. In addition, WARD showed the CI three firearms, two of which were in a gun cabinet/safe (one long gun and one handgun). The other was a semi-automatic handgun, which the CI said was in the nightstand inside the master bedroom. The CI knows that MORIN is a convicted felon who had previously spent time in prison.

3. On May 21, 2015, Det. Manson conducted a recorded/monitored meeting with CI #2057 and WARD. During the meeting, WARD told the CI that MORIN had physically abused her in the past and that she wanted him killed. In addition, WARD said that MORIN had approximately \$200,000 in life insurance policies and about \$70,000 in a 401k that she stood to profit from if MORAN were dead. She told the CI that killing MORIN would have to look like an accident because the insurance company would not pay out on a murder. The CI told WARD that he/she had a friend coming in from Gulfport, MS who would agree to do what she was asking.

ATTACHMENTS: LLA# 150521022536.

END OF REPORT.

\$1,000 Case Credit Union

Just over 30,000.

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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

CI CONTACT- On May 26, 2015, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent (S/A) Steve Bailey met with Lansing Police CI #2057 and obtained recorded conversation implicating Sherie WARD in a murder for hire plot to kill her boyfriend.

NARRATIVE:

1. On May 26, 2015, at approximately 10:20 a.m., ATF S/A Steve Bailey and Lansing Police Detective Damian Manson met with CI #2057 at Hunter's Park in Lansing, MI to discuss his/her knowledge of a murder for hire plot involving Sherie WARD (Previously identified).
2. The CI indicated that during the past several days he/she had received several incoming cell phone calls from WARD wanting to meet in person to discuss the murder for hire plot to kill her boyfriend. At Detective Manson's direction, the CI had arranged to meet with WARD on 05/26/15@ 10:30 a.m. at Lucky's Party Store (1900 Kalamazoo Rd, Lansing, MI) in an attempt to obtain recorded conversation about the murder for hire plot.
3. The CI said that WARD lived just up the street at 310 S. Francis Rd., Lansing, MI and usually drove a burgundy colored, Oldsmobile Alero. The CI had talked with WARD earlier in the morning and she agreed to meet with him/her at the party store for the purpose of discussing details about the murder for hire plot.
4. On May 26, 2015, at approximately 10:30 a.m., Det. Manson provided the CI with a digital recording device and instructed him/her to record the entire meeting with WARD. The CI agreed and was followed directly to the party store by S/A Bailey and Det. Manson. Once there, the CI backed into a parking space on the west side of the parking lot and waited for WARD to arrive.
5. At approximately 10:31 a.m., WARD arrived at Lucky's Party Store and parked her burgundy Oldsmobile Alero directly next to the CI's vehicle. She exited her car and got into the front passenger seat of the CI's car.

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6. At approximately 10:39 a.m., WARD got back into her car and departed the area eastbound on Kalamazoo Street from the parking lot of the party store.
7. CI #2057 was followed back to Hunter's Park where he/she was met by ATF S/A Bailey and Det. Manson. The CI provided information that WARD confirmed that she wanted MORIN killed and that he physically assaulted her over the weekend. WARD admitted researching how to cut the brake lines on MORIN'S vehicle and admitted to cutting the lines on Friday, May 21, 2015. She said that it didn't work though because it never leaked fluid. The CI told her that he/she had a friend coming into town from Mississippi tonight who had agreed to meet with her to discuss killing her boyfriend. WARD told the CI that she wanted MORIN out of the way. For exact statements refer to the digital recording (Item E/S Item #002).
8. Detective Manson took custody of the digital recording equipment and the meeting was ended. A copy of the recorded meeting was placed into evidence (E/S Item #002).

END OF REPORT.

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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

RECEIPT OF REPORTS- On June 1, 2015, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent (S/A) Steve Bailey received Lansing Police Reports related to the investigation of Sherie WARD and John MORIN (Previously identified).

NARRATIVE:

1. On June 1, 2015, at approximately 9:30 a.m., ATF S/A Steve Bailey received completed police reports related to the investigation of Sheri WARD and John MORIN.

ATTACHMENTS: Lansing Police Report Incident # LLA150521022536.

END OF REPORT.

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Report of Investigation

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

Interview of John MORIN.

NARRATIVE:

1. On May 28, 2015, Special Agent Dave Balkema and Task Force Officer (TFO) Norm Naimy interviewed John MORIN (M/W DOB: 11/06/1955) pursuant to his arrest for Manufacturing of a Controlled Substance along with felony firearm charges. Prior to questioning MORIN, TFO Naimy provided him his Rights per Miranda via a Lansing Police Department Rights Waiver Form which MORIN indicated he understood and further signed, agreeing to speak with law enforcement. This interview occurred at the Lansing Police Department Lock Up facility and was audio/video recorded. The following is an in essence, but not verbatim account of this interview; for a complete account the audio/video recording maintained by the Lansing Police Department should be referenced.
2. MORIN stated the firearms recovered at this residence were an inheritance from his father which he received approximately 8 years prior. MORIN described the firearms as shotguns and black powder guns which he maintained in a safe that **only he had access to**. MORIN denied owning any handguns. MORIN indicated he was a prior felon and had been involved in some amount of violent crime when he was younger. *yes* *not violent*
3. MORIN stated he had **hunted with the guns** in his possession, but not recently. MORIN also stated he had read that convicted felons were allowed to ~~own~~ *use* firearms in their possession. *Black powder*
4. MORIN stated he had begun growing marijuana for the last 18 months and that his grow operation and abilities had improved over that time period. MORIN identified Mark COLON as the subject who advised and assisted him in the proper techniques for successfully growing marijuana.
5. MORIN stated only he maintained the keys to the locks which secured the area in which the marijuana was maintained. MORIN stated he did this for Sherri's (WARD) protection.
6. MORIN stated both he and WARD would care for the marijuana plants.

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7. MORIN stated he had most recently harvested marijuana the day prior to his current arrest. No
8. MORIN stated that the money recovered from his safe included amounts from marijuana sales as well as from his job at H and H Welding.
9. At the conclusion of the interview, Special Agent Balkema advised MORIN of the undercover contacts between WARD and an ATF Special Agent during which WARD expressed her desire for the agent (acting in an undercover capacity) to harm MORIN.

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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

MURDER FOR HIRE MEETING: On May 28, 2015, ATF Special Agent Joseph Nether conducted a "Murder for Hire" meeting with Sherie Lynn WARD, date of birth 3/6/1955. The intended victim was her live in boyfriend John Francis Morin, date of birth 11/6/1955.

wrong

NARRATIVE:

- On May 28, 2015, ATF Special Agent (S/A) Joseph Nether participated in a briefing concerning the undercover meeting with Sherie WARD concerning her intent to have her boyfriend John Morin killed.
- On the same date, SA Nether met with Lansing Police Department Confidential Informant, herein referred to as CI-2057, at which time both SA Nether and CI-2057 entered the undercover vehicle (UCV). The UCV was equipped with audio and video recording devices. SA Nether drove the UCV to a pre-determined meet location at which time CI-2057 was directed to call WARD and arrange the meeting. Upon contact with WARD, CI-2057 directed WARD to the meet location (Lucky's) to which she [WARD] agreed.
- SA Nether then drove the UCV to Lucky's located at 1900 E Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48912. After a few minutes, a burgundy vehicle arrived in the parking lot driven by WARD. CI-2057 greeted WARD and then entered the rear of the UCV. WARD entered the front passenger seat and greeted SA Nether.
- SA Nether informed WARD that he [SA Nether] wanted to know what the "deal was." WARD advised she would have rather had CI-2057 deal with it. WARD advised she doesn't want to get "caught up" in anything where she [WARD] gets in trouble. SA Nether advised he would take care of whatever needs to be taken care of. SA Nether stated "It's up to you." WARD stated "I need this shit done man." WARD advised if it doesn't get done, she believed he (the victim) would take her "out" (meaning kill WARD). SA Nether asked if WARD was talking about getting someone "touched" (meaning assaulted) or getting them "out of here" (meaning killed). WARD stated "I'd rather just have him out of here" (meaning killed). SA Nether asked how it had to be done. WARD advised it has to be "some sort of accident." WARD advised she was going to "fuck with the break lines man." WARD advised this person (her boyfriend Morin) was a "ruthless" person and he abuses her.
- SA Nether asked where the truck was now. WARD advised at his (the victim) job at H&H Welding on Kerns

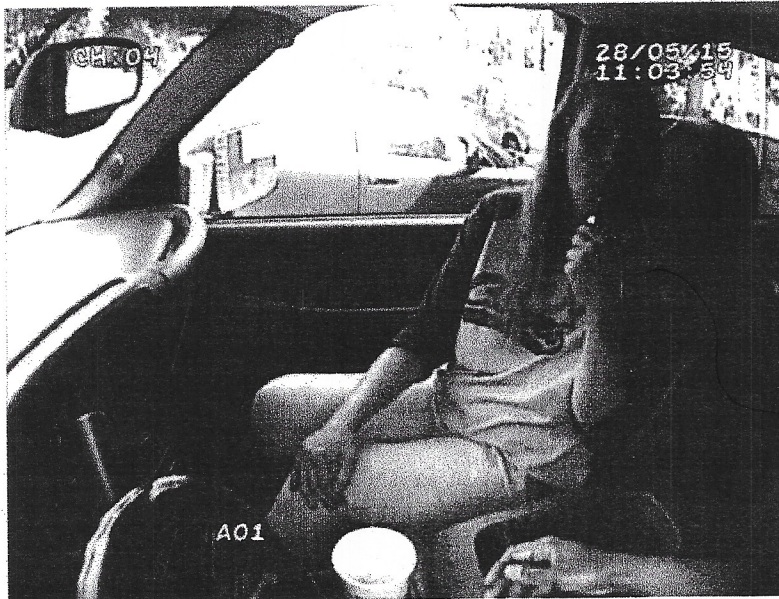
Really
No one in this world would say that about me.

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and Mason Road and the truck would be there until 5 p.m. SA Nether asked if they [H&H Welding] have any cameras. WARD advised in the negative. When asked, WARD advised the truck is a green Dodge Magnum with plate BRW3234 or 3233. SA Nether advised he could loosen the break lines to make the breaks go out at a certain speed. WARD stated "Alright." SA Nether advised its going to take about fifteen to twenty minutes messing with the car so WARD needs to be one hundred percent sure there were no cameras at the business. WARD advised there were no cameras. SA Nether asked if the victim gets on the freeway to which WARD advised in the affirmative. SA Nether advised he could set the breaks to go out on the vehicle once the vehicle reaches 60 miles an hour and the victim won't be able to stop. SA Nether advised the victim would run into the back of a car and it would be taken care and further stated "he's out of here." SA Nether advised he would go up there [H&H Welding] himself to check for cameras. SA Nether asked if there were people walking around the parking lot. WARD advised only during the lunch break from 11:55 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. SA Nether advised he needed to see what the victim looks like in case he comes out the business while SA Nether is there. WARD advised she could give CI-2057 a photograph of him. SA Nether advised he has done this before and it would look like an accident. WARD advised he's had issues with the breaks already.

*What
Uncle
No gold*

6. SA Nether advised he wanted to know what the compensation would be for this. WARD advised she wanted to know what SA Nether wanted. SA Nether advised he usually charges a couple thousand. WARD advised she could get SA Nether money once her uncle comes over to her house to gets her [WARD] into the victim's safe. WARD advised there were gold coins in the safe that she could exchange for "cash." After a short negotiation about price, WARD advised she could pay \$2,000 "up front." SA Nether advised he could take care of "it" today. WARD advised she would get a picture for SA Nether. WARD advised to give her an hour. CI-2057 asked WARD if she [WARD] had any "buds" (meaning marijuana) with her. WARD advised in the negative. SA Nether advised for WARD to not give CI-2057 anything and let's just handle business. WARD stated "Alright" while smiling. WARD exited the vehicle along with CI-2057. WARD was overheard asking about purchasing narcotics. SA Nether then overheard WARD state "I need this done now" (referring to the murder of the victim) to CI-2057.



*From the
drug dealer
what is she
smoking*

7. On the same date as above, at approximately 11:23 a.m., CI-2057 received a phone call from WARD. WARD advised her uncle can't come over her [WARD] house until about 4 o'clock. WARD advised she was "screwed today." WARD advised she can't get in the safe to get the coins. WARD advised her uncle advised if he can get over sooner he [the uncle] would. CI-2057 then handed the phone to SA Nether. WARD advised the same

thing. WARD then advised that she wasn't sure about doing this at the H&H parking lot because the "bosses" window is near the truck. WARD advised she was going to make a "special" trip out there and check to see if there are any cameras and to see if the window could see towards the truck. SA Nether asked if it would be better to do it at her [WARD] house overnight at about 3 o'clock in the morning. WARD advised he (the victim) has a lot of guns and doesn't believe it would work. WARD advised there might be a shoot-out. WARD advised she doesn't believe that would be a good plan. SA Nether asked what WARD was "thinking." WARD advised to let her "peep this shit out" and try and get her uncle to get to her [WARD] house. WARD stated "I need my uncle." SA Nether advised they need to make sure nothing goes wrong and if there isn't a good plan they weren't going to do it. WARD advised she would call CI-2057 back in about forty minutes.

8. On the same date as above, at approximately 12:29 p.m., CI-2057 received a phone call from WARD. WARD advised she was still waiting on her uncle. WARD advised she was trying to figure out something else because the bosses' window is mirrored and can view the whole parking lot.
9. On the same date as above, at approximately 1:22 p.m., CI-2057 dialed WARD. WARD advised she spoke to her uncle and her uncle advised he should be able to get with her by 3:30 p.m. WARD advised she was on her [WARD] uncle to get there so she [WARD] could get into the safe. WARD advised her uncle would have her in the safe today. CI-2057 then handed the phone to SA Nether. WARD advised the same to SA Nether. WARD advised that if her uncle gets to her around 3 or 3:30 then everything will work out. SA Nether asked if WARD had anything else of value in case the coins don't work out. WARD advised she may have some jewelry that she might be able to get money for. WARD asked if SA Nether would be with CI-2057 for a few minutes. SA Nether advised in the affirmative. WARD advised she would call CI-2057 back.
10. WARD could not get into the safe in a timely manner prevention another meeting at this time. Based on the danger to Morin it was determined by SA Bailey they would be doing a search warrant at WARD's residence.

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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

POST-MIRANDA INTERVIEW- On May 28, 2015, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agents interviewed Sheri WARD (Previously identified). The interview was regarding her involvement in soliciting someone to murder her boyfriend and possession of firearms and drugs found at 310. S. Francis Rd., Lansing, MI.

NARRATIVE:

- On May 28, 2015, at approximately 8:00 p.m., ATF Special Agents (S/A) Steve Bailey and Shelly Jacques conducted a post-miranda interview with Sheri WARD. The interview took place inside a private room at the Lansing Police Department Operations Center, located at 5815 S. Wise Rd., Lansing, MI.
- Prior to asking WARD any questions, S/A Bailey read WARD her Miranda warnings verbatim from a standard U.S. Department of Justice, Advice of Rights and Waiver worksheet. WARD indicated verbally that she understood her rights and agreed to speak with agents. The interview was digitally recorded.
- The following is a summary of the custodial interview of WARD. For exact statements refer to the digital recording.
- WARD provided her cell phone number (517) 402-1950 and her home telephone number (517) 372-5363. She has 6 children and 7 grandchildren. She does not currently work, but gets \$731 per month in SSI benefits. Her fiancé is John MORIN. He pays all the bills for the home at 310 S. Francis Rd and she gives him \$500 per month in subsistence for allowing her to live there.
- That's true - never abusive*
WARD denied ever being physically abused by MORIN, but said that he verbally abuses her at times. MORIN works at H & H Welding in Mason, MI and drives a green Dodge pick-up truck. The red Olds Alero and the Dodge truck are owned by MORIN and registered in his name.
- WARD admitted knowing that there were 3 safes located inside the house at 310 S. Francis Rd., but denied having access to any of them. She told agents that the safe inside the master bedroom contained gold coins that MORIN inherited from relatives and several thousand dollars cash that MORIN was "holding" for their

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friend MARK. The second safe in the master bedroom contained firearms that belonged to MORIN.

7. WARD stated that the safe in the basement contained processed marijuana in jars and records for her medical marijuana patients.
8. WARD admitted growing marijuana since 2013. She admitted being a caregiver for 5 patients, but could not tell agents exactly how many plants she currently had. She also grew marijuana for her friend 'MARY'. WARD admitted that their friend "MARK" helps grow the marijuana and as payment for his services gets 1/2 of whatever marijuana is produced. *no he doesn't*
9. John MORIN used his credit cards to purchase \$50,000 worth of supplies for the medical marijuana growing operation. The monthly electric bill averages \$1,200 and is paid for by MORIN. Ward admitted "sharing" marijuana with MORIN, but denied ever selling or trading marijuana. She admitted being a crack cocaine addict, but denied ever trading marijuana for crack.
10. WARD denied ever trying to solicit someone to kill MORIN. She explained that her crack cocaine dealer, whom she identified as Simeon FUNCHES was intimidating her and encouraged her to do it so he could have some of MORIN'S personal belongings once MORIN was dead. MORIN said that she was afraid of FUNCHES because he was a bad man and just did what he told her.
11. Agents told WARD that the person she met with on 05/28/15 was an undercover agent and that each of the phone calls and meetings was recorded. In response, WARD admitted meeting with the agent at the direction of FUNCHES, but eventually asked for an attorney and the interview was concluded.

ATTACHMENTS: U.S. Dept. of Justice Advice of Rights and Waiver worksheet.

END OF REPORT.

Manipulated / Sherie told me about him weeks before - pulled him up on OTIS - Sherie wanted to go for 90 day rehab - but I talked her out of it - that we could over come her problem.