

THE GRAY STAGE

by GREG FERNANDEZ JR.

The Gray Stage

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The Gray Stage Facebook Page

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SOURCE LIST

FOREWORD

by

DAN HENNEN

My name is Dan Hennen. I live thirty minutes away from the Crowley family crime scene in Minnesota. I am the creator of the Facebook Group called “Justice for David Crowley and Family.” I created this group on January 19th, 2015, a day I’ll never forget. Almost five years later, we have roughly 2,800 members and my closest ally in the search for the truth is Greg Fernandez, Jr. Although Greg lives in California and like me, has no connection to this case, he has been drawn to the bizarre nature of this case.

On a personal trip to California in 2016 to conduct interviews relating to the Philip Marshall family murder case in Calaveras County, I was able to meet Greg personally, as we are researchers in that case as well.^(c) I was struck by the similarities of these two horrible cases.

As both Greg and I are Christians, I’m grateful that our paths crossed. We conduct faith-based research on several unsolved crimes. I consider Greg a brother and feel honored that he asked me to write the foreword to this book.

As an Accountant by trade, my focus is on banking transactions and anomalies that come into play relating to Means, Motive and Opportunity of a crime. Who benefits? Why was the crime committed? My attention to detail is something I take pride in. I’m continually amazed with Greg’s tenacity to dig deeper and find the real deep details. He asks the hard questions and is persistent. Greg’s attention to detail is something he’s been blessed with and is a very important skill that makes this book stand out in my opinion. The chapters “Suspicious Activity” (Chapter Nine) and “Twenty-One Questions for Detective Gummert” (Chapter Eleven) are very interesting.

The chapter “Suspicious Activity” is *extremely* significant, and to this day is the number one area where the law enforcement investigation fell short. The lack of follow-up on essential details was stunning. *The fact that friends were in the Crowley home prior to the professional cleaning being completed* is nothing short of astounding.

Once the investigation ended, Greg summarized the remaining questions regarding the case that weren’t answered in the Police Report. Greg’s relationship with the Lead Investigator, Detective James Gummert allowed these questions to be forwarded to the Apple Valley Police Department to be answered personally by Mr. Gummert. He took the time to answer the “Twenty-One Questions”, and that was appreciated by both of us. Regardless if we agree or disagree with the findings/conclusion, we were able to have a cordial/respectful dialog with the AVPD.

The Gray Stage book is a well written, extremely well-researched book that doesn’t answer the questions, but instead forces the reader to use critical thinking and challenges the reader to jump into this case with both feet. This book is more of a research tool and guide for those following the case and

leaves the conclusion up to the reader as to what may or may not have happened in the Crowley home in Apple Valley, Minnesota.

Greg's straightforward approach and writing style make this a quick read, and one that could be accessed again and again during the reader's research. This is not a who-done-it Mystery book, but instead, it meticulously details the errors, missteps, and peculiar actions by family, friends, neighbors, law enforcement agencies and various media outlets. Greg is careful not to point fingers, but accurately provides evidence why certain concerns are valid in a polite, respectful way.

Greg has written many articles about this case, but he makes sure not to make this book a compilation of those articles. After pouring over lab reports, ballistic reports, DNA Analysis, and investigator's hand-written notes, Greg can pull tiny nuggets of useful information into the broader picture.

Greg has appeared in numerous internet podcasts and radio shows relating to this case, and he and I both are interviewed and appear in the Netflix documentary "A Gray State" produced by Erik Nelson.

This book is a one-stop-shop for all questions surrounding this case. The reason this case stands out is simple . . . it isn't a case that took place in the past, but a case that took place in real-time on Social Media that evolved *during* and *after* the actual investigation completed. This group uncovered Facebook posts on David Crowley's personal page that were hidden or removed AFTER the bodies were found. We've tracked the dishonesty that family and friends were caught in in the aftermath of this and have exposed inconsistencies in witness statements provided to police. Our ongoing investigation continues to this day that involves dozens of talented citizen investigators on various media platforms that could lead one day to the actual solving of this crime.

Much has been done to get this story into the hands and minds of the general public, but to date, there hasn't been traction on a case that we feel is exceedingly important. Getting a book like this published is crucial in raising the awareness of this case. Greg wants the readers to share this material and the book itself with others. This book is not intended to collect dust on your bookshelf, but instead be a resource that can be utilized, marked up, and sections highlighted to use along your journey to find Justice for David, Komel and Rani Crowley. The index to this book alone is ten pages and provides the sources for each piece of information provided in the book.

The title "The Gray Stage" is a well thought out name for this book. The evidence overwhelmingly shows that multiple rooms in the Crowley home were "staged" following this triple homicide. The living room, office, bedroom, and bathroom show that pre-planning and care was taken to confuse and throw off detectives in this case. "Crime scene staging is the physical manifestation of a person's imagination for how things should appear when trying to turn a murder scene into a legitimate death scene," says

criminologist and death investigation consultant Laura G. Pettler, who is also vice-president of the American Investigative Society of Cold Cases.

Although it is not clear who committed the crimes in that home, we do know that the scene was in fact, “over-staged”, a mistake often made by amateur criminals and this should have been picked up by seasoned investigators. Examples include: leaving the marijuana on the bedroom dresser, leaving the Quran opened up on the living room floor, writing Islamic words in *English* on the wall in blood, leaving an alleged “suicide note” typed on a computer with no signature, playing a 53-song “playlist” playing on David’s laptop in a loop in the background, using hollow-point bullets for a suicide, removing the dog dish and water bowls from the home, leaving the rear slider unlocked and slightly ajar IN WINTER, and finally taking body parts from the scene resulting in some to believe that the dog “ate” them, was all far too much for one to consider plausible.

I, personally believe, that the ugly truth will come out one day regarding what really happened to this family, and this book is a big step in that direction.

I thank you for reading *The Gray Stage* and urge each one of you to get this book into the hands of at least one other person.

Dan Hennen

Creator - “Justice for David Crowley and Family” Facebook Group

Waconia, MN,

October 2019

Footnote 1: In February 2013, the bodies of Philip Marshall, age 58, Alex, age 17, Macaila, age 14, and the family dog Suki were all discovered with a single gunshot wound to their heads. The investigation was closed after authorities concluded that Philip killed his son, daughter, and dog prior to turning the gun on himself. Interestingly, Philip was excited about his upcoming new book that was about to be published on newfound details into what really happened leading up to the events of 9/11. This was to be his third book on the topic. The transcript for his book was never found and all three bodies were quickly cremated against the wishes of the family.

HELLO NEIGHBORS

According to Apple Valley Police reports, the last time anyone saw David Crowley alive was on Christmas Eve of 2014. Between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., a neighbor across the street told authorities he and David looked at each other through their windows. The neighbor, Brett Malay, did not see any activity at the Crowley house afterwards.

“Brett was going to close the blinds on the front of his residence,” Detective Tommie Booth wrote in his report, “when he looked out of the window and saw David standing in the front window of David’s residence. He said they looked at each other and then Brett closed his shade, while David had turned and walked away.”⁽¹⁾

Mr. Malay did not notice the Christmas presents on the front steps of the Crowley home until the day the bodies were found. Malay and his wife did not socialize with the Crowley family, but would exchange polite waves.⁽²⁾

A few days after speaking with Brett Malay and his wife, Officer Tara Becker reported, “I attempted contact at 1048 Ramsdell Drive to follow up with the Malay’s but they were no longer at the residence.”⁽³⁾

Officer Tara Becker also spoke with the neighbors who lived directly across the street from the Crowley family, William and Annemarie Hixon. Mrs. Hixson didn’t know their names, Officer Becker reported, “She only indicated that a white male lived there and that he appeared to be a good father to their little girl who was approximately 5 years old.” Mrs. Hixon also saw a light or candle come on inside the Crowley house every day since Christmas, according to Officer Becker’s report.⁽⁴⁾

Theresa Shepherd lived behind David Crowley on Lowell Drive. According to her interview with Detective Brian Bone, Shepherd was out of town until December 23rd,

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2014. Unlike Mrs. Hickson, Shepherd did not see any lights on at the Crowley home and wondered if they were on vacation.

Shortly after Shepherd arrived home, Detective Bone reported, “She noticed that the rear sliding patio door was standing partially open. She said from her vantage point she could not say if it was the patio door or the screen door that was standing open, but she could see a door was ajar at the rear patio door area...Shepherd did not hear or see anything else unusual at the Crowley residence.”⁽⁵⁾

At the end of his report, Detective Bone noted, “Shepherd did not call the police about the door that she had seen ajar.”⁽⁶⁾

Larry and Lorry Tupy lived one house east of the Crowley family on Ramsdell Drive. Officer Tara Becker spoke with Lorry Tupy the day the bodies were found. Lorry’s husband was at their cabin up north. Mrs. Tupy hadn’t seen the Crowley family in over three weeks, did not know the family very well, and couldn’t remember the name of David’s wife. Mr. Tupy conversed with David more than Mrs. Tupy did.⁽⁷⁾

According to Officer Becker, David Crowley told Mr. Tupy about a screenplay he sold. “Tupy stated that she knew David to be somewhat of an artist,” wrote Becker, “in that he was doing some work with screenplays and films and had told her husband that he had sold a screenplay and was working with some lawyers and that it had something to do with guns and gun control and or possibly the gun industry.”⁽⁸⁾

Directly behind David’s house, on Lowell Drive, lived a father and daughter. Both spoke with Detective Michael Tietz and Detective Sean McKnight. According to Detective Tietz, Mark Torkelson and his daughter said the

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Crowley home “had been dark since Christmas and that they hadn’t seen the occupants in a long time.”

The daughter “said her room was on the back of the house and that lights on the back of the neighbor’s house would shine into her room if they were on.” The female stated she hadn’t seen anyone at the Crowley residence “since the weekend before Christmas school break (which started 12/19/1[4]).”

Additionally, the daughter told the detectives she never heard David and Komel fight. At some point, the female was going to babysit Raniya, but thought David was against the idea.⁽⁹⁾

Alan and Gena Olson also lived behind the Crowley residence on Lowell Drive. Detective Brian Bone first spoke with Gena Olson, who mentioned her husband “heard three rapid fire shots” from somewhere outside their residence. A day later, Detective Bone followed up with Alan Olson to learn more about the gunshots heard before December 31st, 2014.

Mr. Olson stated he was sitting in his living room one evening, with his daughter, when he heard “three rapid fire gunshots” somewhere outside of his house. Olson could not remember exactly where the sounds came from, but he was certain he heard gunshots. Olson told Detective Bone that he and his family were home between 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 1 p.m. on Christmas day. However, Mr. Olson was unsure if he heard the gunshots on either of those days.

Detective Bone’s report ended by stating, “Alan explained that he had not called the police because he did not have any specific information about when he had heard the shots.”⁽¹⁰⁾

Collin and Judy Prochnow lived one house west of David Crowley on Ramsdell Drive. Collin Prochnow

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reportedly heard gunshots sometime between December 2nd and December 19th, 2014. Mr. Prochnow was able to narrow down the date to December 9th or 10th, sometime between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m., most likely. Mr. Prochnow also believed the gunshots came from the direction of the Crowley residence.

“Collin did not contact law enforcement,” Officer Tara Becker reported, “but stated that he checked out his front door and didn’t see anything and checked out the back of his residence and thought it was fireworks.”⁽¹¹⁾

“The Prochnow’s believed they last saw the Crowley’s just before Christmas,” Officer John Broughten wrote in his report.⁽¹²⁾

According to Joe Cooksley’s notes written on January 17th, 2015, Colin Prochnow “blew out” the driveway on December 25th, 2014.”⁽¹³⁾

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On the early morning of January 17th, 2015, Paleo’s barking attracted the attention of Collin Prochnow. “Collin indicated that he heard and saw the dog inside of the Crowley residence,” Officer Becker reported, “early this morning and thought it unusual since he had not seen anyone come and go from the Crowley residence.”

Mr. Prochnow returned home to discuss the situation with his wife, Judy. Judy asked her husband if there were Christmas presents still on the front door stoop of the Crowley house. The Prochnow’s first noticed Christmas presents on January 10th, 2015.

Collin then went back to the Crowley home and saw the Christmas presents scattered near the front door. Collin was

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going to collect the gifts and bring them home, but he decided to stack them up by the front door of the Crowley residence instead. That's when the dog attacked the front window, according to Judy Prochnow.⁽¹⁴⁾

Early media reports stated Dan Crowley Jr., David's older brother, dropped off a stack of Christmas presents and several miscellaneous items on December 26th or 27th, 2014. However, the police report clearly stated Dan Jr. dropped off the items on December 28th. Dan Jr. saw Paleo in the front window but stated he did not knock on the front door and did not look through the front window.

Items Dan Crowley Jr. left in front of the Crowley home included a \$50 invoice for general services rendered by the Lommen Abdo law firm. The invoice was dated October 31st, 2014, and billed David Crowley for services related to negotiations with the Michael Entertainment Group. David Crowley and MEG were going to pitch the Gray State project as a television series. The \$50 invoice was originally mailed to Hot Heat Productions LLC, David Crowley, in Owatonna, Minnesota.

Another item discovered on the front stoop was a \$14,000 check for David, given by his father. The existence of this check was not widely known to the public at first. Early media reports led me to believe David and Komel were struggling financially.

Detective Brian Bone filled out a search warrant application in order to see if there was a financial motive for the crime, "Through our investigation there have been indications that the couple may have had financial troubles."

"Based on my training and experience," Detective Bone continued, "money and debt can be a contributing factor for motive in cases of homicide. Due to the circumstances of

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the couple's deaths I am requesting a search warrant for each of the banks and with AAA Credit Screening to obtain records of all known accounts; to verify the financial state of the couple and to verify their financial state at the time of their death.”⁽¹⁵⁾

“In reviewing the records from Wells Fargo,” Detective Brian Bone later concluded, “I found that the Crowley's had money in the bank but were decreasing their savings and checking account balances during the time from July 2014 to January 2015.”

With a \$14,000 check on David's front doorstep, and a working deal to make Gray State a television series, it's easy to understand why a financial motive was never found.

Had it not been for the Christmas presents near the front door, and the barking dog inside the Crowley residence, Collin Prochnow might not have discovered the bodies on January 17th, 2015.

Officer Tara Becker recorded audio statements from both Collin and Judy Prochnow. According to one of Officer Becker's supplemental reports, Collin looked through the front window and “observed what he thought to be dummies. Collin stated that he now knows that they were the bodies of the deceased but initially he thought that they were dummies or some type of props that were left in the residence to appear as though they were home when they weren't.”⁽¹⁶⁾

Mr. Prochnow then returned home and explained what he saw to his wife. “[Collin] saw what he wanted to be mannequins,” Judy Prochnow told me on March 24th, 2017, “and the reason he said mannequins is because of the condition the bodies were in; without heads and things like that. You just don't expect to see headless bodies anyway.”

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Judy also explained to me what she saw when she looked through the front window, “I saw David lying on the floor, away from Komel and Ra- and the baby...I thought it was a mannequin at first too, and then I realized it wasn’t. I couldn’t figure out what was wrong until I noticed that there was a spine with a small piece of skull attached.”

“I looked by the couch,” Judy continued, “and I saw a big bundle of things. I thought at first it was a big butt, and then I saw a little hand. Then I realized that they were all dead, and it was our neighbors.”

Judy was certain the three bodies were David, Komel and Raniya before she contacted authorities. Mrs. Prochnow then went home and dialed 911. *Police and Fire Dispatch* received her call at 12:56 p.m.

“Ah yes, this is Judy Prochnow and I live at 1055 Ramsdell Drive.”

“Yes?”

Judy then told dispatch, “I think there’s been a murder or suicide next door.”

Years later, when I asked Judy why she used the words “murder or suicide” during the 911 call, the response was not what I expected.

“I’m not one of you,” Judy told me. “I’m not suspicious when I, if someone dies, I don’t automatically assume they were murdered.”

Yet, Judy specifically mentioned murder or suicide to the dispatch operator.

“I meant murdered as in Komel and the baby,” Judy clarified. “It just jumped in my head because they were all dead. That was the only way I could think of that they would be [dead], is that he murdered them and then committed suicide because there was a gun next to him.”

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“It just looks like there’s a pile of bodies,” Judy explained to the dispatcher, “and one like the head is eaten off.”

“Oh no,” the dispatcher responded.

“I suppose by the dog,” Judy continued, “and I just, my husband thought they were dummies but they, the hands look real. And they would have been there be, since before Christmas.”

“Okay and so you haven’t seen—”

“And all their Christmas lights are still on in the house and there’s, my husband said he saw a gun.”

Around this time, Collin Prochnow also called 911. But before he did, Collin went one house east of David’s and spoke with Lorry Tupy. Officer Tara Becker reported what happened next, “Tupy stated that the Crowley’s were brought to her attention today when her other neighbor, Collin Prochow came over and asked if she knew where the Crowley’s might be. Tupy stated that she thought that they had possibly gone to Texas for the holidays and just weren’t back yet.”

According to Officer Becker’s report, Tupy called David from her landline. When Tupy called 254-616-0461 the call went straight to voicemail, and she did not leave a message. ⁽¹⁷⁾

Collin Prochnow then called 911 and asked if police could do a welfare check at 1051 Ramsdell Drive. “I looked through the front window,” Collin relayed to the dispatcher, “and there’s like, three dummies on the floor, I don’t think they’re any bodies, but I don’t, but it looks like there’s a gun next to one. A handgun?”

Collin stated he and his wife were out of town on the first week of January 2015, “When we left the presents were on the front step and I told my wife, you know I didn’t

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notice them the other day because I didn't look, but I said I'm gonna run over there and see if those presents are still there and they are." Mr. Prochnow informed dispatch that another neighbor tried to call David, but there was no answer.

That's when dispatch asked Collin, "Did you already call us? Your wife already called us. Judy just called us."

"Oh! Ok, alright," Collin responded, "Thank you."

"Thank you. Bye bye."

"Yep, bye."

Judy stayed on the line with dispatch and told Collin she was calling 911. Lorry Tupy, who lived one house east of David Crowley, began walking towards the Crowley's front window.

"Lorry, don't look in there," Judy warned.

"No?" Tupy asked.

"No," responded Judy.

"Okay," dispatch continued, "you saw the gun on the floor there?"

"Yes," said Judy, "my husband saw it. He's not here right now. He's talking to the other neighbor. We hadn't seen any movement over there, we just thought they were gone for Christmas and we came back from Florida this week and they still hadn't (inaudible) and the presents were still there so my husband went over there to check."

"I saw one body that was probably, oh maybe, about six to eight feet away from the window. And then I noticed that there was another body maybe six to seven feet away from the first one. And I noticed that there was a little body that looked like it was almost in the second body's arms." – **Collin Prochnow**⁽¹⁸⁾

FIRST RESPONDERS

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FIRST RESPONDERS

At 1:04 p.m. on January 17th, 2015, Apple Valley Police Sergeant Greg Dahlstrom arrived at the crime scene. There he saw Collin Prochnow standing in Lorry Tupy's driveway. Mr. Prochnow approached the officer, stating there were bodies in the living room of the Crowley home. Sgt. Dahlstrom then approached the front window and looked inside the residence.

"I noticed several obviously dead bodies lying on the floor near the front picture window," Sgt. Dahlstrom wrote in his supplemental report. "I noticed a black handgun on the floor as well. Lastly, I noticed a medium-sized dog barking and running among the bodies."

"I advised dispatch of my findings," Sgt. Dahlstrom continued, "and requested the channel be restricted to emergency traffic." The sergeant then informed Captain John Bermel of the situation.⁽¹⁾

Officer Tara Becker was the second responder to arrive at the crime scene, "Sgt. Dahlstrom advised me that there were in fact 3 deceased parties that could be seen from the large picture window at the front of the residence." Officer Becker did not report seeing the bodies in any of her supplemental reports we received.⁽²⁾

Officer John Broughten arrived third. While all three officers were standing on the west side of the house, they could smell the odor of decaying bodies.⁽³⁾

Officer Broughten was the first officer to check the back of the house. "I was instructed to check the rear of the residence for any signs of forced entry," Broughten documented. "The backyard is fenced in with a chain link fence and the gates were closed but not locked."

FIRST RESPONDERS

Officer Broughten entered the backyard and saw fresh animal tracks in the snow. Signs of forced entry were not found on any backyard windows, but there was an open door. “The rear sliding patio door was found opened slightly (<1/4 inch),” wrote Broughten. “I opened the door and found that it was not locked or secured with a bar lock.”

Paleo continued to bark as Broughten opened the rear slider, “When I opened the patio door, there was an overpowering odor of decaying flesh.”⁽⁴⁾ One light was on in the dining room, Broughten continued, “The Christmas tree lights and other strings of Christmas lights were still on.”

After walking around the back of the house, Officer Broughten looked through the front window and saw three bodies on the living room floor. “They were all badly decomposed,” Broughten wrote in his report, “One adult body was laying on its back with a black semi-auto pistol nearby. The second adult body appeared to be laying on its stomach and/or side. Between two adult bodies was the body of a small child.”⁽⁵⁾

Officer Adam Keeler arrived fourth and helped secure the scene until Paleo was removed from the house. Once Community Service Officer Brian Booth arrived, Officer Keeler opened the rear-sliding door and the officers attempted to lure Paleo outside with dog treats. Officer Keeler reported it took five minutes for Paleo to come outside.⁽⁶⁾

“Dog was scared upon arrival,” wrote CSO Brian Booth, “but appeared to be friendly. I was able to catch the dog with a choke pole and get it into the bed of my truck where it stayed until roughly 1900 hours.” CSO Booth then took Paleo to Palomino Pet Hospital and advised the kennel to “only feed and water the dog but not to do anything else with it [since] it was part of an investigation.”⁽⁷⁾

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Next, Sergeant Dahlstrom and Sergeant Keeler entered the house through the rear slider. “Prior to entering the residence,” wrote Sgt. Keeler, “I announced officers presence. There was no response.”

The two officers cleared the garage first, then the main level, ending with the basement.

“I noted the writing on the [living room] wall,” wrote Keeler, “which appeared to say ‘Allahu Akbar.’ It appeared to be written in blood with fingerprints.”⁽⁸⁾

Sgt. Dahlstrom also noticed the blood writing on the living room wall, “I noticed letters on the wall that appeared to be written in blood.” Dahlstrom also reported seeing “several bloody foot prints on the floor, in the area between the kitchen and living room.”⁽⁹⁾

Below the wall on the living room floor laid three heavily decomposed bodies, two adults and one child.

“At this time,” Broughten reported, “the bodies are presumed to be that of the home-owners David Timothy Crowley 07/07/85 and Komel Rasool Crowley 11/20/86 and their daughter Raniya Crowley.”⁽¹⁰⁾ With all three levels cleared, officers left the house and waited for detectives to arrive.

The Crowley’s mailbox was full. After Officer Becker photographed the mailbox, she opened it and removed two pieces of mail; one belonging to David and the other to Komel. “The postmaster was arriving at this time,” wrote Becker, “and handed me today’s mail which was placed inside the mailbox.”⁽¹¹⁾ An interesting note found in the BCA notes stated, “Mail in mailbox – Dec. 29th / front – packages 1/10/15.”⁽¹²⁾ The mail in the mailbox was labeled as AV-1.⁽¹³⁾

SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

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SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

On the day the bodies were found, Apple Valley Police Detective Jim Gummert was notified about the incident at 2 p.m. by Sgt. Greg Dahlstrom. The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Operations Center contacted Special Agent Beth Eilers at 2:17 p.m., instructing her to make her way to 1051 Ramsdell Drive.⁽¹⁾ At 3 p.m., Detective Gummert arrived at the Apple Valley Police Station. Six minutes later, a search warrant was filled out by Detective Brian Bone and signed by District Court Judge Karen Asphaug.

“Once the warrant was signed by the judge,” Detective Gummert wrote in his report, “we proceeded to the residence to work with the patrol officers at the scene.”⁽²⁾

At 3:30 p.m., the Apple Valley Police Department issued their first of five press releases. In the first press release, the deaths were treated as suspicious and the words murder and suicide were not mentioned. “The initial responding officers located three deceased persons inside the residence,” the first press release stated. “The investigation into this matter is ongoing. Agents from the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension are assisting Apple Valley Police Department detectives in the investigation.” The *apparent murder suicide* line won’t be used until a day later.

At that point, only two Apple Valley police officers had entered the house. “The residence had been marked off with yellow crime scene tape,” Detective Tommie Booth reported, “and CSO [Brian] Booth was controlling the entry and exit of the scene and crime scene log.”

When Detective Gummert arrived at the crime scene he was brought up to speed by Sgt. Dahlstrom. Detective

SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

Gummert then spoke with several BCA agents on scene before assigning Detectives Tommie Booth and Brian Bone to assist the BCA's processing team inside the residence. Detective Sean McKnight took several exterior photographs while they waited for the BCA Crime Scene team to arrive.

Once the BCA Crime Scene Team arrived, the following authorities examined the residence together: Detective Tommie Booth, Detective Brian Bone, BCA Special Agent Chris Olson, BCA Crime Scene Specialist Joe Cooksley and BCA Crime Scene Specialist Beth Wolf.⁽³⁾

"As we approached the house," Detective Brian Bone reported, "I could smell a strong odor, which from my training and experience is known to be from decomposing bodies."⁽⁴⁾

BCA Crime Scene Specialist Joe Cooksley led the group through the rear slider. As the investigators entered the house, Detective Brian Bone began to take photographs of the crime scene.⁽⁵⁾

"On the west wall in the living room" Detective Tommie Booth reported, "was "ALLAHU AKBAR" which appeared to be written with someone[']s] fingers covered in what appeared to be blood."⁽⁶⁾

Once inside the house, Detective Booth "immediately noticed dog feces all over the floors." Booth also noted, "The front door was secure and there were no signs of forced entry."⁽⁷⁾

"The front door and all windows were locked," Joe Cooksley echoed in his detailed report, "except for a kitchen window with an intact screen and no sign of forced entry."⁽⁸⁾

The thermostat was set to hold at 68 degrees. "It was observed that the heat was on," Cooksley stated upon entry,

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“the Christmas tree lights were on, and a single bulb from a chandelier in the rear entry was on.”

Investigators walked past the opened laptop on the kitchen island, into the living room where they found three deceased bodies. “I noted that two of the bodies were missing their heads,” wrote Detective Brian Bone. “It appeared that the two adult sized bodies did not appear to have heads or skulls attached to them...It appeared as though the dog had fed on the heads and hands of both adults.”

Initially, Detective Bone wrote that David was missing his left hand. Obviously, the detective was mistaken since on the next page of the same report, he mentioned David’s “left hand was in place while his right hand was missing.”

David was barefoot and laying on his back. “The majority of his head was missing,” Detective Bone continued. “Only the back part of his skull [was] still in place” and David’s “upper spine was also exposed.”⁽⁹⁾

“The male body was laying on his back,” Detective Tommie Booth reported, “with his body point toward the east and both arms spread outward from the body. He was missing his right hand and had a black, semi auto hand gun several inches from his left hand. There was a small portion of his rear skull still attached to the spinal column but a large portion of the head was missing. His body was also in the later stage of decay.”⁽¹⁰⁾

David’s arms were fully extended, almost in a crucified position. His right hand was missing, and his right forearm was purple and black. David’s mummified left hand was purple with a leathery textured appearance.

“During the evaluation of the bodies,” Joe Cooksley wrote in his report, “a hole was observed in the remaining portion of skull attached to David Timothy Crowley’s

SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

spine.”⁽¹¹⁾ Cooksley also noted the hole was in the back of the skull.⁽¹²⁾

“Only the back portion of his skull remained attached to his spine,” Joe Cooksley reported. David’s vertebrae was visible from the neck of the shirt. The exposed part of his stomach revealed some purple discoloration.⁽¹³⁾

David’s bare feet were pointed at the bloody wall. According to Joe Cooksley’s report, Crowley’s left foot was covered by a blue blanket, and his right foot was “partially exposed.” The right foot also had a leathery appearance and purple discoloration. There was a rip on the left thigh pant leg and “a portion” of Komel’s sweater was “draped over his lower right leg.”

David was wearing three shirts; a navy-blue undershirt, a white long-sleeve t-shirt, and a gray short sleeve t-shirt. “His right sleeve was pushed up,” Cooksley continued, “and a tattoo was visible on his right forearm.” There was another tattoo visible on his left arm as well.⁽¹⁴⁾

“The adult female’s body was pointing west and was in a later stage of decay,” Detective Booth reported. “She was laying chest down on the floor. The head of the female body could not be seen on the initial view. Also the female did not have either hand.”⁽¹⁵⁾

During this walk-through, Detective Bone could only see one of Komel’s missing hands, “The female body appeared to be missing one hand.”⁽¹⁶⁾

Komel was found on her stomach, with her head pointing towards the blood wall. According to Joe Cooksley’s description, Komel was found with her “left arm under her body, extended toward the right, and her right arm extended over to her left.” Cooksley also noted, “Neither hand was visible.” Both of Komel’s hands were

THE GRAY STAGE

missing. “Only a portion of her skull appeared to be attached to her spine.”⁽¹⁷⁾

Cooksley also reported, “Two possible holes were observed in the remaining portion of Komel Rasool Crowley’s skull.”⁽¹⁸⁾ Her body was not checked for “temp + stiffness.” Skeletalization, possible animal activity and possible bloating were all mentioned in Cooksley’s notes.⁽¹⁹⁾

A bead of liquid was observed on Komel’s lower back and right thigh. Komel was wearing a black Gray State t-shirt, gray sweatpants, and tan socks. Her sweatpants were ripped at the rear right leg. Komel was found “lying on top of a blue blanket.” An early note stated there were “blankets above [the] head area” of Komel.⁽²⁰⁾ A tattoo was visible on her back.

“The child’s body appeared to be in a later stage of decay,” Detective Booth reported, “and was missing her right arm. The head of the child was laying between the legs of the adult female body with her head pointing west.”⁽²¹⁾

“Raniya Crowley was lying on her left side,” according to Cooksley, “with her left hand extended out to her front.” Raniya’s entire right arm was missing.⁽²²⁾ Red, purple and yellow discoloration was seen on her left arm and torso.⁽²³⁾ Cooksley also noticed a hole behind the child’s left ear.⁽²⁴⁾

Raniya was found in a “blue top with white polka dots that was pulled up around her neck exposing her torso.”⁽²⁵⁾ Skin slippage and marbling were both observed on the daughter’s torso.⁽²⁶⁾ Her gray sweatpants were “halfway down buttock, but all the way up in front.”⁽²⁷⁾ Like her father, Raniya was found barefoot. The mummification of Raniya’s fingers and toes were mentioned in Joe Cooksley’s written notes, along with detached hair.⁽²⁸⁾

According to reports, there was a great deal of blood and hair debris found in the kitchen, living room, and

SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

hallway area. Human hair and dog feces were both found in the basement next to the stairs.⁽²⁹⁾

“Hennepin County M.E. responded earlier,” Joe Cooksley wrote in his notes, “and have waited until living room area is ready.”⁽³⁰⁾

Although they had been on stand-by for several hours, Medical Examiner Dr. Jessica Lelinski and Medical Examiner Investigator Gregg Spandl did not enter the Crowley residence until 12 a.m. on January 18th. Detective Brian Bone accompanied Lelinski and Spandl into the house, and photographed the bodies.⁽³¹⁾

Inside the house the group observed a hole in what was left of David’s skull, a hole behind Raniya’s left ear, and two holes in what remained of Komel’s head.⁽³²⁾

The initial analysis of the possible date of deaths, according to Medical Examiner Jessica Lelinski, is between December 24th, 2014, and January 17th, 2015.⁽³³⁾

EXAMINING THE BODIES

EXAMINING THE BODIES

EXAMINATIONS

The bodies of David, Komel and Raniya were removed from the house at 1:30 a.m. on January 18th and taken to the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's office. Raniya's autopsy was conducted first, at 8:20 a.m., Komel's autopsy began ten minutes later at 8:30 a.m., and David's body was conducted last at 11:50 a.m.

AUTOPSY OF RANIYA

The pathologist for Raniya's autopsy was Jessica Lelinski, who was assisted by Mitchel Morey. AVPD's Jim Gummert, Brian Bone, Sean McKnight, and Tommie Booth were all present during the autopsy. Positive identification for Raniya was made by "circumstantial information."

The final diagnosis of the Medical Examiner's report stated Raniya was shot in the right parietal scalp, the bullet went through her brain, and exited the left postauricular scalp. Three gray-colored metal projectile fragments were found in her left temporal skull. The trajectory was described as, "Leftward, downward, and backward." It looks like Raniya was shot from behind, on the right side of her head, next to the ear. The range at which she was shot could not be determined, but there was no soot or stippling, which would have indicated murder at close range.

The final autopsy report, initially dated February 6th, 2015, with signatures dated March 16th, 2015, stated Raniya was found partially decomposed with "moderate decomposition." Livor (discoloration of the skin) and rigor mortis (stiffness of death) were absent.

AUTOPSY RESULTS

Even so, according to the external examination, “Early to moderate decomposition is evidenced by skin discoloration, marbling, blistering, slippage, and partial mummification of the face, left hand and feet.”

Examiners also observed “evidence of postmortem animal scavenging.” The evidence was the “absence of the right arm.” Possibly related to animal scavenging was the “jagged and tattered” skin and soft tissue defect where Raniya’s arm would have connected to her shoulder. According to the report, “The 10 x 8 defect exposed the Glenoid Fossa and the lateral right 1st – 4th ribs.” Also observed was a fracture in the third rib, and “numerous short white hairs adherent to the pants.”

AUTOPSY OF KOMEL

Komel’s autopsy began with Assistant Medical Examiner Mitchel Morey as the pathologist. Detectives Sean McKnight and Brian Bone observed the autopsy. Komel was identified by dental radiographs and tattoos. She weighed 85 pounds. Lividity (discoloration) and rigor (stiffness) were not recognized on her body. Body cavities contained small amounts of decomposition fluid.

Komel was shot twice, with both entrance wounds in the left posterior parietal region of the skull. In an early section of the autopsy report the trajectories of the two bullets were listed as “left to right and back to front.” However, in the external examination, the trajectories were listed as “left to right and front to back.”

Large skull fragments were also mentioned in Komel’s autopsy report. The scalp was “absent,” according to the report. The missing portion of Komel’s head was most

EXAMINING THE BODIES

likely the right side of her skull. All that remained of her head were portions of the posterior skull, specifically “most of the left occipital bone and portions of the adjacent left parietal bone.” Brain tissue was absent from inside the skull. Irregular bony and soft tissue margins were consistent with “canine scavenging.”

According to the report, “Most of the head and the hands are missing.” Many of the bones found were “consistent with fragmented digit bones...The distal aspects terminate with absence of the hands.”

Multiple bone fragments, wavy dark hair and white cotton debris were all mentioned under the internal evidence section of the report. “Amongst this bony material,” the report continued, “are two mandibles. One shows numerous restorations. In addition, there are two fragments of bone with 2 and 4 teeth.” Multiple “irregular” bone fragments ranged from 1.2 to 8 centimeters in size.

Regarding animal scavenging of Komel’s neck, the forensic pathologist wrote, “The anterior musculature, hyoid bone, and laryngeal cartilages are absent due to apparent animal scavenging.” All that remained of the neck was “the exposed and intact cervical vertebral column.”

“There is extensive bloating,” the report continued, “skin slippage, and discoloration of the body surfaces.”

Hair was found on Komel’s right sock and the anterior left leg. The left sleeve of Komel’s sweater was frayed; decomposition fluid and apparent blood were both present on the sleeve. Underneath the sweater was a Gray State t-shirt soaked in decomposition fluid and blood.

AUTOPSY RESULTS

AUTOPSY OF DAVID CROWLEY

At 11:40 a.m., January 18th, 2015, the Apple Valley Police Department released their second press release. This one stated David, Komel and Raniya Crowley died as a result of an apparent murder-suicide. This is interesting because David's autopsy hadn't begun yet, and the Hennepin Medical Examiner's office was still "working to positively identify the three deceased."⁽¹⁾ David's autopsy began ten minutes later at 11:50 a.m.

The pathologist for David's autopsy was Jessica Lelinski, who was once again assisted by Mitchel Morey. Detective Sean McKnight and Detective Brian Bone were present during the autopsy. David weighed 128 pounds and was identified by dental records and body tattoos. Medication and food were not found in his stomach.

According to David's autopsy report, "Early to moderate decomposition is evidenced by skin discoloration, marbling, slippage, blistering, and mummification of the left hand and feet."

Due to the condition of David's head, the pathologist was unable to determine the entrance, pathway, and trajectory of the gunshot wound. They did determine the bullet exited through the left parietal bone and scalp. External beveling (external cone shape) and radiating linear fractures were visible on the left parietal bone. The posterior calvarium and overlying scalp were visible, as was posterior neck skin, soft tissue and the cervical spine. The scalp had "patchy short brown hair."

Skull bone fragments ranging from 1.5 to 14.5 centimeters were mentioned in the internal evidence section of the report. The skull bone fragments "articulate well with each other and with the remaining calvarium" of David's

EXAMINING THE BODIES

head. Separately found was a “non-articulating 8.5 cm maximum dimension skull bone fragment” with “a rounded defect along with one edge with apparent internal beveling.”

“The bony skeleton,” the report continued, “apart from previously described skull injuries and artifact due to animal scavenging, is intact and normal.”

According to the autopsy report, “On the left parietal scalp, centered approximately 9 inches above the left shoulder and 4 inches left of the posterior midline is a gunshot wound consisting of a 2 x 1 cm ovoid defect with irregular edges.”

Examined separately from David’s body at the time of the autopsy was a maxilla with well-preserved teeth.

The report also claimed Paleo was responsible for the absence of David’s brain, the majority of his skull, neck skin, neck soft tissue, neck muscles, the hyoid bone, thyroid cartilage, the tongue, the larynx, the proximal trachea, and the thyroid. “The remaining bone fragments are irregular and of unidentifiable origin or consistent with phalanges.”

Regarding the missing right hand, “The distal right forearm shows intact, smooth ends of the radius and ulna and irregularly-contoured soft tissue, muscle, and skin.”

The left hand was mummified. In one crime scene image the index finger of the left hand is pressing against the thumb.

The autopsy report also mentioned “dried drips of red-brown blood-like material on the dorsal left hand between the thumb and 1st finger.”

AUTOPSY RESULTS



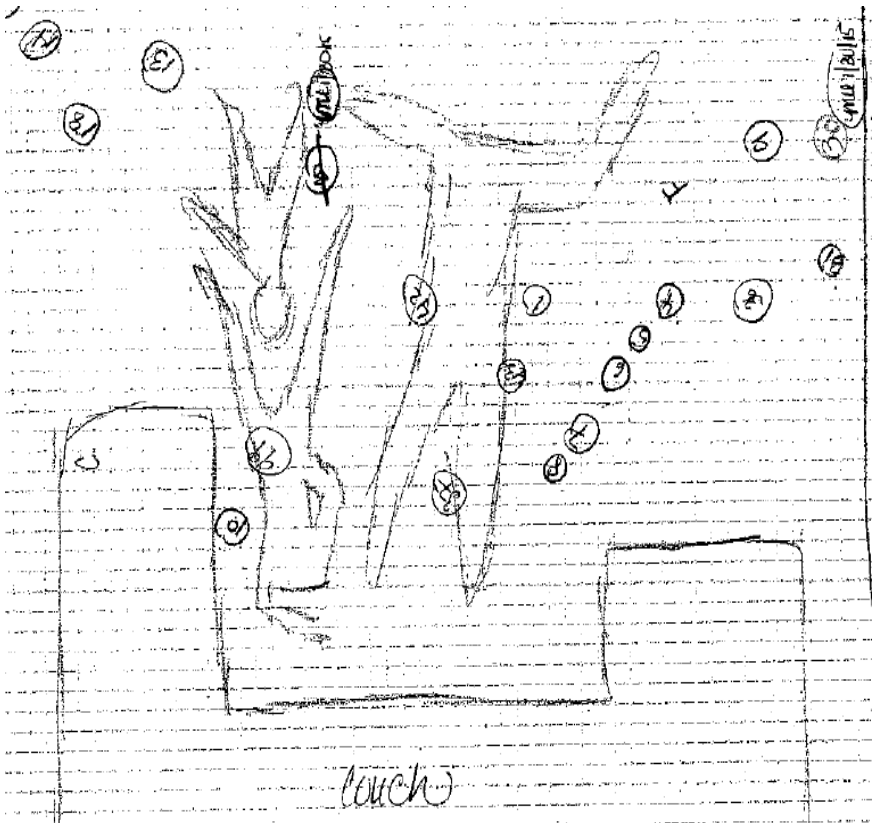
(BCA 4777)

Note: The January 21st AVPD Press Release is the first mention of the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's office positively identifying the deceased as David, Komel and Raniya. There's no mention of the alleged double murder-suicide. The press release stated all three died from gunshot wounds, adding the investigation was ongoing.

THE LIVING ROOM

THE LIVING ROOM

Blood spatter in the living room was “mostly on ground” according to BCA Crime Scene Team Lead Joe Cooksley.⁽¹⁾ A black Springfield XD40 handgun (**Item 1A**) with a rubber Hogue grip sleeve⁽²⁾ was found “cocked”⁽³⁾ on the living room floor, “several inches” from David’s left hand, according to Detective Tommie Booth.⁽⁴⁾ Detective Brian Bone was more specific, stating the gun was found “approximately 1 foot” to the south of the left side of David’s body.⁽⁵⁾ According to the Firearm Worksheet, some apparent blood-like substance was found in the barrel of the gun. The worksheet also mentioned apparent “rust-like material,” which could have been found on one of three unspent cartridges in the gun.⁽⁶⁾



(Sketch of Item 1 next to David's Left Hand)

THE GRAY STAGE

The *presence of blood* was found on the grip (**Item 1A-1**), slide (**Item 1A-2**), trigger (**Item 1A-3**), and muzzle (**Item 1A-4**) of the gun. **Item 1B** is the magazine inside of the alleged murder weapon. Ridge detail blood found on the magazine was labeled as **Item 1B-1**.⁽⁷⁾

Several blood mixtures were found on the gun, specifically on the trigger (Item 1A-3) and the magazine (Item 1B-1). DNA results show blood of “two or more individuals” on the trigger, with one of those individuals being David Crowley. The blood did not match Komel, but Raniya could not be excluded as a possible contributor.

Two or more DNA profiles were found on the magazine. The major DNA profile on the magazine matched David Crowley. An estimated 99.9997% of the general population was excluded from being possible contributors, but Komel and Raniya could not be excluded.⁽⁸⁾

Two cartridges were removed from the magazine and labeled as **Item 1B1** and **Item 1B2**. **Item 1C** is an unspent cartridge found in the chamber of the handgun.⁽⁹⁾ Latent prints were not found on these three items.⁽¹⁰⁾

Item 1D is listed as a “bore patch” from **Item 1** and **Item 1E** is listed as “test fired specimens from Item 1.”⁽¹¹⁾

Hairs and fibers found on the gun and magazine were labeled as **Item 1A-5** and **Item 1B-2**.⁽¹²⁾

Latent Print results revolved around two of three latent prints suitable for comparison – one found on the gun and one found on the magazine. **LP1A-1** is a latent palm print on the gun. According to Latent Print results, “No known palm prints for David Timothy Crowley were submitted or found in the BCA files for comparison” to the palm print on the gun.

LP1B-2 is a latent fingerprint found on the magazine. However, this too could not be tied to David Crowley “due

THE LIVING ROOM

to the limited quality and quantity of information in the latent print.”⁽¹³⁾ Jennifer Kostroski consulted with Dennis Randall about this latent fingerprint. “He agreed,” Kostroski wrote, “it could be 1 or 2 prints + that Imp was unusual, coupled with low quality makes it difficult to determine.”⁽¹⁴⁾

“The crime scene team found a total of six empty spent cartridges,” Detective Brian Bone reported. “The crime scene team also found three bullet fragments in the carpet.”

According to Detective Bone, the BCA Crime Scene Team processed the scene in detail. “After the scene was processed,” Bone continued, “we were able to move the rug that the bodies were found on.”⁽¹⁵⁾

CARTRIDGE CASINGS

Based on the Firearms report, completed May 22nd, 2015, the gun (Item 1A) fired six cartridge casings and six bullets.⁽¹⁶⁾ **Item 2** is a cartridge casing found at the corner of the east edge of the carpet, near the recliner. **Item 3** is a cartridge casing found on the east side of the living room hardwood floor, next to a short wooden stool. **Item 9** is a cartridge casing found on the south side of the living room carpet. **Item 30** is a cartridge casing found on the living room hardwood floor, closest to the south wall.⁽¹⁷⁾ **Item 36** is a cartridge casing found inches from David’s left hand on the south end of the living room carpet. **Item 37** is a cartridge casing found on the west side of the living room carpet, next to the couch.⁽¹⁸⁾

The following items were collected from the living room:

- Springfield XD40 pistol (**Item 1**) bearing serial number XD546473 with apparent blood on it
- Six cartridge cases (**Items 2, 3, 9, 30, 36, and 37**) with “Winchester 40 S&W” head stamps
- Cartridge (**Item 7**) with a “Winchester 40 S&W” head stamp
- Three bullets (**Items 42, 43, and 44**) and a bullet fragment (**Item 31**)

THE GRAY STAGE

SPENT CARTRIDGES

The spent cartridges found on the west side of the living room carpet on January 17th, 2015, are labeled as **Item 42**, **Item 43**, and **Item 44**. All three spent cartridges were found close to the living room couch with hair on them. Test results for all three items showed a “single source DNA profile” matching Komel while excluding Raniya and David as possible contributors.⁽¹⁹⁾

Item 42 weighed 167.96 grams, contained a “blood-like and hair like substance,” with “expanded damage” to the nose of the spent cartridge. Item 43 weighed 179.56 grams and also had a “blood-like substance,” but no hair. The nose of the spent cartridge was “damaged & partially exposed.”⁽²⁰⁾ A blood-like substance was also observed on Item 44. This spent cartridge weighed 130.24 grams, with its nose listed as “damaged.”⁽²¹⁾

Item 45 is a spent cartridge found in the south wall of the basement.⁽²²⁾ This spent cartridge weighed 173.90 grams. The nose was listed as “damaged” and “partially expanded.”⁽²³⁾

“Holes were observed in both the area rug and the wood floor underneath the rug,” Joe Cooksley reported. “Chemical testing of the hole in the wood floor also failed to detect the presence of lead.”⁽²⁴⁾

This bullet traveled into the living room carpet, pierced through the hardwood floor (leaving behind bullet fragments), and then lodged itself into the south wall of the basement. A section of the drywall around the lodged bullet was cut in order to retrieve Item 45. When the styrofoam behind the drywall was removed “a bullet was observed,” according to Joe Cooksley.⁽²⁵⁾

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A DNA profile was not found on Item 45.⁽²⁶⁾ Additionally, Joe Cooksley discussed running trajectory tests on the spent cartridge with BCA Special Agent Chris Olson, “He didn’t feel it was necessary,” Cooksley wrote in his notes.⁽²⁷⁾

It should be noted here that two spent cartridges labeled as Items 53 and 57 were found by accident on two separate occasions, days and weeks after the bodies were removed from the house.

THE OTHERS

Item 31 is labeled as a bullet fragment found near the south edge of the living room carpet.⁽²⁸⁾



(BCA 4921)

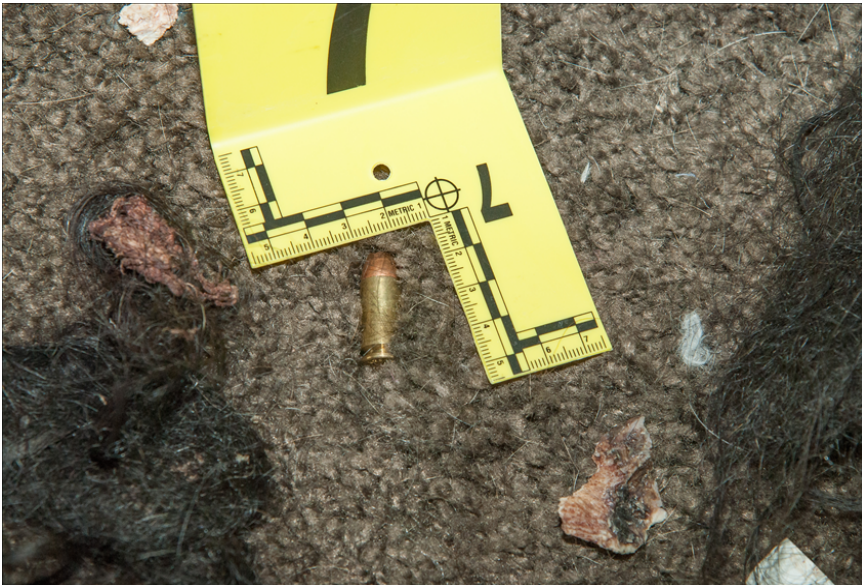
Item 7 is the unspent round compressed into the living room carpet. Several thin hairs covered the live round. Strands of hair and pieces of flesh were found close to this

THE GRAY STAGE

bullet. DNA tests were never performed on Item 7.⁽²⁹⁾ According to BCA Forensic Scientist Rebecca L. Dian, BCA Crime Scene Team Lead Joe Cooksley “indicated that analysis is not needed on Item 7.”⁽³⁰⁾



(BCA 4766)



(BCA 4767)

THE LIVING ROOM

Once the processing of the crime scene was complete between January 17th and 18th, investigators left the house with four spent cartridges instead of six. Of the four bullets recovered from the scene, only three had blood on them (only Komel's blood). Authorities missed two bullets when they left the house on January 18th. Those two bullets will be covered in the Suspicious Activity chapter of this book.

THE BLOOD WALL

BCA Crime Scene Team Lead Joe Cooksley noted “No Latent Prints observed on writing in blood on west living room wall.”⁽³¹⁾



(BCA 4443)

THE GRAY STAGE

Item 11 is a swab of the blood writing on the living room wall. Specifically, this item is the second “A” in ALLAHU. The blood pointed to a single source, matching Komel while excluding David and Raniya. “The writing appeared to be in blood,” Detective Brian Bone wrote in his report, “and written with somebody’s hand and fingers as you can see individual finger marks in the writing.”⁽³²⁾



(BCA 4811)

Similarly, the “B” in AKBAR was swabbed and labeled as **Item 12**.



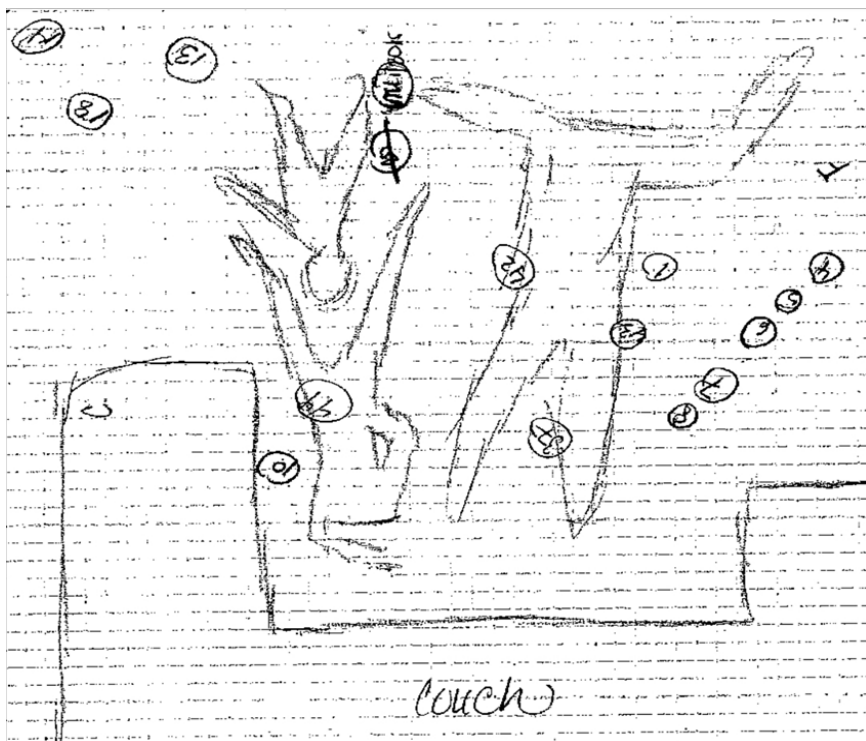
(BCA 4812)

THE LIVING ROOM

However, Item 12 was not tested for a DNA source, which is interesting since Joe Cooksley requested DNA analysis on both Items 11 and 12.⁽³³⁾

THE QURAN CONNECTION

A Quran (**Item 4**) was found on the living room floor, open to page 995.⁽³⁴⁾ Of the several torn Quran pages found on the living room floor, only three pages with bloodstains were labeled and submitted to the laboratory; **Item 5**, **Item 6** and **Item 10**. Two of these pages, **Item 5** and **Item 6** were found next to David. **Item 6** was found “under brown fabric.” The other page, **Item 10**, was found on the opposite side end of the living room floor, next to Komel.



(BCA 488 – page 118)

THE GRAY STAGE

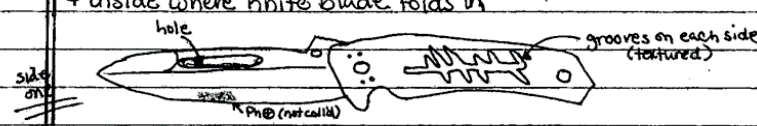
Looking at the BCA lab results, the Quran and the three pages were not tested, and not mentioned further. In fact, the Quran was barely mentioned in the Apple Valley police reports. Initially, aside from one image of the living room wall, all mention of the blood writing, the Quran and the note in the office bedroom were redacted from police reports. Even when the Quran was mentioned in BCA documents, it was simply referred to as a book.⁽³⁵⁾

THE KNIFE

Item 8 is a camouflage knife, found in the opened position, with bloodstains on the blade and hole of the blade.

Item 8: tscbb strc knife from livingroom cont: red/gray/tan folding knife, "Ontario Knife Company", bls on blade + inside where knife blade folds in

● = bls



↳ 1 ss used to swab inside "hole" = Ph⊕ → cc as Item 8-1

↳ 2 ss used to swab area where blade folds in = Ph⊕ → cc as Item 8-2

↳ 2 ss used to swab textured area of handle = Ph⊕ → cc as Item 8-3

↳ 1 app hair coiled from handle → cc as Item 8-4

* Item not labeled - preserved for LP exam *

(BCA 488 - pg.464)

The knife was close to David's left leg, next to the couch. The blood on the knife came from a mixture of two or more individuals, according to DNA results. David, Komel and Raniya "cannot be excluded from being possible

THE LIVING ROOM

contributors to the mixture,” but 99.9998% of the general population could be excluded.⁽³⁶⁾

Item 8-1 is blood swabbed inside the hole of the blade. **Item 8-2** is a swab of blood found on the folding side of the blade. Blood is not present on the handle of the knife, **Item 8-3**. **Item 8-4** is a hair sample found on the handle.

FLOOR BLOOD STAINS

Seven blood swabs from the living room floor were labeled as **Item 13**, **Item 14**, **Item 15**, **Item 18**, **Item 19**, **Item 20**, and **Item 32**. Of those submitted items, only **Item 14** was tested for DNA.



(BCA 4832)

Item 14 is one of the bloody footprints near the kitchen island counter. The DNA profile of this item matched Komel. David and Raniya were excluded as contributors.⁽³⁷⁾

THE GRAY STAGE

A chemical was used to enhance any possible ridge detail of the footprint.

It should be noted that none of the footprints found at the scene were conclusively tied to David or anyone else. So, the source of the footprints remains inconclusive to this day.

Item 29 is one of many small bloodstains on the east wall, behind the recliner. The blood on the wall was swabbed but never examined to find a DNA source.

The blood on the recliner (**Item 34**) wasn't examined either, even though there was a huge blood stain on the bottom left corner.⁽³⁸⁾ Considering the huge circular stain in the image below, I was surprised authorities decided not to swab the item.



(BCA 4984)

THE LIVING ROOM

Hair and small blood stains were also present on the upper-right portion of the recliner, but not mentioned in reports.

Another curious item in the living room was the blood stain on the south wall, just below the light switch, labeled as **Item 33**. This item was one of many blood spots on the wall closest to the front window. DNA tests were never performed on this item.

Item 31 is a bullet fragment found near the south wall. The fragment was submitted as evidence into the Nuclear DNA section of the BCA Laboratory Analysis request, but was never tested for results.⁽³⁹⁾

Also found on the living room floor was a Surface Pro Tablet, labeled as AV-45.⁽⁴⁰⁾

A year or so after the crime, I was able to ask Komel's sister, Sidrah, about the tablet. "Komel and Rani had a DVD player next to them," Sidrah explained, "which makes us believe they were watching a movie and he came from the basement." Sidrah suspected Komel and Raniya were watching a movie on Netflix when they were killed.



(DSC 0432)

THE GRAY STAGE

“My sister wrote down her feelings on her Surface Pro,” Sidrah continued. “If I can get into it, I can solve exactly why David did this and put an end to all of these questions everyone has. She had a diary.”

At that time, Sidrah did not believe police were able to bypass the password screen and gain full access to the device. I told her there is software she could buy to bypass the password and break into the computer. I was a little surprised that police told her they couldn’t get past the password screen of the Surface Pro.

“Police couldn’t without risking losing the information,” Sidrah responded.

Police were eventually able to extract the data from the Surface Pro, according to Sidrah. “Just talked to my dad,” Sidrah informed me. “They couldn’t get into the iPhone but they did get into the Surface Pro and they didn’t find anything.” When the Alams retrieved Komel’s possessions from police, the SIM card for Komel’s iPhone was missing. It’s unclear if police removed the SIM card, or if the card was missing when authorities collected the iPhone.

THE KITCHEN

THE KITCHEN

KITCHEN ISLAND

The laptop, labeled as **AV-8**⁽¹⁾ was opened to a black screen on the kitchen island when authorities entered the house. The device was plugged into a power outlet just above the kitchen sink, and the screen was black. “Love” was written on the laptop cover.

“Blood and partial fingerprints” were visible on the laptop surface and keyboard. Several bloodstains were visible on the kitchen island counter next to the laptop. When the laptop was swabbed for DNA purposes, the black screen awoke to reveal a text message reading, “I have loved you all with all of my heart.”

“I was not certain if this note was saved or otherwise date or time stamped,” Detective Brian Bone reported. “The note was not signed and was in the format of a typed note.”⁽²⁾ Authorities assumed the message was written by David Crowley, but that assumption remains unproven.

Three areas of bloody ridge detail were identified on the laptop and labeled as *A*, *B*, and *C*. Of the three areas, only Area *A* was sufficient for latent print analysis.⁽³⁾ **Item 54** is a CD of twenty-five NEF images of latent prints found on the laptop. A digital latent palm print of Area *A* was then labeled as **LP54-1**. LP54-1 was “searched in the Midwest Automated Fingerprint Identification Network (MAFIN) database and no suitable candidate was generated.” Additionally, “No known palm prints for David Timothy Crowley were submitted or found in the BCA files for comparison to LP54-1.”⁽⁴⁾

Item 23 is blood swabbed on the surface of the laptop. DNA results tie the blood to Komel while excluding David and Raniya.⁽⁵⁾

THE GRAY STAGE

According to Joe Cooksley, “The Item 23 bloodstain was in close proximity to apparent bloody ridge detail. A chemical was used to enhance the ridge detail. The ridge detail was documented with photographs prior to and after the application of the enhancement chemical.”⁽⁶⁾

Blood found on the “A” key of the laptop was swabbed and labeled as **Item 24**. Though collected and itemized, the blood on the “A” key was not submitted for DNA testing.⁽⁷⁾

Item 25 is blood swabbed on the kitchen island countertop, next to the laptop. This item was not tested. Neither was the bloodstain on the tissue box (**Item 26**).

In fact, two bloodstains on the lower part of the base of the kitchen island (**Item 16 & Item 17**) a drop of blood on the kitchen floor next to the dishwasher (**Item 21**), another spot of blood inside the dishwasher (**Item 22**), and a bloodstain on the underside of the kitchen island (**Item 28**) were all submitted for analysis, but never tested.⁽⁸⁾

David’s bloody cell phone (**Item 35**) was found close to the tissue box. A blood mixture of “two or more individuals” was found on the phone. David was excluded from being a possible contributor. According to DNA results, “Komel Rasool Crowley and Raniya Crowley cannot be excluded from being possible contributors.”⁽⁹⁾

Some of those items were retained in their entirety and could be tested later. According to the BCA report, “The contents of Items 11, 12, 14, 15, 23, 24, 27, 35, 38, 39, 50, 51, and 52 have been retained in their entirety.”⁽¹⁰⁾

Additionally, a Sun Thisweek Newspaper, dated December 26th, 2014, was collected from the kitchen garbage. According to the delivery driver, the weekly newspaper was delivered to the Crowley residence on December 23rd, 2014, between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

THE KITCHEN

However, the delivery driver's mother told Detective Tommie Booth her son delivered the newspaper on December 24th.

Additionally, Detective Brian Bone spoke with Circulation Coordinator for Sun Thisweek Kathy Silberg. Silberg stated the newspaper found in the kitchen garbage "could have been delivered on December 24th, 25th, or 26th." Detective Bone learned the "papers were delivered for pickup by the delivery drivers on 12-24-14. Silberg explained that the papers are left at a centralized location for the delivery drivers to pick up and then deliver." If Silberg's dates are accurate, it was not possible for the driver to deliver the newspaper to the Crowley mailbox on December 23rd.

It seems detectives never asked the driver how he delivered the newspaper on December 23rd if the paper wasn't ready to be picked up until December 24th. Nevertheless, Detective Bone concluded his report by stating, "As of this time it is believed the paper that was found in the kitchen garbage can could have been brought in any time after 1500 hours on 12-23-14."

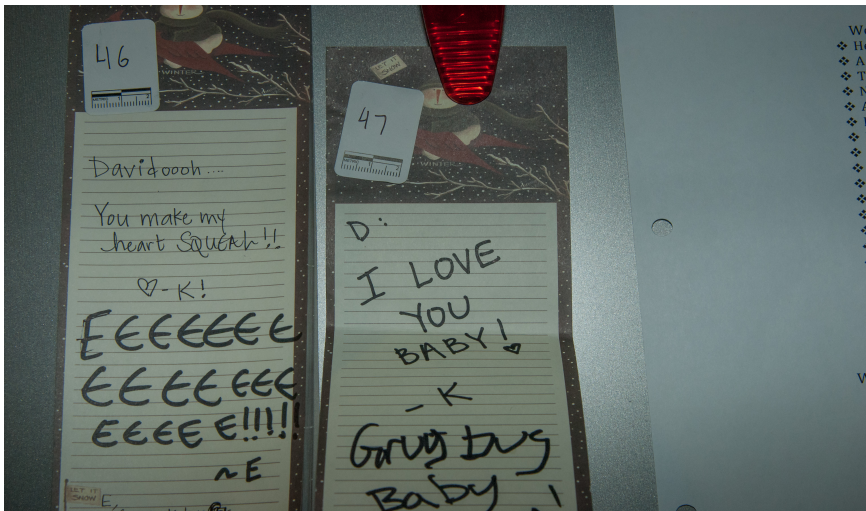
The last Thisweek newspaper delivered to the Crowley home was dated January 2nd, 2015. The newspaper delivery driver did not deliver that paper to the mailbox since "he was out of town on vacation with his family," according to Detective Bone. Two more editions of the Sun Thisweek newspaper should have been in the Crowley mailbox. Why were the January 8th and 15th editions of Sun Thisweek missing from the mailbox?⁽¹¹⁾

Several bottles of pill capsules were taken out of a kitchen drawer and photographed by investigators. The bottles were not mentioned in police reports, evidence lists, or Minnesota BCA files. Contents inside the refrigerator

THE GRAY STAGE

were also absent from those documents. In fact, many items seen inside the house were absent from reports, but as Detective Gummert later clarified, “If we did not cover it in our reports then we did not feel it necessary to do so.”⁽¹²⁾

A notepad (**Item 46**) and a folded note behind the notepad (**Item 47**) were collected as “possible handwriting from Komel Rasool Crowley.” Authorities do not make it clear if they think all of the writing on Item 46 and Item 47 came solely from Komel.⁽¹³⁾



(BCA 5156)

Another item collected from the kitchen was a checkbook found in the front drawer of the kitchen counter, (**Item 48**) “with possible handwriting from David Timothy Crowley.”

It should be noted that Items 46, 47, and 48 were unintentionally photographed, and may have been the “known writing sample[s]” mentioned in reports.⁽¹⁴⁾ Regardless, according to BCA documents, “Handwriting comparisons of the questioned writing...will not be conducted at this time.”⁽¹⁵⁾

THE OFFICE BEDROOM

THE OFFICE BEDROOM

Item 27 is a bloodstain in the hallway, just outside of David's office bedroom. DNA results tied the blood to Komel.⁽¹⁾

THE OFFICE

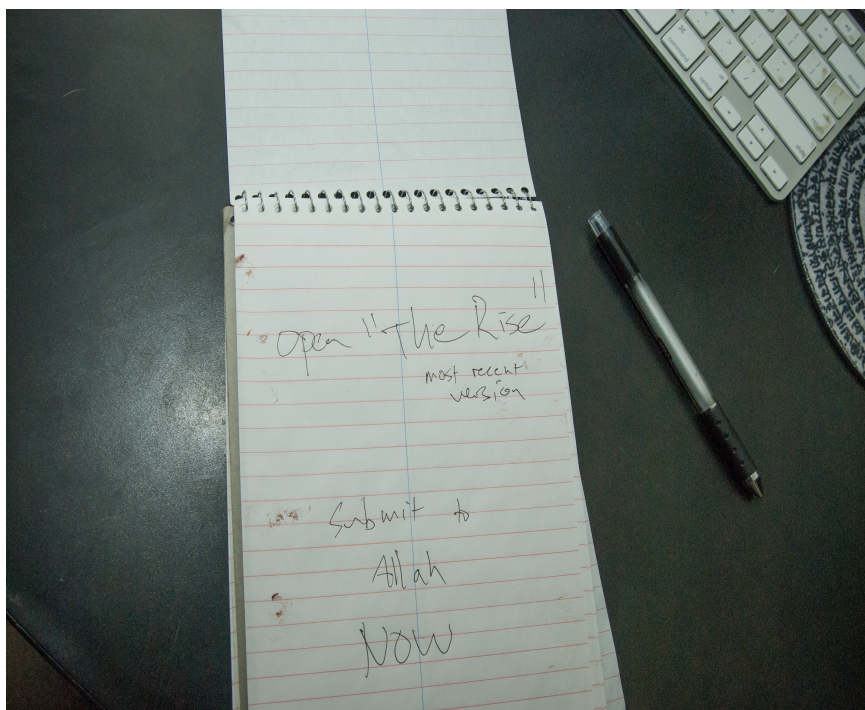
Blood found on the computer desk, labeled as **Item 39**, was swabbed and collected by Beth Wolf. The item was submitted for nuclear DNA testing. Though the blood was never tested, the item was "retained in its entirety at the BCA lab."⁽²⁾



(BCA 5122)

THE GRAY STAGE

Item 40 is the pen found next to the notepad on the computer desk. Blood found on the “grip” of the pen was labeled as **Item 40-1**. The pen was not one of the items submitted for Nuclear DNA testing. The pen was not one of “three latent prints...suitable for comparison” to David Crowley.⁽³⁾ So how do we know David used the pen to write on the notepad nearby?



(BCA 4594)

Item 41 is the notepad found on the computer desk in the office bedroom. Authorities found the notepad flipped open to page 30 of 59. On page 30 were two strange, unexplained, sentences. The first was “Open “The Rise” most recent version.” The second message was “Submit to Allah NOW.” Neither of these two messages were ever labeled as suicide notes by authorities. More importantly, who can prove David wrote the two messages?⁽⁴⁾

THE OFFICE BEDROOM

Bloody visual ridge detail was found on the following pages:

- **41a-30** (back)
- **41a-31** (front and back), **41a-31-1**
- **41a-32** (front)
- **41a-33** (front)
- **41a-34** (front) possible RD
- **41a-58** (back)⁽⁵⁾

Items 41a-35, 41a-36, and 41a-37 had minimal apparent blood on the bottom edges. BCA Analyst Jennifer Kostroski's notes dated July 14th, 2015, state she spoke with Joe Cooksley about which items should be processed for latent prints. Kostroski was told "it was sufficient to only process pages w/ RD in apparent blood. Other pages returned to item packaging; no LP processing on Item 41."⁽⁶⁾

Results of the Alternate Light Source Examination were conclusive, "Examinations of the front and back cover of the notebook (Item 41) and the fifty-nine pages that were originally within the notebook (Items 41a-1 through 41a-59) failed to reveal any latent writing material."⁽⁷⁾

Item 41-1 is blood found on the front cover of the notepad. This could mean the notepad was closed before the two messages on page 30 were written.⁽⁸⁾ The item was never tested.

Item 41-2 is blood found on page 30 of the notepad. Two sentences were written on that page; *Open "The Rise" most recent version* and *Submit to Allah NOW*.⁽⁹⁾ The blood on this page contained a mixture of two or more individuals, with the major DNA profile matching Komel. David and Raniya were excluded from being possible

THE GRAY STAGE

contributors to the blood tested on page 30.⁽¹⁰⁾ So who is the source of the other DNA profile or profiles?

apparent blood like substance

I.S. or E.S. present

C.S. between e+n

feathering

lift present

apparent blood like substance drop

Open

The Rise

most recent version

continuous line

drag

Writing is fast - somewhat careless

black roller ball ink - line trough present with squeegee effect - ink carrier + dark edges

515-00662

tel 411a-30 sim 621115

sim 21157

line + ink into paper

written in this direction

black ink

mean all this

best printer

(BCA 488 - pg.235)

Regarding the latent print examinations, **Item 41a-30** is page 30 of the notepad. **LP41a30-1** is a latent impression (finger/palm) observed on page 30. Latent print results were

THE OFFICE BEDROOM

“inconclusive to Crowley due to the limited quality and quantity of information in the latent and known prints.”⁽¹¹⁾

Similarly, **Item 41a-31** is page 31 of 59. **LP41a31-1** is a latent fingerprint on page 31, which was identified as David’s left middle finger.⁽¹²⁾ This is the only conclusive connection between David and the notepad.

Separately, “Two ESDA [Electrostatic Detection Apparatus] lifts taken of impressions found on the front side of page 20 of the spiral notepad” were examined and labeled as **Item 41a-20A**. **Item 41a-21A** consisted of “two ESDA lifts taken of impressions found on the front side of Page 21 of the spiral notepad.”⁽¹³⁾

*-typ cal army strength
weakness - deploy into a trap
-Real militia shown before joined ass
-no one in or out of the city!
-peace! (bro)
-language barrier in everyway
-put your hope in something the__ sh__ h!
-mode__ __h e w
- trying to escape
-lose a battle The
-D a ta_k
know The
call s and all Amer_ca_s
-R m_ss_g
eep shooting
- but
-undercover, great danger - r ots
-what dangerous (familiar terrain to cross?
-going to full auto!
-walk into a gruesome situation – things
to come
unexpected civ encounters
-escort friendly*

(BCA Lab Analysis – pg.35)

Can we safely assume pages 20 and 21 were the only notepad pages with indented impressions?

THE GRAY STAGE

Items 41a-20A: two ESDA lifts created of indented impressions from the front side of Item 41a-20 (corrected BEAST labels located are on the backside of the ESDA lifts)
Items 41a-21A: two ESDA lifts created of indented impressions from the front side of Item 41a-21 (corrected BEAST labels located are on the backside of the ESDA lifts)

Date : 06/30/2015 13:50

Analyst : Lisa M. Hanson, ABFDE

Type :General Notation

ESDA Lift that was developed from Item 41a-20 and Item 41a-21 as one lift was cut in half and labeled respectively as Item 41a-20A and Item 41a-21A, copied and documented for the case file and each placed in their respective manila envelopes labeled Item 41a-20A and Item 41a-21A before being put in a larger manila envelope labeled as Container #C- see copies in case file.

Date : 07/20/2015 13:16

Analyst : Jennifer L. Kostroski

Type :General Notation

Added to description of Item 54 to include number/type of images.

Date : 08/03/2015 14:14

Analyst : Joe Cooksley

Type :Phone
Conversation/message

Spoke with Brian Bone to notify him that the LP report was issued on 7/31/2015. I also asked him if he felt that any additional questioned document work will need to be done on writing that was previously documented on the notepad from the office, the apparent known writing samples, and the images of the writing on the living room wall. He said that further questioned document analysis was not needed at this time.

(BCA 488 – pg.58)

Handwriting comparisons between what was written on the notepad and the writings on the refrigerator door & checkbook in the kitchen never happened.⁽¹⁴⁾ Three pages, labeled as 41a-39, 41a-40, and 41a-41, were “warped from being wet from something.”⁽¹⁵⁾

THE MASTER BEDROOM

THE MASTER BEDROOM

“There were no immediate signs of any blood inside the master bedroom area,” according to Detective Tommie Booth. The gun safe in the bedroom was open. Inside the safe was a loaded magazine with .40 caliber hollow point ammunition. The push keys on the gun safe were swabbed and labeled as **Item 38**. Blood was not found on the push keys, but DNA results showed a mixture of two or more individuals. The major DNA profile belonged to a female, matching Komel. Even so, David and Raniya could not be excluded as possible contributors to the mixture.⁽¹⁾

The open gun safe and the weed on the dresser were two more indications of a scene interrupted. Within days of finding the bodies, authorities were informed of “a possible drug deal” between David Crowley and his friend, Chris Peck. Peck told authorities he was not David’s drug dealer, and that he considered David a mentor when it came to film production.

According to Detective Booth’s report, “Mr. Peck went on to describe that he has known David and Komel for several years and had traveled to Oklahoma with David and Daniel Mason and Mitch Heil to help film scenes for the ‘Gray State’ concept trailer back in March of 2013. The group had traveled to Oklahoma where a lot of the filming was done. Mr. Peck stated that he has worked on and off with David on the project of ‘Gray State’.”

Regarding the alleged drug deal, Detective Booth continued, “The text message was sent at 7:22 a.m. on December 19, 2014.”

David allegedly contacted Chris Peck asking, “Do you have any?” Arrangements were then made for David and Komel to go to Chris Peck’s residence.

After receiving this information from Detective Shane Klokonos, Detective Tommie Booth immediately contacted

THE GRAY STAGE

Chris Peck for more information. Peck stated David and Komel came by his residence to pick up “a small amount of marijuana” on December 19th, 2014. That was the last time Peck saw David and Komel.

“The Crowley’s had wished him a Merry Christmas and a safe trip,” Booth reported. Two days later, Peck stated he went to Iowa for Christmas.⁽²⁾

According to David and Komel’s phone records, which police obtained after speaking with Chris Peck, there were no calls or text messages made to or from their phones on December 19th, 2014.

December 19th is also the last day Raniya Crowley attended school at the Cypress Classic Academy. Raniya was enrolled in the fall of 2014 “in what would be considered kindergarten” at the school, according to Detective Booth. Raniya’s classes were Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 3 p.m. Every day, David and Komel dropped off and picked up Raniya together. Raniya was scheduled to return to school on January 5th, 2015. When Raniya did not return to Cypress Classic Academy in January, the school called both David and Komel to see if Raniya was returning to continue her studies.⁽³⁾

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Return to Return Again

Authorities were forced to return to the crime scene on two separate occasions to recover bullets not collected during the initial search of the Crowley home. Considering the circumstances surrounding this case, I found that highly disturbing.

On January 19th, 2015, two days after the bodies of David, Komel and Raniya Crowley were discovered, a neighbor called police to report suspicious activity at the Crowley residence. The 911 call was placed at 12:51 p.m. The caller refused to give a name but claimed to live a few houses down from 1051 Ramsdell Drive.

Fifteen minutes prior to the neighbor calling authorities, a camouflage painted GMC Blazer stopped in front of the Crowley residence. An unknown male got out of the truck and tried to enter the house. Unfortunately, the caller was unsure if the man was able to get inside. The caller did not provide the license plate of the vehicle.

The entire incident of “suspicious activity” lasted sixteen minutes and thirty-eight seconds. Two Apple Valley Police units were assigned to the incident at 12:52 p.m. and a third unit was assigned one minute later.

At 12:56 p.m., Unit 4918 was the first officer to arrive at the Crowley residence. Unit 4918 noticed flowers on the front step. Unit 4949 arrived three minutes later, and Unit 4943 joined the other officers at 1:00 p.m.

THE GRAY STAGE

According to the Incident Detail Report, it was “unknown who was at the residence or why...it is not known if the person who tried to enter the house left [the flowers].”

The incident was closed at 1:08 p.m. If the caller’s timeline is correct, this gave the unknown male about twenty minutes to enter and exit the home before police showed up.⁽¹⁾

ITEM 53

On January 20th, 2015, Bio-Tec Emergency Services, the company hired to clean the crime scene, was in the process of removing items from the residence when a mushroomed bullet (**Item 53**) rolled out of the living room carpet. This spent cartridge had some white material on the surface, weighed 169.54 grams, and was found with an expanded nose.⁽²⁾

“I was contacted by the cleanup team while they were in process,” Detective Sean McKnight wrote in his report about Item 53. “They stated that they had located a bullet that had been rolled up in the carpet. The bullet had rolled out under the hardwood floor that [had] already been cleaned.”⁽³⁾

“At approximately 1300 hrs. on 1-20-15,” Detective Brian Bone reported, “Detective McKnight was contacted by the company cleaning up the Crowley residence at the request of David’s father. The cleanup crew personnel notified Detective McKnight that they had discovered a bullet at the residence. They relayed to Detective McKnight that while picking up the rug from the main living room

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

area a bullet had come out of the carpet and fallen to the floor.”⁽⁴⁾

Detective Bone photographed the bullet when he and Detective McKnight entered the house. “I found that the bullet was lying approximately 1’10” from the west wall of the living room,” wrote Detective Bone, “and approximately 3’1” south of the corner wall, which leads to the dining area of the residence.”

“It should be noted,” Bone continued, “that the bullet was pre-dominantly flat on the back and was sitting on the front/mushroomed portion of the bullet. The bullet appeared to be mostly intact at the time of our discovering it.”⁽⁵⁾

Item 53-1 is a swabbing from Item 53. Hairs found on the bullet were labeled as **Item 53-2**.⁽⁶⁾ This bullet contained a blood mixture of two or more individuals, with the major DNA profile matching Raniya. Interestingly, David and Komel were excluded from being contributors to the newly found bullet. Based on those results, authorities should have been looking for a second DNA profile. Unlike some other results, it is *not* stated that 99% of the general population can be excluded from contributing to the blood mixture of Item 53.⁽⁷⁾

Since authorities did not discover this spent round on their own, we will never know where Item 53 landed after allegedly killing Raniya Crowley. What we know for sure is that Item 53 rolled out of the living room carpet on January 20th, 2015. What we still need to know is the source of the missing DNA profile, or profiles, associated with this bullet.

THE GRAY STAGE

Item 53-1

- Mixture of two or more individuals
- Major DNA profile, indicated as female, matches Raniya Crowley
- Major profile does not match David Timothy Crowley or Komel Rasool Crowley
- Major profile would not be expected to occur more than once among unrelated individuals in the world population
- David Timothy Crowley and Komel Rasool Crowley are excluded from being contributors to the mixture

ITEM 57

On February 17th, 2015, investigators were notified about a bullet hole in the living room ceiling. Based on that information, authorities returned to the Crowley residence on February 18th, and found a bullet (**Item 57**) in the attic above the living room. The bullet weighed 180.18 grams and is the heaviest of all six spent rounds. Like Items 45 and 53, “white material” was also observed on this spent cartridge. The nose of the bullet was partially expanded.⁽⁸⁾

“Characteristics of the hole,” BCA Crime Scene Lead Joe Cooksley wrote in his report, “and its surrounding area indicated that a projectile was traveling generally west to east as it entered the ceiling and exited in the attic.”⁽⁹⁾

After examining the bullet hole in the living room ceiling, authorities found Item 57 in the attic above the living room, near the front door. There was no blood on this bullet, but the nuclear DNA profile matched David Crowley. The DNA profile did not match Komel or Raniya.⁽¹⁰⁾

An email exchange between BCA Analyst Kathryn Roche and Detective Tommie Booth stated no one had been charged with committing a double murder-suicide. “Good morning Kathryn,” Detective Booth wrote on February 17th, 2015, at 8:04 a.m. “Nobody has been charged in this case,

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

so I am giving you permission to use up some evidence in its entirety for DNA analysis. If you need anything else please feel free to contact me. Thanks for all your hard work!”⁽¹¹⁾

Attempting to connect Item 57 to the alleged murder weapon, authorities compared the bullet recovered to a bullet fragment found in the living room, labeled as **Item 31**. Originally, the bullet fragment labeled Item 31 was not included in the Firearms examinations.

“I spoke with Joe Cooksley,” BCA Analyst Lisa Kinsella wrote on April 14th, 2015, at 10:14 a.m., “regarding Item 31 (labeled as “bullet fragment(s)”). It isn’t included in the FA assignment. We discussed that I will add Item 31 to the FA assignment to document it and examine it for suitability-comparative exams.”⁽¹²⁾ The bullet fragment labeled as Item 31 weighed 19.14 grams. The fragment was noted to have a “hair-like substance” and a torn jacket. The fragment was compared to Items 42, 44, 45, 53 and 57, but not to Item 43.⁽¹³⁾



(Comparing Item 57 to Item 31 – BCA 488 pg.184)

THE GRAY STAGE

According to the BCA Firearms report, “Item 57 against Item 31 showed the presence of matching features. This means that Item 1 fired 31.” I’m not sure how that connects Item 57 to the gun, but here are the laboratory results:

Results of Laboratory Examination:

Item 1 (a Springfield Armory Model XD-40 40 S&W caliber pistol bearing serial number XD546473) fired Items 2, 3, 9, 30, 36 and 37 (six 40 S&W caliber cartridge cases) and Items 42, 43, 44, 45, 53 and 57 (six bullets).

Comparative examinations of Item 31 (a bullet fragment) against test fired bullets from Item 1 and Item 57 were performed with the following results:

Item 57 against Item 31 showed the presence of matching features. This means that Item 1 fired Item 31.

Examinations of Items 42, 43, 44, 45, 53 and 57 showed them to be consistent with bullets from Winchester PDX1™ brand cartridges.

Images of a test fired cartridge case from Item 1 were entered into the Minnesota firearms database. A search of the database failed to reveal any items that matched Item 1. If future searches of the database reveal a potential match with Item 1, your agency will be notified and further comparisons can be made.

(BCA 485 - pg.31)

THE SUSPICIOUS PERSON

Detective Brian Bone spoke with “friend of the family” Chris Klien at 5:00 p.m. on February 17th, 2015. “I had been trying to locate Klien,” Detective Bone wrote in his supplemental report, “to learn why he had been at the Crowley residence on 1-19-15, as a neighbor had called in about a suspicious person at the house.”

During their call, Klien asked the detective about the status of the investigation and speculated “about how many rounds had been discharged at the house.”

“He indicated to me,” Detective Bone continued, “that he had been in the house since the discovery of the Crowley family at the residence. He said he had been there with David’s father and brother and had seen there were two shot rounds in the “floor” and “roof.” Prior to this conversation I was not aware of a round being shot into the ceiling/roof.”⁽¹⁴⁾

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

The following day, February 18th, Detective Bone relayed the new information to Detective Sean McKnight. “I contacted Daniel Theodore Crowley,” Detective McKnight wrote in his report, “the father of David Crowley. To our knowledge he is the next of kin in this case. He told me that he was not aware of the bullet hole and had not gone into the home with Cline. I asked for permission from Dan Sr. to enter the home to verify that there is a bullet hole. He agreed to let us in and provided us with the lock box code.”⁽¹⁵⁾

Detective Brian Bone and Detective Sean McKnight entered the Crowley house once again at 3 p.m. on February 18th, 2015. “We immediately found what appeared to be a bullet hole in the ceiling,” wrote Detective Bone, “near the front door and adjacent to the living room.” The detective also wrote about the possible trajectory of the bullet, speculating the shot must have come from the living room area.⁽¹⁶⁾

In the master bedroom, the detectives found the closet open with a ladder underneath the attic access point. “We looked for access to the attic area of the house,” Detective Bone reported, “and found that the Attic access from the master bedroom closet was open. This had not been open at the time of our initial search of the house on 1-17-15. I contacted the BCA crime scene team and advised them of our findings. I requested they assist us in documenting the damage and assist in looking for the bullet in the ceiling and attic area.”⁽¹⁷⁾

With the house secured, Detective Sean McKnight remained in the driveway while Detective Bone obtained the search warrant. The search warrant was signed by District Court Judge Shawn M. Moynihan at 4:25 p.m. on February 18th, 2015.⁽¹⁸⁾ The Minnesota BCA Crime Scene

THE GRAY STAGE

team, led by Joe Cooksley, arrived at 5:45 p.m. The team consisted of Joe Cooksley, Beth Wolf, Lance Lehman, Agent Chris Olson, and one observer.⁽¹⁹⁾

“Detective McKnight and Tietz assisted me in executing the warrant,” Detective Bone continued, “with the assistance of the BCA crime scene team and Special Agent Olson with the BCA. During the warrant they found what is believed to be a bullet in the attic area of the house.”⁽²⁰⁾

Detective McKnight stated the bullet hole was “near the entry way in close proximity to where the Christmas tree had been.”

The BCA Crime Scene Team took measurements of the bullet hole and collected the bullet for further examination.



(DSC 1683 processed)

“During the initial processing of the crime scene,” Detective McKnight explained, “we knew that we could not account for several bullets that may have been fired from the gun used.”⁽²¹⁾

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

On February 19th, 2015, AVPD Detective Brian Bone reviewed the original crime scene images. “On 2-19-1[5],” Detective Bone reported, “I viewed photos taken from the initial search of the house. In viewing these photos I could see the hole in the ceiling, which we discovered on 2-18-15.”⁽²²⁾

IN AND OUT

It’s important to know who was in the Crowley residence on January 19th, 2015 and why. Chris Klien claimed he was in the house with David’s dad and brother. David’s dad told Detective McKnight that was not true. Authorities respond by never following up on those conflicting statements.

Another friend of David Crowley, Mason Hendricks, was one of several people in the house with Chris Klien on January 19th, 2015. Hendricks also worked with David on the Gray State project. Hendricks once told me the reason why the public received so little information a year after the deaths was because the Department of Homeland Security had to sign off on everything.

Detective Gummert stated the DHS was not involved in the investigation. Hendricks also tried to tell me the FBI was involved. Again, Detective Gummert stated that was not true.

Mason Hendricks stated he and a group of others searched the house and the attic on January 19th, looking for anything that would help them understand why David was guilty.

THE GRAY STAGE

Hendricks claimed he walked in the house with at least two other people on that day. Hendricks looked up at the ceiling and immediately saw the bullet hole.

“I looked over to another friend of ours,” Hendricks told me over the phone, “and I was like, they couldn’t fuckin’ see that hole right there?”

How did Hendricks know police missed the bullet hole? More so, why didn’t Hendricks, or anyone else in the house with him, inform authorities about the bullet hole? Especially if they knew police were unaware.

Hendricks was wrong when he claimed David’s blood was on the bullet. He was wrong when he said it was proven Item 57 came from David’s gun. He was wrong when he said David’s fingerprints were on the gun. He was wrong when he stated the Christmas tree was blocking the bullet hole in the living room ceiling on January 17th, 2015. Hendricks was wrong when he stated DHS and FBI had to “sign-off” before the public could get information from authorities.

Was Mason Hendricks also wrong when he stated the pact theory came from one of David’s parents? There’s no evidence of a pact between David and Komel to commit suicide and murder their five-year-old daughter, but that hasn’t stopped some from trying to connect those dots.

David Crowley’s neighbor, Judy Prochnow, still believes there was a pact between David and Komel to ascend out of this world by committing a double-suicide murder.

Even so, Judy told me, “I don’t think Dan or Kate Crowley, I don’t know for sure, but I don’t think they, they didn’t want to believe that David even did it. So, I don’t think they even thought of a pact theory.”

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

“No one was in the house before the cleaners,” Judy Prochnow explained to me. “Chris Klien and them were in the house the day after the cleaners called about finding the bullet.”

When I reminded Judy that Klien was in the house on January 19th, she responded with, “Well, the cops might say that, but they weren’t.” Judy believes Chris Klien was wrong about the date he was at the Crowley home, “He just got the dates mixed up.”

To be clear, Chris Klien and others were in the house on January 19th. The cleaners didn’t find the bullet that rolled out of the carpet until January 20th. The date in Detective Bone’s report, and in the Incident Detail Report are clear. I think it’s Judy who got the dates mixed up, not anyone else.

“The neighbor, whoever called,” Judy continued, “took down the license plates of the cars that were there and called in to police. One of them was Chris Klien’s and I know one of them was Mason’s.”

Based on a call about suspicious activity, Detective Bone went looking for a “suspicious person,” not persons. Item 57 is one of many reasons why this case should be reopened and re-examined.

CLOSING THE CASE

CLOSING THE CASE

On March 14th, 2015, Detectives Brian Bone, Jim Gummert, and Sean McKnight met with Dan Crowley Sr., Kate Crowley, Dan Crowley Jr., Allison Crowley and Sidrah Alam at the Apple Valley Police station. “We presented the facts of the case to the family as of that time,” Detective Bone reported. “No details or information were withheld. All information was discussed and all questions were answered to the best of our abilities.”

At that time, investigators were still waiting for the autopsy reports, the BCA lab results, and the contents of David’s Dropbox account.⁽¹⁾ It wasn’t until March 24th, 2015 that Detective Brian Bone received a copy of the autopsy reports.⁽²⁾

As of April 17th, 2015, Detective Bone reported, “I have still not received results from the BCA regarding fingerprints and I have not heard from Dropbox.”⁽³⁾

On April 24th, Detective Bone received and began to review the contents of David’s Dropbox account. “I have started to review the data contained on the Dropbox flash drive,” wrote Detective Bone. “The data appears similar to some of the data that Detective Klokonos has found when viewing the contents of the Crowley’s phones, tablets, and computers.”⁽⁴⁾

By May 5th, Detective Bone had fully reviewed the Dropbox files, “The information I found on the USB drive was old data containing information about David Crowley’s businesses and the projects he was working on. I did not find anything of pertinent value to this case on these files.”⁽⁵⁾

“I did locate a journal,” Detective Bone continued, “which appears to be authored by David. The latest dated journal was dated September 10, 2014 at 2107 hours.” After looking through the journal entries Detective Bone “did not find any indications of what may have lead to this incident.”

OFFICIAL CONCLUSIONS

“As of this time,” Detective Bone concluded on May 5th, “I do not have any information about what may have lead to David shooting Komel and Raniya and then committing suicide. Detective Klokonos still has computer forensics that need to be completed as part of this investigation. This case will remain active until all computers, phones and hard drives are able to be processed for potential evidence, [of] what caused this incident to happen.”⁽⁶⁾

On June 2nd, 2015, the AVPD received the Firearms Report. “The results showed,” Detective Bone reported, “that the fired bullets found in relation to this incident were all fired from the Springfield 40 caliber gun found in the living room.”⁽⁷⁾

On August 5th, 2015, bloody latent print tests on the alleged murder weapon were inconclusive.⁽⁸⁾

After the Dakota County Electronics Crime Task Force reviewed “all electronic items” in their possession, Detective Brian Bone reported on October 7th, 2015, “Detective Klokonos and the DCECTF did not find any information on the related devices that showed motive or cause for what happened during or up to this incident.”

“With the conclusion of the review of the digital devices,” Detective Bone continued, “there is no other information available for further investigation. Throughout this investigation the AVPD has not discovered any information or evidence that shows anybody but David Crowley is the perpetrator of these crimes, including the killing of his wife, child, and himself. Status: Exceptionally Cleared.”⁽⁹⁾

I contacted the Apple Valley Police Department to find out what Exceptionally Cleared meant, and got the following response, “Exceptionally Cleared indicates that

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the case is satisfactorily concluded and prosecution of the suspect(s) is not being sought. These cases may have been referred to another agency for follow-up, victim may have withdrawn complaint, parents to handle discipline or a verbal warning issued in minor offenses.”

“Thank you,” I responded, “Would this also include if the suspect is deceased?”

“Likely, yes.”⁽¹⁰⁾

TOM LYDEN

One year after the alleged double murder-suicide committed by David Crowley, Fox 9 investigator Tom Lyden interviewed Apple Valley Police Chief Jon Rechtzigel.⁽¹¹⁾ I waited for Mr. Lyden to ask Chief Rechtzigel why it took his department one month to locate the bullet they believe David killed himself with. Eventually, I realized that was never going to happen.

Authorities who entered 1051 Ramsdell Drive on January 17th, 2015, did not notice a bullet hole in the living room ceiling during their “thorough” investigation. Within hours of finding the bodies, and after “assessing” the crime scene, Detective Jim Gummert assumed David Crowley was guilty. Yet he too missed the bullet hole in the living room ceiling. In fact, Detective Gummert could not remember the date when he saw the bullet hole.⁽¹²⁾ Is that truly a thorough investigation?

This case needs to be reopened, based solely on the conclusion provided by the Apple Valley Police Department and their lack of evidence to prove their theory. Their theory alleges that David Crowley “snapped” and killed his wife and daughter. Then David allegedly killed

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himself after leaving three messages in three separate areas of the house.

The Apple Valley Police Chief believes David was the one who wrote “Allahu Akbar” at the top of the living room wall, after killing his wife and daughter. Where is the evidence to support that belief?

Within 48 hours of finding the bodies did police truly believe David was guilty, there were no other suspects, and the public was not in any danger? What evidence led them to rule out foul-play so early into their investigation? What evidence led them to dismiss alternative conclusions? Unless this case is reopened we may never get the answers to those questions since the Apple Valley Police Department is no longer discussing this case.

Tom Lyden began his investigative segment declaring, “It’s important at this point to really get all the facts out on the table. I think that’s the most important thing here.” Mr Lyden, if you really want to get all the facts on the table, please consider researching the numerous facts you forgot to mention.

Chief Jon Rehtzigel described the Crowley family as “the ideal family, seemingly” before stating he believed “something went terribly wrong” inside the Crowley house. Without providing any substantial evidence as to why, Chief Rehtzigel then claimed that David Crowley “snapped.”

“It looks like David snapped,” Rehtzigel told Tom Lyden, “and took the lives of his wife and daughter, and then ultimately himself.”

Chief Rehtzigel also believed “a great deal” of the Gray State movie was the reason why David killed his wife, child and himself. “From all accounts,” the police chief told Tom Lyden, “he was consumed with producing this film

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and it was a dark topic. Here you're talking about conspiracy theories and potentially the fall of society, and if you're focusing on that day-in-and-day-out, and these are materials you're working with, and you're filming exclusively on that topic, that can take you to a very bad place."

"Judging by the mail piling up and a paper in the home, the murder-suicide took place the day after Christmas. David shooting Komel twice in the head, Raniya once, before shooting himself. Between their bodies, a Quran with pages torn out, opened to a traditional forgiveness prayer." – **Tom Lyden**

Chief Rechtzeigil told Tom Lyden that David Crowley used Komel's blood to write Allahu Akbar at the top of their living room wall, close to a clock mounted on the wall. The police chief did not specify what evidence tied David to the blood writing and it's unclear if Tom Lyden bothered to ask that question. Asked why he believed David wrote the words in his wife's blood, the chief responded, "We believe that was kind of a parting shot...probably at Komel for having a Muslim past."

"This has nothing to do with Islam," Mason Hendricks told Tom Lyden separately, "but everything to do with a man that lost his way and ultimately killed his wife and his daughter and then himself." Hendricks thought David was being sarcastic when he wrote Allahu Akbar in Komel's blood, "That's him possibly throwing a jab."

"A jab at Komel's family?" Lyden asked.

"Possibly." Yet this has nothing to do with Islam?

"David did not kill himself right away," Tom Lyden reported. "He left a trail of footprints, tracking Komel's blood through the house. In the living room his bloody fingerprint is on a laptop, opened to a text file with only a

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single sentence, “I have loved you all with all of my heart.” In the home office on a notepad, more bloody fingerprints and the words, “Submit to Allah Now.””

“This was a person that was not thinking clearly,” Chief Rehtzigel told Lyden. “His mind at that point was deranged. He just was not in a normal state. He wasn’t thinking rationally.”

Tom Lyden made an interesting comment stating, “David’s brother left their Christmas presents on the front step to avoid a confrontation.” Lyden didn’t elaborate on why Dan Jr. leaving Christmas presents on the front door stoop would trigger a confrontation with his brother.

Tom Lyden also made a strange comment about the rear slider being open “apparently for the family dog.” That doesn’t make sense to me. I won’t dispute the fact that Tom Lyden is an investigator, but I do wonder how much investigating he did on this case before releasing his embarrassing video report.

The last time Mason Hendricks saw David, in December of 2014, David “looked like he literally was eating, sleeping and breathing on his computer. Failure was not an option for him.” Yet Hendricks believed David murdered his wife and child before killing himself “and there’s no denying it.” That seems like failure to me.

In the end, Chief Rehtzigel admitted he didn’t know what caused David to murder those closest to him before committing suicide, “We don’t know what the trigger was, what was the breaking point.”

Mason Hendricks once told me, “I don’t think anybody’s ever really gonna know what actually, how it all happened.” He may be right, but the reason we may never know how it all happened is because authorities were unable to prove David guilty.

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Danny Mason told Tom Lyden, “At the tail-end of it, [David] was living the Gray State...it almost embodied him, almost to the extent of where it would dictate a lot of his thoughts and his ideas, and his, I guess, outlook in reality.”

“Family members on both sides declined to talk on camera. Quite frankly, they’re afraid they’ll be harassed by some of these conspiracy theorists out there.” – **Tom Lyden**

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS

FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

On April 19th, 2015, I sent an email to Apple Valley Police Department's Detective Jim Gummert and requested to speak with him about the case they were building against David Crowley.

On April 23rd, Detective Gummert replied to my email, "Since the case is still considered active by our department, I am unable to discuss the case, or answer any of your questions."

I immediately sent him a response, asking if he would speak with me once the case was closed. The following day, Detective Gummert wrote back to me, "Yes, once the case is no longer active, I would discuss it with you."

Once the investigation was closed, I sent another email to the detective on March 16th, 2016. "I am currently writing some articles regarding the David Crowley double murder-suicide case," I wrote to the detective. "I would love to get some questions answered and police reports/images clarified if possible. Please let me know if it is possible to schedule a phone call with you or other detectives to be included in the articles. If questions and answers need to be done via email, we can make that work too. Thank you very much for always being responsive to my emails."

"Mr. Fernandez," Detective Gummert quickly responded, "I appreciate your willingness to include our departments point of view in your upcoming articles, but our department is no longer discussing this case. We believe the time has come to move forward, and to let our reports, (available to the public) answer any questions people may have. Thank you."

"I can respect that," I wrote back. "However, you did state before that you would answer my questions once the

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case was closed. I am sorry you have decided to go against your word. God Bless.”

“You are correct,” Gummert responded, “I did agree to answer your questions. So, with that please e-mail me your list of questions, and I will answer them. Thank you.”

Later that night, at 8:35 p.m., I sent the detective twenty-one questions about their case against David Crowley.

On May 10th, 2016, Detective Sergeant Jim Gummert sent me an email with his twenty-one answers, along with a few concluding comments. Here are the questions and answers in order.⁽¹⁾

(1) What evidence did you find to prove David Crowley was guilty of a double-murder suicide? MN BCA analysis results. How long did it take to come to that conclusion? It took them several months to send back results.

(2) Several reports state body parts, such as hands, were “missing,” can you clarify as to whether or not body parts were missing from the entire crime scene? (According to Detective Bone, Rani’s entire right arm and shoulder were missing from her arm socket. David’s right hand was “missing” and so was most of his skull. A “majority” of Komel’s head was also “missing,” according to Detective Bone. “Both of her hands were found to be missing.”) Parts were missing from scene.

(3) The murder weapon was found near David’s left hand. Yet there are many pictures that clearly show David pointing a gun with his right hand. Do you believe David was right-handed or left-handed? Right.

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

(4) *Were there any latent fingerprints on the blood smeared wall? (“Allahu Akbar”) No.*

(5) *Images of the murder weapon were provided to Tom Lyden, Fox News 9 anchor, who I assume filled out the same disclosure form as I did. Yet I did not receive at 3 images that Tom Lyden did; including the image of the murder weapon on a living room table, red blood foot prints on a hardwood floor. If I file another disclosure request for those specific images, will I receive the images requested? I would also request an image of the murder weapon where it was found (even a censored version). Fill another one out with a specific request and I will see what I can do.*

(6) *Is it possible, based on evidence found at the crime scene, Komel was shot first and Rani was not immediately shot after? It is possible. Was Rani’s blood or flesh found on Komel’s body? No.*

(7) *Early media reports suggested Daniel Crowley Jr. went to David’s house on December 26th or December 27th, 2014. However, in police reports it is clear Daniel Crowley Jr. stated he was at his brother’s house on December 28th. Was Daniel ever asked about the various dates as to when he went to the Crowley residence? No.*

(8) *Is it true that police went to the Crowley residence on three separate occasions, once after the bodies were discovered, a second time after a “mushroom” bullet was discovered (page 51 of the pdf, image DSC_0032), and a third time on February 18th, 2015 (when they found a bullet hole near the living room ceiling)? Yes.*

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(9) Was water found in any of the toilets in the Crowley residence? How did the family dog, Paleo, survive for three weeks? Yes, see answer to question 2.

(10) Chris Klein/Klien/Cline – Do you know when a neighbor called the Apple Valley Police Department to report a “suspicious person” in the Crowley residence on January 19th, 2015? Yes.

(11) The suspicious person was Chris Klien. How was Chris Klien identified as the “suspicious person” the neighbor was referring to? Unknown.

(12) Chris Klien stated he was in the house with Daniel Crowley Sr. and Dan Jr., even though the neighbor apparently only reported one “suspicious person.” Dan Sr. denied being in the house with Chris Klien (“He told me he was not aware of the bullet hole and had not gone into the home with Cline.” – Detective Sean McKnight, pg. 81). Do you know if it was ever discovered who was telling the truth and who was not? No.

(13) Are there images from 1/17/15 that show a bullet hole near the living room light? Yes.

(14) Did you see the bullet hole in the living room ceiling on January 17th, 2015? I saw it, unknown of exact date.

(15) Was the Department of Homeland Security or the FBI involved in your investigation or were they conducting their own investigation? Not contacted, no investigation.

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

(16) Did you ever speak to Anjum Alam? No.

(17) I received a 94-page pdf document full of police reports. Are there police reports that were excluded in the 94-page pdf? No.

(18) I received 464 images from the AVPD after filling out their disclosure request form. How many images were possibly withheld? Hundreds? Thousands? Hundreds.

(19) Is it possible to get censored images that will help prove three bodies were found at the Crowley residence on January 17th, 2015? No.

(20) Is it possible to get the medical examiner's report or BCA reports in addition to what has already been provided? You will have to contact them.

(21) What did you find within hours after arriving at the crime scene that led you to believe David Crowley was guilty of a double-murder suicide? Assessment of scene.

“Mr. Fernandez,” Detective Gummert added in his response, “I understand my answers are short and to the point but based on your questions you have read all of our reports, and there is nothing more to add on my end. If we did not cover it in our reports than we did not feel it necessary to do so. I have come to the realization that there is nothing I can say or do that will ever satisfy the people that believe there is a cover up and that the family was murdered by the government, or agents acting on behalf of the government. I will also never be able to satisfy people’s

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opinion that our department did a poor job investigating this incident even though most, if not all of those critics have never spent a day doing what we do.”

“I am not sure where you fall in your opinions,” Gummert continued, “but I would hope we could agree on one point. That the lives lost in that home have greatly affected their families. I think we owe it to their families to move on and let them live in peace. They have suffered enough, and continual discussion of this case serves no purpose. Moving forward I will no longer answer any other questions regarding this case. Time has come for our department to move on. I wish you the best in your future endeavors. Take care, Jim.”

RESPONDING TO TWENTY-ONE ANSWERS

I often think about all the strange things surrounding this case. The murder weapon found next to David’s left hand. No latent fingerprints on the blood-smeared wall. The rush to assume David wrote two sentences on the notepad in the office bedroom and the typed note in the kitchen. David’s fingerprints and DNA were not found on the laptop.

Considering the opened rear slider and an unlocked kitchen window, how important was it to point out there were no signs of forced entry into the house? Would the opened gun safe in the bedroom and the opened knife in the living room qualify as possible signs of a struggle? What about the bullet that ripped into the living room floor or the unspent round nearby? Would those qualify as possible signs of a struggle as well?

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

Two or more DNA profiles were found on the bullet (Item 53) that rolled out of the living room carpet days after the bodies and bullets were removed from the Crowley home. One of those DNA profiles matched Raniya, but not David or Komel. Who did the second DNA profile belong to? To top it all off, we have Item 57, a bullet found a month after the bodies were removed from the home. Results showed the absence of blood, but a match to David's DNA.

So, we know Chris Klien and Mason Hendricks saw the bullet hole in the living room attic on January 19th, but we don't know when Detective Gummert saw the bullet hole. "I saw it," wrote Detective Gummert, "Unknown of exact date."

One of the most common questions related to the missing body parts inside the house is what did the dog eat? Most of David's head was missing, along with his right hand. Not much was left of Komel's skull either and both of her hands were missing. Despite the claim made by Mason Hendricks that Raniya's body was not disturbed, the daughter's entire right arm was missing, and one of her ribs were fractured. Those body parts were never found, according to Detective Gummert.

Detective Gummert believes Paleo survived by eating the missing body parts and drinking the water from inside the toilets. Two of the three toilet lids in the house were left open. Photographs taken by investigators show how little water was left in Raniya's bathroom toilet, as well as the basement toilet. The detective has recently confirmed dog feces tests were never conducted in this case.

Detective Gummert also confirmed that neither the FBI nor the Department of Homeland Security were involved in their investigation, "Not contacted, no investigation."

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The detectives statement contradicted statements made by Mason Hendricks and Sean Wright. Hendricks believed the reason why the investigation took so long was because of the FBI and the DHS. Sean Wright advised me to stay away from people asking questions about this case, people like Dan Hennen and Thomas Lapp, so I could avoid being put under a microscope by the DHS.

In a police report by Mr. Gummert, he made it seem like all communication between the police department and the Alam family went through Komel's sister Sidrah.

Sidrah asked that I only contact her directly regarding the incident. She stated her father is under a lot of stress due to what is going on with her mother and she felt that it best that she be the go-between between us and her father. I advised Sidrah that I would work with her on a daily bases to provide her updates and that she could contact me if she had any questions or concerns about the investigation.

I was annoyed, frustrated, and upset when I learned that Detective Gummert did not tell me the truth when I asked about his contact with Mr. Anjum Alam, Komel's father.

"Did you ever speak to Anjum Alam?" I asked.

"No," Detective Gummert responded.

A few days later, independent researcher Dan Hennen went to the Apple Valley Police Department to pick up the contents of his second disclosure request about the alleged double murder-suicide. Dan was not expecting to meet with Detective Gummert that day, but the two men ended up speaking for about twenty minutes in the police station lobby. When Dan Hennen asked the detective if he ever spoke with Anjum Alam, Gummert's answer was yes.

I'm glad the detective took the time to speak with Dan but why would he tell me he would not be answering any further questions about the case, and then initiate a meet-and-greet with Dan Hennen a few days later? More so, why would the detective give Dan and I two different answers to the same question about Mr. Alam?

TWENTY-ONE QUESTIONS FOR DETECTIVE GUMMERT

On June 2nd, 2016, I wrote back to Mr. Gummert, hoping to find out why he gave Dan Hennen and I two completely different answers to the same question. “Hello Mr. Gummert,” I wrote in the email, “sorry to bother you and I know you are not discussing the case anymore but for the purpose of accuracy in writing my articles I have to ask you to clarify question #16, when I asked if you ever spoke with Mr. Anjum Alam – Komel’s father. In the answer you stated No, but Dan Hennen told me you told him Yes. Can you please help clear this up? Did you ever speak with Anjum Alam?”

The following day, Gummert responded, “My apologies, I answered the question incorrectly. I have spoken to Komel’s father on several occasions. Hopefully that clears it up, have a good day.”

“Is there a reason why you answered incorrectly?”

“A mistake on my part,” Detective Gummert wrote back, “not trying to hide anything.”

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THE PRESENCE

In 2011, Komel's sister, Sidrah, stayed overnight at David and Komel's apartment. Sidrah slept in Raniya's room. In the middle of the night, Sidrah woke up when she heard Raniya crying and screaming. Whatever it was that Raniya saw in her bedroom that night, Sidrah saw it too. Up until that point, Sidrah did not believe paranormal activity was real. That changed when Sidrah saw a presence standing by the door.

"So, I figured it was David," Sidrah explained to me, "and I called his name. But it didn't move. It just stood there."

"I freaked out," Sidrah continued, "and ran out the door and went to their room and I saw David on the ground praying. He said he felt the energy was off that night. He told us to go in the room and he chanted some stuff from the Bible and some of Raniya's toys went flying and hit the walls."

The Crowley family then moved across the hall to see if the presence would follow them there. Sidrah wasn't sure if "it" followed David and Komel but she did recall what her sister told her the last time they saw each other in Texas. According to Sidrah, Komel was hearing whispers while she slept.

"She would be sleeping," Sidrah said of Komel, "some things would whisper in her ear and tell her stuff like leave David, or random things, and she would wake up angry at him."

That made me curious about the "Red Man" mentioned in an article related to the documentary, *A Gray State* by Erik Nelson. According to Sidrah, Erik Nelson's portrayal of the Red Man in *A Gray State* was inaccurate.

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“Red man was just something they would scare Raniya with when she wouldn’t listen,” Sidrah stated. “It’s just a little red man that comes up when a movie starts.”

Raniya’s crying reminded me of a very curious incident in October of 2014. A supplemental report by Detective Jim Gummert explained that Raniya “came to school some time during the school day, became very upset and tried to hide in the classroom. When the teacher found her she was cowering in a corner and crying and saying that she was afraid, so much so that she could not calm down enough and she had to be sent to the office to calm down.”⁽¹⁾ That was the only incident that stood out to the school staff, according to Detective Gummert.

Sometime after the deaths of David, Komel, and Raniya Crowley, Sidrah was inside the house where the killings happened. “When we visited the house,” said Sidrah, “we heard Rani’s laughs in there.”

GUILTY AS CHARGED

Monday, January 19th, 2015, was the first time Detective Jim Gummert and Sidrah spoke over the phone. “Sidrah advised me,” Detective Gummert reported, “that she was currently residing with her father and mother in Hewitt, Texas. Sidrah stated her mother is currently in hospice care due to cancer, and was not expected to live much longer.”⁽²⁾

Shortly before the Apple Valley Police Department released information meant to prove David Crowley was guilty of a double-murder suicide, I was able to ask Sidrah some questions about the investigation. Sidrah believed David murdered his wife Komel, his daughter Raniya, and

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then shot himself in the head. There was a time when Sidrah considered alternative views about the deaths of her family members, but that changed when she “saw the facts.” After seeing those facts, she knew the only thing that could change her mind “would be if my sister came back and told me herself that David didn’t do this.”

Sidrah did not believe David was suicidal, “But he was obsessed with my sister. I remember [Kamel] told me she was done with him and couldn’t do this anymore, a year before all of this happened when she called my dad. I’m sure he started brainwashing her starting there when he realized she could leave him.”

Even though Sidrah did not think David was suicidal when she was around him, she still believed he committed suicide. Sidrah also believed David wrote a suicide note, “The note said to watch his Gray State new version video, and on the bottom it said to submit to Allah now. It was his writing, our family can vouch for that...we didn’t need comparison for the handwriting because we actually knew how he wrote.”

The note, allegedly written by David Crowley, was found on the computer desk in David’s office. The page was flipped open and read, “Open “The Rise” most recent version. Submit to Allah NOW.”

“That note is not listed as a suicide note,” I reminded Sidrah, “and police have said there was no suicide note. There were only the two notes.”

“It’s a suicide note duh?” she responded. “If there was no note then I’d be more suspicious he didn’t do this. Can’t you see it’s a play on words? Terrorists say that they kill in the name of God. This was all done to spin stuff so his movie could get attention ‘cause he couldn’t do it while he was alive.”

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WHO DIED FIRST?

The murder weapon was found next to David's left hand. Yet in several photos David can be seen firing a weapon with his right hand. Even though David was the one who taught Sidrah how to shoot a gun, she wasn't sure if David was right-handed or left-handed. We know who died last, if we are to believe the official theory, but who died first? Was it Komel or Raniya?

"The hardest pill to swallow for me and my dad," said Sidrah, "is that [David] probably made Rani watch all of this." Sidrah was convinced that her sister died before Raniya, "Their bodies were close. So, if Rani got shot before Komel their bloods would have mixed, and Komel's blood is the only one on the wall...Raniya's blood was nowhere."

"How can that be?" I asked.

"He didn't kill her yet." Sidrah also believed Komel and Rani were "hit in the back" and that David shot himself in the mouth. "Other shots around the house" Sidrah continued, "showed he tried to hit the dog but was unsuccessful. I actually laid down where David's body was and acted like I had a gun and lifted my hand up like I was trying to shoot an object...it was at the height of the dog."

"David shot at the dog while he was on the ground?" I asked. "That seems odd."

"Yeah he was on the ground trying to do some creepy ceremony. Obviously, he had lost it." This was the first time I had heard about any type of ritual or ceremony by David. Though Sidrah didn't elaborate on that comment, paranormal activity was mentioned.

That's when I began to seriously consider the possibility that a demon was following the Crowley family. If David

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dabbled in the occult as Mason Hendricks claimed, since David publicly claimed to have a “soft-spot for the anti-Christ” on social media, and since David had a Bohemian Grove owl statue in his office bedroom, I had to consider the possibility of demonic involvement in this case.

For Sidrah, there was no doubt that the Crowley family witnessed paranormal activity before they moved to 1051 Ramsdell Drive. If true, I wondered, when did the paranormal activity end?

THE SURFACE PRO

“Komel and Rani had a DVD player next to them,” wrote Sidrah, “which makes us believe they were watching a movie and he came from the basement.” The DVD player was later described as the Surface Pro seen in the crime scene photos.

“My sister wrote down her feelings on her Surface Pro,” Sidrah explained to me. “If I can get into it, I can solve exactly why David did this and put an end to all of these questions everyone has. She had a diary.”

Sidrah suspected Komel and Raniya were watching a movie on the Surface Pro when they were killed. “She had Netflix,” Sidrah explained, “so I’m questioning they were watching a movie on it.”

Was anything deleted from Komel’s Surface Pro? Not without the password, Sidrah was told. She didn’t think police were able to bypass the password screen and gain full access to the device. I told her there is software she could buy to bypass the password and break into the computer. I was a little surprised that police told her they couldn’t get past the password screen of the Surface Pro.

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“Police couldn’t without risking losing the information,” Sidrah responded.



(DSC 0432)



(DSC 0433)

Police were eventually able to extract the data from the Surface Pro, according to what Sidrah’s dad told her, “Just

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talked to my dad. They couldn't get into the iPhone but they did get into the Surface Pro and they didn't find anything." When the Alams retrieved Komel's possessions from police, the SIM card for Komel's iPhone was missing. It's unclear why police removed the SIM card at this time.

Sidrah also told me David didn't want Komel talking to the Alams. The image on the Surface Pro shows only Komel and Raniya, "She cut David's picture on the display. He was right next to her." The picture was from a 2013 Christmas card the Crowley family sent out that year, "He's not even in their Christmas card picture, just [Komel] and Rani."

FACTS OF THE OFFICIAL THEORY

"I saw the fingerprints on the wall. They all matched to his fingerprints. It was just all omitted in the official report because the wall wasn't supposed to be released, but it accidentally got out." – **Sidrah Alam**

I asked Sidrah when she first believed the official theory and why, "When me and my husband and my dad did our own research. When I went to Minnesota it was an eye opener...facts are what made me believe the official story. I just want everyone to know we're not stupid. We spent countless sleepless nights putting everything together. It would be so much easier to just blame this on someone else rather than David. But sadly, he is the reason why my sister and niece aren't alive today. I honestly was numb in the beginning and didn't know what to believe until we got facts and did our own research."

What were these facts she kept talking about?

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“Fingerprint matches on the gun and wall,” Sidrah answered, “handwriting matches on the note, bloody footprint matches around the house, bloody handprints grabbing the cellphone, just all the matches. We saw them all. I don’t know what they wrote in the police report. I never cared to read it.”

I’m not sure what handwriting matches she was referring to since those tests were never done. The only bloody fingerprint in the house matching David was on page thirty of the notepad in the office bedroom, where the two bizarre sentences were written. David was never tied to those sentences either.

“It’s not rocket science Greg,” Sidrah said of the allegations against David. “Once they determined there were no outsiders involved it’s a suicide. It’s that easy.”

“How could they determine that so quickly?” I asked.

“Doors, windows, no other footprints or DNA around the house,” she responded. “They had people come out from the Minneapolis police department bomb squads. It was a terror zone.”

“But they couldn’t find a bullet above their heads?” I asked. “If they missed that, who knows what else they may have missed. They were looking for forced entry when a door was open.”

“The door was not open,” Sidrah pointed out. The rear slider was found slightly ajar, which qualifies as an open door to me.

“How do you explain David’s bloody fingerprints?” she asked me. The fingerprint matches were instrumental in convincing Sidrah that David was guilty, but again, there was only one bloody fingerprint tied to David.

“Even if they’re his,” I responded, “it doesn’t prove murder.”

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“We saw them and that’s all that matters at the end of the day,” Sidrah responded. “How does that not prove murder?”

“It’s not hard to put prints anywhere.”

“Footprints?” Sidrah asked. As we discovered later, David was never tied to the footprints in the house.

“To frame someone is pretty easy,” I reminder her. “Footprints can be cleaned.”

“How do you put bloody feet around the house?” she asked me.

“I’m sure those were his feet,” I agreed, “but bloody footprints do not prove murder either.”

“It was per the family’s request” that the writing on the wall and on the notepad were originally censored from the public, according to Sidrah. “We didn’t want that out there.”



(BCA 4429)

SISTER OF KOMEL

Regarding the bloody writing on the wall, I still did not understand why such a significant part of an active investigation would be withheld from the public, especially when the information could dramatically help police prove their theory that David Crowley “snapped,” causing him to kill his wife, his daughter and then himself.

“With something like this,” Sidrah explained, “we have to deal with a lot of shit back home with our family. We didn’t want it getting attention for stupid reasons...we had to protect ourselves.”

As far as David being guilty, Sidrah assured me, “Trust me when I say it took a lot to realize he did this. We actually knew them. Just try to be in our shoes for a minute. Realize how hard it was to actually admit he did this. Usually family is the one who doesn’t want to believe something like that and others give you a reality check. But we actually believe it so don’t you think that’s saying a lot?”

When I told her that I thought there were family members who didn’t believe David was guilty, Sidrah responded with, “They aren’t family then.”

“I pray God guides you in the right direction,” Sidrah wrote to me. “Don’t focus too much in small details. You’ll get yourself tangled in a mess you can’t get out of. I say that from experience. Try to see the bigger picture with a clear mind. Pray about it and then forget about it. God will guide you to the truth. That’s what I did and I’m at peace.”

“The big picture for me,” I responded, “is there is an accusation that was made far too prematurely. One year after being promised we’ll get to the truth, I find I have not. Many things that happened after the murders were strange too.”

UNPROVEN GUILT

“I hope you find what you’re looking for,” Sidrah told me as our conversation came to an end. “My job was to let you know that I have seen it all. I wish I could let everyone see what I have seen from my eyes. But it doesn’t work like that. I pray for you guys to see the light often.”

Sidrah remains convinced, “Gray State died with David. Komel didn’t care for Gray State but she wanted David to pursue his dreams. Therefore, she supported what he did, but personally she didn’t really care for it. The only person who wants to push this forward is Danny Mason. No one else. Trust me it’s not gonna go forward. There’s no way it can go forward without my Dad’s permission and they won’t ever get that, unless they wanna deal with legal consequences.”

FATHER OF KOMEL

FATHER OF KOMEL

On August 8th, 2015, independent researcher Dan Hennen spoke with David Crowley's father-in-law, Anjum Alam for thirty-seven minutes.⁽¹⁾ Here are some of Dan Hennen's notes from the thirty-seven-minute conversation. "I know who you are," Mr. Alam said when Dan called him.

"Not in a bad way," Dan wrote in his notes, "but he certainly knew my name."

"If I had time and money," Mr. Alam assured to Dan, "I would be interested in investigating this entire thing."

Mr. Alam's wife, Naila, was dealing with some serious medical issues at the time. "Naila still doesn't know about the murders," Dan wrote in his notes. "A birthday is coming up (Rani or Komel, one of them) and he's not sure how to handle that, because she's been asking about possible gifts."

Mr. Alam found out about the deaths of David, Komel and Raniya while visiting his wife in the hospital. According to Dan Hennen's notes about the conversation with Komel's father, "He heard about the killings at 2 a.m. while in intensive care with Naila...a nurse said to Anjum, "There's a visitor here."'" Naila was awake when Mr. Alam left the hospital room and was concerned when it took her husband three hours to return. Mr. Alam told his wife the visit was "work-related."

"It took him three hours to pull himself together," Dan continued.

At first, Mr. Alam did not know about the GoFundMe campaign set up for Naila Alam by David's brother. Mr. Alam also "didn't know why Dan Crowley Jr. set up the fund and after finding out he did, requested it shut down (He thought it was done in poor taste)." It's still not clear if Mr. Alam received the \$8,000 raised by the GoFundMe campaign.

DAN HENNER'S INTERVIEW WITH MR. ALAM

“I ensured Mr. Alam,” Dan Hennen wrote in his notes, “we are on the same page and only want the truth. No need to come to conclusions, but that the police version simply doesn’t add up. I informed him that there is interest by several people to open an independent investigation, but nothing can be done. Until the police close their case. I mentioned there are people in the group that would help with this and raise money to get this done if it were his wishes (because he doesn’t have time or money). It seemed to lighten him up a bit, knowing many people have his back.”

Mr. Alam believes the official theory of a double-murder suicide “but is looking forward to the “final results.” Anjum felt that the AVPD was negligible to some extent after the incident on 10/19/14” involving Komel’s sister.

Dan wrote that Mr. Alam “knew David had some issues and found the scenario plausible because they had shut out many outsiders. But he still doesn’t understand...how the AVPD can rush to a judgment of homicide/suicide so quickly in this case. He also believes that before saying that, they should have had proof or something.”

Mr. Alam “confirmed that David “had a deal” of some sorts because he was excited and said he only had to “change a few things in the script.” Anjum mentioned a picture on the internet of David and a couple of Hollywood producers sharing a congratulatory glass of champagne in Hollywood.”

“In a sense, he wants to put it behind him,” Dan Hennen stated, “as he thinks about it every day. But after chatting, his curiosity is raised I believe.”

“Regardless of who did this, they will face judgment by God.” – **Anjum Alam**

ROTTEN REVIEWS

REGARDING THE SLOPUMENTARY

On July 11th, 2017, Dan Hennen and I recorded a special broadcast giving our opinions on the first reviews of Erik Nelson's documentary, A Gray State. Here are my notes associated with those rotten reviews.

FRANK SHECK

In Mr. Sheck's review, the keyword "alt-right" is mentioned three times, and Alex Jones is mentioned twice. Though Alex Jones appears "briefly" in the documentary, the first paragraph of the movie review focuses on Alex Jones, "Right-wing media provocateur Alex Jones recently admitted in court that he's merely "playing a character" — thereby lending an ironic subtext to Erik Nelson's documentary about the deaths of aspiring filmmaker David Crowley and his family."

Sheck claims "several self-identified "citizen investigators" attempted to prove that the family was murdered — "Credibility means nothing to me," one of them ironically comments." Sheck is talking about me, and he is wrong. I am not trying to prove that the family was murdered. I'm not sure what Sheck is trying to prove with that comment, but it makes me wonder how much time he spent researching this case.

Sheck's rotten review leaves the casual reader with a false impression that there are only two choices; either David killed his family, or the government is responsible for their deaths. Sheck's review, just like all the others, completely ignores any other possibilities. Do you wonder why?

Overall, I find this review grossly irresponsible.

ROTTEN REVIEWS

NICK SCHAGER

In Mr. Schager's review, the keyword "alt-right" is mentioned five times, Alex Jones is mentioned four times, and President Donald Trump is referenced three times. Schager's review begins and ends with Alex Jones, when it should be about David Crowley and the alleged double-murder suicide. Instead of focusing on the allegations against David Crowley, Schager focuses more on Alex Jones and Donald Trump.

In the article, a friend of David Crowley calls the Gray State fan-base "legitimately insane." I wonder if that *friend* worked on the Gray State project with David.

Here we have another film review that doesn't mention the numerous holes in the police investigation and alleged conclusion. Forget about looking for facts to prove David's guilt. Instead, this review focuses on rumors and innuendo to subconsciously convince the reader that David was an "alt-right film-maker" who, along with his wife, went crazy and committed a double-murder suicide.

The article teases Komel's complicity in the crimes and dabbles into the theory of a supernatural presence that had been following the Crowleys for over a year. Schager writes that David and Komel embarked "on a joint path of wholesale isolation (from everyone they knew) and [became] convinced they were being persecuted not only by the state, but also by otherworldly forces. Between that sort of lunacy and David's filmmaking endeavor, which involved staging dog attacks on civilians and point-blank assassinations, it's no surprise that young Raniya, in a candid video moment, is seen describing her and her parents' imaginary murders in gruesome terms ("this room is bloody... the red man is going to get you"). It's a stark

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illustration of how the mindset adopted by David (and his alt-right brethren) warps and corrupts. And the fact that, as a news reporter points out, Raniya’s morbid fantasy functioning as Shining-esque prophesy only further underlines how dreams of death and destruction often end by coming true.”

Overall, this article fails in its attempt to connect David Crowley to the “alt-right” and to Alex Jones. Still, it does a great job of making baseless allegations.

ANTHONY KAUFMAN

In Mr. Kaufman’s review, the keyword “alt-right” is mentioned five times, while Alex Jones and Donald Trump are both mentioned twice. Here is another article that begins with an “alt-right” wet dream. The writer calls the premise for David Crowley’s Gray State movie “far-fetched” and labels Alex Jones as “Donald Trump’s favorite fake-news conspiracy theorist.”

The author claims that “Crowley’s fans and devotees were quick to call foul play, suggesting that the US government assassinated one of their would-be leaders.” But what about people like Dan Hennen and myself Mr. Kaufman? What about those of us who were never fans or devotees of Crowley or his work?

Does Kaufman conveniently forget about us because we do not fit into the storyline that either David is guilty, or the government killed him? Is it possible there are more options unmentioned by the author? Also, who considered David one of their leaders? I haven’t heard anyone state David was their leader.

ROTTEN REVIEWS

Kaufman also explains his view about the truth of this situation, “But the truth, as director Erik Nelson reveals in his carefully plotted out and sympathetic investigation, is more tragic and sad than shadowy.” What I find sad and shadowy is Kaufman’s lack of knowledge about this case.

“The ultimate mystery of Crowley’s case,” Kaufman writes, “then, becomes not if he was murdered, but how did he and his loving wife embark on such an irrevocable downward spiral together.”

Kaufman ends the review by claiming Erik Nelson’s documentary reveals “the catastrophic ways in which both the government and the alt-right community failed a man and his family, and not in the ways that Alex Jones might think.” I think Kaufman failed his readers and should be ashamed of this foolish piece of writing.

Overall, this review tries to attach David and Komel to a pact-theory, to the alt-right label, to Alex Jones, and to Donald Trump. Try as you might, you have failed.

JASON BAILEY

In Mr. Bailey’s four-sentence review, the keyword “alt-right” is mentioned zero times! Alex Jones is only mentioned once! Thank you, Mr. Bailey!

Then again, we are back to the pact-theory, which seems to play a key role at the end of the documentary, *A Gray State*. Bailey calls the documentary a “sad story of a couple succumbing to despair, and to the same kind of paranoia that infused his work.”

But wait, there’s more! Don’t forget the darkness which can overtake us all, “It’s a hard movie to watch, as his private audio and video recordings serve as journals of a

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descent into madness, but this is a harrowing portrait how easily our own darkness can take us over, if we let it.” Are you scared yet? Make sure you keep the lights on and don’t let the bed bugs bite.

Overall, this review is a harrowing portrait of a writer who needs to do more research before succumbing to assumptions about a case he knows very little about.

CHRIS BARSANTI

In Mr. Barsanti’s review, the keyword “alt-right” is mentioned three times and Alex Jones is referenced twice, if you count the word “Infowars.” The headline of Barsanti’s review begins with, “When Fantasies Kill.” Nothing to fear here, right? The headline continues to attack David Crowley, labeling this case as “the murderous madness of an alt-right paranoiac in A Gray State.” There’s the fear porn we’ve become accustomed to in these reviews. Thanks Christopher.

Once again, the focus quickly turns to Alex Jones, bashing his fans and their depth of research. Why? Apparently, Mr. Barsanti has done extensive research on every Alex Jones fan, past and present, right? Or else, why would he make such a ridiculous statement?

Several times in Chris Barsanti’s review, David is connected to the imaginary “alt-right” movement, without proof. But that is to be expected in these five reviews. Barsanti makes it sound as if all *conspiracy theorists* (whatever that keyword is supposed to mean to him) are not

ROTTEN REVIEWS

open to the possibility that David committed these crimes. That is simply not true.

“We see a couple self-proclaimed “citizen investigators” dismiss the notion that the crime scene was what it appeared to be,” Barsanti continues, “darkly hinting at outside forces that wanted Crowley silenced.” I do dismiss the notion that the crime scene was what it appeared to be if someone is going to tell me the crime scene provided evidence of David’s guilt. Especially since the crime scene had to be updated twice within a month of finding the bodies. Why is this fact never mentioned in any of the film reviews or articles about David Crowley?

Mr. Barsanti then moves on to the “spooky” movie trailer David and the Gray State team released back in 2012, which included “a mysterious entity implanting RFID chips into children (leaving a triangular scar probably meant to evoke the Trilateral Commission).” I’m more concerned about David, Komel, and Raniya discussing a mysterious entity following them in their final days.

“The footage of Komel is particularly tragic,” Barsanti writes, “given that she was the one financially and emotionally supporting Crowley through his artistic misadventures, only to possibly fall prey to the same delusional fever that overtook him near the end.”

Overall, I wonder if Barsanti truly believes David was a “murderous” “alt-right paranoiac” or if he realized an article about *when fantasies kill* equaled click-bait. Your guess is as good as mine.

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ALEC WILKINSON

Alec Wilkinson's article, which seemed to be directly related to Erik Nelson's documentary, did mention Alex Jones, but not in a derogatory way. This is a very thorough and interesting article, a short book in the making. I'm not sure if I would categorize David as a dystopian, as Mr. Wilkinson claims, but then again, I try not to think of human beings in such general terms.

Unfortunately, Alec falls into the trap of trying to connect David Crowley to an alt-right movement while avoiding the bullet-hole in the living room. Wilkinson then told me the reason why the bullet hole was not included in his article was because it was not that important. Well, it sure seemed important when I first told Alec about it. He found it strange, and so did his fact-checker who called me before the article was published. Then after publication, Alec basically claimed the bullet that killed David was not a big deal. Great reporting Alec.

The article fails to prove David Crowley guilty, which is par for the course in this case. Some people just want to believe the official theory, and they're free to do so. However, the facts of the case do not support their accusations against David Crowley.

Overall, Alec Wilkinson put a lot of time and effort into this article. He seemed sincere when I spoke with him over the phone. After our phone call, I was left with the feeling that this man had not done a lot of research on this case, had not read the 94 pages of police reports, and had not looked at the first 464 photos released by the AVPD. But that is just a feeling.

ROTTEN REVIEWS

CORY ZUROWSKI

Local Minnesota newspaper staff writer Cory Zurowski called the alleged double murder-suicide “catnip for conspiracy theorists.” I will give Cory credit for never mentioning the phrase “alt-right” or Alex Jones in his article, published on March 23rd, 2016. However, it’s a shame he avoided the most important thing I could ever relay to the City Pages staff writer. Zurowski conveniently forgot to mention the bullet hole police missed when they entered the house on January 17th, 2015.

I expressed to Cory the importance of this bullet hole, as it led to the bullet police allege David killed himself with. Police would not discover the bullet until their third call to the Crowley house, one month after the murders. It was a shame Zurowski avoided such a crucial piece of catnip. I still wonder why he avoided the issue. How can one claim to write a fair and balanced article without mentioning the bullet that killed David?

Zurowski mentioned me in his article but avoided the key piece of information I was trying to relay to him, ““Citizen journalist” Greg Fernandez Jr. points to various peculiarities: Definitive fingerprints couldn’t be ascertained on the handgun. It doesn’t make sense that David was right-handed, yet the weapon was found to the left of him. Investigators never fully vetted why the rear patio sliding door was ajar.”

Fair enough Cory, but you still assume the patio door made “people like Fernandez and Hennen wonder if the family was murdered by someone they knew. The unlocked patio door proved to me why there was no reason for police to look for signs of forced entry. There was a clear entry

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point into the house through the patio door. So forced entry seemed irrelevant in this case.

In the end, Cory Zurowski avoided the bullet hole found in the living room ceiling, just like all the other writers mentioned in this chapter. I hoped he would be different from the others, but I was wrong. In my opinion, this bullet hole is the smoking gun we need to help get this case reopened. I was surprised when so many people in the media avoided this crucial piece of information.

MITCH HEIL

On September 26th, 2017, Mitch Heil returned to the Dutch and Royce show to share his thoughts on Erik Nelson's documentary, A Gray State. Heil was seated in the front row during the film's pre-release screening at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 21st, 2017.

“It's really strange watching a documentary about your best friend who basically went nuts,” Mitch explained to Dutch and Royce, “and it's like you're watching the slow collapse of somebody, like progressing.”

Just like the Apple Valley Police Department and Erik Nelson's movie, Mitch did not provide any evidence to prove David was guilty. Mitch stated that David “recorded everything” and “meticulously kept journals of everything for the longest time.” Heil also discussed the concept of Gray State, “It's basically a jizz-fest of all conspiracy theories mixed into one.”

ROTTEN REVIEWS

Joking about the murders right after they happened was just how Mitch dealt with his friend's tragedy. It's normal for him, "That's just how I cope with things."

Mitch then clarified his role in making the Gray State movie trailer, "It was just three of us. It was me and David and this other guy Danny [Mason]. I did camera, I did props, I did make-up, I did lighting, I did producing things, I did set design...basically anything...other than being the director are things that I had a hand in at one point or another."

David's family gave Erik Nelson all of David's private home videos because, according to Mitch, "First of all, what are they gonna do with it? Second is, I guess, it's kind of a way to humanize him, or just not say he was a monster."

I'm not sure why anyone would attempt to humanize someone who they believed murdered his five-year-old daughter and shot his wife twice in the head before using her blood to write on a wall, but maybe that's just me.

Mitch Heil ended his relationship with the Gray State project when "it was no longer financially viable to stay involved, and by that, I mean I was like two months away from being homeless."

From Heil's perspective, David was focused on the Gray State franchise and there were no outside projects to bring in any revenue. Another reason Heil left the project was because he told David, "Conspiracy theories are fuckin' stupid. I don't mesh with this whole movie so I can't do it anymore."

Mitch also pointed out that it was normal for David to disappear while writing for weeks at a time. I think that is a very important point, regardless of where you stand on the allegations against Crowley.

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Then Hei said something I strongly disagreed with. He stated Erik Nelson's film had "two hardcore conspiracy theorists who still think that [David] was killed by the government in [the documentary]. They were doing a Skype session back and forth. All the filmmaker did was let them talk to each other over Skype and show how fuckin' stupid they are. He didn't even have to say anything to them. It was pretty funny."

Calling someone a hardcore conspiracy theorist is often used to deflect from a real conversation and avoid the real issues. Heil was wrong when he stated Dan and I think the government killed David. We don't have an answer as to what really happened, and I don't see any facts that prove David was killed by the government. I see lots of speculation about that possibility, but I also see lots of speculation about David's guilt. We can only go where the evidence leads us.

Mitch felt the documentary was "done as respectfully as it could be done," adding he didn't feel anything was taken out of context.

When it came to David meeting with Hollywood executives, Mitch explained that David was concerned about losing certain rights to the Gray State franchise. We know Danny August Mason was hesitant to give up his rights to the project. Mitch Heil was not.

The only other thing I found interesting about Heil's interview on the Dutch and Royce show was when the pact theory was mentioned.

Overall, I felt Mitch chose his words carefully and did not discount the possibility of a plan between David and Komel to end their lives after murdering their daughter.

A QUICK TRIP
TO HOLLYWOOD

A QUICK TRIP TO HOLLYWOOD

On October 26th, 2017, Dan Hennen interviewed Mike Boggio III, President of Michael Entertainment Group (MEG). During the interview, Mr. Boggio discussed how he met David Crowley, the alleged “thirty-million-dollar-deal,” and when negotiations related to the Gray State project ended.⁽¹⁾

HELLO HOLLYWOOD

Mike Boggio III met David Crowley through an unnamed mutual friend, “The mutual friend connected us together. So, we set up a meeting with David in California. I talked to David numerous times on the telephone prior to our first meeting. So that’s how we got together.”

In May of 2014, David Crowley met with the Michael Entertainment Group in Los Angeles, California. “It was a very promising project,” Mike Boggio explained. “David wrote the first go-around of the screenplay. We went through it thoroughly, made numerous changes, advised David to make numerous changes...At first we were taking it to the big screen and then, as we thought about it, we figured, how can we pack in all of this information in a two-hour or two-and-a-half-hour film? Let’s take it to television...and have a series made out of it, which would have been a lot better for the concept...of David’s idea.”

Without specifically naming names, Mr. Boggio commented on the actors considered for the Gray State project, “We were talking about hiring some pretty substantial A-list actors to fulfill some of the roles in the project.”

Mike Boggio thought David’s version of Gray State “would be a great, great, great A&E show, it’d be a great

THE ACTIVE DEAL

cable network television show that could spin off into a film.”

“David was always very mature,” said Boggio, “very professional, very kind and courteous and outgoing and excited. That’s the keyword.” Boggio called David’s excitement about the project “phenomenal.”

The original setting for the Gray State movie was in the mid-west, Minnesota area, but MEG felt the movie setting needed to be “nationwide...coast to coast. North to South.”

THE 30 MILLION DOLLAR DEAL

“We were negotiating with David at the time,” Mike Boggio told Dan Hennen. “We were talking about budgets for the film. We were talking about getting into production. Like I said we had a list of A-list actors that I’m not gonna even mention in this interview...and we talked about a twenty-five to thirty-million-dollar budget. We could easily see the budget in this film being a twenty-five to thirty-million-dollar budget.”

On May 23rd, 2014, David Crowley posted an update about the deal with Michael Entertainment Group.



Gray State

May 23, 2014 · 🌐

It just happened. I'm not sure how many details I can divulge at this point, but Gray State will be optioned in the next two weeks at a major budget and connected with a-list talent. We are connected with a producer who above all else wants to preserve the film's pro-liberty ideals.

This is all we could have hoped for and more. Thank you all for being our strongest selling point.

Let's make a movie.

A QUICK TRIP TO HOLLYWOOD

“So, there were negotiations,” Boggio confirmed. “We were actually trying to option a screenplay. When we option a screenplay, we option a screenplay for a certain amount of time. I think we were going for twenty-four months, if I remember right, and within that twenty-four months we had to get into production with the film. Otherwise the option goes back to David. So, that’s what our negotiations were with David at the time.”

Mr. Boggio then clarified, “When we talk about twenty-five to thirty-million dollars, that’s what we budgeted for the film project. That’s what we budgeted for everything to do from start to finish.”

Regarding MEG’s last conversation with David, according to Mike Boggio, it was sometime in September of 2014, and negotiations continued until David died.

“We actually met face-to-face in Hollywood,” Boggio said of his last encounter with David in September of 2014, “sat down...right on Sunset Boulevard. Sometime in that timeframe with David, David was out in California, flew out for the night just to come sit down with us to discuss the updates on the screenplay and discuss the concept and everything else. So, that’s when we sat down, and he actually made a new trailer. We’re sitting in there watching the trailer, and then we discussed, ‘Hey let’s think about taking this to television.’ And we gave him the reason why. You get picked up by a network and it was just off the heels of Sons of Anarchy leaving the network. So, we figured this could be a good spin-off for the network that Sons of Anarchy was on, and it would pick up the demographic of Sons of Anarchy. So, we talked to him about numbers and statistics and discussed, if we take this to series, then not only do you have a series, it can play out longer, then at the end of the series it can go to big screen. He was excited

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about it. He was open-minded about it and thought it was a great idea...so I don't know where the whole depression comes into play when it comes to regards to making Gray State network."

"We put out an offer to David to option the contract," said Boggio, "which would of gave him some money upfront, and then we would of went and ran with the film project or the television project. David would have been a producer on the film, so he would have been paid to be a producer on the film. Then he would have reaped some of the benefits of whatever the film grossed. We all would of...David had an idea and it was a very, very, very strong idea. So that's why we all got together."

Asked about the rumors that David walked away from the project or that MEG decided not to go forward with the project, Mike Boggio set the record straight, "We didn't fire David, or we didn't get rid of David, however that went, and he didn't walk away from us. I mean there was never any of that and I don't even know where those two ideas came from. Nothing to my knowledge...Again, we never told David to get lost. I tried contacting David after our September meeting or discussion, I tried contacting David for months to discuss things...I didn't hear from him or anything. So, I was getting a little nervous myself. Not nervous for our business transactions...David and I became friends. Not only were we business acquaintances but we became friends...I called him on the holidays and wished him a Happy Thanksgiving to him and his family...I did that numerous times until I heard the very, very disturbing news."

When Mr. Boggio received the news of David's death, he was in total shock, "I didn't believe it. I didn't believe it."

A QUICK TRIP TO HOLLYWOOD

“So, Christmas comes,” Boggio continued, “December 2014 I guess it is, comes around. I call David on Christmas, around Christmas time to wish him and Komel and the baby happy holidays. I went out of town for New Year’s. When I got back, I called him to wish him a Happy New Year and then I still didn’t hear anything. So, I felt it was kinda weird. So, I contacted a mutual friend that David and I both had and asked this person...let me take a step backwards. Prior to that, I called this person saying, ‘Man I haven’t heard from David in at least a month. Have you heard from him?’ He’s like, ‘Na, but it’s the holidays. You guys got him in the studio writing...when he gets into that writing-mode he shuts down and he secludes himself and he just focuses on what he has to do. You know, but it’s the holidays coming up. I’ll run by and see him, and see the family, and see how things are going.’ And I’m like, ‘Alright cool.’ So, like another month goes by and then after New Year’s, after I left David a Happy New Year message on his voicemail, I called this person and said, ‘Man I still haven’t heard from him. Did you go over there for the holidays?’”

The mutual friend had not gone to David’s house yet. “Then like the next day,” Boggio continued, “the guy calls me and says, ‘Did you hear?’ and when he told me I was in total shock.”

OWNING THE GRAY STATE FRANCHISE

Who owned the rights to the Gray State project? Who owns them now? If the deal with MEG was only with David, where did Danny Mason fit it?

THE ACTIVE DEAL

“I have no idea what David and Danny’s deals were,” Mike Boggio relayed to Hennen. “I can’t answer to that. We had nothing behind that, we didn’t have anything to do with that whatsoever. We didn’t advise David to do that.”

Dan Hennen then asked if the script still had value. “Well,” Mike Boggio answered, “when all this transpired, we backed away. We backed away because of all the conspiracy theories and everything else. For a long time, for at least over a year, we didn’t even discuss it. We just figured it was too toxic to even be involved with.”

“Whoever got involved,” Boggio continued, “I know since then they’ve made something. I know there were a couple guys out there that contacted me saying, *Hey man, we made this thing. We want you to see it. What’s your thoughts?*...we never even got involved. Then we had a conversation at least a year, if not a little longer than a year after David’s death, with David’s dad and I think it was Danny Mason. I think it was. I can’t remember for sure, but we had a conversation with them about picking this thing back up and running with it because, as far as I remember, David’s dad got the rights to the film, or got the rights to David’s estate. So, he wanted to do something with it. We started talking with David’s dad and then, nothing ever transpired out of it.”

THE GRAY SHAME

THE GRAY SHAME

Komel and her sister were born on a United States Military base in Saudi Arabia. “Once her father left his position with the US Military,” Detective Jim Gummert reported, “they returned to live in Pakistan where her mother and father were originally born.”⁽¹⁾

The Alam family stayed in Pakistan until Komel was 17 years old, and then moved to Texas. Komel then met David while attending Baylor University, a private Christian university in Waco, Texas.

David Crowley grew up in Owatonna, Minnesota. David and Mitch Heil became best friends in 2000, while attending Owatonna High School. In 2004, David and Mitch joined the United States Army together on June 22nd. David’s “place of entry into active duty” is listed as Fort Snelling in Minnesota.⁽²⁾ According to Mitch Heil, both he and David were sent to Fort Banning in Georgia for Army Basic Training. After completing Basic Combat Training, David was sent to Germany.⁽³⁾

David Crowley served in the United States Army for a total of five years, two months and twenty-two days; beginning on January 22nd, 2004, and ending on September 13th, 2009. Three years, three months, and fifteen days of service were listed under the Foreign Service section of his **Release from Active Duty** form (DD form 214). David’s “home of record at the time of entry” into service was his Dad’s home in Owatonna, and he was released from service at the Fort Hood Army Base in Texas.

“According to Mitchell [Heil],” Detective Tommie Booth reported, “David was first deployed to Iraq.”

David was in Iraq from November 2nd, 2005, to November 11th, 2006.⁽⁴⁾ “While deployed in Iraq,” Detective Booth continued, “David had gone through a traumatic incident where an IED had blown up the Humvee that he

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was in. When the IED had blown up the Humvee, David had to save one of his teammates and lost several members of his team while over in Iraq.”^(S)

“Islam is a religion of peace,” David wrote in a Facebook group on February 7th, 2007, “but where’s the peace in trying to kill anyone who isn’t a Muslim? They are not about love they’re about victory. Is Allah insisting that a good Muslim should murder people who are different? They have been brought up in a place where sectarian violence is simply a way of life, and blindly follow their leaders into a violent religious frenzy. They fight for a god that is not behind what they do. But even more so they fight for key political leaders who use the masses for their own ends, just as you guys are saying our government is doing to us. But if these statements are true, at least ours is geared towards peace and charity, not violence without end.”^(A)

David has been to at least eleven countries. “Dude, I’ve killed people in service of my homeland,” David wrote during a Facebook group discussion on February 6th, 2007, “and have been to more countries than you have fingers.”^(B)

“As a soldier on the ground,” David wrote in the group discussion on February 3rd, 2007, “I have seen ENORMOUS resources put into the betterment of the general Iraqi populace, be it school installations or medical functions or whatever.”^(C)

After David’s tour in Iraq he was sent to Texas, where he hoped to wait out his term of service and leave the Army. That’s when David met Komel. Six weeks after they met, David and Komel were married. The paperwork was filed on May 14th, 2008, and the marriage was official eight days later on May 22nd.

Instead of being allowed to leave the Army, David was stop-lossed (involuntary extension of service) and shipped

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off to Afghanistan⁽⁶⁾ from June 26th, 2008 to June 11th, 2009.⁽⁷⁾ According to David's records, he was "retained in service 449 days for the convenience of the government per 10 USC 12305."

Komel lived with her parents while David was in Afghanistan. Komel graduated from Baylor University with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences on May 15th, 2009.

Two months after David was released from active service, Raniya Crowley was born. The daughter of David and Komel came into the world at 6:38 p.m. on August 6th, 2009. Raniya weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces, measuring 8 centimeters in length.

David, Komel and Raniya Crowley moved to Minnesota shortly after David left the military. David Crowley and Mitch Heil then enrolled in the Minnesota School of Business together in 2009. The two men also started two businesses in 2009, Hot Head Productions and Bullet Exchange.

"My work with Hot Head Productions," David wrote on his Linked In profile, "included writer, director, post production supervisor, composer, branding, marketing, musician, client relations, preproduction, storyboard artist, visual effects artist, logo design/animation, title animation, social media campaign manager, location shoots, camera operation, family-headshot-model-event photographer, and website designer/content manager. We also tackled professional photography, doing events, family, headshots, product, and model/fashion. Lots of graphic art work in this arena as well."

David also explained the origins of Bullet Exchange, "My partner Mitch Heil and I began the Bullet Exchange to service the Minneapolis film community's potential for

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realistically dressed and equipped military components in film. We provided authentic props and costuming services, as well as serving as Prop Master, Armorer, range cadre, stunt choreographer, actor trainer, and military consultation for concept and script. I also was in charge of the company's marketing, client relations, and media/branding. The Bullet Exchange remains the only resource in the Midwest for authentic police and military equipment rentals specifically tailored for film and theater.”

David volunteered at the Progeria Research Foundation as a language translator from October of 2009 until May of 2010. David assisted with “translations of western research documents to Urdu script for clinical use in Karachi.”⁽⁸⁾

Komel Crowley purchased a Springfield XD .40 caliber handgun (serial #US163310) on July 25th, 2009. The purchase was made via check in the amount of \$508.76 at The Gun Zone in Dallas, Texas.^(D) The same gun was later sold by David Crowley on June 17th, 2012 to someone named David Stark.^(E)

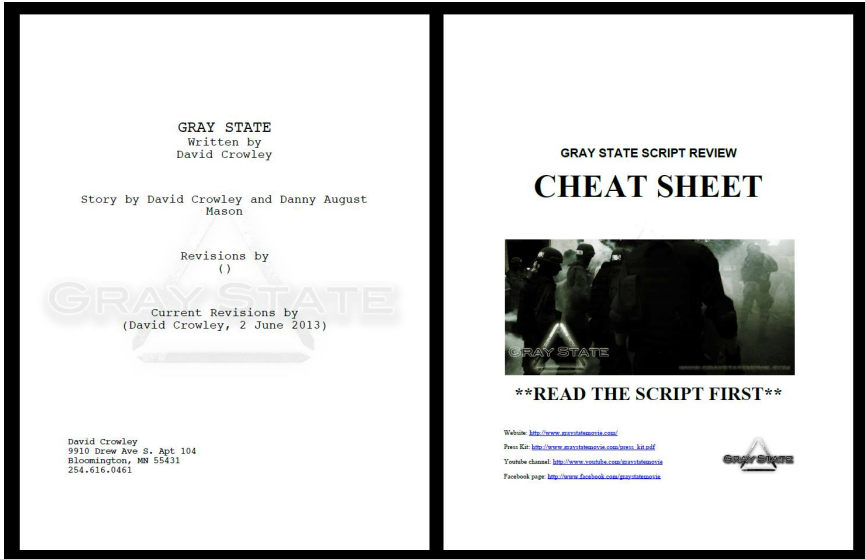
On November 8th, 2009, David and Komel completed the “Permit to Carry a Handgun” course with Erik D. Pakieser. Mr. Pakieser is a certified firearms instructor for Quorum Security Inc. in Minnesota. Mr. Pakieser was also featured in David's documentary, *Gray State: The Rise*.

The Gray State project began in November of 2010. The Gray State LLC was also created in 2010 by David Crowley and Mitch Heil.

According to a report by Detective Tommie Booth, Danny August Mason's “involvement with ‘Gray State’ and Crowley was strictly as an actor and as a friend but had not been involved in any financing or was actually listed on any paperwork as a partner with Crowley and Heil.”⁽⁹⁾ Even so,

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Danny Mason did help write the story of Gray State with David.



Danny Mason met David through Bullet Exchange. Mr. Mason once stated Bullet Exchange offered “some of the best training an actor can receive!”⁽¹⁰⁾ David gave Danny Mason a Beretta 92F handgun on August 10th, 2011.^(F)

2012

In 2012, David graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Digital Video and Media Production.

After two years in the making, the Gray State movie trailer was released to the public on August 7th, 2012. A month after its release, David Crowley was interviewed by the Freedom Feens Talk Radio Show. The interview conducted by Michael W. Dean came out on September 15th, 2012. The Gray State movie trailer cost David Crowley and Mitch Heil \$6,000 to make.

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“That’s just out of pocket through our production company,” David explained to Michael Dean. “That’s just money spent harnessing the actors to our set and getting the props that we needed. But we spent another year in post[-production] doing seventeen-hour days. So how do you put a price tag on that really?”⁽¹¹⁾

The story of Gray State continually evolved. “It’s gotten deeper,” David said of the Gray State story. “It’s gotten very much darker. So, people, when they see this, their response is, as I knew they would be, they’re very divided. First of all, they’re very supportive, like, ‘Wow, this is like a future scenario that we can face, that we are facing right now unless we wake up.’ Then what they wanna do is they wanna assign their responsibility for activism to my project and assume that that’s what I wanna do, is wake people up with Gray State; when in fact I can’t make any such moral distinction because I’m a filmmaker. I’m an artist. What I’m gonna do is explore human truths and I can do so through a pretty messed up context like the Gray State world. But how real or not real it is is completely irrelevant.”

“What I’m saying is,” David clarified to the host, “people kind of expect me to tell their story, their version of truth with Gray State, and that’s not my intent. If it resonates with truth with you, that is great. If it doesn’t that’s also great. But what I’ve been seeing is that the three percent-or-so who really hate Gray State, they don’t hate it because it was shot poorly. Or, ‘That story could never work and here’s why.’ They hate it because it threatens them. It threatens their reality and that just tells me that what I’m doing is close to the truth at least, because they’re that threatened by it. I think that the reality that most people live in is almost like a religion. Like, if you challenge a

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Christian or a Muslim who just grew up believing what they believe, they don't know how to defend it logically. What they're gonna do is they're gonna lash out in a very knee-jerk & negative response to defend their reality, and that's just the nature of humanity, I think. So, what I'm seeing is in their reaction to Gray State is either very positive or very negative. It's a very polarized argument."⁽¹²⁾

David made it clear he was not interested in selling the Gray State project unless it was for serious money. "If a studio bought this project," David said to the host, "it would just get put on a shelf or be drastically changed from its original message. So, in the interest of maintaining creative control, I will not sell the project. However, if it goes nowhere, and someone's offering me \$200 million dollars or something awesome like that, you know, who knows? I gotta feed the monkey. But as it stands right now, I wanna get this film funded and I will get it made for whatever budget I can get. If that means \$500 thousand, great. If that means \$25 million, like it needs, then that's great too. But this movie will get made. Even if it's a long-term haul."⁽¹³⁾

When Michael W. Dean asked if the eventual movie would have a happy ending, David responding by asking the host a question, "What do you think? You tell me."

"I would guess and hope that it probably has a triumphant ending," Dean answered, "but it's the hero standing on a pile of bodies. Some of them, people he knew."

"That's pretty close," David admitted. "That's pretty astute. I'm proud of you...There will be a pile of bodies. You won't know who's gonna end up in that pile when you're watching it. A film has to follow convention. It has to follow that storytelling formula, otherwise the story doesn't work...but once you know the rules, you can break

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the rules and Gray State breaks rules in that it's not only immediately physical, it's inter-dimensional. It's very layered. It's spiritual at times, without adhering to any sort of western philosophy. But it's deep. It's taken me a long time to craft this story, and while it might not be a physically surface-level happy ending, anyone who's paying attention will extract some real values from the ending."

The Gray State trailer did not put David Crowley in debt, "It's all paid for...we paid cash for everything...If Gray State takes off and starts to pay the bills that'll be sweet. Otherwise it'd have to take a back-burner while we make a living."

David also explained the filming process for the movie trailer, "We wanted to do it for real but a lot of it was guerrilla, unfortunately. A lot of the scenes we did. It was like, it had the real-scale of a real production so a lot of them, yes, we went to the city, we got permits, we hired cops to babysit us for a few hours and we did it for real. But a lot of the stuff was just guerrilla just because we couldn't get ahold of the city liaison who does that stuff. Or they didn't know what to do. It was only a three second shot anyway. So there's a couple things like that but for, by-and-large it was a real production."⁽¹⁴⁾

"Minneapolis is a bitch to deal with," David continued. "They wanna charge you like a hundred-fifty dollars an hour, even if you're just a free-lance photographer. The initial park scene we shot in guerrilla-style, just real quick. But the St. Paul people, I mean, Twin Cities is Minneapolis in St. Paul, those guys are a delight to deal with. They'll give you a cop. They'll make all the communications for you and they'll set it up for you and all you gotta do is send them a check at the end of the day."⁽¹⁵⁾

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During the interview, David Crowley was asked if he had made any enemies as a result of the Gray State project.

“I do know that I’ve already made a lot of enemies,” Crowley responded, “and this was a long time ago actually. I made enemies just by releasing little bits and talking to people about my idea for this film. Long before it was even released as a trailer. And I have made ‘no shit’ enemies just because they don’t want to hear it, and a lot of them have been family. Not my family but I’m talking about other actors who’ve spoken to their family about it and people who don’t wanna hear it, and what they do is they assign, like, ‘Well, that can’t be real. So, it’s gonna be a terrible movie. So, I don’t wanna hear anything about it.’ But I wonder if they thought the same thing about Toy Story. Like, ‘Hey, toys don’t talk. This movie sucks.’ So, the negative reaction has largely been not reputable. So it’s just been a lot of silly banter about, you know, I’m a Zionist pig and don’t support my film.”⁽¹⁶⁾

Michael Dean also asked if Crowley had ever been contacted by a government agency. “If I were contacted by a government agency,” David responded, “I would not know about it. So, I can’t really answer that question. I’m sure that I have been. A lot of the reactions I’m getting about the trailer, they wanna peg me as some kind of Zionist-Jew, I guess, because my name is David. I guess that’s proof enough for them. My lead actor’s name is Danny Mason, ‘Oh you mean like Freemasons?’ You know, so they want to develop their own conspiracy theories. They wanna say the whole film is cointel pro, I’m just trying to develop lists to put them on. It’s all very, very silly.” David also mentioned being accused of being a Marxist.⁽¹⁷⁾

Asked if he’s a Christian, David responded, “I am. I am but I don’t know where to draw the line between what I’ve

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been taught my whole life and what is probably more closer to the truth, if that makes sense. I've done a lot of spiritual exploration. I tend to end at the same answers though."

David also addressed the critics and negative responses to his project, "A lot of people say that Gray State is just fear porn and they're not going to support it and its fear mongering and stuff like that. Just because Gray State is scary doesn't make it fear porn."⁽¹⁸⁾

"Even though you may be killed resisting, the act of resistance on a metaphysical level has value." – **David Crowley**

2013

After David Crowley completed a revised script of the Gray State movie on June 2nd, 2013, he asked a select group of people to review the updated version of the story.

On October 23rd, 2013, the rough cut of the documentary companion piece known as Gray State: The Rise was finished and ready for review. "Exporting the rough cut now," David Crowley wrote on Twitter. "So stoked!"

On December 9th, 2013, Crowley added, "6 months working on Gray State: The Rise. It's finally taking its final form, but holy Moses, what a shitty shit ton of work."

David, Komel and Raniya Crowley moved into their new home in Apple Valley, Minnesota, on December 13th, 2013. On December 18th, 2013, David posted on Facebook that he had lost a "crucial hard drive" during the move to 1051 Ramsdell Drive, "The only real loss after moving to a new house last weekend was a crucial hard drive for The Rise. I guess the next few weeks will be spent salvaging everything that was lost."

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The following day the project was on the road to recovery. “File recovery sucks,” wrote David, “but it’s better than not having files to recover. This could take a few weeks.”

On December 27th, David stated the documentary film was progressing towards its future release. “Finally getting back on track with The Rise,” David posted. “She’s been teaching me patience by making me work for the 660 missing clips that remain, and crashing at least six times a day.”

2014

During an early 2014 phone conversation Komel told her father she was not being physically or mentally abused by David. According to what Komel’s sister, Sidrah, told Detective Jim Gummert, financial struggles made Komel question their marriage. After speaking with her father, Komel decided to work on the issues between her and David.

“Sidrah advised me,” Detective Gummert wrote, “to her knowledge there were no issues with David and Komel.”⁽¹⁹⁾

The manuscript for Gray State was about to go through a serious revision on January 15th, 2014. “Some seclusion writing this weekend,” David Crowley wrote on Facebook. “For those of you who read the GS script – it’s about to get gutted for the necessity of a clear, concise, entertaining, and effective film. For all the chewy details that are going to get cut – well, there’s always the novel.”

Five days later, on January 20th, the story had completely changed, “After two years of trying to extract the Gray State story, I think I finally may have done it. The

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story has completely changed, is working beautifully, and the new outline was completed in only the last three days. With this new story, it will not be hard to attract funding.”

The following day, David Crowley explained he had rediscovered the ending to Gray State, “It’s a strange experience finally feeling genuine love for characters I’ve created. The most painful part of writing the conflict for these people who are precious to me – is that I must now torture them, punish them, and drag them through the dirt to reveal their essence of form. Yesterday morning I rediscovered Gray State’s ending, and the final feeling captured was of such gentle sadness, I’ve been stuck in it ever since.”

On January 22nd, 2014, David was still settling into his new home, “Spending today building two big fucking new desks to create a mancave megadesk, then relocating ALL of The Bullet Exchange inventory to my basement.”

On February 2nd, 2014, David explained the plot of the fictional film, Gray State, “Gray State: a wounded veteran leads the insurgency against a corrupt government after his city is put under martial law.”

“The use of force,” David Crowley posted on March 7th, 2014, “no matter the context, should be a shameful last resort, indicating an utter defeat of intelligent faculty. This is the difference between men and children, and also why our childlike society celebrates violence in its exercise of authority.” The next day David wrote, “Sean Stone (yeah that one, @csstone5) apparently wants a role in Gray State.”

Two days later, on March 10th, 2014, David was “happily unsubscribing from liberty and conspiracy feeds on fb and twitter. Too much of the backbiting derision they claim to oppose. See ya, guys, it’s been fun. You’ll still like Gray State though.”

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Then on March 11th, David asked the question, “You know what liberty feels like? Unsubscribing from hundreds of LIBERTY OR DEATH FUCK THE NWO pages and twitter accounts.”

The movie script was steadily progressing on March 19th. “Today, in place of thousands of post-it notes,” David Crowley wrote on Facebook, “pages of scribbles, and 30 feet of plot-points, I have a 118-page script/outline hybrid that may be only days away from a solid draft 1. The original Gray State story took 8 months of solid work. This story took less than 2, and is better in every way.”

On March 22nd, Komel was reading the first draft of the new Gray State script, according to David’s post.

On May 15th, 2014, David “spent a very welcome morning laying the groundwork for another 6 films I’ve been having ideas for. It’s nice to finally be free from Gray State, boy howdy.”

On May 22nd, David Crowley’s dream had finally come true, “It just happened. I’m not sure how many details I can divulge at this point, but Gray State will be optioned in the next two weeks at a major budget and connected with a-list talent. We are connected with a producer who above all else wants to preserve the film’s pro-liberty ideals. This is all we could have hoped for and more. Thank you all for being our strongest selling point. Let’s make a movie.”

On June 30th, 2014, posting as the Gray State page on Facebook, David Crowley gave an update on the Gray State movie, “The past month I’ve been meeting with some LA-based producers, crew, and other industry contacts, and together we are building the team that will combine our passions and talents and belief in Gray State to optimize its message and reach of its exposure. This has been a truly exhilarating experience! My attorney and I are reviewing

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the option contract this week, and once that sucker is signed this whole Gray State thing is going to finally, irretrievably, and monstrosly take off for the stratosphere – and in such a way that the message will be preserved – and perhaps even continue in sequels, TV series, and video games. Seriously. Talk about taking over the mainstream. This has been my life’s work for nearly 4 years, and it is extremely gratifying to be backed by such a raging horde of superfans. Thanks for your patience guys. See you at the premiere.”

In July of 2014, Komel’s mom was diagnosed with cancer. Komel did not want her mom to go through chemotherapy.⁽²⁰⁾

After learning about David’s death, a collaborative timeline was created by David’s father, brother and sister, and then emailed to Detective Sean McKnight by David’s brother. According to that timeline, everything was good on July 7th, 2014, which was David’s birthday.⁽²¹⁾

Everything seemed normal at Raniya’s birthday party, on August 10th, 2014, according to David’s dad. “They thanked me for grilling at Raniya’s party,” Daniel Crowley wrote, “and David said “Love you dad”...which was strange I guess.”⁽²²⁾

Detective Sean McKnight and Detective Brian Bone met with Kate Crowley, most likely, on January 19th, 2015. According to Detective McKnight, “Kate informed Detective Bone and I that she had not seen David, Komel or her granddaughter since the birthday party in August. She [had] not spoken with them either and had concerns because they changed their phone number.”⁽²³⁾

Raniya’s birthday party was also the last time Danny Mason saw David, Komel and Raniya together. Detective Tommie Booth’s report stated Danny Mason said the

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birthday party was at the end of August, but we know this was early August. “At this birthday party,” Detective Booth continued, “was not only Mason but a lot of writers, producers, and film makers who were all in some way, shape or form related to the movie and concept trailer of ‘Gray State’. The only other people that he can remember that were at the birthday party, other than people related to the movie was Crowley’s family. David Crowley’s father and brother were there along with possibly some other family members but Mr. Mason was unsure.”⁽²⁴⁾

A few days later on August 13th, David and his dad talked about setting up “a weekend to go camping in Duluth.”⁽²⁵⁾ The last time David and his brother talked was sometime in August of 2014, but the exact date was not given. The timeline entry simply stated, “DJ talked to David on the phone. Was supposed to baby-sit. Last time DJ and David spoke.”⁽²⁶⁾

At some point, around this time, David Crowley asked Mitch Heil and Danny Mason to sign release forms so David could move ahead with Gray State on his own. The original release form David Crowley wanted Danny Mason to sign had August 1st, 2014 as its effective date. One of the most important points in the Certificate of Employment and Release Agreement stated, “MASON hereby agrees that CROWLEY is the author and the sole and exclusive owner of the Material and all right, title and interest therein and in the Projects, including but not limited to any and all copyrights or trademarks, ancillary and subsidiary rights (the “Rights”).”⁽²⁷⁾

The last time Danny Mason saw David alive was in September, but he was unsure of the exact date. According to Detective Tommie Booth, Danny Mason “stated that he

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had come over the Crowley's residence to talk to David concerning the movie and where the movie was heading."

Danny Mason spoke to David in the driveway. Danny Mason described David as being fragile and had lost a lot of weight. "Mr. Mason stated that this was not so much uncommon for David," Booth continued, "when he would get wrapped up in his projects and writing scripts for the movie."⁽²⁸⁾

According to police reports, Dan Crowley Jr. had some kind of communication with Komel in September "regarding possible job opportunities," but again an exact date was not given.⁽²⁹⁾

The last time Daniel Crowley Sr. saw David was on September 21st, 2014. "I took Raniya to the zoo," Daniel Crowley Sr. wrote. "Last minute he tried to discourage me from picking up Raniya." David's father still picked up Raniya and took her to the zoo.

"After the zoo," Dan Sr. continued, "I stopped in to talk. He was about to make a big movie deal. Talked about big shot lawyers from the IDS building he was going to fly to LA to do final negotiations with the producers. He was going to be a millionaire by the end of the year. They were busy and didn't seem like they wanted me to hang around so I left. That was the last time I saw David."⁽³⁰⁾

On September 24th, Mitch Heil signed over all rights for Hot Head Productions and Bullet Exchange. "He had legally signed over all his rights to David," Detective Booth reported, "and was no longer part of those companies. Mitchell felt that the only way to save their relationship as friends, was to separate business and friendship."

"According to Mitchell," Detective Booth reported, "Bullet Exchange was not a successful company and they did not make much money towards that."⁽³¹⁾

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The two friends spoke in David's driveway, since David would not let Heil into the house. "David had physically and mentally changed according to Mitchell," Booth continued. "His physical appearance looked frail and he wasn't talking like the David that Mitchell knew."⁽³²⁾

The break-up was not surprising, considering that in late 2012, Mitch Heil broke away from the Gray State project. David was taking the project in a different direction than the trailer. "The movie was so far away from the concept trailer," Detective Booth wrote after talking to Heil, "it started going heavily into the conspiracy of killing people."⁽³³⁾

On September 26th, 2014, Danny Mason sent David a one-page response about signing the Certificate of Employment and Release. "Before I can sign any sort of release concerning Gray State LLC," Danny Mason wrote to David, "I request in exchange that you sign documentation allowing me complete access and control to Gray State – The Rise LLC. You have stated many times before this project is of no interest to you. I would like to continue to work on this project with Robert Hoyt and produce a finished project for our fans. I request that you sign over ownership of the LLC and sign a similar waiver and release of claims that you are now requesting of me."

Danny Mason made it clear he was hesitant to sign the release for a handful of reasons. "Most importantly," wrote Mason, "because I have dedicated 4 years to Gray State. I have been intimately involved in the creating, casting, development, production, and marketing of the project to this point. I invested my time and energy – often at the expense of my job and financial security – with the understanding that eventually I would receive compensation."

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“Though I have received nominal compensation,” Danny Mason continued, “I believe that I am rightfully entitled to 10% of the gross revenue of whatever may be generated from Gray State moving forward. I would request that documentation be executed prior to me releasing any other claims or rights I have. I hope you will understand and appreciate where I am coming from and we can get this resolved quickly.”⁽³⁴⁾

“[Kommel’s sister] Sidrah advised me,” Detective Gummert reported, “that over the course of the summer she learned that David did not get a contract or the contract was canceled, she was uncertain of those details but advised me that whatever occurred in California had fallen through and that David no longer had any agreement with any production company.”⁽³⁵⁾

However, according to what President of Michael Entertainment Group Mike Boggio explained to Dan Hennen, and to what David posted on social media in September of 2014, Gray State was going to be pitched as a television series.

On September 30th, 2014, David Crowley spent some time on Facebook answering questions from his supporters, “It seems like there are a lot of questions and expectations about this project. For the next 20 minutes or so I will answer your questions directly!”

There are two very important posts from David Crowley that were either deleted or have been hidden from public view; one post was made on December 9th, 2014, and the other was dated September 30th, 2014.

The missing post from September 30th included a question by a supporter, as well as an answer by David Crowley (posting as Gray State). In this post, David

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Crowley mentioned his plans for “rebuilding a trustworthy team.”

Asked what his biggest hold up was with the fictional movie, Crowley responded, “I’m doing this myself. I say “we” and “team” a lot, but when it comes to nuts and bolts work, writing, and leveraging the project into securing Hollywood money, it’s just me. I hope to change this by reinvigorating the process and rebuilding a trustworthy team.” We still do not know who removed or hid this post from the Gray State Facebook page, or why. Hopefully the post will reappear one day.

Responding to a question about when the documentary, *Gray State: The Rise*, was going to be released, David Crowley responded, “The Rise suffered a catastrophic hard drive loss earlier this year. I am working to get it back together (hopefully for a FREE online release, you guys deserve a little something). I really have to be careful though, because a mishandled doc release could absolutely SINK production on the film or series. I am treading carefully, making sure that everything works out to the best.”

September 30th, 2014 was a very important day, as David Crowley had big plans for 2015, “Today’s posts represent the first visible beginnings of the Gray State resurrection. I can’t get into too much too soon, but with the right amount of hard work, strategy, and miracle juice, the beginning of 2015 should see some amazing progress.” Crowley also wrote about a “new revamped website coming soon” and many of his last known conversations involved plans for the future of his projects.

Repeatedly on September 30th, 2014, David wrote about his vision for the Gray State franchise, “A series, which could be produced and released way faster than a film, has

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the potential to subvert the system. How can it not? Sorry guys but Breaking Bad and Game of Thrones, while entertaining, lack a real-world purpose. Gray State will not fail you. How could it?”

Creating the Gray State franchise was David Crowley’s full-time job, and he was doing everything he could to ensure the success of the franchise, “It’ll either be a great success story, a spectacular, highly visible failure, but either way, I guess we all put in our best shot, right? I guess that could be said about where the country is headed too.”

The questions kept coming, and David Crowley answered as many questions as possible within those dedicated twenty minutes. Crowley was attempting to reach out directly to his supporters and doubters, in order to address the criticism that the project received for its multiple delays in production.

Starting a Kickstarter campaign for future production costs is more evidence that David Crowley was actively planning for the future in September of 2014, “We want to run a Kickstarter (due to popular demand), but if we do, it’ll be for a very specific purpose, like hiring a behind the scenes crew to document production, run live broadcasts, and give constant updates to the fans. I never wanted the fans to fund this. That’s like making your kids pay for their own Christmas presents.”

David Crowley was still trying to get “big budget” funding for Gray State in September of 2014. “Hopefully,” wrote David, “the strength of this project as a whole, and what it represents with the people, will help me get a big budget without sacrificing my intent. But hey, if I can’t, then I will take it back to low-budget indie, like the 2012 trailer.” This too shows David had a plan B, just in case his big budget dreams came crashing down.

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“New developments have enhanced the projects honesty and dedication to its origins,” wrote Crowley. “This is going to be brutal.”

Crowley also reminded people to “stay tuned for updates. We will keep the entire production process as wide open as possible.”

In response to the comment that it’s been three years since Gray State was first developed, Crowley responded, “No, it’s been a lot longer! And there are years to go.”

In a separate comment, Crowley confirmed his long-term plans, “The film is ready to go, but it might take forever, and then still fail at any point in production. A series might be immediately tangible, and instead of interfering with the film...set it up for success a year or two down the road. Big picture stuff.”

David Crowley’s most challenging thing about the project was “trailblazing the timeline. It’s been either a very small team or just me alone working on this thing for years, trying to make it work. I do not just want this movie done so the fans can see it online. I want millions to get blindsided by it in theaters.”

David’s future plans for the movie were clear, “We’re talking to producers about it. If we can’t tease a producer into splitting \$15-30 million (which is still our goal), then we will take it back and do it independently. The point is we want Hollywood money but not Hollywood politics.”

Kacey Morrow worked with Komel at the Melrose at Methodist Hospital. Morrow was also part of a like-minded dietitian group with Komel. According to what Morrow told Detective Michael Tietz, “The group would get together and talk about nutrition and diet topics.” Morrow spoke with Komel once a week, up until the last week of September or the first week of October 2014. She sent two

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emails to Komel, but there was no response. Morrow stated she did not receive Komel's new phone number, which was changed in October of 2014.⁽³⁶⁾

Morrow told Detective Tietz she never met David or Raniya and had not been to Komel's home. Detective Tietz also reported that Komel told Morrow "that her husband got a multi-million-dollar movie deal to make the next Spider-Man movie. Ms. Crowley told her they would be moving to California. She later learned Ms. Crowley moved to Apple Valley."

Morrow also stated Komel talked to her about quitting work as a dietitian, and mentioned Raniya suffered from autism and Asperger's.⁽³⁷⁾ That comment reminded me of something Komel stated about reversing Raniya's autism.

On September 5th, 2014, Komel left a comment on Fathead-movie.com. Fathead is a documentary made in 2009 by comedian Tom Naughton. The movie is described as a response to another documentary film, Super Size Me. *"A comedian replies to the "Super Size Me" crowd by losing weight on a fast-food diet (including plenty of double-cheeseburgers and fried chicken) while demonstrating that almost everything you think you know about the obesity "epidemic" and healthy eating is wrong."*⁽³⁸⁾

"Tom, I watched your movie," Komel commented, "when I was in my first year of graduate school majoring in public health as well as finishing up my internship to become a registered dietitian."

At some point after moving to Minnesota, Komel Crowley enrolled at the University of Minnesota, where she earned a degree of Master of Public Health on October 31st, 2012.

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“It changed my life,” Komel said of the documentary. “I have lost 25 lb, reversed my rheumatoid arthritis, my daughter’s autism and this whole journey started with your movie – none of my education helped me personally.”

Tom Naughton responded to Komel’s comment within the hour, “Thank you, Komel. That is outstanding news about your daughter. (Too bad I’m just an overweight comedian, or I might have actually done you some good).”

Another person who reached out to investigators was a former business partner of Komel, Sarah Johnson. Ms. Johnson could not give a time-frame as to when she last had contact with Komel, but she wanted Detective Gummert to know that Raniya was the center of Komel’s life and that David was crazy, controlling, and worried about government control.⁽³⁹⁾

“Sidrah told me,” Detective Gummert reported, “that in October of 2014 David called her father and in the conversation was swearing at him and advised him that they were no longer allowed to contact the family and that they were to leave the family alone.” Sidrah then called David and was told not to contact them either. That’s when Komel stopped communicating with her sister. Komel would not return Sidrah’s phone calls or text messages.⁽⁴⁰⁾

On October 1st, Danny Mason received an email from David’s lawyer. “The email,” Detective Booth reported, “was asking for Mr. Mason to release any rights he had as an actor in the movie so that David could take the script and movie a different route than what was originally planned.” Danny Mason did not reply to the email.⁽⁴¹⁾

When David graduated from college in 2009, Mr. Alam bought David a gray Toyota Corolla LE (possibly 2004). Around the end of May 2014, according to a family friend of the Alams, Mr. Alam “allowed David and Komel to

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bring up his Acura passenger car so they could use that to get around since they needed a vehicle.”⁽⁴²⁾

Sidrah’s plan was to drive the black 2015 Toyota to her sister and take back her Dad’s Acura. Sidrah walked into the lobby of the Apple Valley Police Department on October 18th, 2014, at 7:08 a.m., and spoke with Officer Karen Shaw, Unit 4918. According to the Incident Recall Report, “Comp states her father sent her up here from Waco Texas to swap cars with her sister. Now her sister won’t answer the door or phone. Wants assistance getting father’s car back. I advised comp this was a civil issue since her father gave her sister the car and would need to take her to civil court.”⁽⁴³⁾

The incident was closed at 7:51 p.m., but a second incident was created an hour later at 9:07 p.m. This time Sidrah called 911. The dispatcher’s name was N. Caulkins, “10-21 to RP has more questions about vehicle...28: Called RP back and left a message.” The incident was closed at 9:16 p.m. on October 18th, 2014.

According to Detective Gummert, “Sidrah stated that it was decided that she would drive up to Minnesota to try and find out what was going on. She stated according to her records she arrived in Minnesota on 10-19-2014.”⁽⁴⁴⁾

“Sidrah stated she had stopped by the Apple Valley Police Department,” Detective Gummert continued, “to discuss a possible escort to the residence however, she was advised that based on her information that she provided to the officer it was felt that the matter was civil and that we could not offer assistance at that time. However, Sidrah stated that she was advised by the officer that when she arrived at the residence if issues did arise that she could certainly call 911 and we would offer assistance at that point.”⁽⁴⁵⁾

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When Sidrah arrived at the Crowley residence David opened the front door to speak with her. She described David as skinny with disheveled hair, adding he “looked crazy.”⁽⁴⁶⁾

“David would not let her in to see her sister,” Detective Gummert reported. “He told her to go to her car and he would come out to speak with her in the driveway.”

When David came outside, he told Sidrah they did not want contact with her or the Alam family. According to Detective Gummert, “David stated that he along with Komel felt that they were treating Komel’s mother inappropriately and there was some type of shady dealings going on with the situation down in Texas. Sidrah told David that they were welcome to call the hospital and speak with their mother and hospital staff to find out that they were not doing anything inappropriate.”⁽⁴⁷⁾

Sidrah was told to come back in an hour to get the Acura. David added she would need to take the Toyota as well. One hour later, Sidrah came back to the Crowley residence to find the Acura parked on the street. Sidrah parked the Toyota in the driveway.

“Upon getting into the Acura,” wrote Gummert, “she observed a picture on the driver’s side of the car. The picture was of her, her mom and her sister. On the back portion of the picture was a note stating I will always love you and mom and she signed the picture Komel. Sidrah stated she felt something was wrong with what was going on but drove back to Texas to advise her family of her findings.”⁽⁴⁸⁾

All communication between the Alam family and David or Komel stopped after Sidrah’s trip to Minnesota, according to Detective Gummert’s report. Komel’s father stopped paying the bill for David and Komel’s phone

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service. “It was decided at that point,” wrote Detective Gummert, “that phone service for both of them would be cut off. They stated they cut David’s off completely and limited Komel’s phone service.”⁽⁴⁹⁾

On October 27th, 2014, David Crowley contacted David Kirk West on Facebook, “I like your operation, ethics, friends, and location. When I put together the Gray State web-series and shoot nation-wide, would you want to produce for the northwest?”

On a consistent basis, David Crowley was planning for the future of his franchise, and moving forward to see his life’s work become a reality. “You work consistently with Christian themes,” Crowley wrote to David Kirk West.

“Yeah, I guess I do,” David Kirk West answered. “It’s not really a conscious thing. It just sort of happens.”

“Stick to what you believe in,” David Crowley told Mr. West. “There isn’t much honesty left out there.”

In his article, *Why I Don’t Think Gray State Director David Crowley Was Assassinated*, David Kirk West mentioned “some very weird, surreal, occultish stuff” written into the Gray State script he was given. “The script is interesting, to be sure,” West wrote in his article. “It’s a bit messy and hard to follow at times, and whether or not the movie would have been any good would have REALLY depended on the execution (more-so than most films are), but I have to at least applaud it for being different. It is FAR weirder and more surreal than I think anyone who saw the concept trailer would have been expecting. Though there are elements of it present, it isn’t exactly the Red Dawn-esque insurgency epic that I think a lot of people were expecting. It delves into some very weird, surreal, occultish stuff. It probably could have been awesome, but it also

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could have devolved into an absolute mess. An interesting mess, but a mess none-the-less.”⁽⁵⁰⁾

David Crowley severed ties with David Kirk West on social media sometime between November and December of 2014. West believes David Crowley also “unfriended” many people on social media “for seemingly no reason.”

In late October of 2014, according to the collaborative timeline provided to authorities by David’s father, brother and sister, “David gives DJ his new phone number, but no correspondence beside that.”⁽⁵¹⁾

On January 20th, 2015, at 2:45 p.m., Komel’s friend, Heidie contacted Detective Gummert by phone. “Heidie advised me,” wrote Gummert, “that she was friends with Komel Crowley through a dietitian’s network. She stated that they got together often for coffee or at times to go out for the evening.”

Heidie and Komel met regularly in the spring of 2014. “Heidie stated in October,” Gummert continued, “Komel began pulling away from the relationship. She stated she quit her job at the eating disorder clinic called Melrose at Methodist Hospital.”

Even so, the two women still met in November of 2014 and exchanged text messages up until December 21st, 2014, at 8:13 a.m. The last text messages between Heidie and Komel were sent to Detective Gummert. Heidie stated Komel talked about moving to California, wanting to start her own dietitian practice, opening up a business with her husband, and plans for writing a book on eating disorders.⁽⁵²⁾

In early November of 2014, Dan Sr. wrote, “DJ texted David saying he loves him and would like to make things right. No response.”⁽⁵³⁾

On November 7th, Dan Sr. sent a text message to David in order to make sure his son was still alive. The next day,

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according to Dan Crowley Sr., David replied “that everything is great! Family life had swept them away!”

David’s dad then asked him, “How are the negotiations going with the producers?”

“I walked away from it,” David responded. “Reasons of the spirit I guess.”⁽⁵⁴⁾

November 7th is also the date of the last text message sent from Komel’s phone at 9:26 p.m. Komel received several calls with no originating numbers between November 12th and 25th, 2014.^(G)

The last text message from David’s phone was made to Komel on November 13th, 2014, at 1:21 p.m.^(H)

By November 18th, there was no doubt as to whether or not the documentary known as *Gray State: The Rise* would be released for free, “Gray State: The Rise,” Crowley wrote on social media, “will be made available online for free as soon as possible. This is our non-fiction contribution to fight for liberty. Gather your strength.”

On Komel’s 28th birthday, November 20th, 2014, Kate Crowley called David’s cell phone three times. The first call was made at 6:57 p.m., the second at 7:46 p.m., and the third at 11:49 p.m.^(I)

Also on November 20th, Allison sent an email to her brother, asking David to call his mom and give her his new phone number. David did not respond. The following day, Allison sent an email to Komel asking, “Do you mind telling [David] to get a hold of mom? She’s taken to calling me every day, convinced you guys are dead.”⁽⁵⁵⁾

Komel responded a few hours later, at 4:14 p.m. “Al,” Komel wrote back, “mom was personally given both David and my new number. Given that we are *all* well acquainted with mom’s history of forgetfulness and exaggeration of her reality and situation, I would humbly suggest not

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succumbing to hasty emotional reactions over erroneous information that has no logical basis.”⁽⁵⁶⁾

Three hours later Allison wrote Komel another email, trying to explain her frustrations with David. “You mentioned how David wished he could have a relationship with his siblings,” Allison began. “I want to have a relationship with him too. I’m crazy about David. I always have been. But now I can’t get a hold of him at all and its frustrating. And it feels like he’s putting up barriers and I don’t understand why. I don’t know if I’ve done something wrong. I’m eager to make it right if I have. Is there a reason for the recent silence?”⁽⁵⁷⁾

As of November 21st, Komel’s mom had been in the hospital for sixteen weeks. That same day, David’s mom called him at 1:56 a.m. All calls went directly to voicemail. Kate tried to reach David eight more times on November 21st between the hours of 1:09 p.m. and 8:59 p.m.⁽⁵⁸⁾

“Of course, there is a reason for the recent silence,” Komel responded to Allison on November 22nd, at 7:39 a.m. “We obviously don’t get any form of pleasure withholding communication from our own family. I didn’t think it was necessary for either David and I to spell it out, but this is all I choose to share: we are dealing with an endless list of deeply personal issues silently as adults, as lovers, as partners and parents. With that said, I refuse to play mom’s emotionally-manipulating games and will not allow my husband’s participation in such ventures. My advice to you would be the same one I am practicing myself: turn off your phone and don’t let out-of-state calls dictate how you should be feeling or what you should be doing at any given time.”⁽⁵⁹⁾

Kate tried calling David again on November 22nd at 11 p.m. but her son did not pick up the phone.⁽⁶⁰⁾

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On Monday, November 24th, 2014, at 9:57 a.m., Komel sent a text message to her friend Heidie. “Can we do a quick coffee thing today?” Komel asked. “I’d really like to pay you for the products and make some smoothies! But I’d also be interested in planning a more elaborate fun get together after the holidays!”⁽⁶⁰⁾ Once again we have more evidence of David and Komel planning for the future.

Komel and Heidie met about an hour later at the Anodye Coffee House in Minneapolis, Minnesota. During their meeting, according to what Detective Gummert reported, “Komel again reiterated to Heidie that she was going to quit being a dietitian and open a business with David Crowley.”⁽⁶¹⁾

David Crowley stated he was working “every day” to complete Gray State: The Rise, and on November 26th, 2014, he told a potential donor to “use that money on something for your girl instead. The Rise is going to be free.” Crowley was “rushing The Rise to a free online release. It’ll be worth your wait.”

November 26th, 2014 was the last day a phone call was made from David’s cell phone at 6:51 p.m. The call lasted fifty-eight seconds.^(K)

According to his timeline provided to police, Dan Crowley Sr. sent David text messages on November 26th, 27th, and 28th of 2014 but David did not respond.⁽⁶²⁾

On Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014, Heidie sent the following text message to Komel, “Just curious what you thought of the greens or the collagen in a smoothie or with the Gummi’s?” Two days later, Komel responded, “One word: amazing! Thank you for the discount and personal delivery!”⁽⁶³⁾

The following December 9th, 2014 post by David Crowley has since been removed.

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David Crowley

December 9, 2014

Can you believe it? The Rise is almost done. I'm serious. She's coming out to be quite the looker; can't wait to show you all, but I have to comb her hair for a few more weeks.

Anyway I'm quite serious about giving this film away. I have come to abhor the AJ model of peddling DVDs as truth and cashing in on suckers. I have given this film years of my time and I am delighted for the opportunity to "burn it down" by giving it away, and I hope you all share the feeling. You've all given this project a lot of attention and I thank you. Soon it will be time to go live, and we'll get to watch it all unfold.

Unlike · Comment

Here is what David Crowley wrote, “Can you believe it? The Rise is almost done. I’m serious. She’s coming out to be quite the looker; can’t wait to show you all, but I have to comb her hair for a few more weeks. Anyway, I’m quite serious about giving this film away. I have come to abhor the AJ model of peddling DVDs as truth and cashing in on suckers. I have given this film years of my time and I am delighted for the opportunity to “burn it down” by giving it away, and I hope you all share the feeling. You’ve all given this project a lot of attention and I thank you. Soon it will be time to go live, and we’ll get to watch it all unfold.”

Who had access to David Crowley’s Facebook account? Why was this post and its comments removed from David’s personal Facebook wall? Why would someone remove or hide this post from David Crowley’s Facebook account? Various screenshots are all that remain of the post above and several associated comments.

The first comment on the December 9th post came from David, “You guys are friggin’ sweet, I hope the film makes you all proud. I would try to do a private screening or something exclusive, but hearing the news every day I don’t think we have the time.”

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David Crowley you guys are friggin sweet, I hope the film makes you all proud. I would try to do a private screening or something exclusive, but hearing the news every day I don't think we have the time

December 9, 2014 at 5:47pm · Like 👍 2



Sean Wright Its taken alot out of you Im sure. The iron is hot waiting for you to strike.

December 9, 2014 at 5:51pm · Like



Sean Wright You need to call me. I'm all good with getting out out free intact I brought that up initially. But if it's released before my court you may send me to prison instead of beating my case. For real tho David Crowley call me

December 9, 2014 at 5:58pm · Like 👍 1



David Crowley I don't have any of your tax talk in there Sean my man, don't sweat it. This movie is meant to send OTHER people to prison.

December 9, 2014 at 6:04pm · Like 👍 1

The first person to comment on David's post wrote, "It's taken a lot out of you I'm sure. The iron is hot, waiting for you to strike."

The second person to leave a comment was Sean Wright, who wrote, "You need to call me. I'm all good with getting out free intact. I brought that up initially. But if it's released before my court you may send me to prison instead of beating my case. For real though David Crowley call me." Sean also posted his phone number in his public comment.

Sean's "tax stuff" is in the leaked version of Gray State: The Rise, which is known as the "Rough Cut" of David's documentary. Sean was worried the release of Gray State: The Rise could send him to prison.

David responded, "I don't have any of your tax talk in there Sean my man, don't sweat it. This movie is meant to send other people to prison."

This is the same Sean Wright who contacted me after David's death, encouraging me to stop asking questions and just accept that David Crowley was guilty of a double murder-suicide.

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In Detective Booth's report, Danny Mason stated David emailed him directly on December 7th, 2014.⁽⁶⁴⁾ However, in the email exchange, the date is December 9th when David sent the final email to Danny Mason.

"In deference to your hesitation to sign the GS release document," David wrote Danny, "I give you these verbal guarantees: You will have: A) Full producer credit on the film "The Rise" (unpaid), B) guaranteed casting as lead role John Wayne in Gray State series (paid)." Once again, David was planning for the future, the Hollywood deal was not dead, and Gray State was going to be pitched as a television series.

"You will have every opportunity to continue to collaborate," David assured Danny, "writing and producing episodes and retaining your cherished position as a co-creator of the original concept in the public eye, but I will not be able to sign you into any contracted roles until I have your signed release document. I would like to have it by December 16th, after which we would be free to discuss a future with Gray State that's more respectful to your talents as a paid professional."

At 3:50 p.m. on December 11th, David did not pick up his phone when his mom called.^(L)

On December 15th, at 1:03 p.m., Allison sent an email to Komel, inviting her, David and Raniya to Dan Sr.'s house for Christmas Eve festivities. An hour later Komel declined the invitation, stating the three of them were going to spend Christmas Eve at home.

"We'll be spending our Christmas Eve putting up lights around the house," Komel responded to Allison, "making some hot cocoa and telling some children's stories by the fire."⁽⁶⁵⁾

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The last two calls made from Komel's phone were also on December 15th, 2014. Both calls were made to 1-800-869-3557. The first call was at 6:34 p.m. and lasted one minute and twenty-nine seconds. The second call was made at 6:38 p.m. and lasted twenty-five minutes and fifty-one seconds.^(M)

On December 16th, Danny Mason did reply to David's email, but not how David had hoped. "Buddy," Danny Mason wrote David, "please give me a call about moving forward before I sign the release form."⁽⁶⁶⁾

Phone records show Danny Mason also called David on December 16th, at 6:45 p.m. but David did not answer. Danny Mason then sent David a text message the following day at 11:52 a.m.^(N)

During a December 17th, 2014 email exchange with Jason Allen, David Crowley relayed his plans for releasing the documentary film in a few weeks. Jason Allen is a "First Assistant Director at the Directors Guild of America."⁽⁶⁷⁾

"Here's the situation," David wrote to Jason Allen, "In a few weeks you'll be able to watch a 2.5 hour documentary, a manifesto on the Gray State model (called The Rise), completely in tandem with a few new trailers for a Gray State series that has an integrated storyline with multiple feature films. Gray State fans are growing at a rate of 100-200 per day even now, and when I get started I can only expect they'll keep coming. My wife Komel and I are quietly and fervently putting all this into place, and no one else, and I mean NO ONE ELSE, is at all involved in the project's decision making process or finances. Komel is helping me finally database the network of professionals, actors, and concerned citizens, basically the wealth of the interest Gray State has drawn over the years in the form of

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pledges of service – real industry contacts, with which you are probably already intimately connected.”

This too shows David was planning for his future as late as December 17th, 2014. David seemed very enthusiastic about the growing interest in the Gray State project. “Hundreds of offers,” wrote David, “dozens of sponsors, an email list of 1,200, and over 50,000 in social media contact, which is growing by the day. It is a time bomb of public interest! Standing offers you wouldn’t believe. Apps, video games, the works. I can’t even begin to explain over email. I can’t even keep it all in my head – especially with what’s going on in the news and how keyed up people are for some kind of hope.”

David was expecting a lot of money to come together in the next few weeks, adding “it might be enough to get started on a series, then independent feature(s) running a common storyline – all run by a inter-state network of committed individual professionals who can organize all these assets and operate outside of the traditional money-making sphere of media distribution.”

“When you see *The Rise*,” David continued, “and the new trailers for the Gray State series, you’ll know what I mean when I say I have followed my heart at every step.”⁽⁶⁸⁾

David asked Jason Allen to be an executive producer for Gray State. Allen responded to David’s email on January 8th, 2015 at 10:54 a.m., “Actually in Bismarck flying to Minneapolis in 30 minutes and will have a 2 hour layover. Would love to call you while I’m awaiting my flight to Los Angeles so we can discuss all your recent developments and how to best approach the Grey State project in 2015...Let me know if you’d be available for a phone conversation around 3.33 pm CST.”

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Jason Allen found it hard to believe that David Crowley would murder his wife and child before taking his own life, “David had this consistency and this very steady way about him. In many ways it felt very contradictory to the actions of a murder-suicide. I truly saw an optimism to it.”⁽⁶⁹⁾

On Saturday, December 20th, 2014, at 12:16 p.m., Heidie asked Komel in a text message, “Do you have a favorite program, plugin, or site you use to generate client recipes and menu plans? How did you do it? I’m pulling my hair out looking on-line.”

“Nothing fancy,” Komel responded on December 21st, 2014. “I use excel and created my own formulas to keep track of macro and micronutrients to ensure they are getting the variety that I want for them. I don’t ever give out generic meal plans or recipes though. Everything is catered specifically to each client depending on their disease or condition.”⁽⁷⁰⁾

“Heidie advised me,” Detective Gummert wrote in his report, “that she did not mention much about David, [but] she did state that all of his movie work was for an upcoming Spider-Man movie that he was making.”⁽⁷¹⁾

On December 23rd, 2014, Sidrah stated she had two missed calls from an unknown number. “The first call was at her work,” Detective Jim Gummert reported, “on the morning of 12-23-2014 at 9:36 a.m. The second call was at 11:40 a.m. Sidrah stated she had no viable proof that the calls were from her sister but she believes that they were.”⁽⁷²⁾ According to phone records, no calls were made from Komel’s phone that day.

David did not receive any phone calls on Christmas Eve 2014, but someone did text him at 8:23 p.m. that evening.⁽⁷³⁾

In the first hour of December 25th, 2014, Gray State: The Rise posted a link to The Patriots Guild Facebook page

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with the following comment, “An excellent group/page run by some real patriots that are close friends of ours. Make sure to give them a like. They have a lot of great things on the horizon!”

That was, possibly, David’s last post before he died, if in fact it was David Crowley posting as Gray State: The Rise at that time. In the comment section, someone asked when the Gray State movie would be released, Gray State: The Rise responded with, “Make sure to follow this page, “Gray State” for updates on filming.” In a separate comment, Gray State: The Rise wrote, “And it’s not an easy feat when trying to maintain the stories integrity without selling out, and having such a small team.” *Who was part of this small team at that time and who was not?*

According to Pat Pheifer of the Star Tribune⁽⁷³⁾, on December 26th or 27th, 2014, Dan Crowley Jr. went to his brother’s house to drop off Christmas presents, along with some mail for David. However, police reports clearly stated Dan Jr. went to his brother’s house on December 28th.

Mason Hendricks, a friend of David Crowley, said Dan Jr. saw Paleo, the family dog, pop his head up through the large front window. Dan dropped off the Christmas presents by the front door and tried contacting his brother several times afterwards, but David never responded to his phone calls or text messages.

David’s father and brother also tried to contact David and Komel but were unsuccessful, according to Pat Pheifer’s Star Tribune article. Dan Crowley Sr. “hadn’t heard from his son and daughter-in-law over the holidays.”

“We tried,” Dan Sr. told Pheifer.

On New Year’s Day 2015, Kate Crowley called David at 2:55 a.m., then at 2:54 a.m. on January 3rd. Like the previous attempts by Kate, both calls went to David’s

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voicemail.^(P) Kate also called Komel's old phone number at 2:59 a.m.^(Q)

Michelle Wallick tried calling Komel on January 8th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of 2015.^(R) On January 17th, 2015, one call was made to David Crowley's cell phone at 3:17 a.m.^(S)

Collin and Judy Prochnow lived next door to the Crowley family and had recently returned from an out-of-town visit when they noticed packages piling up near the front door of the Crowley home. The curtains were wide-open, which was unusual according to neighbors.

Mr. Prochnow said he had shoveled the snow in the Crowley's driveway a few times, a common courtesy in Minnesota, because he hadn't seen the Crowley family since before Christmas. He assumed the family was out of town. Mr. Prochnow also told local news media he heard a noise that sounded like a gunshot some time in December, but the actual date of the noise was unclear.

Apple Valley Police Captain John Bermel made sure the media understood there were no signs of forced entry or foul-play. "If there was a scuffle," Captain Bermel told Nick Ferraro of the Pioneer Press, "you'd expect to find maybe something broken, maybe something knocked over. There was nothing like that." When asked about conspiracy theories surrounding the deaths, Bermel stated, "We deal in facts."

Mason Hendricks once told Dan Hennen, "Paleo destroyed David's body...David did try to kill the dog...body parts were all over the house. The dog left Rani's body alone." So, Hendricks stated Paleo left Raniya's body alone while authorities credit the dog for the absence of Raniya's missing arm and presumably her fractured rib.

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Hendricks then posted on Facebook, “All will be revealed soon. The dog is ok. I saw him yesterday. David’s brother will be taking him. I, along with some friends, will be going to his house on Thursday after the living room is cleaned up and to try to make sense of the note that was left.”

Mason Hendricks told the Star Tribune about the note that David left behind, “It’s very short. It’s very puzzling...It doesn’t put much into perspective. It’s two sentences. That’s all it is.”

Mason Hendricks also told Dan Hennen, “You, nor anyone, will ever know what the note said.” Then Hendricks proceeded to tell Dan what was written in the note. “It was his handwriting...David left a password list for the authorities...David left a note on his computer that said, “To my family, I loved you with all my heart.” He took the password protection off of his computer. David’s fingerprints were on the computer.” Just to be clear, David’s fingerprints were not on the computer according to the BCA results.

On January 18th, 2015, host of Silence Is Compliance, Anthony Antonello, started off the show with a phone conversation with Mike Paczesny. Mike Paczesny would later post the “Rough Cut” of Gray State: The Rise onto his YouTube channel for the entire world to see. “It’s really sad that it came to this,” Mike told the host, “if this is really true, and I believe it is. You know? That’s really sad.”

Anthony Antonello had his own suspicions, “I don’t want to jump right out there and yell, ‘conspiracy, conspiracy,’ but you gotta ask questions, man...things like this just stink.”

By the end of the show Anthony didn’t seem convinced that David Crowley was guilty of a double-murder suicide,

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“I’m not buying it. Not buying it whatsoever...Am I suspicious? Of course, I’m suspicious.”

Mike Paczesny added, “We’re gonna get demonized for this. Everybody that was a part of the Gray State project, which is a lot of alternative media, a lot of the listeners, a lot of the people that know who we are, we were behind this. I got a banner on my website right now. What? Am I supposed to take it down?...Yes! You do. That’s what you do now. I don’t know. What the hell? I’m just being honest.”

Also, on January 18th, musical artist Jordan Page expressed his thoughts about the death of his friend. “David Crowley,” wrote Jordan Page, “the screenwriter and director of an upcoming film about the NWO takeover Gray State is dead. All I can say is he was my friend, he was a visionary, a patriot, and a good man. I will miss him, and this movement has lost a crucial member who was poised to wake up millions. God bless him and his wife and their little girl.” More notable is the comment Jordan Page wrote later that day, “The film was about to start production with a \$30 million budget from a major Hollywood studio.”

Charles Hubbell, one of the actors from the 2012 movie trailer, had been trying to reach David Crowley for over a month before he learned about the deaths. Hubbell told KAAL (ABC 6 News), “I was absolutely crushed. This is not the David that I know. This is nowhere near the David I know. He was proud of his service. He was proud of his expertise.”

On January 19th, 2015, Detective Brian Bone and Detective Sean P. McKnight met with David’s father, Daniel Crowley. “I also met with his other two children,” Detective McKnight added, “Daniel (DJ) and Allison Crowley. They explained to me that David and his wife

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Komel had distanced themselves from the family since mid-October.”

“There did not seem to be a reason for this,” McKnight continued, “other than that Komel had told Allison that they were going through some personal issues and were going to work it out alone as a family.”

According to Detective McKnight, Dan Crowley Sr., Dan Crowley Jr. (DJ), and Allison “stated that David and Komel were almost of one mind and may have seen their situation as them against the world. They felt that they loved each other and were having a hard time grasping what could have driven David and/or Komel to do this.”⁽⁷⁴⁾

“[Kate Crowley] had no insights into what they had done,” McKnight wrote after talking with David’s mom on January 19th, “or why they had done it. She said that the one thing she was sure of [was] that David and Komel loved each other and that they loved their daughter. She had trouble believing that David would do anything to harm his family without Komel being in agreement with him.”⁽⁷⁵⁾

January 19th was also an interesting day for the creators of the Justice for David Crowley of Gray State Facebook page (Thomas Lapp) and the Justice for David Crowley & Family Facebook group (Dan Hennen). Both Thomas Lapp and Dan Hennen were contacted by various people associated with the Gray State project requesting administration rights. It was clear the Gray State “team” wanted control of the Justice page and group in order to deter people from questioning the official theory. That shameful act on their part encouraged me to find the truth.

On the March 3rd, 2015 edition of Wake Up To The Truth with Mike Serour and Eric “Spitfire” Wilkinson, Dan Hennen explained why he started the Justice for David Crowley & Family Facebook group.⁽⁷⁶⁾

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“When I first heard about the story,” Dan Hennen told the hosts, “my first search on Facebook was to search for a justice page or something to do with the family to get up-to-speed with the story. When I found that there wasn’t any, I decided to create one and start throwing in some of the articles, some links to the various articles, to have a spot as a forum for people to come and get information and gather information. I was just setting it up by myself, just as the owner of the page, and then after I did another search...I saw that there was another one up done by Thomas Lapp...his is actually a page and mine is a group. So, they’re different in that aspect. So, he set his up, and it wasn’t until the 19th of January that we started getting the requests for rights to the page; and I didn’t get any at first at all. But when corresponding with Thomas Lapp, we started to get the admin rights [requests] coming in from various people, and they all seemed to be from the Gray State team; which is fine. We thought it was odd because they’re going through the grief...the last thing they’d be doing is searching on the web and wanting to type and write things, but they wanted administrator rights to moderate. So that was the first thing. When it got a little goofy is when Thomas Lapp shot me an instant message saying, ‘I’m getting a lot of requests for administration rights and full access rights. Just be on the lookout if that comes your way,’ and just to be prepared. He didn’t tell me how to handle it, or what to do, he just says, ‘Just FYI.’ He gave the 411 that this might be coming...I said, well that certainly seems odd, but then he said [the requests] went from being admins to wanting full rights. Then once he did grant one person admin rights, a bunch of threads were soon deleted. So that didn’t go over. Being an admin is one thing...but Thomas wasn’t too happy when he found out

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that a handful of threads were deleted...so he had a bunch of requests that came in to be the administrator...Mike Paczesny, at the same time, while this was all going on, uploaded that YouTube video of [Gray State: The Rise] the rough cut, which really threw things into disarray because the Gray State was trying to put out that fire at the same time. They were trying to pull that down and deal with Paczesny, who evidently went rogue and just decided to publish it. But at the same time we were...trying to work with the Gray State team to get together a conference call for the next day...Brendan Jay spent a lengthy phone call – he’s from the Gray State team – Brendan Jay has been very good dealing with Thomas Lapp...they were putting together a conference call and invited me to get on too and wanted to get the three of us, the two pages and the Gray State team, to get together and put our heads together and see what would be the best way to either put together a video or a YouTube, or something to get it out there at the nation-wide level to really expose this case...I think it was when Joe Haggman got involved. He suggested even doing it for the show for that very night, if you bump it back an hour, ‘Instead of doing a conference call, you guys can just call in live on the Haggman and Haggman internet radio show and we can get this out there to a much broader audience.’ So, we had agreed to do that for a 10 p.m. eastern time show and everything was good. At that time, I believe the Gray State guys were putting out the fire of the rough-cut documentary. Then at 8:49 p.m. I get a contact from Thomas Lapp that says the show’s been canceled; and he mentions that things have “gotten weird.” So, he said the show’s canceled. I’m not sure what’s going on now...it was at that point that Sean Wright – from the Gray State team – now was demanding full admin rights, and threatened he’ll

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terminate the page if he wasn't granted those rights, and he'll get it shut down, he'll delete the entire thing. So, it went from asking for rights to help moderate a page to terminating, to deleting the page...then I got hit...with the requests for administration rights to my page, and I said no that's fine, I'll just keep it going here myself. I might need a moderator or two to help bring people in but I don't want to give up the admin rights; certainly after what's happened here the other day to the previous page. So, it really got nasty at that point. That was on January 20th, the evening...it was after declining the admin rights to be able to give to the Gray State guys when it all went downhill. It was surprising for Thomas and I because it was less than 24 hours [ago that] everything was going well. Information was getting out there. Brendan Jay said from the beginning, he's like, I don't buy it. I don't buy this official story one 'iota'...but then a handful of guys from Gray State say, no, this isn't the case. They wanted to steer, they didn't want conspiracy theories out there surrounding David Crowley.”

One of the people who wanted to become an admin for the Justice for David Crowley of Gray State Facebook page was Danny Mason. On January 20th, Danny Mason wrote to Thomas Lapp, the creator of the Justice for David Crowley of Gray State Facebook page, “Could the admin or admins please contact me?” Mason asked.

Thomas Lapp responded, “Hey Dan, the admins are myself (Thomas Lapp), Sean Wright and Brendan Jay. What can I do for you? By the way I also sent you a friend request. I can give you access to this page as well if you like.”

Within minutes Danny Mason responded, “Yes please add me as admin since I'm trying to make sure David's name and our projects are being protected. I'm just saying

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this since I haven't met you in person, and lots of people coming out of the woods if you know what I mean."

On January 21st, 2015, someone named Sam Wagner asked Dan Hennen if he could become an administrator for the Justice for David Crowley & Family group, "Hey can you add me as an admin for the Justice for Crowley? I was part of the admin team that did the social media for Gray State and we really need to stay on top of the trolling/keeping this group proactive, ect. Come on Dan."

Dan Hennen wrote back, "Hang in there Sam. In a case like this the first week is gonna be hard. Let me know when that news conference takes place today. I'm at work."

Wagner then asked Dan, "Why aren't you letting others be admins? Because you created the group? Mods are not the same as admins, you must know that."

Additionally, Paleo was released from Palomino Pet Hospital on January 21st. The "Person/Owner claiming" Paleo was Dan Crowley Jr., according to the Animal Claim Certificate form. The form was sent to the Apple Valley Police Department via Fed Ex moments later, at 4:40 p.m.⁽⁷⁾ Coming full circle, Paleo was then reunited with his mother and is expected to live a long and happy life.

January 21st was also the day the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's office labeled Komel and Raniya's deaths as homicides and labeled David's death as a suicide. All three died from a single gunshot wound to the head, according to the brief report.

On January 22nd, 2015, David Kirk West wrote an article on why he didn't think David Crowley was assassinated by the government.⁽⁷⁷⁾ "I think that what happened," wrote West, "is that "Gray State" was falling apart, Crowley was struggling financially, and between that and who knows what other factors he just snapped. I

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strongly suspect we will find out in the coming weeks that “Gray State” suffered a big setback, likely toward the end of October. I hope that everyone who is following this case and speculating on it will refrain from jumping to the conclusion that David Crowley and his family were assassinated and at least consider any evidence that comes out indicating a murder/suicide.”

While David Kirk West clearly speculated that David Crowley might have “snapped,” he also asked everyone to refrain from jumping to the conclusion that the Crowley family was assassinated by the government. I agree, we should consider any evidence of a double murder-suicide, and I hope Mr. West will consider the possibility that David Crowley is innocent based on the lack of evidence provided by police.

Mitch Heil seemingly blamed Gray State for David’s death, “Conspiracy theorists are saying he was murdered by the government. He was murdered alright. He was murdered by the Gray State. He was no longer David. He was not the David we all knew and loved. He was Gray State and the Gray State killed David. It killed Komel, and it killed Raniya.”

Additionally, on January 21st, 2015, Doug Hagmann, of the Hagmann & Hagmann Report, wrote about his conversation with David Crowley back in 2012. Hagmann explained that David Crowley “ominously confided that he had no intentions of committing suicide or otherwise becoming a statistic as he had so much to live for. “I’m not prone to suicide,” he told me.”⁽⁷⁸⁾

Doug Hagmann also wrote, “What I don’t understand is the public’s acquiescence or resignation to the official narrative without question, especially considering the people whom we’ve lost to questionable, if not outright

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strange circumstances. There is something very wrong here. The death of David Crowley, his wife and daughter is more than a tragedy. It seems to fit a disturbing pattern. We need the complete truth about what happened, and not accept anything less. Although his death and the murder of his five-year-old daughter and twenty-eight-year-old wife could have been by his hand, I'm not buying it. Others aren't either."⁽⁷⁹⁾

I have no idea why, but on January 23rd, 2015, Sean Wright contacted me, asking that I stop asking questions about the David Crowley case. "You think I would just be silent if I thought there was more to the story," Sean asked me, "if my best friends were murdered? Please think of the source of the info. Do you trust me?"

After asking who "the source" was, Sean responded, "Me dude! Crowleys were my best friends. You think I would not start the revolution if they were murdered or assassinated?"

I asked Sean when we would see the evidence. "I know the evidence," he assured me, "and will share when I can. The people I trust have been told what I can share. I know more than anyone. I'm mother fuckin' Sean Wright. You think I didn't trench everything before I accepted what happened? No one else would want this to be foul play more than me. Just trust me. Save your credibility."

As we all should know by now, I don't care about my credibility. I never have and I never will.

Even more bizarre were Sean's statements about David and Komel dying on their own terms. "Truth is David, Komel and Rani are dead," said Sean. "They died on their own terms... They did everything how they wanted to insure no one would stop them and so no friends or fam would find the bodies." I asked if he was trying to tell me this was

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a *double suicide-murder*, but he never elaborated on that statement.⁽⁸⁰⁾

Did Sean truly believe David and Komel decided to murder their child before killing themselves? If so, then why? This was the first time I heard about the pact theory between David and Komel, but it would not be the last. The pact theory still exists today.

Sean wasn't the only one associated with the Gray State project who brought up the pact theory. This was similar to what Mason Hendricks told the Star Tribune, "Mason Hendricks, a close friend, said Crowley and his wife were amazingly close and in-tune and speculated that even their deaths had to have been a mutual decision."⁽⁸¹⁾

Separately, Nick Ferraro quoted Mason Hendricks as saying, "I honestly believe — and this is all speculative — that this may have been a joint decision. He and Komel had a great relationship. They were like that couple that finishes each other's sentences."⁽⁸²⁾ Just for the record, Sidrah Alam does not subscribe to the theory that her sister was part of this crime.

On February 12th, 2015, Mason Hendricks posted the following in the Justice for David Crowley & Family Facebook group, "I can tell you all this. David did it for certain. The father is meeting with the police this week and my friends Sean and Danny and Adam will be getting more info. David did this. That is 100% certain. It was not the illuminati or a government cover-up. It drives myself and his closest friends nuts to hear people speculate like this. No details need to be shared. There was no force, they all went together, it's terrible but poetic. The whole thing is terrible and his brother Dan and I and our amazing friend Danny will be meeting with Komel's sister soon to help her go through all of her sister's stuff."

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Hendricks kept the pact-theory alive when he publicly stated, “It can still be joint if David used the gun.” Later, Hendricks told me he no longer believed there was a pact between David and Komel to kill themselves and their daughter. Some still believe in the pact-theory. I do not.

A USA Today article mentioned Collin Prochnow using the word “they” when possibly referring to double murder-suicides in general, “You have something that happens like that next door and you don’t really know when it happened, and the little girl, why did they have to take the little girl with them when they do things like that?”⁽⁸³⁾

A few days after contacting me on Facebook, Sean Wright called me, still trying to convince me to “free myself” from this case. Apparently, he didn’t have David Crowley’s phone number, but he had mine, and I hadn’t talked to Sean in over a year or two. Even though I’ve never stated I believe David Crowley and his family were murdered by the government, Sean still felt it necessary to remind me that this wasn’t a government hit.

Sean also told me “The property of Gray State was ours. It’s copyrighted. That’s why the videos keep getting pulled down, because we keep reporting it’s a copyright...you guys keep goin’ this route DHS and FBI’s gonna be on you. You don’t need that.” Again, I’m asked to “back off from it all.” Sean also told me he was probably one of the last people to see the Crowley family alive.

All I asked for was evidence that David was guilty, but Sean could not provide any. He did tell me, “I’m just givin’ you a call out of respect to see if you could just free yourself in this situation before it gets worse.” Asking questions will not make the situation worse so I will continue to do so until I find the facts that prove David Crowley killed his wife, his daughter, and himself.

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A few years later, Sean left me a nasty voice message after we had an intense exchange of text messages related to a potential debate. You can read the text exchange and listen to the voice message in Gray Stage #46 on my YouTube channel, GregFernandezJr.

Infowars.com reporter Joe Biggs was interviewed by Weaponized News.com on January 24th, 2015, “Right now it’s one of those things that’s up in the air,” Biggs said during the interview. “I’m looking into it as well, among many other things. When something like this happens, the first thing I do is I try to look on people’s Facebook pages...so I try to find the friends of the people, I add them, and then I look to see if there have been any posts. When you do research like that, you’ll see, over the past few days, all I’ve seen are people going like, ‘Oh my God, I’ve known this guy forever. He’s not someone who could have ever done this. This is mind blowing’...you also think about, they started this film like three years ago. They did some kind of crowd-fund thing or whatever. They raised \$60,000 and ever since the trailer came out, there’s been nothing done. So, for two years, production’s completely pretty much stopped from what I’ve heard and there’s been nothing done with it. So, did they stop making the movie and just start living off that money that was raised and then they ran out of money and he lost his mind? Or what else is there? There’s so many things that could have happened. Like I said, it’s so early into it. There was a leak of the documentary...and that was going to be used to raise more money to finish the actual feature film, Gray State.”⁽⁸⁴⁾

On the January 25th, or 26th 2015 edition of the Alex Jones Show, a caller named Rick asked Alex about the case, “I wanted you to let everybody know about David Crowley’s’ execution, the creator of the Gray State.”⁽⁸⁵⁾

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“Well we did cover that last week,” Alex Jones responded to the caller, “and it looks like another assassination of somebody in the media. Just like the prosecutor in Argentina who said, ‘They’re trying to kill me, I’m about to give a speech in two hours proving that the President carried out staged bombings,’ and he was, now they admit, murdered.”

Rick steered the conversation back towards David Crowley, “He was executed. He was shot in the head, all three of them; him and his wife and his daughter.”

“I know,” said Alex Jones, “and so was the prosecutor, and the President said it was a conspiracy theory, but now they admit he was murdered, the prosecutor. A lot of people are getting killed right now...they’re just murdering people.”

In an interview released on January 27th, 2015, Ben Swann asked Gray State co-creator Danny Mason if David Crowley ever displayed symptoms or signs of PTSD over the years. Danny Mason responded, “Nothing that would, I guess, constructually fit the bill for diagnosis of PTSD. Not in the form with David, and that could have been masked with his creativity on it. Hindsight’s always 20/20 and especially in a moment like this. And I think to label that right away that [PTSD] was the sole cause of it, I don’t, personally I know that he mentioned that he did suffer from some forms of PTSD and I think that all of us, in some shape or form, could actually I guess in some form of diagnosis, have that...but nothing to the extent that...it’s black and white, he flipped out and kinda lost his mind. That diagnosis to explain the tragic events just doesn’t fit with it...there wasn’t really any kind of red flags that kind of went off that we should be really concerned about.”⁽⁸⁶⁾

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Separately, Mitch Heil “never saw signs of PTSD” and believed David “was not a crazed gun nut.”

Did Danny Mason and David Crowley ever have the “I won’t kill myself” conversation? “We’ve had that conversation early on, on it,” Danny Mason told Ben Swann, “and this is when, but then there was a period when David started putting distance between his friends and his family...I know that he was going through a personal transition and I don’t know if he was battling a lot of the bigger...questions on spiritualism and his placement within society, and also as a filmmaker. So, I don’t know that part, but the discussions that we had before, I know that he wouldn’t be suicidal because David was one of the strongest guys I’ve ever met before in my life; not only intellectually, but just physically, all around.”

“Truth is the truth and it will never die. You can’t destroy truth, ok. No matter what you do.” – **Danny Mason**

Aside from Item 1, all firearms found in the house were released to Dan Crowley Sr. on April 16th, 2015.⁽⁸⁷⁾

| |
|--|
| Apple Valley Police Department Case file 15000303 |
| List of confiscated guns from 1051 Ramsdell Drive on 1-18-15 |

| Make: | Model: | Serial Number: |
|-------------|--------|----------------|
| Springfield | XD40 | XD546473 |
| Marlin | 60 | MM1220H |
| HK | USP 40 | 22-072057 |
| Remington | 700 | G6494652 |
| Remington | 700 | G6536477 |
| DPMS | AR-15 | F067046K |
| DPMS | AR-15 | F067037K |
| WASR | 10 | AF271581 |
| Mossberg | 50 | R805425 |

(BCA 485 – pg.158)

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“Once there’s money you have to pay everyone, but that might not be so bad. No money is best.” – **David Crowley**⁽⁸⁸⁾

“On August 9, 2015,” Dan Hennen wrote on his website, UglyTruth.info, “Kathryn “Kate” Crowley, 51 was found dead sitting on a patio chair slumped over on the table on the deck of her Owatonna, MN home. She was healthy, in good spirits and held two jobs. No reason was given for her untimely death. No foul play was suspected according to the Owatonna Police Department. No press release was issued and no comment from any member of the family.”⁽⁸⁹⁾

“Kate was happiest when surrounded by her family,” according to her obituary, “whom she loved deeply. She had a special gift with animals, as evidenced by her love for her dog, Eddie, and her birds. She enjoyed fishing, rock hunting for agates, and singing karaoke.”

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written by Greg Fernandez Jr.

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The Gray Stage only exists because of the official conclusion of the Apple Valley Police Department. “With the conclusion of the review of digital devices,” Detective Brian Bone reported on October 7th, 2015, “there is no other information available for further investigation. Throughout this investigation the AVPD has not discovered any information or evidence that shows anybody but David is the perpetrator of these crimes, including the killing of his wife, child and himself.”

This book is a direct response to the allegations against David Crowley. Either the Apple Valley Police Department should be forced to prove David Crowley guilty or they should publicly admit the case is unsolved.

GREG FERNANDEZ JR.

Because the official investigation failed to prove David Crowley guilty, I can only assume he is not. What other conclusion could I possibly reach under the current circumstances? Time and time again we are asked to believe David is guilty simply because the official narrative declares it so. We wait and wait and wait for evidence of David's guilt, but such evidence is never produced.

Delay after delay did not deter my efforts to find evidence of the allegations against David. During the official investigation, I waited patiently for a conclusion based on facts. I researched as much as I could, documenting comments and actions of those involved in this tragedy.

I soon realized what the official theory believers and myself had in common. None of us were able to prove David guilty. In fact, no human being on earth can prove David is guilty of a double murder-suicide. So why should we act like David has been proven guilty?

In the United States of America, we are all innocent until proven guilty. At least, that is the America I strive to live in and help keep alive. I have yet to find anyone who can prove David guilty; starting and ending with the investigative bodies who created the official theory and subsequent conclusion.

At the very latest, the official theory began with the Apple Valley Police Department's press release on January 18th, 2015, at 11:40 a.m., which was ten minutes before David's body was examined and days before the bodies were positively identified by the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's office. The press release claimed what happened at 1051 Ramsdell Drive was "the result of an apparent murder-suicide." Once the official theory began, investigating officials may have found it unnecessary to investigate any possible alternative theories.

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As the investigation progressed, it was clear authorities could not find a motive as to why David would kill his wife and child before committing suicide. Additionally, authorities failed to tie David to the three questionable writings inside the Crowley home; the blood writing on the living room wall, the digital note on the kitchen island laptop, and the written note on a notepad in the office bedroom. Requests for handwriting comparisons were deemed unnecessary. Yet all three writings were allegedly linked to David? Based on what evidence?

David's blood was found on the trigger and magazine but not on any bullets recovered. Even worse, authorities left the crime scene with six bullet casings and four spent bullets. Apparently not one single person inside the Crowley house on January 17th or 18th saw the bullet hole in the living room ceiling, which led to the bullet labeled as Item 57 in the attic. The same is true of Item 53, which is the bullet that rolled out of the living room carpet on January 20th.

DNA results for both bullets were highly disturbing. Two or more DNA profiles were found on Item 53. The blood on the bullet matched Raniya, but not David or Komel. The source of the other DNA profile, or profiles, remains unknown.

The bullet found a month later on February 18th, Item 57, matched David's DNA, but blood was not present on the spent round. Authorities did not know about Item 53 or Item 57 because they were not looking for them.

Then there are the missing body parts. David's right hand, both of Komel's hands, and Raniya's entire right arm were reportedly missing; most of the heads of David and Komel were also missing.

GREG FERNANDEZ JR.

Paleo, the family dog, is credited with the missing body parts, and, apparently, Raniya's fractured rib. Yet there is no indication Paleo deserves credit since dog feces tests were never conducted.

Surprisingly, one of the biggest bloodstains in the living room was never tested for DNA results. A large circular bloodstain was found on the lower right corner of a recliner. The blood was swabbed and labeled as Item 34, but never tested for DNA results. This bloodstain is the main reason why I believe at least one of the bodies were moved between the time of death and when investigators entered 1051 Ramsdell Drive on January 17th, 2015.

Plain and simple, this was a staged event. Some believe David staged the scene while others believe the scene was staged by parties other than David Crowley. Either way, I believe this was a staged event.

I believe David has been falsely accused, and unless authorities can prove the double murder-suicide theory, this case should be reopened, and the status should be changed from "Exceptionally Cleared" to "Unsolved."



SOURCE LIST

SOURCE LIST

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14. Judy Prochnow vs. Greg Fernandez Jr — YouTube Video
15. Search Warrant — Detective Brian Bone, February 2nd, 2015
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14. BCA Lab Analysis — pg.16-17
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