

Deshon's Bus Incident Report

July 30, 2012

3:20 pm Bloomfield Police Station

Went to the station to get a copy of the accident report, Deshon's keys and cell phone. However, we were told that all documents and evidence was turned over to the Essex County Prosecutors Office, Vehicular Homicide Division.

August 8, 2012

9:26 am 7-Eleven store

Spoke with Mayank Ray about the bus incident on July 18th. Gave his condolences and remembered Deshon being in his store every morning when he went to work. Naomi asked if he had any footage from his cameras and if we could see it. Said he did but he had to ask his boss if he could share with us. Told us he would check and we could call him @ 973.748.9570. Mr. Ray remembered that he saw Deshon in the store that morning and he was there well before the bus was due to arrive and he was not in a rush. Also, Deshon used his debit to purchase and get change for the bus.

9:40 am Exxon Gas Station Dominick Rotondo 973.748.3359

Spoke to store manager, Dominick who remembered the day and what happened. He told us that from his video camera he could not see the accident but he saw the bus go down Broad Street and turn onto Bay Avenue without stopping at the bus stop and rode over the curb. Informed us that the Essex County Prosecutor's Office gave him a court order not to erase the tape. He told us there was a lot of construction going on at that curb and there was another pole obstructing the walkway. Also, he said that there may be footage from the street camera of Deshon sitting at the bus stop. He then showed us the tape of July 18th and you could see Deshon

August 8, 2012

We observed how difficult it is for pedestrians to cross Bay Ave and Broad St. All corners have a right turn signal and the go light for pedestrians is very short. Not giving people enough time to cross without watching for on-coming traffic.

10:16 am Flower Nursery Peggy O'Boyle Dunigan (Councilwomen-at-large, Bloomfield) Garden Center: 973.748.0655 or cell: 973.220.9483
Couldn't tell us much other than hearing people screaming and one of her workers screaming call 911. According to her, the police were there in minutes. Gave us flowers to place at the memorial site where the accident happened. She informed us that the next couple of days officials came to ride the bus to see if they could find any additional witnesses.

10:00 am BP Gas Station John Agolia 973.429.2009
His camera does not show enough detail to give us any additional information. From what he understands the police took several witnesses down to the station for a couple of hours. Bobby and Joe saw parts of the accident. However, Booby wasn't there.

walk across the lot at a leisurely pace going to the 7-Eleven. Said Deshon was at the bus stop already when the bus arrived. The way the bus stop bench is situation it's hard to see the bus until it passes. The bus had the green light and continued to make the turn onto Bay without stopping for any passengers to board. After showing the tape he said he saw an individual running from the accident that appeared to be very upset. He also witnessed passengers on the bus leaving the scene. He told us that the town just finished the repair of the street last week.

11:15 am Essex County Prosecutors Office Erica Liu,

973.621.2643

Went to the Vehicular Homicide Unit to get information on the

case.

Erica Liu, Assistant Prosecutor, introduced herself as the one assigned to Deshon's case. Ms. Liu was very apologetic to Naomi about not contacting her and her loss. "We should have contacted you and you should not have to come to our office seeking information." Ms. Liu told us that Det. James Contreras

973.621.4300 is assigned to NJ Transit/Johnson case but he was on vacation. Therefore, she really could not give us any information because what the detective has gathered has not been turned over to her yet. She explained the process that the Det. does the investigation. The bus is towed and put out of operation while it is determined if the bus was in good operating order; police reports are written; interviews and test the bus driver; interview witnesses and take statements. Once the detective has gathered all information on the case it is then turned over to the prosecutor to determine if it is a criminal case. If so, the case will go to the grand jury which is already a two month lag time. The court only allows one day a month for vehicular homicide cases. If the grand jury says it's a go then it will take one year to a year and a half to complete the criminal trial. If not it will still take her office 2 to 3 months to close the case. She assured us that she would be able to give us some information once the detective came back from vacation. We specifically asked about Deshon's keys and cell phone and why it was so important for us to have. She said she would try to make those things available to us when we meet. She also informed us that if we pursue a civil suit against NJ Transit that the attorney would still have to wait to get certain evidence until the case is closed. All reports are sealed until the investigation is over. She assured us that she would contact Naomi to schedule a meeting as soon as the detective returns from vacation. Also in the conference room during our meeting was a

detective standing in for Mr. Contreras and Ms. LaQuanda Williams 973.621.4186, Victim Advocate assigned to a case.

August 9, 2012

Erica Liu called today at 11:22 am to schedule a meeting at her office on August 14, 2012, at 10:30 am.

August 14, 2012

10:30 am Essex County Prosecutors Office Erica Liu, 973.621.2643

We spoke with Chief of Prosecutor Thomas S. Fennelly, Erica Liu, Detective Contreras and Ms. LaQuanda Williams, and Mr. Ralph E. Amirata Esq. Mr. Fennelly stated, that Deshon Johnson was chasing the bus and banging on the back door, therefore, it was hard for the bus driver Wilson Romaine to hear victim banging on the door because of the bus motor at to loud. Naomi asked, how you knew the driver did not hear her son banging. The Chief of prosecutor said, "He had an investigator to go down to the scene and get onto the bus while another detective remains outside of the bus banging. According to Fennelly, he said, "That the investigator could not hear the banging from inside of the bus".

Then, Fennelly concludes that Johnson was hit on Bay Street crossing and a witness on the bus told him that Deshon was jumping up and down with two hands banging on the window and door because they interview all of the two witnesses. Deshon's mother Naomi told Mr. Fennelly that his story was all lies because she spoken to the Exxon Gas Station Manager and other works in the area, as well as reading multiple articles of Bloomfield Mayor statement, saying Johnson life was taken on Broad.

Also, the newspaper article stated that Deshon had a sandwich he did not eat and a bottle of vitamin water, which was on the scene. Therefore, it was impossible for Deshon to use two open hands,

and bang on the window or door if he had a bag with the mentionable contents in it. Naomi also stated that the bag that was on the scene was a paper bag, not a plastic wrist bag. According to the articles it also, stated that 5 people were on the bus and some of the works stated that the bus driver drove on top of the curb where Deshon stood.

Mr. Fennelly said that the bus driver did not go onto the curb, then he told Mr. Ralph to explain. Ralph stated that the bus did not go onto the curb. Naomi asked how you know, Ralph, said "because there were no tires marks." Naomi told, Ralph that is another lie because the tier does not have to leave tire marks on the curb all the time. Especially, if it is cover with Deshon's blood and remains. Ralph, looked at Naomi and remained quite. Naomi stated that she can read and she knows what she read and what the witness told her. Mr. Fennelly said a witness stated that Deshon was on his phone. Deshon's aunt Renee asked, Mr. Fennelly, did he checked the bus driver cell phone records and see if he was on his phone during that time. Mr. Fennelly said Detective Contreras can answer that question. Detective Contreras said it was no need to pull up the bus driver cell phone records dealing with this type of case. Renee said that does not make any sense, why would you not pull up the driver's cell phone record to see if he was texting or on the phone. Then Renee said you interview all of the people on the bus but only 3 remained out of 5; according to the article it also said that it was a Hispanic young man standing with my nephew waiting for the same bus. Therefore, one of the 3 people you interview was the bus driver correct. Fennelly, looked at Renee and stumble over his words and said yes. Then, Detective Contreras, said I know you think, we did not do a complete investigation but we did because I am a father and I can understand your concern about your nephew and Naomi son.