

# CITY OF HEWITT POLICE DEPT

P. O. BOX 610      PHONE (817) 662-4512

## HEWITT, TEXAS 76643

### CONTINUATION REPORT

75 O. R. NO.

08-86-3049

#125528-0324

CODE SECTION	75 CRIME	75 CLASSIFICATION				
	STRUCTURE FIRE/ACCIDENTAL DEATHS					
COMP'S NAME	LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE	(FIRM IF BUS.)	75 ADDRESS	RES	BUS	75 PHONE
	WATTS, L. C.		HPD			666-6272

DETAILS

At 11:05AM, this date, CLARE GERDES GRAF, and her Sister-in-Law, Dale Gerdes, came to our Department from the U. S. Marshal's Waco Office where they had been discussing their situation with Deputy Marshal Parnell McNamara. Parnell was a long-time personal friend of Mrs. Graf's and she had contacted him to talk to on a personal basis. After hearing what they had to say, Parnell recommended they talk to our Department without further delay. Present at the interview was MYSELF, OFFICER COLWELL, AND LT. WACHTENDORF. Chief Caswell and Ranger Smith were present during part of the interview. Both Mrs. Graf and Mrs. Gerdes expressed their concern that the fire and deaths may not have been accidental and recounted what they both believed to be motive and opportunity on the part of ED GRAF to have caused the fire resulting in the fatalities. They indicated concerns over Life Insurance Benefits on the boys, Ed's job as a Fire and Casualty Examiner, what they felt now to be a series of unusual events prior to and immediately after the fire, a history of financial misdealings by Ed, marital and family difficulties and various related things. They also expressed their concern for their safety and that of their immediate relatives due to their belief that if Ed did set the fire that he might be a danger to them now and in the future. Mrs. Graf told us she left Ed the previous Sunday morning and took their 6-month old child, "Little Ed", with her. Being now very much afraid of Ed, Mrs. Graf has been talking to him by phone daily but only telling him "she needed some time alone" giving him the indication she would return. She has, however, filed for divorce from Ed through her Attorney, Jim Meyer, at Vance Dunham's Office, and Deputy Larry Lynch, Administrator at the McLennan County Sheriff's Office had the divorce papers and a restraining order ready to serve Graf the following day. A discussion of the paper service and/or her desire to go to their house on Angel Fire to remove some property - with an Officer - at this time, would possibly hinder our investigation, resulted in her postponing the visit and serving the papers for at least another

REPORTING OFFICERS	(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)	TYPED BY	DATE AND TIME	ROUTED BY
F. W. LATHAM, #108		MJS	09-03-86	

EMARK: 11:05AM to 2:10PM

VIEWED BY	DATE
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## HEWITT, TEXAS 76643

### CONTINUATION REPORT

75 O. R. NO.

08-86-3049

#129328-0024

CODE SECTION	75 CRIME STRUCTURE FIRE/ACCIDENTAL DEATHS	75 CLASSIFICATION		
COMP'S NAME	LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE WATTS, L. C.	(FIRM IF BUS.)	75 ADDRESS HPD	75 PHONE 666-6272

**DETAILS**

lay. In the interim period, Mrs. Graf and her child will be staying with her brother and Sister-in-Law, H.H. "Trey" Gerdes III and Dale Gerdes on Forest View in Woodway. Chief Caswell informed Woodway P.S.D. Chief Zachary of the situation at the request of Mrs. Gerdes. She gave us the phone numbers: 772-3229 and 666-6227 as where she would be if we needed to contact her on any matter. Both women had previously been to the D.A.'s Office and given D.A.'s Investigator J. C. Rapp lengthy written statements outlining all their information and Rapp had already given us copies (SEE COPIES AND PREVIOUS REPORT(S)), so almost all the information they related was already on file in the case. Mrs. Graf did tell us that Ed got the \$70,000.00 to repay Community State Bank from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Graf, Sr., 619 Falcon, phone 772-1055 of Waco. They had the money from the Estate of an Aunt. Graf's father is retired and works part-time at Mehaffey Real Estate and his mother is a teacher at Carver School in Waco. Mrs. Graf stated she thought Ed still might have some financial matters to be resolved with the IRS on the \$70,000.00. She has not spoken to her Ex - husband, Jerry Don McGaughy, in two(2) years. She said their house at 505 Angel Fire was re-financed six(6) months ago and put in both her and Ed Graf's names. It had belonged to Ed prior to their marriage. She also stated they do their banking at Central National Bank, where Ed has a Safety Deposit Box and Educator's Credit Union. Further, Ed owned a rent house and had a barge at Speepleville Marina. Also, Ed kept a number of loaded pistols and rifles at his house under beds and scattered throughout. He is very afraid of McGaughy, also, he said he was not going to return to his job until she went back to work and that he did not know she had taken a leave of absence from her school and wasn't due back "for a month or two." As far as she knew, Ed had taken out insurance on all three(3) children from (1) Lutheran Brotherhood/Universal Life, affiliated with the Luthern Church, and (2) State Farm, but she was unsure of the exact amounts. Ed has attended two(2) schools on

REPORTING OFFICERS F. W. LATHAM, #108	(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)	TYPED BY MJS	DATE AND TIME 09-03-86	ROUTED BY
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### CONTINUATION REPORT

#125528-0024

14 CODE SECTION	75 CRIME STRUCTURE FIRE/ACCIDENTAL DEATHS	76 CLASSIFICATION			
17 COMP'S NAME LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE WATTS, L. C.	(FIRM IF BUS.)	78 ADDRESS HPD	RES	BUS	79 PHONE 666-6272

18 DETAILS  
Fire and Casualty Investigation since January sponsored by his company - Two(2) weeks in Dallas in January, and two(2) weeks in June in Austin. Both women believe Ed is obsessed with Clare and will do anything to remove whom or what he perceives to be any threat to their relationship. They inquired about the investigation and were given some information by Chief Caswell and also inquired as to what might be done to protect themselves and relatives from Ed if he explodes when the divorce papers are served. They provided the following people as those most likely to provide us with pertinent information relating to our investigation of this case:

1. John Snapp, 200 Buckingham and wife Katy - 666-2178
2. Ray Frasier
3. Helen and Chuck Slough
4. Peggy Gidney
5. Steve Patrick
6. Barry Joe Pleger @ Pleger Construction
7. Carol and Earl Shaeffer (or Schaefer)
8. George Shine (Co-worker of Ed's)

We agreed to keep in touch with her and to let her know when would be a good time to have the papers served.

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