



Public Integrity Unit

Case # 14-072

Interview of:

Sediqa Reynolds

Chief of Community Building,
Oversees LMAS



LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Special Investigations Division

Public Integrity Unit

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

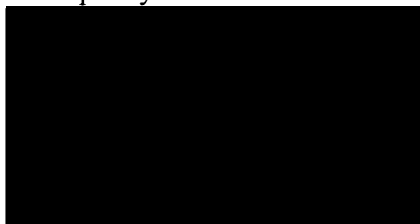


Type of Investigation Animal Cruelty/Neglect	File No. 14-072	Date of Report: November 11, 2014
Activity: Interview with Sediqa Reynolds	Submitted By Sergeant Chad Kessinger	
	Lead Investigator: Sergeant Chad Kessinger	

INTERVIEW WITH SEDIQA REYNOLDS

On October 30, 2014, at approximately 1337 hours an interview was conducted with Sediqa Reynolds. Mrs. Reynolds is more specifically identified as:

Sediqa Reynolds



The interview was conducted at the office of the Public Integrity Unit located at 810 Barret Avenue. Also present during the interview was Lieutenant Kevin DeSpain. Mrs. Reynolds was employed by Louisville Metro Government as the Chief for Community Building during the time frame of this investigation. Mrs. Reynolds' interview was taken in the form of a sworn statement and the following are the key aspects of the interview:

- Mrs. Reynolds' is the Chief of Community Building and is responsible for numerous government agencies including Louisville Metro Animal Services (LMAS)
- Sadie was already euthanized prior to Mrs. Reynolds being informed of the incident
- Margaret Brosko informed Mrs. Reynolds following the story being discussed on a blog
- Mrs. Reynolds did speak with Donald Robinson and Margaret Brosko upon being notified

This interview was audio recorded and shall be mad a part of this file.

Investigator's Signature:	
Supervisor's Signature:	LT. KEVIN DE SPAIN 11/13/2013

This report is the property of the Louisville Metro Police Department. Neither it nor its contents may be disseminated to unauthorized personnel or agencies.

LMPD # 05-0002 10/05.



LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC INTEGRITY UNIT
OFFICIAL STATEMENT

CASE NUMBER: 14-072

Today's date is October 30, 2014 The time is 1337 hours.

This is an interview with Sadiqa Reynolds (R/S)

This interview is being conducted at:

☒ Public Integrity Unit, 810 Barret Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204

☐ Other Location: _____

Present during this interview is:

Mrs.

Sgt. C. Kessinger, Lt. K. DeSpain

(Title)

(Name)

- Q1 ☒ Are you aware this interview is being audio and/or video recorded?
Q2 ☒ Has anyone threatened you in order to obtain this interview?
Q3 ☒ Are you giving this interview of your own free will?
Q4 ☒ Please, state your full name, and spell your last name. What is your date of birth?
Q5 ☒ State your home address including the zip code.
Q6 ☒ Is this the same as your mailing address? (If no) Mailing address?
Q7 ☒ State your home telephone number with the area code.
Q8 ☒ State your mobile and an alternate phone number with area codes.
Q9 ☒ Are you employed?
Q10 ☒ State your employer and the position you hold there.
Q11 ☒ What is your work telephone number?
Q12 ☒ Are you aware the following interview will be a sworn statement?

PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND

Do you, Sadiqa Reynolds, solemnly swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

I UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE OATH THAT I HAVE TAKEN.

Sadiqa N. Reynolds
Signature

10/30/14
Date

1:40 p.
Time

LT. KESSINGER
Witness signature

10/30/2014
Date

1340 HRS
Time

Subscribed and sworn to me by

This

30 day of October, 2014 Sadiqa Reynolds

Notary Public, State at Large

Notary Public, State at Large, KY
My Commission Expires Mar. 29, 2017

My Commission Expires

October 30, 2014

Kessinger This is Sergeant Chad Kessinger of the Louisville Metro Police Department's Public Integrity Unit. This is gonna be an official statement in regards to PIU Case #14-072. Today's date is October 30th, 2014. The time is 13:37 hours. This is an interview with Sediqa Reynolds. This interview is being conducted at the Public Integrity Unit Office. Located at 810 Barrett Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky. Present during this interview is myself, Sergeant Chad Kessinger, Lieutenant Kevin Despain. Miss Reynolds, are you aware that this interview is being audio recorded?

Reynolds Yes.

Kessinger Has anyone threatened you in order to obtain this interview?

Reynolds (Chuckles) Kind of. No. I haven't been. . . no. No. Not you all. No.

Kessinger Okay. Let me ask that one more time.

Reynolds Uh-hum.

Kessinger Has anyone threatened you in order to obtain this interview?

Reynolds No.

Kessinger Are you giving this interview of your own free will?

Reynolds Yes.

Kessinger Please state your full name and spell your last name.

Reynolds Sediqa Reynolds. R-E-Y-N-O-L-D-S.

Kessinger And what is your date of birth?

Reynolds [REDACTED]

Kessinger Please state your home address including the ZIP Code.

Reynolds Um, is this gonna be public. . . I'm not gonna give (Inaudible).

Kessinger No. This is not public record. This will be redacted. This is for our information only.

Reynolds [REDACTED]

Kessinger Please state your home number or home telephone number with the area code.

Reynolds [REDACTED] And there's no answering machine or anything there at all if you try to call. Just uh. . .

Kessinger Okay. Please state your mobile or alternate phone number with the area code.

Reynolds [REDACTED]

Kessinger And are you employed?

Reynolds I am.

Kessinger State your employer and the position that you hold there.

Reynolds Louisville Metro Government in the office of the Mayor. I am the Chief of Community Building.

Kessinger And what is your work telephone number?

Reynolds 502-574-2012.

Kessinger And are you aware the following interview will be a sworn statement?

Reynolds Yes sir.

Kessinger If you would ma'am, please raise your right hand.

Reynolds Uh-hum.

Kessinger Do you Sediqa Reynolds, solemnly swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Reynolds Yes.

Kessinger If you would, please sign here on the 'X'. And next to that is the date. Will you date that? Today is the 30th.

Reynolds Thank you.

Kessinger And the time is 1:40 p. m. And what we're gonna discuss today is the case in regards to Sadie. The dog that was brought in to Animal Services. You, you're aware of that.

Reynolds I am.

Kessinger Okay. And what was your position at the time Sadie was brought in?

Reynolds When Sadie was brought. . . the physician that I've had I've been in Metro is Chief for Community Buildin'. So I'm uh, the Directors for the Library, Parks, the Zoo, the Health Department, Community Services. It used to be Community Service or Revitalization. But they've split.

Kessinger Uh-hum.

Reynolds And uh, Animal Services obviously and then also the Director for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods. Um and then there's a part of my job is I serve on about I think 3 boards. For the Mayor. So, those agencies and that work. That's what I'm responsible for. And did I say the Zoo.

Kessinger Okay. And if you would, just as detail as possible, can you tell me what you knew about Sadie?

Reynolds When?

Kessinger When she was brought into the facility.

Reynolds I didn't hear about Sadie when she was brought in.

Kessinger Okay. When were you made aware of, of her medical condition?

Reynolds When it's. . . Oh, by the time I heard anything about Sadie, Sadie was already deceased. Um, because Margaret first told me when they started kinda get in to some of the chatter on I guess maybe the blog. And I don't, you know, that's when. . . 'cause she said hey. It was kinda like I wanna give ya heads up. This is what hap, this is what's goin' on. I think that's the first. So, by the time I learned of Sadie it was after the fact.

Kessinger Okay. After she had already been euthanized?

Reynolds Yes.

Kessinger Okay. And who made you aware, uh, that Sadie was euthanized?

Reynolds It was Margaret. Margaret Brosco.

Kessinger And how did she make you aware of that?

Reynolds I think Margaret, um, (Inaudible) don't guess but I think either I. . . she either called or we saw each other. I know we talked about it. And it was just um, so in this job you get a lot of people kinda goin', hey, listen. I wanna let you know. 'Cause the last thing you want is to be sittin' where I'm sittin'.

Kessinger Uh-hum.

Reynolds Or be the Mayor. And there's somethin' controversial and you don't know about it. So, um, that's what she did and so, she let me know. I spoke with, uh, her and Donald about it. And then spoke with Donald alone. Um, 'cause I, there were. . . I had a few concerns.

Kessinger Okay. Did, did Donald or anyone bring this to your attention that anyone was claimin' neglect on the part, for the part of Sadie?

Reynolds Well I think. . . see I. . . by the time the blog. . . I mean I guess that's what the, the blogs were just about how awful this situation was. I don't know if there were legal terms used. So, I mean, you know, but they were certainly sayin', you know, here's what happened. I mean, once it hits the blog, it's never positive.

Kessinger Right. Now, but did anyone from Animal Services come to you? Mr. Robinson or, or Miss Brosco sayin' that Sadie was neglected.

Reynolds Oh no. They didn't say that. No. In fact, what they talked about was the fact that Sadie had um, been seen by. . . was being seen by a veterinarian of the

person that was fostering the animals. I, I mean, it's hard to believe that, that an animal that's seein' a vet is bein' neglected.

Kessinger Now, with, with Louisville Metro Animal Services, you all have a veterinarian on staff. Correct?

Reynolds Correct.

Kessinger And Miss Atkins, at the time, the fostering the dog worked for Animal Services from my understanding.

Reynolds That's my understanding as well.

Kessinger And if the dog that she's fostering needs medical attention, does she have access to the veterinarian on staff of Louisville Metro Animal Services?

Reynolds That is my understanding that she would have access to the veterinarian on staff. Yeah.

Kessinger Will that be during normal working hours and after?

Reynolds Yeah. I think they have a policy, um, that talks about after hours, emergencies and notification and that kind of thing. I, but I think it. . . at least I, I know that since what I've learned about this that we know Sadie was being seen by a vet that either Miss Atkins was paying or maybe the vet was doin' it pro bono. I'm not sure. But she wasn't gonna do the surgery, uh, pro bono.

Kessinger Okay. Did Miss Atkins ever try to contact you directly?

Reynolds I. . . no. (Inaudible).

Kessinger Did you read the letter that Miss Atkins had wrote.

Reynolds The letter that was posted on the blog?

Kessinger Yes ma'am.

Reynolds I finally had to read the blog. Yes.

Kessinger And if you don't mind me askin', what was your thoughts on the letter?

Reynolds Well, I mean, you know, I think it's a sad situation. I, I struggle with this because that staff out there. . . When we walked into, you know, Louisville Metro Animal Services, I guess 4 years ago. Um, most of the animals were not leaving alive. And so, the goal is to make sure that your live release rate is up. So, that you find homes or whatever. And what happens is, um, I mean, toward that end, everybody, I think is really workin' hard to, to save animals. And so there are people who now will say Sadie should've been euthanized the day, you know, she came in and it's just, it's easier said than done if you're not there. If you've got somebody who's sayin' let me take the dog home. I know there's an injury but we can do. . . And you euthanize it. I mean, you, you, you'd be persecuted. They might psychologically go through somethin'. I mean, we have people who actually love animals and so this is. . .it, it's just

tough. So, it, it, it doesn't look good. I mean, the letter didn't look good but, um, it's just tough work. I don't know what to. . . It's just tough work. Did I answer your question? I'm sorry.

Kessinger Yes. Yeah. I was just . . . I was just gettin' your thoughts on, on the letter.

Reynolds Oh, okay.

Kessinger That Miss Atkins wrote.

Reynolds The letter seems like she loves animals. She was tryin' to do the right thing. She's, you know, upset. I did that.

Kessinger Okay. Lieutenant, do you have any questions?

Despain Yes ma'am. Did, did you feel the, the. . . Let's go back to the letter again. And did you feel, did you feel the like letter was inaccurate representation of, of what had occurred with the dog?

Reynolds Sir, I just told you I have at least 7 agencies and 3 boards.

Despain Yeah.

Reynolds So, it's really. . . I'm not in a space of being able to say what was accurate. 'Cause I don't work there.

Despain Okay.

Reynolds And that's the thing I've tried to explain to. . . I mean, you, you can ask folks and say, you know, tell me what happened. Is, you know, I mean, but at the end of the day. Here's what we know. I mean, Sadie was euthanized.

Despain Uh-hum.

Reynolds The other part. Sadie could've been euthanized the day she came in.

Despain Right.

Reynolds I mean, this was an owner surrender. And they didn't do that. Um, I guess in my mind, I don't have the . . . you know, there's a veterinarian involved. I haven't read a Vet note that said it would be cruel and inhumane to leave this dog, allow this dog to live another day without the amputation. You don't see that. I mean, you see a vet that's sayin' we need the money in order to perform the surgery.

Despain Uh-hum.

Reynolds And you know, we'll do that and this needs to happen. But, I mean, I would've sent the letter I know where the. . . I don't, I don't quite know when the cone, for instance, was placed on the dog or when it was taken off. I know that in the letter she says that there were times when it was taken off. I think in uh, January and February. I know that the dog passed in February. But you know, I am in a place, uh, I don't want to. . . I, Miss Atkins clearly loves animals. And was tryin' hard to do something good. I think the staff was

tryin' hard to do something good. And this whole thing I, think is gonna discourage fostering. I, I don't think any of 'em should be demonized.

Despain Okay. That, that's all I had.

Kessinger And I know you said that, that you were never made aware of Sadie from the beginning until after she was euthanized. And that's when you were made aware of, of the incident.

Reynolds Sadie was euthanized.

Kessinger When someone fosters a dog and takes that dog in, who's responsibility is it to see that medical. . . the, the dog sees medical attention if needed?

Reynolds When the dog. . .

Kessinger When the dog is fostered. If someone. . .

Reynolds Uh, you know what, that is a policy question and I'm not, I'm, I'm not 100% sure.

Kessinger Okay.

Reynolds I would have to read through their policy. To be honest with ya. Um, what I. . . in this case. Let me think about. 'Cause I'm tryin' to remember that we talked about the warning that she was given. So, I.. I mean, I should say so. I mean it just seems like. . . I don't. . . I'm not guessin'.

Kessinger Okay.

Reynolds Policy.

Kessinger Okay. Is there anything that you would like to state for the record before we end?

Reynolds Uh. . . I. . . you know, I don't, I don't think that um, I don't think people really understand the toll this has taken on um, everybody involved. And I don't think there's any person on either side of this that uh, doesn't wish, you know, somethin' had been different. And uh, I. . . that's really all. I guess. I don't, I don't know.

Kessinger Okay. And I just have one more question. You said that after this was over, you did meet with Donald Robinson and Margaret Roscoe. Is that correct?

Reynolds When Margaret told me about this, I mean, I met with her. I met with them together and then I met with Donald separately. 'Cause my main concern was just the, the wa. . . I didn't. . .the warning. I wanted to understand what, what, what did she do? Tell. . . make me understand that. And they talked about, you know, findin' out on Facebook that the dog had died and kinda thing. And so. . . and I actually talked with um, Donald alone. At the last time. I just wanted to know about that.

Kessinger Okay. Is there anything else you'd like to state for the record?

Reynolds Anything else you all wanna know?

Kessinger No. I believe that'll conclude this statement. The time now is 13:51 hours.

END OF
STATEMENT

PIU

File #14-072/pm