

From: [Sharifi, Ghazal](#)
To: [Anderson, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Leavitt, Adrien](#); [Boatright, Rebecca](#); [Sylve, Dee](#); [Evan Bariault](#); [Evans, Erika J](#); [Litfin, Jennifer M](#); [Nakata, Kelly](#); [Baker, La Rond](#); [Lisa Smith](#); [Levinson, Lori](#); [Ted Buck](#); [Vodak, Viktor](#); [Berger, Katelyn](#)
Subject: Re: Butts - Scope decision timing and Officer interviews/contact
Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 8:19:17 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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Update: Officer Pritchard declined a voluntary pre-inquest interview and consented to representation.

Ghazal Sharifi
Assistant City Attorney

Seattle City Attorney's Office
Civil Division – Police Action Team
[701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2050](#)
[Seattle, WA 98104-7097](#)
Phone: [206-684-8217](#)
Cell: [206-418-8781](#)
FAX: [206-684-8284](#)
ghazal.sharifi@seattle.gov

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On Oct 7, 2019, at 1:40 PM, Anderson, Matthew <Matt.Anderson@kingcounty.gov> wrote:

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you,

Can you let us know if Merritt and Bandel have transferred to another agency? If so, can you identify? What assistance can you provide in contacting them?

From: Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:30 PM

Ex. B

To: Anderson, Matthew <Matt.Anderson@kingcounty.gov>; Leavitt, Adrien <Adrien.Leavitt@kingcounty.gov>; Boatright, Rebecca <Rebecca.Boatright@seattle.gov>; Sylve, Dee <Dee.Sylve@kingcounty.gov>; Evan Bariault <ebariault@freybuck.com>; Evans, Erika J <Erika.Evans@seattle.gov>; Litfin, Jennifer M <Jennifer.Litfin@seattle.gov>; Nakata, Kelly <Kelly.Nakata@seattle.gov>; Baker, La Rond <lbaker@kingcounty.gov>; Lisa Smith <lsmith@freybuck.com>; Levinson, Lori <Lori.Levinson@kingcounty.gov>; Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>; Vodak, Viktor <vvodak@kingcounty.gov>; Berger, Katelyn <Katelyn.Berger@seattle.gov>
Cc: Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>
Subject: RE: Butts - Scope decision timing and Officer interviews/contact

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Witnesses:

Chief Cordner: Waiting on topics; dates for interview. Consented to representation.

Captain Teeter: Waiting on topics; dates for interview. Consented to representation.

Lang, Chriseley: Declined interview. Consented to representation.

Briskey, Jacob: Declined interview. Consented to representation.

Simmons, David: Declined interview. Consented to representation.

Clark, Matthew: Declined interview. Waiting on consent for representation.

Ledbetter, Donald: Declined interview. Waiting on consent for representation.

Kang, Hudson: Declined interview. Waiting on consent for representation.

Pritchard, Brian: Waiting to hear back on interview and consent for representation.

I have not contacted and do not represent former SPD employees:

Merritt, Adam – Last day of SPD employment: 05/15/2019

Bandel, Christopher – Last day of SPD employment: 07/12/2019

Subpoenas for Inquest:

- Matt, please direct service of Inquest subpoenas through the **SPD legal unit** (Katie Berger (cced) and Becca Boatright (cced)).

Discovery:

- Nothing from my end save the use of force expert issues.

<image001.png> **Ghazal Sharifi**
Assistant City Attorney

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701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2050
Seattle, WA 98104-7097
Phone: 206-684-8217
Cell: 206-418-8781
FAX: 206-684-8284
ghazal.sharifi@seattle.gov

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From: Anderson, Matthew <Matt.Anderson@kingcounty.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 04, 2019 2:56 PM

To: Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>; Leavitt, Adrien

<Adrien.Leavitt@kingcounty.gov>; Boatright, Rebecca

<Rebecca.Boatright@seattle.gov>; Sylve, Dee <Dee.Sylve@kingcounty.gov>; Evan

Bariault <ebariault@freybuck.com>; Evans, Erika J <Erika.Evans@seattle.gov>; Litfin,

Jennifer M <Jennifer.Litfin@seattle.gov>; Nakata, Kelly <Kelly.Nakata@seattle.gov>;

Baker, La Rond <lbaker@kingcounty.gov>; Lisa Smith <lsmith@freybuck.com>;

Levinson, Lori <Lori.Levinson@kingcounty.gov>; Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>;

Vodak, Viktor <vvodak@kingcounty.gov>

Subject: RE: Butts - Scope decision timing and Officer interviews/contact

CAUTION: External Email

Officer Interviews: Ghazal, I look forward to information re: which specific officers have declined and trust that you will continue efforts to arrange interviews with any officers who have not declined an interview. IA Spearman doesn't want uncertainty over whether any interviews or depositions should take place over objection to extend beyond the next PIC. If the family is requesting the administrator to compel or issue subpoenas for a deposition, the motion should be provided to all parties by Monday, October 14, 2019. Any responses should be provided by Monday, October 21, 2019. Replies should be provided by Thursday, October 24, 2019.

Officer Contact: I understand that Merritt and Bandel no longer work for SPD (Possibly Sampson as well, but I don't believe anybody is asking that she be called or interviewed). Please confirm if this is correct (and also if you prefer to arrange service of both current and former SPD officers) with your follow-up on Monday.

Outstanding Discovery: If the only remaining discovery that could be provided from your point of view has to do with use of force experts, that's great. Please confirm that's

the case (or am I just reading too much into your response. . .). La Rond, I don't believe I received the summary of testimony of your expert yesterday. When can we expect it?

Thanks all, have a good weekend.

Matt

From: Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 1:48 PM

To: Anderson, Matthew <Matt.Anderson@kingcounty.gov>; Leavitt, Adrien

<Adrien.Leavitt@kingcounty.gov>; Boatright, Rebecca

<Rebecca.Boatright@seattle.gov>; Sylve, Dee <Dee.Sylve@kingcounty.gov>; Evan

Bariault <ebariault@freybuck.com>; Evans, Erika J <Erika.Evans@seattle.gov>; Litfin,

Jennifer M <Jennifer.Litfin@seattle.gov>; Nakata, Kelly <Kelly.Nakata@seattle.gov>;

Baker, La Rond <lbaker@kingcounty.gov>; Lisa Smith <lsmith@freybuck.com>;

Levinson, Lori <Lori.Levinson@kingcounty.gov>; Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>;

Vodak, Viktor <vvodak@kingcounty.gov>

Cc: Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>

Subject: RE: Butts - Scope decision timing

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We intend to challenge the police practices expert's ability to testify in this case - and that directly relates to the parties' position on scope. However, the Administrator wanted us to wait until the opinion(s) came out. La Rond indicated earlier today that the Family intends to do that at least in part through its briefing. With a more fortified "opinion" to follow. Not sure how you or the Administrator wish to handle that.

Additionally, (and separate from this issue), I told La Rond that of the officers I heard from, they are not consenting to pre-inquest interviews. I will provide a more detailed list later. She asked if there is an intent to represent former spd employee officers. I told her that I would need to do a bit of research and connect with my client. I promised her an answer on Monday.

Thanks,
Ghazal

<image002.png> **Ghazal Sharifi**
Assistant City Attorney

Seattle City Attorney's Office
Civil Division – Police Action Team
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2050
Seattle, WA 98104-7097
Phone: 206-684-8217
Cell: 206-418-8781

FAX: 206-684-8284
ghazal.sharifi@seattle.gov

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From: Anderson, Matthew <Matt.Anderson@kingcounty.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 04, 2019 1:37 PM

To: Leavitt, Adrien <Adrien.Leavitt@kingcounty.gov>; Boatright, Rebecca <Rebecca.Boatright@seattle.gov>; Sylve, Dee <Dee.Sylve@kingcounty.gov>; Evan Bariault <ebariault@freybuck.com>; Evans, Erika J <Erika.Evans@seattle.gov>; Sharifi, Ghazal <Ghazal.Sharifi@seattle.gov>; Litfin, Jennifer M <Jennifer.Litfin@seattle.gov>; Nakata, Kelly <Kelly.Nakata@seattle.gov>; Baker, La Rond <lbaker@kingcounty.gov>; Lisa Smith <lsmith@freybuck.com>; Levinson, Lori <Lori.Levinson@kingcounty.gov>; Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>; Vodak, Viktor <vvodak@kingcounty.gov>

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Ghazal and La Rond,

Is there discovery that is waiting on IA Spearman's decision on scope? If so, would it make sense to have him rule on Scope (or, at least discreet portions of the issue that would hasten Dx) without oral argument shortly after receiving the replies?

Also, fyi, I got a hold of Justin Keaton, so no need for assistance in reaching him.

Thanks much,
matt