

BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

FAX: 269 982 8650

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Date Received: 3/10/2023

Name of Requester: Nicole Joseph

(Please print)

Company Representative: N/A

Street Address: 138 Holland Ln

City/State: East Hartford, CT 06118

Contact Number: 215-801-0834

Signature of Requestor: 

Type of Report Requested:

Incident/Accident Report

Complaint # _____

Criminal History Record

Other Police Report (See Attached)

Explain other: Police Report: Primary and all Supplemental Materials including

statements, summaries, crime scene information, autopsy and toxicology reports

Name Referred to in Record: Percy Wright & Roger Wright (5 Jul 1953)

DOB: July 29, 1932 (Percy Wright) Date of Event: March 21, 1972

Location of Event: Lake Michigan Beach\Hagar Township\Berrien County, Mi

Action Taken:

Document(s) Released per: _____

Request sent to Prosecutor for review: _____

Request Exempted/Denied by: _____

Other: _____

Date Processed: _____

Processed by: _____

Nicole Joseph
138 Holland Ln
East Hartford, CT 06118

3/10/2023

Berrien County Sherriff's Office
Records Bureau
919 Port Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Dear Sheriff Records Department:

Under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act § 15.231 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to obtain copies of public records that cover the investigation revolving around the officer involved shootings that occurred on March 21, 1972 with Percy Wright, D.O.B. 7/29/1932 and Roger Wright 3/21/1972 at their residence in Hagar Township. Deputy Coburn and Deputy Taylor were named as two of officers involved in the aforementioned article. I would like all primary and supplemental materials including statements, summaries, crime scene information, autopsy and toxicology reports. If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$50.00.

My connection to this case is that Percy is my maternal grandfather and Roger was my mother's oldest brother. My mother is the little girl in the photo on the desk in a crime scene photo that was published in The News-Palladium (Benton Harbor, Michigan) on Tuesday, March 21, 1972, pg 12. I am trying to better understand this traumatic event which had an everlasting impact on my family.

The Michigan Freedom of Information Act requires a response to this request within five days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Nicole Joseph

215-801-0834