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Witness reports hearing Jean's last words after shooting



Botham Jean, a devout Christian, was gunned by a Dallas police officer returning home, after she said she mistook his apartment for her own. (Jeff Montgomery/Harding University via AP)

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look by her office and be presented to a grand jury, which could decide on more serious charges than manslaughter in last week's shooting of 26-year-old Botham Jean.

Benjamin Crump, one of the attorneys for Jean's family, said the affidavit "is very self-serving." And Lee Merritt, who is also representing the family, called it an attempt to "condone what happened, give her a break."

The document, prepared by a Texas Ranger, appeared to be based almost entirely on Guyger's account.

Guyger, a four-year veteran of the police force, told investigators that she had just ended a 15-hour shift Thursday when she returned in uniform to the South Side Flats apartment complex. She parked on the fourth floor, instead of the third, where she lived, according to the affidavit, possibly suggesting that she was confused or disoriented.

When she put her key in the apartment door, which was unlocked and slightly ajar, it opened, the affidavit said. Inside, the lights were off, and she saw a figure in the darkness that cast a large silhouette across the room, according to the officer's account.

The officer told police that she concluded her apartment was being burglarized and gave verbal commands to the figure, which ignored them. She then drew her weapon and fired twice, the affidavit said.

She called 911 and, when asked where she was, returned to the front door to see she was in the wrong unit, according to the affidavit. Authorities have not released the 911 tapes.

The Dallas County medical examiner's office said Jean died of a gunshot wound to the chest. His death was ruled a homicide. Guyger was arrested Sunday night and booked into jail in neighboring Kaufman County before being released on bond.

At a news conference Monday evening, Merritt said two independent witnesses have told him they heard knocking on the door in the hallway before the shooting.

He said one witness reported hearing a woman's voice saying, "Let me in! Let me in!" Then they heard gunshots, after which one witness said she heard a man's voice say, "Oh my God! Why did you do that?"

Merritt said he believes those were Jean's last words.

As for the contention that Jean left his front door ajar, Merritt said Jean was a "meticulous individual" who made it "a point to close the door behind him."

"He put everything in a particular place," Merritt said.

He said Jean had a red doormat outside his apartment door. "In fact, to ensure no one mistook his apartment the way this officer is claiming in this case, he went out and bought the biggest, brightest red rug and placed it right there at his doorstep," Merritt said.

Protesters gathered at police headquarters Monday night in Dallas, *The Dallas Morning News* reported. Several dozen blocked traffic as they marched about half a mile from the headquarters. Police fired pepper balls to help control the crowd at one point.

Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson said the decision to allow Guyger to surrender somewhere other than Dallas County's jail was made by the Texas Rangers, who are also investigating. She emphasized, though, that her office is conducting its own probe.

"We are committed to making certain that we get to the bottom of (it)," Johnson said.

She will have the option of presenting more serious charges to the grand jury.

It wasn't immediately clear if Guyger has an attorney.

Guyger's blood was drawn at the scene to be tested for alcohol and drugs, Police Chief U. Renee Hall said, but authorities have not released results.

Jean grew up in the Caribbean island nation of St. Lucia before attending college in Arkansas. He graduated in 2016 from Harding University, where he often led campus religious services as a student. He had worked for accounting firm PwC since graduating.

Jean wasn't the first person shot by Guyger. She shot a man named Uvaldo Perez on May 12, 2017, while on duty.

According to an affidavit filed against Perez, police were looking for a suspect when Guyger and another officer were called to assist a third officer. Perez got out of a car and became combative with Guyger and another officer. A struggle began and Guyger fired her Taser at Perez, who then wrested it away from her. She then drew her gun and fired, wounding Perez in the abdomen.

Sgt. Michael Mata, president of Dallas' largest police union, the Dallas Police Association, said Guyger was a respected officer who worked on a high-risk team tasked with arresting some of the most violent offenders. On the day of the shooting, Guyger's unit had arrested multiple suspects for armed robbery, he said.

DPR Construction is requesting pricing proposals for construction of the Waterloo Performance Venue and Parkland - Stage 2 in Austin, Texas. The 11-acre project consists of over a mile of pathways, two (2) pedestrian bridges, amphitheater performance facility and associated spaces, food service, extensive retaining walls, landscaping and hardscaping. Proposals are due no later than 2:00 PM on Thursday, September 27, 2018. Please submit proposals to Ted Muckleroy tedm@dpr.com. For a copy of the plans contact Ted Muckleroy at (512) 345-7699 or tedm@dpr.com. DPR Construction is an EEO Employer and all M/WBE Subcontractors and Suppliers are strongly encouraged to submit bids on this project. On September 12, 2018 at 4:00 PM, DPR will host an Open House at 9606 N. Mopac Suite 300 in Austin for all Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in learning more about the project.

UT DDCE to Hold Community Drop-in Hours Monthly

(AUSTIN, TX) - Beginning September 28, the University of Texas Division of Diversity and Community Engagement will hold Community Drop-in Hours the last Friday of every month 9 a.m.-noon at various locations around Austin.

"DDCE staff would like to make themselves available to our more than 300 community partners and to individuals who are affiliated with or would like to get involved with our community initiatives," said Leonard N. Moore, vice president for diversity and community engagement. "We see this as an easy way to connect with community members across the Austin area and extend the university's outreach."

Locations for the last Friday Community Drop-in Hours and the staff who will be available are as follows:

- Vice-President Leonard Moore, Austin Area Urban League (8001A Cameron Road, Building A-100, Austin, TX 78754). Dr. Moore will be available to discuss any issues pertaining to the DDCE.
- Director of the Community Engagement Center Virginia A. Cumberbatch, Centennial Towers (505 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 270, Austin, TX 78752). Ms. Cumberbatch will be available to discuss issues related to East Austin, the Front Porch Gatherings, nonprofit leadership and community partnerships.
- Assistant Vice President for Community Engagement and Economic Development Suchitra Gururaj, Student Services Building 4.436 (100 W. Dean Keeton, Austin, TX 78712). Dr. Gururaj will be available to discuss academic service learning initiatives and support on campus as well as campus partnerships for student engagement.
- Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships Patrick K. Patterson, Centennial Towers (505 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 270, Austin, TX 78752). Mr. Patterson will be available to discuss K-12 education issues.
- Director of the African American Male Research Initiative and coordinator of the Greater Austin Area My Brother's Keeper Initiative Ryan Sutton, Austin Area Urban League (8001A Cameron Road, Building A-100, Austin, TX 78754). Dr. Sutton will be available to discuss issues related to the MBK initiative.
- Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ruben Cantu, Impact Hub (5540 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78756). Mr. Cantu will be available to discuss issues around economic development, start ups and entrepreneurship.
- Director of Institutional Partnerships Milly Lopez, Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement (University of Texas Main Bldg., Suite 302, Austin, TX 78712). Ms. Lopez will be available to discuss corporate and institutional partnerships. For more information, please call 512-232-4621.

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SATURDAY
September
15th, 2018
7:00 PM

Watch on FOX

Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health
1111 E. Cesar Chavez Street
Austin, TX 78702

RFP 1808-004 - Central Health Downtown Campus Buildings Demolition Due Date: 10/8/2018 by 2:00 PM CT

Scope of Work: The purpose of this RFP is to obtain the services of experienced, qualified, licensed contractors to demolish selected buildings of the Central Health Downtown Campus. Contractor shall obtain demolition and related permits, coordinate utilities outages, salvage material and equipment. Ordering Instructions: Package can be downloaded from: www.bidsync.com, OR <https://www.centralhealth.net/finance/purchasing/> OR <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us>



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#22 USC TROJANS

TEXAS LONGHORNS

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Housing Authority of the City of Austin announces the opening of its Housing Choice Voucher (formerly known as Section 8) Waiting List. The Waiting List will open online at 12:00 pm on September 17, 2018 and close at 11:59 pm on September 24, 2018.

You can only apply online at www.HACApply.org. Applications are not available at the Housing Authority of the City of Austin. Apply at home or anywhere you have internet access. You can also use your smart phone or tablet. If you do not have internet access, please call 2011 for information on community locations that provide internet access. Families needing additional assistance to complete the pre-application may visit www.HACApply.org.

After the pre-application period ends on September 24, 2018, 2,000 pre-applications will be randomly selected using an online lottery system. It does not matter whether you apply the first day or the last day, each pre-application will have an equal chance to be selected in the lottery. The 2,000 selected pre-applications will be placed on the Waiting List. Placement on the Waiting List does not guarantee you will receive a voucher.

PRE-APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ONLINE AT WWW.HACAPPLY.ORG.

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For information on the City of Austin's Minority/Women-Owned Procurement Program please contact the Small & Minority Business Resources at 512-974-7600 or visit www.austintexas.gov/smb.