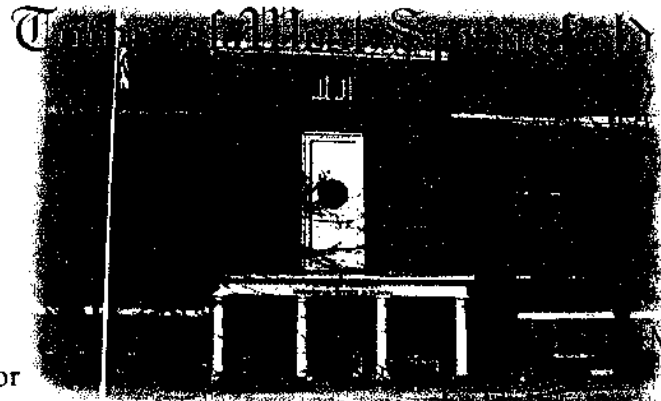


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Edward J. Gibson
Mayor

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Ms. Sheila A. Pecor
452 Morton Street
West Springfield, MA. 01089

Dear Ms. Pecor;

This letter is in response to your many questions concerning the death of your son Kevin. First let me again say that I am deeply sorry for your loss of Kevin. In addition to the letters you have written, we have also met and discussed your concerns on several occasions. I am also sorry that you feel the West Springfield Police Department was insensitive to you during their investigation of Kevin's death.

At your request I asked the Police Department to have someone look at the initial investigation report and to re-interview one of the witnesses of the accident. Captain Ronald Campurciani performed this request. Captain Campurciani reported to me that the witnesses statement of the incident that evening, had not changed since her initial statement and was consistent with the accident report. Captain Campurciani did not discover any information that would lead to changing the accident report.

I have also spoken to the District Attorney's office on several occasions and met with Mr. Safford in the District Attorney's, who was assigned the case and District Attorney Bennett. Both Mr. Safford and District Attorney Bennett have related to me that the laws, which you have referenced in your letters, have been taken out of context and do not apply, as you believe they do. When it comes to application and interpretation of the laws the District Attorney's office is the source we rely upon for their application to investigations and cases. Any specific questions you have dealing with laws as they apply to the rights of way or rules of the road in this case should be taken up with the District Attorney's office.

It has also been explained to me that unfortunately in the State of Massachusetts driving with a license suspension and driving an uninsured automobile do not constitute negligence under our laws. I personally was surprised and shocked to learn of this. It does not seem logical to me that someone should be allowed to drive a vehicle after their license has been suspended, without some greater consequences when they are involved in an accident. There seems to be no deterrent for an individual to comply with the penalty of a license suspension under this scenario. I strongly believe that this is something our legislature should review and change the law to have a stronger penalty for non-compliance.

Since the last time we met on August 13th, at your suggestion I have spoken to Dr. Richmond from the Medical Examiners office. I discussed with Dr. Richmond her report of the accident and the discussion she had with you. Dr. Richmond did not offer any details or comments that were contrary to the findings in the accident investigation report.

As for the East Longmeadow police department, it is my understanding that they have a small police department and do not have the resources to have their own internal accident investigation team, so they must rely upon the State Police Accident Investigation Squad to assist them.

Sheila I would like to once again offer my expressions of sympathy in the loss of your son Kevin, both from the Town of West Springfield and from myself personally.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Gibson
Mayor

cc: File

Received 9/15/03
Ed claimed to have
put one under my door. on Sat 9/13/03
I told Pat this does
not answer my questions &
I am tired of talking about
it.