

July 20, 2018

Investigation into the Death of Lucas Hernandez

On Saturday, February 17th, 2018 at 6:21 p.m., 911 dispatchers received a call from Emily Glass, stating that 5 year old Lucas Hernandez was missing from 655 S. Edgemoor.

Patrol officers as well as a supervisor initially responded to the scene. They found Ms. Glass inside the residence with her 1 year old daughter. The officers questioned Ms. Glass to get the details of what occurred during the time frame from the day prior to Lucas being reported missing up until the time she called 911. While this was taking place, additional officers arrived to assist in searching the residence and surrounding neighborhood for Lucas. The searches were conducted by officers on foot, in vehicles and with the assistance of a K9.

During the initial interview at the residence, Ms. Glass told officers that she had laid Lucas down for a nap, while she took a nap with her daughter in a different room. Ms. Glass stated she woke up and realized Lucas was no longer in his bed. Ms. Glass will tell officers the back door of the residence was slightly ajar when she went to look for him. She did not believe it was left in that position prior to Lucas being gone. Ms. Glass will also tell officers the gate to the back yard was slightly ajar and it normally was closed. Officers located a house and business with video surveillance equipment that captured images of the area. After the initial review they did not see any evidence of Lucas walking away or being taken from the residence.

Additional resources were called in to include our Exploited and Missing Children's Unit. They transported Ms. Glass to the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to conduct a more in-depth interview. During this first interview, Ms. Glass will tell the detectives:

- Lucas was in his bedroom and she started a movie for him to watch and figured he would fall asleep.
- She laid her daughter down for a nap and she took a shower, this all occurred between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m. that afternoon.
- She awoke around 6:00 p.m. and could not locate Lucas in his bedroom.
- She searched the house and went to a neighbor and asked if they had seen Lucas.
- Ms. Glass said the back door was ajar
- That Lucas had left without his shoes.
- Ms. Glass provided a description of Lucas. She stated that he has never walked away from the residence.

Ms. Glass was released following this first interview on February 17th.

A few hours after the initial call, EMCU supervision contacted the Homicide Section and additional Homicide and Crimes Against Persons detectives responded to the scene. WPD requested the assistance of the FBI CARD (Child Abduction Rapid Deployment Team) which responded to the Command Post at the City Building. An Assistant District Attorney was also present to assist with the investigation.

Investigators sought and received phone records from the phone providers of both Ms. Glass and Lucas's father, Jonathan Hernandez.

Investigators were able to determine from these phone records that Ms. Glass had turned off her phone for approximately 2 hours on Friday, February 16th between 8:02 p.m. and 10:13 p.m. When the phone was turned back on Friday evening, the GPS locator indicated the phone was at the home on Edgemoor. A GPS locator on the car confirmed the car did not move again that night.

Additionally, phone records also showed Ms. Glass's phone was disabled the next morning when the phone was turned off for approximately 1 hour Saturday morning, February 17th from 9:36 a.m. to 10:43 a.m. Investigators learned that her phone was enabled again on Saturday morning in the area of 21st N. and Oliver. Investigators would later recover surveillance video from businesses in the area showing Ms. Glass's vehicle driving south from this area to her residence. According to statements made by Ms. Glass to a private investigator, this is the time period during which she took Lucas to the location where he was eventually recovered in Harvey County.

February 18th, Investigators would again interview Ms. Glass. She provided the same basic information, however she would add the following details not provided in the first interview on the 17th:

- Lucas had been sick and had not been at school for approximately 1 week.

- On Saturday the 17th, she went to Dillons at Harry and Edgemoor, and got gas and went back home.

February 18th, approximately 100 members of WPD and other agencies conducted a grid search of Chisholm Creek Park near 21st and Oliver. No items of evidentiary value were located.

February 19th, Investigators would again interview Ms. Glass. During this third interview, she provided the following additional information:

- Ms. Glass denied being in the area of 21st and Oliver on the 17th.
- That she met with Lucas's biological mother on the 14th in Butler County where she gave Lucas to her for visitation. Investigators had already interviewed the biological mother and knew this was not true. Law enforcement had previously confirmed that the biological mother was in Kansas City at this time.
- Ms. Glass admitted during this third interview that she smoked marijuana on Friday the 16th, then drove to the Olive Garden Restaurant on Rock Road with her one year old daughter in the vehicle to eat, leaving Lucas at home by himself. February 20th, Ms. Glass was interviewed a 4th time by Investigators. She again added additional details that had not previously been provided to Investigators.
- Ms. Glass acknowledged she had picked up a "homeless" individual on Wednesday, February 14th near Rock and Kellogg and brought him to residence on Edgemoor.
- Ms. Glass had not seen the individual since February 16th.

Investigators were able to identify this "homeless" individual and conduct an interview with him. He acknowledged that Ms. Glass had offered him a ride to

her house but he stated once there he never saw Lucas at the residence on S. Edgemoor. This individual was later interviewed on a second occasion regarding this incident.

Ms. Glass and Lucas's father, Johnathan Hernandez both agreed to take a polygraph test on the 20th while at the City Building. The polygraph was administered the same day. Mr. Hernandez's polygraph showed no signs of deception and had no knowledge of where Lucas was located or what occurred.

Ms. Glass was administered a polygraph which included the following questions:

- Did she injure or harm Lucas?
- Could she take law enforcement to Lucas's location?

Ms. Glass answered "no" to both questions. According to the polygraph examiner, both answers showed deception.

Each day prior to the final three interviews of Ms. Glass, the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit was consulted for advice on how to proceed with the interviews.

On February 21st, Investigators attempted to interview Ms. Glass for the 5th time, this interview lasted a couple of minutes before she stated she no longer wanted to talk. At this time, she was arrested for 2 counts of Child Endangerment. She was subsequently charged in district court with one count of misdemeanor endangerment related to driving her 1 year old daughter to eat on the 16th while under the influence of marijuana. On May 16, 2018, Ms. Glass was acquitted by a 6 person jury of this charge.

Ms. Glass contacted the lead investigator into the disappearance of Lucas while in jail and told the investigator that she was in the area of 21st and Oliver looking for air for her car tires on the morning of Saturday February 17th.

While she was in jail, inmates contacted investigators about what Ms. Glass had told them, including:

- That when Ms. Glass went to Dillons to get gas on Saturday, February 17, Lucas and her one year old daughter were in the vehicle and when she returned to the vehicle after paying for the gas, Lucas was gone.
- That when Ms. Glass went to the Olive Garden on Friday February 16, she only took her daughter and when she returned home, Lucas was gone.

An anonymous tip was received by WPD on February 23rd, indicating Ms. Glass had placed Lucas in Chisolm Creek Park which resulted in a second search of Chisolm Creek Park. No evidence was recovered that would indicate Lucas had been present in the area.

On March 3rd, members of EquuSearch (an equestrian-based search team from Texas) arrived in Wichita. On March 4th a search of Grove Park was conducted by the WPD and EquuSearch. EquuSearch would then conduct a number of searches over the next several days. Nothing of evidentiary value was located.

Harrison Park and Cottonwood Park were also searched.

Additional searches were conducted by a number of organized volunteer groups. Investigators continued to work on this case through May 24th, when 911 received a call from a Mr. Mashburn who stated he had located Lucas in Harvey County.

Lucas's severely decomposed body will be recovered under a small bridge/culvert on Southeast 96th street in southern Harvey County, Kansas. Lucas will be transported to the Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center where an autopsy was conducted. The forensic pathologist who performed the autopsy was unable to provide a cause of death.

We will learn from Mr. Mashburn that he is a private investigator from North Carolina, who was contacted and retained by members of the Hernandez family. He tells investigators that he spent several hours with Ms. Glass on May 24, 2018, driving her around. He will state that she will eventually tell him that she found Lucas dead and that she put him under the bridge. She then provided directions to Mr. Mashburn, directing him to the bridge where he located Lucas.

Ms. Glass was transported from the scene in rural Harvey County to the 6th floor of the Wichita city building where we attempted to interview her. She will be arrested and booked for Felony Obstruct. She was later released without being charged pending the autopsy results.

We learned in early June, Ms. Glass sent text messages to a family member stating that she had taken everyone on a "wild goose chase" and that the facts were that she found Lucas dead in his room and then drove out and put him under the bridge and no one else was involved.

June 8th, Ms. Glass was found deceased at 655 S. Edgemoor. An AR-15 style weapon was found at her feet. The weapon was affixed with what is commonly referred to as a "collapse-able stock," rendering the weapon roughly 2 to 2 ½ feet in length. Ms. Glass had left three separate notes in the residence prior to her

death. None of the notes mentioned or described what happened to Lucas. Information in the notes talked about property that Ms. Glass wanted her daughter to have and regret for not being a better mother and girlfriend. She also mentioned that she was sorry for failing “our” family. Evidence shows Mr. Hernandez was not at the residence at the time Ms. Glass took her own life.

During this entire investigation, interviews and tips were followed up on by FBI agents and WPD investigators in several different states. Investigators interviewed family members, friends, neighbors, postal employees and the landlord. Investigators interviewed teachers and doctors in reference to Lucas. A tip line was quickly operational and all tips were assigned to an investigator for follow-up. Investigators obtained surveillance video from homes and businesses throughout the city and county in an effort to locate Lucas.

At no time during this investigation was there any evidence that Mr. Hernandez had any knowledge or was in any way complicit in the death of Lucas. Text conversations between Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Glass that occurred the 16th and 17th of February (the time frame of Lucas’s disappearance) reveal no indication of any agreement or discussion of any kind regarding the disappearance of or injury to Lucas. Phone records further support witness statements that Mr. Hernandez was in New Mexico at the time of the disappearance his son, Lucas.