

# CITY OF HEWITT POLICE DEPT

P. O. BOX 610      PHONE (817) 662-4512

## HEWITT, TEXAS 76643

### CONTINUATION REPORT

79 O. R. NO.

08-86-3049

#125520-9324

CODE SECTION	79 CRIME STRUCTURE FIRE/ACCIDENTAL DEATHS	79 CLASSIFICATION			
COMP'S NAME WATTS, L. C.	LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (FIRM IF BUS.)	79 ADDRESS HPD	RES	BUS	79 PHONE 666-6272

DETAILS

At approximately 8:30AM, this date, myself, Officer Colwell, Hewitt Fire Marshal Jimmy Clark met Waco P.D. Detective James Blair at the Donaldson Sand and Gravel Co., on South University Parks Drive. BLAIR is a State-Certified Arson Investigator on loan to us courtesy of Lt. Harold Steig, Waco C.I.D. Chief. Blair reviewed the photographs of the fire scene we had, read most of the case report and was orally briefed on the case by us and Jimmy Clark. Also present, part of the time, were Donnell Donaldson, owner of the site, and Bill Donaldson, part-owner, and Constable, Pct. 1, McLennan County. Myself, Colwell, Clark, and Blair systematically went through the fire debris that was dumped at the location. On three occasions, D. Donaldson used a front-end Loader/tractor to move the debris around for us so we could have access to most of the remains of the shed. Donaldson told us he had received phone calls from both the District Attorney's Office and KWIX-TV inquiring about the fire debris. A female reporter and male camera operator in a vehicle marked "KWIX-TV, Channel 10" arrived at approximately 10:00AM, shot some video and watched us for about 1½ hours. The reporter asked what we were looking for and we replied we were just going through the debris one more time to complete our report. She also asked when the "State Fire Marshall" was due to arrive, if we knew anything about insurance policies on the boys and if the shed door had been locked, to which we replied "we had no comment" and referred her to the Chief's Office for any statement. We spent approximately three(3) hours at the site going through the debris. At the conclusion of the effort, Detective Blair stated that, based on his expert opinion, he would not attempt to retrieve any or all of the debris and/or retain any of it for the following reasons: First, it was now "contaminated" due to its being mixed with other trash and foreign objects, the rain and dirt. Secondly, no "chain" of protected custody of any or all the debris existed. Also, even with the photos and a rough sketch, it would be virtually impossible to put the articles that could be recovered back into

REPORTING OFFICERS F. W. LATHAM, #108	(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)	TYPED BY MJS	DATE AND TIME 09-02-86	ROUTED BY
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REMARK: 11:58AM,

REVIEWED BY	DATE
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P. O. BOX 610      PHONE (817) 662-4512

## HEWITT, TEXAS 76643

### CONTINUATION REPORT

70 O. R. NO.

08-86-3049

#139528-0024

CODE SECTION	70 CRIME STRUCTURE FIRE/ACCIDENTAL DEATHS	70 CLASSIFICATION			
COMP'S NAME WATTS, L. S.	LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (FIRM IF BUS.)	70 ADDRESS HPD	RES	BUS	70 PHONE 666-6272

DETAILS

their original place at the actual scene of the fire. And, based on the reports, the destruction of the shed and articles was so extensive, that even if it were all still intact at the scene, his investigation may not be able to add anything to the reports already made by our Fire and Police Departments. Lastly, Blair recommended that the existing Fire Department reports stand and Police investigation of all other aspects of the case continue, and, he recommended use of the Polygraph be strongly considered. We expressed our appreciation to Donaldson and to Detective Blair, and Blair said he'd be glad to help us in any way on the case he can from doing some follow-ups for us to scheduling warnings and Polygraph use. The reporter from Channel 10 had also informed us that someone from the D.A.'s Office had subpoenaed their video of the fire scene taken the day of the fire.

REPORTING OFFICERS F. W. LATHAM, #108	TYPED BY MJS	DATE AND TIME 09-02-86 11:58AM	ROUTED BY
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REVIEWED BY	DATE
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