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BVPD summary of investigation into Richard Eberling

Bay Village Police Department

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**CITY of BAY VILLAGE**

DIVISION OF POLICE / 27214 Wolf Road
Bay Village, Ohio 44140 Phone (216) 871-1234

WILLIAM E. GAREAU
CHIEF OF POLICE

WHY
March 21, 1989

Dear

Enclosed is a summary of the investigation of Richard Eberling, concerning the murder of Marilyn Sheppard in 1954, along with the polygraph strips.

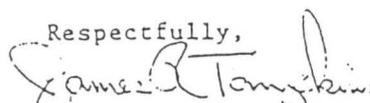
Eberling is currently under indictment in Cuyahoga County, for the murder of a ninety year old female and the forging of her will naming himself as beneficiary to seventy percent of her estate.

In 1959, Eberling was arrested by this department and other surrounding area police departments for thefts from residential homes, that he committed while washing windows for the owners. One of the thefts involved two rings belonging to Marilyn Sheppard, taken from the residence of her brother-in-law, Dr. Richard Sheppard. Dr. Sam Sheppard, at the time was serving sentence in the Ohio State Penitentiary for the murder of his wife. Eberling told investigators, at the time of his arrest, that he knew the rings belonged to Marilyn and had seen them before in the home of Sam and Marilyn when he washed windows for them. He told investigators that he had been in Sam and Marilyn's home a few days prior to the July 4, 1954 murder, and had in fact cut himself and left his blood throughout the house on that day. As a result of that information, statements were taken and polygraph examination of Eberling conducted.

As a further note, Eberling is purported to be a homosexual, and his male "friend" has also been indicted in Cuyahoga County for the forgery of the elderly female's will.

Your time and effort in reviewing the polygraph strips is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,


James R. Tompkins
Detective Lieutenant

- Fall of 1953 - Eberling started washing windows for Sam & Marilyn Sheppard
- June 1954 - Eberling washed windows and put in screens at Sam and Marilyn's house (about one week before she was murdered)
- Spring 1957 - Eberling commits theft of silver dish, Chinese vase and pitcher from home of Dr. Richard Sheppard (Sam's brother)
- March 1958 - Eberling commits theft of two rings from box marked "Marilyn Sheppard" from residence of Dr. Richard Sheppard
- 8-22-56 - Eberling is a suspect in four thefts from residences in Bay Village. Marked money was used at some of the homes that Eberling worked at in attempts by Bay Village PD to catch him. Bait money was not taken.
- 11-8-59 - Eberling turned stolen items over to Capt. Wilbert, Westlake P.D.
- 11-10-59 - Eberling is arrested by Rocky River P.D. for numerous thefts and subsequently by Bay Village P.D. and charged with five thefts.
- 11-10-59 - A statement made by Eberling to Sgt. Jay Hubach and witnessed by Patrolmen Ronald Duperow and Russell Fuehrer of the Bay Village P.D.
- 11-11-59 - Eberling interviewed regarding Marilyn Sheppard and agreed to take a polygraph. A polygraph was arranged to be run at Shaker Heights P.D. Eberling was taken to Shaker Heights P.D. by City Prosecutor Patrick Gareau (Gareau was a former Cleveland P.D. homicide detective who was assigned to assist Bay Village P.D. during the initial investigation of the murder of Marilyn) Shaker Heights P.D. refused to run the polygraph after their arrival saying that they needed permission from the County. A formal statement is then taken from Eberling by Prosecutor Gareau and witnessed by Sgt. Hubach and Ptl. Duperow.
- 11-12-59 - Cuyahoga County Coroner Samuel Gerber was contacted by Bay Village P.D. officers after Cuyahoga County Prosecutor John Corrigan told them to drop the matter. (Note: Both Gerber who is now deceased and John Corrigan, who is still the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor were very instrumental in the successful prosecution of Sam for the murder of his wife) Eberling was taken to the County Coroner's office and interviewed by Coroner Gerber in the presence of Sgt. Hubach and Ptl. Duperow. Eberling dictated a statement to Dr. Gerber. Dr. Gerber was going to arrange a polygraph or sodium penethol test for Eberling.
- 11-13-59 - Dr. Gerber told Bay Village P.D. that he decided not to give Eberling a test and didn't think he was involved in Marilyn's murder.

11-13-59 - Lt. Hubach went to the Bay Village Safety Director who authorized arranging a polygraph examination of Eberling at the Ohio State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation in London, Ohio.

11-19-59 - Polygraph examination conducted at Ohio BCI on Richard Eberling by A. Kimball. No deception indicated.