

Family Sues Police for Failure of Duty

A wrongful death lawsuit has been filed against the Orem Police Department by the family of a Brigham Young University student who tragically took her own life. Rena Nguyen's parents, represented by attorney Jake Taylor, believe that law enforcement failed in their duty to protect their daughter from domestic violence.

Nguyen's boyfriend contacted the Orem Police on October 1st, 2021, reporting that she had shot herself in the head. However, the family disputes this account and the lawsuit primarily focuses on the alleged abuse Nguyen endured prior to her death.

According to the lawsuit, Nguyen had confided in Orem Police on two separate occasions that her boyfriend was physically and sexually abusive towards her. She even claimed that he had once held a gun to her face. The family argues that the police department did not take appropriate action to address these allegations.

Despite Utah law mandating officers to remove weapons involved in domestic violence situations and make arrests when necessary, the Orem Police closed their investigation after Nguyen became uncooperative and seemed unwilling to leave her boyfriend. No charges of domestic violence or homicide have been filed against him at this time.

This is not the first case in Utah where a police department has been accused of mishandling domestic violence cases. In the highly publicized case of Gabby Petito, her family has sued the Moab police for their failure to follow proper protocol during their investigation. Petito was later tragically killed by her boyfriend who took his own life.

Attorney Taylor suggests that the evidence surrounding Nguyen's death raises doubts about the official story, pointing out inconsistencies such as the positioning of the wound and the unusual blood pooling. He does not definitively claim that Nguyen was murdered but insists the police department's inaction contributed to her death.

The Orem Police Department has not yet commented on the lawsuit, and Nguyen's boyfriend has not responded to requests for a statement.

The lawsuit has been filed in state court, and the Nguyen family is seeking damages to be determined during the trial.

We will continue to follow this story as the investigation unfolds.