

Monica Lynn Abello, 31 (April 11, 1974 - September 19, 2006)

Monica Abello was as adventurous as she was beautiful. She was a Pilates instructor and an attorney with the public defender's office in Key West.

On Tuesday, September 19, 2006, Monica was found dead in her car in the parking lot of the public defender's office. According to the Medical Examiner's report, Monica had not been feeling well. There was a white towel in her lap with what appeared to be white dried purge from the oral cavity. Prescription medication was found in the vehicle, but not in proper containers.

Witnesses reported last seeing Monica on Sunday, September 17th. No information was provided as to whether or not she had called in sick on Monday the 18th. Unidentified employees went looking for Monica after she didn't show up for court that Tuesday morning.



Police arrived and determined she was deceased by 9:38am. Her toxicology report was positive for Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine, Acetaminophen, Codeine, Ethanol (.01 g/dL) and Morphine.

Monica's cause of death was **Acute Morphine Toxicity**.







Catherine Dale Gilleran, 41 (October 12, 1968 - November 2, 2009)

Catherine Wilson and James Richard Gilleran II were married on July 13, 1992. They purchased a 40% interest in the very popular

Key West cabernet bar, "801 Bourbon Street." Catherine provided the entire investment from her own separate property. The couple had (or likely adopted) three children; James 01/20/1993, Daniel 08/01/1996, and Matthew 03/25/1998.

Catherine filed for divorce in 2004. She was awarded primary residential custody of their three children and James was ordered to pay \$3,000 per month child support, payable directly to

Catherine. James was also ordered to pay Catherine 50% of his 40% interest in 801 Bourbon Street upon buyout of his interest. The parties agreed to continue sharing the benefit of their interest in the bar until the anticipated sale or buyout of that interest.¹



In November 2008, Catherine was arrested in Palm Beach County for DUI resulting in injury. That same year, she changed her driver's license address to Boca Raton.

The days leading up to Catherine's death unfolded as follows:

10/28/2009 - Catherine was fingerprinted and her guilty plea was recorded in the Palm Beach County Records.

10/29/2009 - Monroe County Circuit Judge Tegan Slaton granted James Gilleran's emergency petition for sole custody of his three children and the termination of his child support obligations. It was also ordered that Catherine have NO CONTACT with her children until further order of the court.

¹ The parties also agreed to pay their federal income tax liability for the years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 from the proceeds of 801 Bourbon, Inc.

10/30/2009 - The emergency petition, notice of hearing and judge's orders were filed and recorded by the Monroe County clerk - AFTER the order had already been signed.

11/02/2009 -

0855 hours: The Key West Police Department (KWPD) responded to 2024 Fogarty Avenue, in response to a welfare check. James told the responding officers that he was concerned about Catherine since he had not spoken with her since 10/29. Upon entry of the residence, the KWPD and rescue personnel determined Catherine was deceased. Catherine's father, Wayne Wilson, was allegedly with James at the time, but there's no information in the incident report explaining why he was there (from Washington state). James told investigators that Catherine suffered a stroke 16 years ago and had been seeing doctors Shapiro and Knight. Detective Frank T. Duponty arrived on scene some time after 0945 hours to investigate.

1225 hours: Medical Examiner Investigator Gary McCullough arrived on scene. He called Dr. Shapiro to see if he would sign the death certificate due to the victim's medical history. Dr. Shapiro advised that he wanted to speak to the medical examiner first. McCullough took Catherine's body for preservation.

11/10/2009 - Detective Duponty was advised by McCullough that Catherine's death was not an ME case because *Dr. Shapiro signed the death certificate*. The cause of death was *Hypertension*.

Red Flags:

Name: Catherine Dale Gilleran
State of Issue: Washington
Date of Birth: Saturday October 12, 1968
Date of Death: Monday November 02, 2009
Est. Age at Death: 41 years, 21 days
Confirmation: Proven

Last known residence:
City: Seattle; Westwood
County: King
State: Washington
ZIP Code: 98136
Latitude: 47.5370
Longitude: -122.3897

- 1. Catherine's residence and location of death on her death certificate is 2408 Fogarty Avenue, not 2024 Fogarty as clearly stated in the incident reports and shown in the crime scene photos.² Online records reflect her address as 2932 24th Way, Boca Raton, FL, from 2004 on.
- 2. The KWPD incident report was prepared at 0839 hours on 11/02/2009, prior to being dispatched. The incident dates were from 10/30/09 to 11/02/09. Catherine's obituary says she died on 11/01/09.
- 3. James Gilleran was the informant on the death certificate, as personal representative of Catherine's estate. No estate was ever opened.
- 4. It is logical to assume an acrimonious relationship given James's request for a no-contact order (with her children).

² 2408 Fogarty is the homestead residence of an elderly widow whose property transactions over the last few years are cause for concern.

- 5.According to the Social Security Death Index, Catherine's last known residence was Seattle, WA.
- 6. The crime scene photos raise a lot of questions about what happened to Catherine Gilleran. It would appear that she was sick (kleenex, <u>numerous prescriptions</u>, etc.), similar to how Monica Abello was sick. What caused the injury to her neck and why does there appear to be petechial hemorrhaging on her face?









On January 11, 2013, Catherine's youngest son, Matthew, age 14, allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with an older .22 caliber revolver.

The extent of the ME's investigation is provided below:

TERMINAL EVENT: Per police investigation via family, the deceased was a socially awkward teen who had recently "come out" about his sexuality. He had also recently advised his father and two older brothers about bullying at school. On January 11, 2013, the decedent came home from school and had a phone conversation with his father who was out of town regarding a soccer practice that the deceased had missed. The decedent was found by his brother shortly after that conversation on the bedroom patio of his residence with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head and a .22 caliber handgun close by him. Fire Rescue responded to the scene and airlifted him to Jackson Health Systems/Ryder Trauma Center where he was subsequently pronounced dead on Jan. 14, 2013.

MEDICAL HISTORY: Per family, the decedent was in good health with no known medical issues before the terminal even

MEDICATIONS: None

SOCIAL HISTORY: The deceased was born in Key West, Florida, and was a lifetime resident there. He lived with his family, was a high school student, and per family, was a non-smoker, nonn-alcohol drinker, and was a non-drug user.

The local papers did not report on Matthew's death for several days. The first report was to announce a candlelight memorial at 7pm that evening, 01/16/2013. The details of Matthew's suicide were minimal, because according to KWPD spokesperson Alyson Crean, "There was no police investigation given that it was ruled a suicide." How do they rule it a suicide without doing a police investigation?

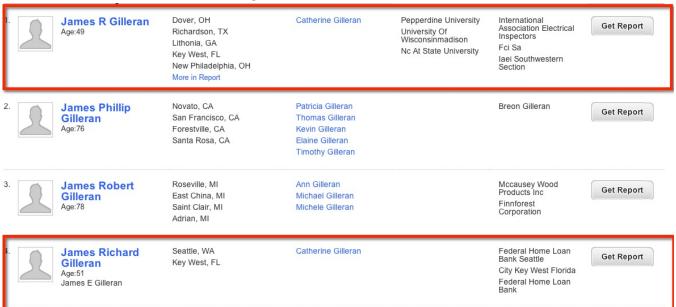
On February 22, 2013, I made a public records request to the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner for Matthew's autopsy report. After several months of repeated requests, the ME's office finally advised me that they were unable to locate his autopsy report. Apparently, someone pulled the file without filing an "out card" and a search would need to be conducted to locate the file. After threatening to notify the governor's office and the media, they were finally able to locate the file.

Matthew's autopsy report was "post organ procurement of heart, liver, spleen, kidneys, adrenal glands, proximal small bowel, and pancreas." The gunshot wound was to the right temple, 11.8 centimeters below the top of the head. The wound did not have any associated abrasions, soot or stippling. The bilateral frontal and temporal subdural hemorrhage was extensive. The vessels of the Circle of Willis were not identifiable. There were small abrasions to the right fifth finger and lateral right wrist. The ME did not perform a gunshot residue test, nor did they request this information from the KWPD. They did not ask where the gun was located in relation to where Matthew was found or even how he got it. They did not perform or ask about tests for the presence of foreign DNA/bodily fluids.

On May 21, 2013, I made a public records request to the KWPD for all records related to Matthew's suicide. Alyson Crean told me the case was still open and therefore, could not be released. The ME would not have released the autopsy report if the case was still open.

I find it hard to believe that Matthew would be bullied about being homosexual (it that's even true), considering his dad owns one of the most famous gay/cabaret bars in the country. His dad is also very powerful and very well connected.

A search into James Gilleran's background reveals numerous addresses and identities:



James Gilleran, 49

James R Gilleran
James D Kennedy
James Fraser
Jim J Lund
James David Moore
James John Lund
James Elder Maldonado, 49

Matthew's "residence" at the time of his death was 1309 Villa Mill Alley, Key West. This property was sold at auction on October 17, 2012. The winning bidder was Deutsche Bank and the winning bid for this \$2.5M+ property was **\$100**. Note James's ties to a Seattle bank. He is also on the Key West Planning Board, which controls all land development regulations.



Flor De Luz Forno, 34 (December 26, 1975 - November 13, 2010)

On 11/16/2010, the Key West Citizen (KWC) reported that the body of a 35-year-old woman had been found on Saturday, at about 3 a.m., on the side of the road at the corner of Seidenberg Avenue and Second Street in Key West. The woman appeared to be homeless.³ Alyson Crean,



KWPD spokesperson, said the case was a "death investigation" rather than a homicide investigation. The same day, two men were arrested at 1914 Seidenberg on misdemeanor trespassing charges and booked into jail in lieu of \$500 bail. Crean reiterated that neither of the men were considered suspects as the death had not been ruled a homicide.

According to the KWPD incident report, Scott Patrick Russell (dob 11/29/1968) was delivering newspapers at 3:10 a.m. when he noticed the female victim lying in the grass. Russell said he immediately called the police, but there is no information in the incident report to confirm this.

Detective Matthew Haley was called to the scene to investigate. He reported that the (then unidentified) victim

had false nails (french style) with designs on the tips. The nails were missing from her middle and ring fingers on her right hand. Recent scratches were observed on those fingers. The appearance and clothing of the victim indicated she may be homeless.⁴ Lividity was present, but inconsistent with the position of the body.

Officer Gary Celcer informed detective Haley of an abandoned house at 1914 Seidenberg Avenue being used by homeless people in the area. Thomas McCaulla and Paul Reyes were discovered inside the house in one of the back bedrooms. There was a mattress in the front room and right next to the mattress was a fake fingernail matching the victim's.

³ A typical tactic by police and reporters to divert scrutiny since residents in the keys are not fond of homeless people.

⁴ The french manicure with tip design would not generally be indicative of a homeless person.

McCaulla and Reyes were taken to the police station. Reyes was in possession of the victim's ID and prescription medications. The victim was then identified as Flor de luz Forno. Post Miranda, Reyes admitted he was staying with McCaulla and Flor at the house and that Flor was his girlfriend. According to Detective Haley's statement, "Reyes was sleeping in the same bed with the victim, at approximately 2100 hours when he awoke, the victim had defecated herself and was cool to the touch". Reyes and McCaulla attempted to revive her without success. Reyes said they were scared to contact emergency personnel because they knew they were trespassing. About 6 hours after discovering Forno wasn't breathing, Reyes solicited the help of a friend, Luis Humberto Jimenez, to help remove Forno's body from the residence. Reyes said they had dropped Forno several times because she was heavy. They finally placed Forno's body in a blanket and dragged her down the street.

Crime Scene Investigator Donald Guevremont observed numerous injuries on Forno's body, including scrapes underneath her shorts. A bent earring was found entangled in her hair. There were also a number of small particles on Forno's head and intermittently down to her ankles. The particles were retained into evidence, but never identified. A rape kit was not performed.

The KWC interviewed a number of neighbors, one of whom was attorney Steven Esquinaldo:

Key West attorney Steven Esquinaldo was getting his morning paper around 4:10 a.m. at a house in the 1900 block of Seidenberg Avenue when he saw the police lights and yellow tape. He and his brother, Paul, often stay at the house, where their elderly mother resides, he said.

Police were searching for video surveillance cameras that may have captured images of what happened, Esquinaldo said.

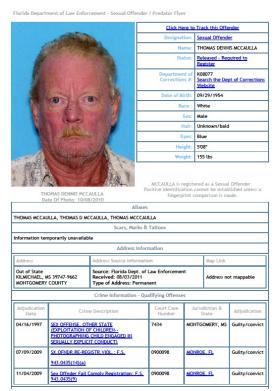
"The body was right under the street light, of all places," Esquinaldo said. "I didn't see or hear anything, so it was shocking to walk out and have this horrible, disturbing sight right there by the house."



Steven Esquinaldo never lived in the 1900 block of Seidenberg Avenue. He lived with his brother and elderly mother at 1329 2nd Street. The map illustrates where Flor's body was found in relation to Steven Esquinaldo's residence and the abandoned residence. In between is the residence of Mark Ripin, a man who's been tied to a number of missing persons cases and is also known for arranging "marriages" with Cambodian and other foreign women. Esquinaldo was Ripin's attorney and friend.

According to Medical Examiner E. Hunt Scheuerman, Flor died of <u>polydrug intoxication</u>. Her injuries were all allegedly postmortem.

The KWPD ruled Flor's cause of death as accidental and closed the case.



The investigation failed to include some critical details regarding the men who dumped Flor's body on a street corner. Thomas McCaulla is a registered sex offender. He was arrested in January and April 2009 for failing to register as a sex offender. Judge Mark Jones sentenced McCaulla to 36 months probation. The following statement is included under the special conditions section of the court order:

Other: the defendant to remain out of Monroe County while on probation - by Sunday 7/12/09 at 5:00pm defendant must leave by this date.

McCaulla was subsequently arrested in Monroe County for miscellaneous offenses on 7/14/09 and 7/15/09. Judge Jones revoked his probation and sentenced him to one year plus one day in jail.

Luis Jimenez was arrested on 11/25/10 for trespassing and indecent exposure in public. He was arrested for

domestic battery earlier in the year. Paul Reyes has been arrested numerous times for drugs and trespassing related offenses.

I find it odd that Reyes and Forno were in bed sleeping before 9pm on a Friday night. I also find it odd that there was a mattress in the front living room when there were two bedrooms in the home. The police report never specified what prescription medications were in Reyes's possession or which doctor prescribed them (I would assume Dr. Gilbert Shapiro or some other doctor at the Truman Medical Center?). Lastly, why would the court order McCaulla to leave Monroe County while on probation?

Steven Blane Esquinaldo, 50 (July 19, 1960 - May 6, 2011)

Steven Esquinaldo was found dead at his home on May 6, 2011, approximately six months after Flor Forno's body was found. According to the KWPD incident report, Steven was found by his brother Paul, in his bed, unresponsive and cold to the touch. He was wearing a chain around his neck, which was caught under his left arm, "...possibly leaving a mark on the right side of his neck." He was wearing boxer shorts, dark colored socks and a silver wristwatch was on his right wrist.

According to Paul, Steven had been seeing Dr. Shapiro for hypertension and diabetes. He had been morbidly obese at one point and became obsessed with losing weight. When he lost weight, Dr. Shapiro stopped the hypertension and insulin medications due to his medical problems resolving with the diet. The responding officer stated, "I looked around the room and located several hypertension medications, Atenolol, Amlodipine, hydrochlorothiazide, and terazosin (BPH)."

Steven also had band aids on each of his lower extremities; two on the right leg and one on the left leg. Paul informed the officers that Steven had recently been seen by Dr. Shapiro for a bug bite that got infected. He said his brother was taking medication for that (Bactrim was located in the bedroom).

The incident report notes that a medical examiner's form was completed and that's where the report ends. The Medical Examiner, E. Hunt Scheuerman, inexplicably declined jurisdiction. Dr. Shapiro signed the death certificate.

The report said that Steven was treated for "an infected bug bite," but he had three band aids on his legs. Is it possible that these were fingernail scratches? Why would the police not even look to confirm the injuries? It's also odd that Steven went to bed with his long chain and wristwatch on.