

EXHIBIT A

From: Thomas Beaver [<mailto:district16medicalexaminer@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 4:33 PM

To: Don Bock

Subject: Re: Missing Diver

I am very disappointed in the recovery of Rob Stewart. There was NO communication and NO cooperation coming from your agency. I am told that Rob Blesser is a "Fire Chief" and is employed or otherwise affiliated with Key Largo Fire Rescue. My calls to Rob Blesser were never returned. Florida Statute 406 vests ALL authority to recover human remains with the Medical Examiner. It also prohibits moving and/or tampering with human remains without PRIOR approval from the Medical Examiner.

There was no communication with my office and NO approval was requested or given.

I consider your actions and the actions of those involved in the recovery a flagrant violation of Statute 406 and a complete disregard for the authority of the Medical Examiner.

I had hoped that we could work together. I now see that that is impossible.

You have left me no choice but to report the circumstances of this recovery and the obstruction of this death investigation to the FDLE.

On Wed, Feb 1, 2017 at 7:17 PM, Don Bock <dbock@keylargofire.com> wrote:

Good Evening Dr. Beaver,

Rob Blesser is overseeing the recovery operation and is on the water with the crews. There is a limited amount of resources in the Keys; even the USCG does not go to the depths that Blesser's dive team go. Rob will be going out with Horizon Divers tomorrow and will be responsible for maintaining the integrity of the scene. Unfortunately the water only has about a ten foot visibility after the storm a few days ago. They plan to use a "ROV" to search the bottom in the area the diver was last seen tomorrow and Rob will be operating the device.

Again, Rob Blesser assured me he will maintain the integrity of the diver if found.

Regards,

Don

On Feb 1, 2017, at 3:35 PM, Thomas Beaver <district16medicalexaminer@gmail.com> wrote:

Greetings Chief Bock,

As you are no doubt aware, a diver went missing yesterday (1/31/2017) while diving on the Queen of Nassau. I am told that the Coast Guard is the lead investigative agency and they are working with you on recovery of the body.

I am also told that the commercial dive company, Horizon Divers is involved in the recovery effort.

While there is much that I do not know, I have been lead to believe that the missing diver was part of a group charter through the commercial dive company, Horizon Divers. The missing diver is part of a group diving off of a Horizon Divers boat with Horizon Divers gear and support staff. Were the gases mixed by Horizon Divers?

At this point I am uncomfortable, with the commercial dive company that was involved in the incident also being involved in the investigation (recovery of the body is a crucial part of that).

I am aware of the technical nature of the dive and the personnel limitations.

If we can not find alternative technical divers then we must carefully monitor all of the recovery efforts.

I can only characterize the Coast Guard as unresponsive to my concerns.

Florida Statute 406 places the legal authority for death investigation with the Medical Examiner.

I hope that you share my strong desire to have a competent and thorough investigation of this tragedy.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call my personal cell at [916-](tel:916-)

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

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