

THE SLEUTH

BLACKMAN DETECTIVE SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 2021, CASE NUMBER 21-04S



REAL CASE STORIES FROM REAL DETECTIVES

#21-04S: ALL IS NOT WELL THAT ENDS WELL

The year was 1997. The Backstreet Boys pleaded "Quit Playing Games," Bill Clinton had not had sexual relations with that woman, and Austin Powers had everyone feeling **groovy baby-yeah!** Perhaps all of this was in the back of Esther Mae's mind when she called BDS to report that she believed her husband was having an affair with their neighbor.

Esther Mae told her case manager that she was certain the neighbor, let's call her Sally, was sneaking over to their home during the day and sleeping with her husband, Johnny. Esther Mae claimed to hear her husband and Sally talking and making "sex noise" from out of the heating vent in the marital bedroom in the middle of the night. This part of Esther Mae's accusation gave our investigator pause, however, we agreed to surveil the house during the day to obtain evidence of the alleged affair. Our investigator also inquired as to whether Esther Mae had taken any legal steps towards separation because of the affair. She stated that she had hired an attorney. She provided their information to us and encouraged our investigator to share their findings with her counsel.

The BDS team got to work! Over approximately seven days, investigators surveilled the house and saw... nothing.

SNEAK PEEK INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

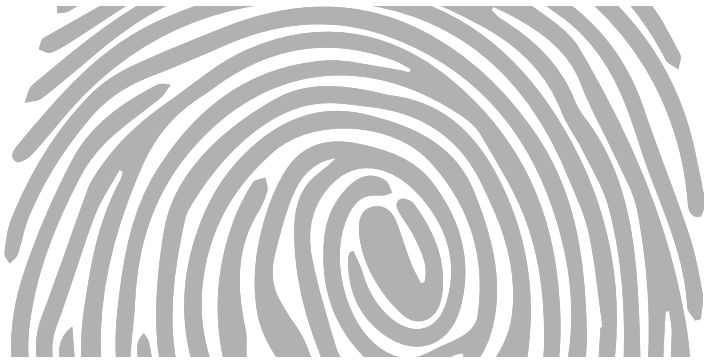
CASE #21-04S- ALLS NOT
WELL THAT ENDS WELL

LITTLE RED FLAGS - IS YOUR
SPOUSE HIDING ASSETS?

DID YOU KNOW? - MENTAL
HEALTH MATTERS

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LITTLE RED FLAGS

IS YOUR SPOUSE HIDING ASSETS?



SIGNS YOUR SPOUSE IS HIDING ASSETS DURING YOUR DIVORCE

Esther Mae and Johnny seemed to keep a normal routine of work and errands. They saw no evidence of the husband having an affair with Sally. When the week was over, Esther expressed her dismay at the investigator's findings. She thought that perhaps Sally and Johnny had seen our team as they watched the house and were intentionally staying apart to further keep their affair a secret. Feeling disappointed and frustrated, Esther Mae declared that she would just have to take care of this herself.

This statement was, understandably, alarming for the Investigator. Upon inquiring further about how Esther Mae was intending to handle the situation she declared that she would soon be purchasing a gun. In an effort to ensure the safety of all parties our investigator contacted the County Sheriff Department to inquire as to whether or not Esther Mae had obtained a pistol permit. The officer our detective spoke with stated that she had indeed obtained her permit just the day before.

Our Investigator, worried for the safety of Johnny, Sally, and Esther Mae, contacted Esther Mae's attorney, who was able to intervene immediately and help Esther Mae enter into the care of a mental health facility where she could seek the help she needed.

Beware all is not well that ends well, after 30 days in the local psychiatric hospital Esther Mae was released to her sister's care where she immediately stole a hammer and went to Sally's residence. The rest as they say is history...



-Taking Control of the Finances

If your spouse takes complete control of the finances or changes the passwords without notifying you.

-Opening a Private Post Office Box

This may have been done to hide new financial accounts and bills.

-Paying Unknown Debts

If your partner starts paying loans you did not know about to family members or friends, they may not be paying a true loan. They may have a side agreement with the person to return the money to them after your divorce is finalized.

-Overpaying Debts

One strategy that your spouse may employ is to overpay debts, such as to the IRS. The goal is to obtain a refund of any overpayment once the divorce is final, so you have no legal right to the money.

-Making Unknown Payments Out of Joint Accounts

Making large withdrawals from a joint account without your knowledge. They may also transfer funds out of your account into new accounts that are in their name only.

-Making Expensive Purchases Without Your Knowledge

Purchasing expensive items without telling you. They may hide the items they purchase, so they can enjoy them or sell them once you are divorced.

BLACKMAN DETECTIVE SERVICES

STANDING BEHIND OUR WORK



DID YOU KNOW? MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Close to 3.9% of adults in North Carolina (according to SAMHSA) live with serious mental health conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depression. Only 48.2% of adults with mental illness in North Carolina receive any form of treatment from either the public system or private providers (according to SAMHSA). The remaining 51.8% receive no mental health treatment. According to Mental Health America, North Carolina is ranked 33 out of the 50 states and Washington D.C. for providing access to mental health services. [Source: rtor.org]

Anyone in NC can request crisis or emergency services for mental health, substance abuse, intellectual and developmental disabilities issues.

- Find help for a mental health and substance use crisis in your county.
- If this is a medical or a life-threatening emergency please call 911.
- If you need to contact the police, request a Crisis Intervention Team officer. [Source: ncdhhs.gov]



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