



***BROWARD COUNTY PBA
DAILY CLIPS***

July 28, 2017

MEDIA OUTLET: Sun Sentinel

HEADLINE: 'Collapse in security' helped Broward inmate pull off courthouse escape, sheriff's investigation shows

BYLINE: Paula McMahon

LINK: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/fl-reg-courthouse-escape-bso-investigation-20170727-story.html>

STORY: Murder suspect Dayonte Resiles' escape from the county courthouse last year was made possible by long-term "systemic failures" and a "collapse in security" in the downtown jail and courthouse, two internal investigations by the Broward Sheriff's Office have found.

The maximum-security inmate was able to obtain a handcuff key inside the jail – possibly one reported lost by a detention deputy months earlier – which he hid in his jumpsuit and used to unlock his restraints on the day he bolted, detectives concluded.

The 22-year-old took full advantage of every flaw in the system and "employee complacency" about security and lax enforcement of the agency's rules and policies, according to 565 pages of internal reports released to the Sun Sentinel this week.

Authorities said they found no evidence that any employees intentionally helped Resiles to escape but they uncovered numerous missed opportunities to foil his plans. He routinely broke rules and maneuvered his way around security restrictions on phone calls and video visitation while guards either didn't notice or did nothing.

The investigations revealed just how easily a "cunning and manipulative" inmate, as detectives called him, was able to play the system and "prepare, plan and execute an elaborate escape under the watch" of jail staff, authorities said.

Jail guards might have thwarted Resiles' July 15, 2016 escape if they had done thorough pat-downs and searches and enforced other basic rules that should have prevented inmates from going to court in damaged or altered jail uniforms, investigators said.

Resiles ripped open the seams of his inmate jumpsuit from the crotch to the ankles before he was moved from his jail cell to the courthouse early on the day of his escape.

Security video showed the legs of his oversized jumpsuit were visibly "flapping" and he should have been made to change into an intact jumpsuit before he was moved from the jail to the courthouse around 5:15 a.m., investigators said. When a bailiff grabbed him as he sprinted from the courtroom, four hours later, the jumpsuit just peeled off in the bailiff's hand.

Resiles, clad in a white T-shirt and black shorts, ran down a nearby stairwell to a waiting car, driven by his friends, and remained on the lam for six days before he was arrested on July 20 at a motel in Riviera Beach.

The inmate – also known as "Moochie" – was arrested on a first-degree murder charge in September 2014, accused of killing Jill Halliburton Su during a burglary in Davie. He is now facing at least 72 charges

linked to the murder case, several burglaries, the escape and a subsequent effort to get friends to manufacture a fake alibi and false evidence to try to beat the murder charge.

Prosecutors have charged 15 of his alleged associates with helping him.

Investigators recommended a long list of policy changes in response to the embarrassing incident. All of the most important ones have since been implemented, according to agency officials.

Despite the chronic and widespread nature of the security problems, only two veteran detention deputies were lightly disciplined.

Deputy Denell Harper, who has worked for the agency for 23 years, was suspended without pay for eight hours for conduct unbecoming an employee and failing to meet agency standards.

When detectives reviewed jailhouse security video from the morning of the escape, it showed Harper did an insufficient pat-down search of Resiles and another inmate, Walter Hart, who later pleaded guilty to helping Resiles. The deputy “barely” touched Resiles and was seen greeting Hart, and two other inmates, with inappropriately friendly “chest bump” gestures, investigators found.

Though Harper said he noticed Resiles’ jumpsuit was ripped, he didn’t pause to make Resiles change into undamaged clothing.

Deputy Mario Lisanti, who has worked for the agency for 28 years, received a written reprimand for failing to meet agency standards. Investigators found that he failed to search Resiles after he was moved to the courthouse.

Jail and courthouse deputies had become “complacent” about conducting thorough searches of inmates every time they were moved from one location to another. Though inmates were searched at the jail before they crossed a covered bridge to the courthouse, it had become common practice for deputies to not search them again at the courthouse, as required by the agency rules. Approximately 400 inmates are brought to the courthouse every day.

Resiles also hid a handmade sewing needle and thread behind the breast pocket of his jumpsuit. Investigators said they are not sure what purpose it served.

After spending a few hours in a holding cell at the courthouse, Resiles was put in leg shackles and handcuffed at the front of his body to a chain around his waist.

Video from a hallway near the holding cells in the courthouse shows Resiles’ fellow inmate Hart helped him loosen the chain at around 9 a.m. The video shows Resiles looking up directly at the security camera while that was happening.

“[Resiles] lowers his head and hunches forward manipulating where the handcuff key was concealed ... at this stage, inmate Resiles had presumably retrieved the handcuff key and either begun to get out of the handcuffs or had already defeated them,” detectives wrote.

Resiles was brought into the fourth-floor courtroom at about 9:06 a.m. and ran out at about 9:36 a.m., leaving his leg shackles and waist chain in the jury box, where he had been sitting with several other

inmates. Authorities think he may have already opened his handcuffs before entering the courtroom and that he unlocked his shackles in the jury box. His red handcuffs and jumpsuit were found in the hallway outside the courtroom after he fled to a waiting getaway car.

Two friends who were in the car later told investigators that Resiles had a handcuff key with him.

Several deputies underwent polygraphs and agreed to have their cellphones analyzed. Some even allowed their bank records to be scrutinized.

In an interview after his capture, Resiles claimed he had befriended a detention deputy, Miguel Cedillo, and paid him \$5,800, via a friend, in the four months before the escape for “the use of the cell phone and the handcuff key.”

But Resiles was lying, detectives said.

Their investigation found that he targeted Cedillo because he “did everything by the book” and they had some personal conflict, said Veda Coleman-Wright, a spokeswoman for the sheriff’s office.

“He clearly was another victim of Resiles,” she said.

What happened to the 8 people who helped prisoner escape Broward courthouse?

Detectives interviewed Cedillo, who said he first met Resiles in the jail in January 2016. He denied giving anything to Resiles and said he received no money. He allowed investigators to download the data from his cell phone and volunteered to take a lie-detector test. Authorities said the test showed no deception, his phone showed no inappropriate activity, and his bank records showed no cause for concern.

Cedillo was not disciplined or charged with any kind of misconduct.

On April 3, more than three months before the escape, Deputy Annie Holmes reported to her supervisors that she had lost her handcuff key somewhere on the seventh floor of the jail, where Resiles was housed at the time. The key was never found. Investigators said they found no evidence that Holmes had given Resiles the key or helped him in any way.

Detectives said they are not certain Resiles used that lost key. They said he could have obtained a lost one in the jail or a key might have been provided to him by a jail employee, an attorney, friend or family member in court.

At the time, the agency did not keep track of employees’ handcuff keys, which many workers purchased themselves. The investigators recommended keeping tighter control of keys and monitoring their use.

Inmates said they knew that deputies were inconsistent about conducting pat-down searches and one described the searches on the way to court as very limited and “puff it, like air fluff.”

One inmate told investigators he let Resiles use his name and pose as him during multiple video visits with one of Resiles’ girlfriends. Jail deputies were not paying enough attention to which inmates were sitting at which screens, which would make it difficult to track down recordings of Resiles’ video visits, investigators said.

Resiles also used other inmates' identities to conceal who he was calling from the recorded public phones in the jail and to illegally make three-way calls, the investigation found. Resiles made more than 100 three-way calls to plan the escape, Sgt. Jason Hendrick, the head of the agency's public corruption unit, wrote in his report.

Investigators highlighted numerous other issues, including:

-- Staff are only supposed to bring cellphones issued by the Sheriff's Office into the jails but investigators said it had "become an accepted practice" to let employees bring in their personal phones.

-- A Body Orifice Scanning System (BOSS) chair, which scans inmates and visitors for weapons and other forbidden items was "simply not being used" except on newly arrested inmates.

-- No drills were done to prepare employees for an escape.

-- Many prior escapes and attempted escapes from the jail and courthouse were never reported to internal affairs.

-- Investigators said they found 10 other escapes or attempted escapes from the courthouse since 2002 and another 13 escapes or attempts from the jails during the same period.

Most of those inmates were captured within a day but one resulted in the murder of a detention deputy who was driving an inmate to court in 2007. One of the jails in Pompano Beach is named in honor of the deputy, Paul Rein, and the inmate, Michael Mazza is serving life in prison.

MEDIA OUTLET: Sun Sentinel

HEADLINE: Lauderhill expanding its reach with higher taxes, fees

BYLINE: Brittany Wallman

LINK: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/broward-politics-blog/fl-sb-lauderhill-taxes-20170717-story.html>

STORY: Lauderhill plans to expand city government and upgrade public buildings and police-fire services, with a property tax increase this year.

The city proposes maintaining the same tax rate as last year, which when coupled with rising property values will lead to higher tax bills.

In addition, the city plans to increase its monthly stormwater fee, water rates, business tax and fire-rescue fee property owners pay on the tax bill.

That's on top of an additional city property tax Lauderhill voters approved in 2016 to pay for major expenses like road improvements, police body cameras, playgrounds and security cameras.

The city released its draft budget in July, and informally accepted a proposed property tax rate. At final hearings in September, the city can lower the tax rate but cannot raise it.

City Manager Chuck Faranda says the additional \$1 million in property taxes will pay for employee raises, employee benefit cost hikes, city facility improvements and public safety expenses.

City staffing is on the rise, with 476 full-time employees planned, an increase of 42 people, and 149 part-time employees planned, an increase of 32. More staffing is planned in code enforcement, maintenance and police and fire.

Faranda said he can look around and see the economy has improved: Real estate sales are up, and developers are investing in the city. He expects a 20 percent increase in building permit revenue because of the development surge, he said in his budget memo.

"We are confident that the City's renaissance will continue to progress," he wrote in his budget message to commissioners.

The city's general fund, the part of the budget that pays for general services like parks and policing, will increase 4 percent.

Stormwater fees for drainage will increase 15 percent to \$16.12 per month. Water rates also will rise, the budget shows.

The fire-rescue fee that appears on property tax bills will go up from \$438 to \$460, a 5 percent increase. That will help pay for land on 16th street for a new fire station, a new ladder truck and thermal imaging cameras.

The proposed tax rate is about \$7.59 for every \$1,000 of taxable property value.

For the owner of a \$125,000 house that grew in value this year by the average 9.14 percent, the increase in the city portion of the property tax bill would about \$87, and the city portion of the tax bill would total \$1,035.

For the owner of a \$125,000 house that's a primary residence and protected by state homestead laws, the value would increase only 2.1 percent, and \$50,000 in value would be exempt from taxation. The increase would be about \$20, and the city portion of the tax bill \$589.

The city taxes are about a third of the total on the bills that go out in November.

MEDIA OUTLET: Sun Sentinel

HEADLINE: Broward elections supervisor Brenda Snipes to testify in voter list trial

BYLINE: Larry Barszewski

LINK: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/fl-sb-broward-elections-voter-list-suit-20170726-story.html>

STORY: Broward Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes will testify in federal court in Miami on Monday about allegations the county has a bloated voter list because her office isn't doing enough to purge ineligible voters.

Snipes will be defending her office against a suit brought by the American Civil Rights Union, a conservative Virginia-based group that has been challenging voter registration lists nationwide. The nonprofit organization says it wants to make sure voter lists accurately reflect only eligible voters to reduce the potential for voter fraud.

The ACRU is asking U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom to order the county to step up its efforts to remove ineligible voters from the rolls, including non-citizens, dead people, felons and those who have moved or are mentally incapacitated. Critics fear the more aggressive approach the ACRU is advocating could knock many eligible voters off the rolls as well.

On Thursday, Wynmoor Village resident Richard Gabbay testified that he alerted the elections office in October 2015 to more than 600 people registered to vote in his Coconut Creek community who either died or no longer lived there, but he was not satisfied with the office's response. He first noticed many listed voters had moved when he took part in a Republican get-out-the-vote effort in 2012 and he got a list of his precinct's voters from the state in 2015.

"In the process, I noticed persons who had duplicate registrations and people I knew who had passed away," Gabbay testified. Elections officials said while it may have seemed the office wasn't moving quickly, it has requirements to meet before it can remove people from the list. For instance, one of the people Gabbay reported as dead turned out to still be alive.

In March 2016, Snipes sent Gabbay a report showing 176 of the people he identified were removed from the voter list after mail sent to them was returned undeliverable. The office also removed four who moved out of the county, 13 who had died and three duplicate registrations. The largest chunk, 407, were determined to be inactive voters and were scheduled to be removed from the lists starting in May 2016.

Bloom also heard testimony from Tampa resident Gregg Prentice, who has done extensive research of the state's voting rolls. He submitted documents to Snipes in 2013 showing 1,200 county voters were using UPS offices as their voting addresses. He said it was months before he heard from the elections office.

What Prentice did notice was that the voter addresses for most of the names he had submitted started changing on updated lists to having the Supervisor of Elections office as their address. On cross examination, Prentice conceded those voters could have been eligible ones, possibly including homeless people, boat dwellers, overseas military personnel with no permanent county address or U.S. citizens from the county living abroad.

Broward County isn't the only county to come under scrutiny. The ACRU is being represented by J. Christian Adams, who currently heads another conservative organization, the Public Interest Legal Foundation.

In 2015, the foundation sent letters to elected officials in 141 counties in 21 states threatening lawsuits if those counties didn't step up efforts to remove ineligible voters from their voter rolls. The Broward lawsuit accused it of having voter rolls that amounted to 103 percent of eligible voting-age residents in the county.

Adams previously was with the ACRU and Judicial Watch, another conservative group that has sent letters to 11 states this year — including Florida — threatening federal lawsuits if they don't get counties to clean up their voter rolls. The ACRU has also filed suits in Texas, Mississippi and Pennsylvania.

The question Bloom must decide is how large an effort local elected officials are required to make to ensure their voter rolls are up to date.

Snipes insists her office has a robust program of cleaning up its lists.

The ACRU says the county could be doing even more, making use of state driver's license information to identify people who have moved or are non-citizens, and reviewing jury recusal forms that individuals fill out when they claim they cannot sit on a jury because they are not a citizen or they are a convicted felon whose voting rights haven't been restored.

ACRU chairman Susan Carleson testified Thursday she could not remember who provided her with initial numbers her group used to go after Broward's election office.

"I got the information from a source. I don't know where it came from," Carleson said.

Snipes' attorney, Burnadette Norris-Weeks, came under fire after an office procedures manual she provided to the ACRU on Wednesday turned out to be missing a section.

Adams asked that the elections office be sanctioned and Bloom was clearly upset, but she deferred any decision on taking punitive action against the office.

Norris-Weeks said it was an honest mistake created by recent chaos in the elections office — which shut down its offices in the county governmental center in Fort Lauderdale last week while dealing with flooding there. The downtown staff has been temporarily moved to the elections office warehouse in Lauderhill while crews deal with the water problem and concrete-eating termites that also were found, Snipes said.

The manual is a big deal because the ACRU didn't know it existed and its expert witness had testified the lack of written procedures was a significant issue. Norris-Weeks said she just learned of the manual over the weekend.

Sharon Flemming, who is in charge of removing names from the voter lists, noticed the missing section Thursday morning before she was to answer ACRU attorney questions about the manual. It turns out

Flemming's complete manual was sealed off in the downtown offices and officials delivered a copy from the warehouse that was missing the section.

MEDIA OUTLET: Sun Sentinel

HEADLINE: Community events on Tuesday take aim at crime in S. Fla.

BYLINE: Lisa J. Huriash

LINK: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/fl-sb-national-night-out-events-20170724-story.html>

STORY: Communities across South Florida are taking part in block parties, barbecues and other events Tuesday for National Night Out. It's a chance for people to met their neighbors and local police officers, and talk about ways to curb crime and drug abuse.

Tamarac is offering pony rides. Delray Beach is giving free backpacks to its school-age residents. Lauderdale Lakes will referee a flag football game. In Margate, there will be 3,000 hot dogs and 5,000 snow cones in blueberry and cherry flavors.

The crowd in Margate topped 13,000 two years ago, but was dampened by weather last year. At least 10,000 people are expected from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday at the Margate Sports Complex, 1695 Banks Road.

"Margate is ridiculous — they have so many people," said Matt Peskin, national director of National Association of Town Watch, which has spearheaded the events for more than three decades.

"They are one of the largest ones in the country for their size," he said.

Across South Florida, police departments will show off their equipment and entice residents with free food and games. National Night Out Against Crime is intended to heighten crime- and drug-prevention awareness and support law enforcement.

"It shows the community what we have to offer as a police department," said Margate Officer Amalin Hernandez. "It's about bringing neighborhoods together with the men and women who protect them," especially when the sides don't normally interact unless there's a crisis.

Area events for National Night Out:

— Dania Beach: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Frost Park, 300 NE 2nd St. There will be sheriff's displays and demonstrations including K-9, SWAT and the Marine Patrol, as well as bounce houses, free hot dogs, ice cream and water.

— Deerfield Beach: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Quiet Waters Park, Bald Eagle Pavilion, 401 S. Powerline Road.

— Delray Beach: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W. Atlantic Ave. There will be free food and drinks, a toddler bounce house, an obstacle course, free backpacks for Delray Beach students, face painting, a rock wall and slide.

— Fort Lauderdale: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Carter Park East Field, 1450 W Sunrise Blvd. A DJ, food trucks, back-to-school giveaways, games, prizes and an appearance by McGruff the Crime Dog.

— Hollywood: Party events are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hollywood Lakes Civic, 701 Tyler Street/ Eppleman Park; 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. William Broadwell, 2600-2700 Cleveland Street; 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hollywood Hills

Civic Association, 4701 Tyler Street/Sal Oliveri Veteran's Park; 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oak Lake Civic Association, 3190 N. 56 Ave./Oak Lake Community Center; 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Boulevard Heights Neighborhood Association, 1030 N. 71 Terrace.

— Lauderdale Lakes: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Vincent Torres Park, 4331 NW 36 St. Music, entertainment, flag football, free food and drinks.

— Margate: 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Margate Sports Complex, 1695 Banks Road. Bounce houses, CPR classes, military and sheriff's vehicles, demos by SWAT, K-9, helicopters, horses.

— Miramar: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Southwest 34th Street and Southwest 68th Avenue. Bounce houses, police equipment, fire trucks and food

— Parkland: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Parkland Recreational and Enrichment Center, 10559 Trails End.

— Pompano Beach: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. District Sheriff's Office, 300 NE 1st St. Music, activities, demonstrations.

— Tamarac: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. District Sheriff's Office, 7515 Pine Island Road. There will be free hot dogs and pizza, bounce houses, rock climbing, petting zoo, pony rides, kids train, face painting and balloon clown.

— West Park: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mary Saunders Park, 4750 SW 21 St.

Other cities are planning to host the event on days other than Tuesday. North Lauderdale has its event Wednesday. Cities and agencies planning October events are Hallandale Beach, Lauderhill, Oakland Park, the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office, and Pembroke Pines.

MEDIA OUTLET: FOX Miami (Channel 7)

HEADLINE: Miramar PD, Sunbeam Properties host pizza party for summer campers

BYLINE: FOX Miami

LINK: <http://wsvn.com/news/local/miramar-pd-sunbeam-properties-host-pizza-party-for-summer-campers/>

STORY: MIRAMAR, FLA. (WSVN) - A group of South Florida officers reached out to the community through a pizza party for some summer campers.

Members of the Miramar Police Department served campers some pizza as a part of the Hangin' with 5-0 end of camp party.

The event, co-hosted by Sunbeam Properties and Development, aims to bring children closer to the men and women who serve and protect them everyday.

Sunbeam Properties and Development is a proud sponsor of the program.

"We feel really honored that we have an opportunity to give back to the youth of Miramar," said Sunbeam Properties and Development Vice President Maridee Bell. "We're a very integral part of Miramar. Our business park has been here for more than 30 years and to be able to have an opportunity to give back to the youth is the best."

Hangin' with 5-0 is a one-of-a-kind free summer camp program that allows children ages 11 to 15 to participate in a variety of activities and field trips with Miramar police officers.