

More questions than answers in Wienckowski case

 buffalonews.com/news/local/more-questions-than-answers-in-wienckowski-case/article_5265e003-aff3-5877-841e-80d59070f9b5.html

By Staff

June 21, 2010

GETZVILLE -- More questions than answers seem to keep popping up in the case of the death of Amanda L. Wienckowski, a 20-year old woman whose lifeless body was stuffed into a garbage can beside an East Side church two winters ago.

Attorney Steven Cohen, who is representing Wienckowski's family, held a news conference this morning to address Buffalo Police officials' suggestions that Wienckowski may have died from what is termed situational asphyxiation during rough sex.

While Wienckowski's official cause of death by the Erie County Medical Examiner has been ruled accidental due to a drug overdose of opiates, Wienckowski's family and their lawyer believe otherwise.

"There is no doubt in my mind as to what happened," said Cohen. "Amanda was gang-raped, she was beaten, and she was strangled until she was dead and her body was disposed of in a garbage tote and then hidden on church grounds in hopes that it wouldn't be found. That's what happened and we're getting a little closer to the truth."

While Buffalo Police findings reported that Wienckowski, who had become addicted to heroin and resorted to prostitution to support her habit, had taken the opiate just prior to her death, Wienckowski's mother Leslie Fink says that her daughter was never involved in prostitution:

DNA testing ordered by the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office found body fluids from two other unknown men on Wienckowski's body and recent DNA tests on hair released Friday found a second, unknown female hair on her as well as a third hair to another woman.

Cohen calls the release of the recent evidence by the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office "pre-emptive maneuver:"

Fink says the new evidence supports her belief that her daughter was murdered:

Dennis A. Delano, a former Buffalo homicide cold-case detective, talks about why the Buffalo Police Department wouldn't want to release information on the Wienckowski case:

Check back to BuffaloNews.com Live later for more audio from the press conference.

--*Lauren Nicole Mariacher*