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Cover-up of the Murder of DNC Staffer Seth Rich?

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When FOX 5 initially interviewed investigator Rod Wheeler about the Seth Rich case, Wheeler stated he believes there's a cover-up at the DC Police department and keys to the murder are located within a laptop:

> "The police department nor the FBI have been forthcoming," said Wheeler. "They haven't been cooperating at all. I believe that the answer to solving his death lies on that computer, which I believe is either at the police department or either at the FBI. I have been told both."

Wheeler also told us,

> "I have a source inside the police department that has looked at me straight in the eye and said, 'Rod, we were told to stand down on this case and I can't share any information with you.' Now, that is highly unusual for a murder investigation, especially from a police department. Again, I don't think it comes from the chief's office, but I do believe there is a correlation between the mayor's office and the DNC and that is the information that will come out [Tuesday]".

One would think CNN, and other stations with a liberal bent would *want* to focus on a possible murder cover-up, or the whereabouts (and contents) of Rich's computer. While Fox stated "Rod Wheeler backtracks statements about Seth Rich investigation," as clarification to the updated link, it failed (thanks to CNN's intrepid journalism) to explain how clarifying one statement erases the validity of others, or specify that most statements were *never* backtracked.

In addition, something overlooked by everyone trying to discredit Wheeler is that he clearly states

> "I believe that the answer to solving his death lies on that computer, which I believe is either at the police department or either at the FBI."

So, Wheeler states there's a cover-up.

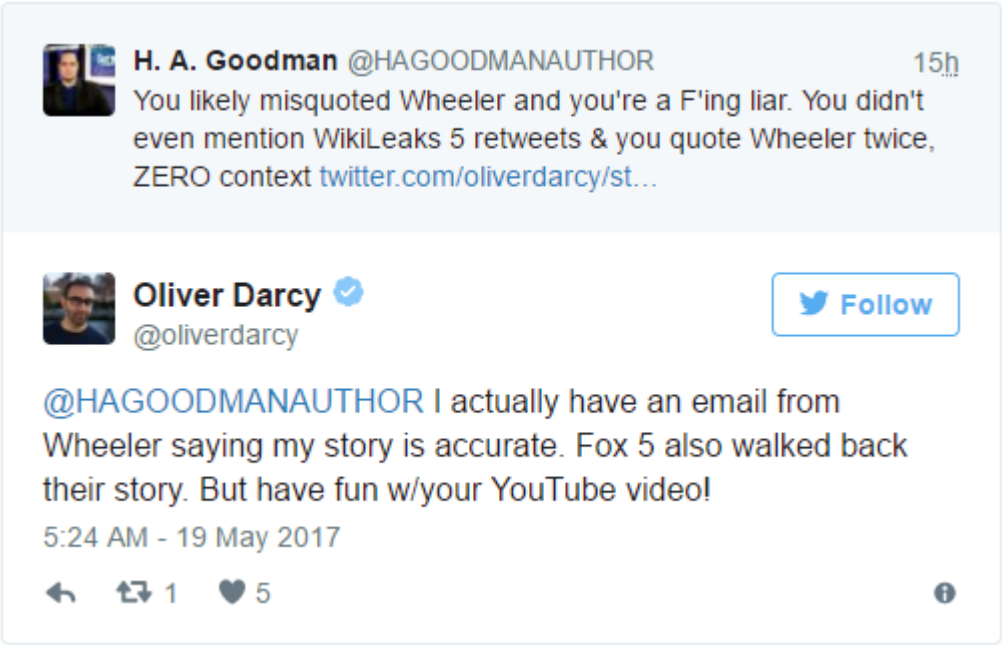
Wheeler states he *does not know the whereabouts* of Seth Rich's computer, which he believes holds the truth regarding potential ties to WikiLeaks.

Two claims that have nothing to do with a source at the FBI, since other pieces of circumstantial evidence bolster both claims.

Apparently, CNN's Oliver Darcy doesn't care about both clearly stated claims, and made no mention of these claims in his recent hit piece on Wheeler, prompting establishment media to proclaim victory in the Seth Rich murder narrative.

Oliver Darcy, a senior media reporter at CNN wrote a piece titled *Story on DNC staffer's murder dominated conservative media — hours later it fell apart.* When reading the title, one might think this story is purely about political partisanship, rather than a murder investigation that's provided no leads after one year. However, it's almost certain Rod Wheeler doesn't view himself to be a mouthpiece for conservative media and the Rich family hired him for his expertise.

Aside from clickbait, the headline is deceptive for numerous other reasons. First, the Seth Rich murder has been on the hearts and minds of progressives throughout the United States, not just conservatives. Second, the fact Wheeler might not speak to a source at the FBI has absolutely zero relevance to his claims of a DC Police Department cover-up, or other aspects of this unsolved case. Most importantly, Darcy wrote the following message to me today on Twitter:



Great, show us the email, Oliver Darcy!

The screenshot of the Tweet (in case Darcy pulls a Cenk Uygur), and the Tweet itself speak volumes. First, it's highly doubtful Rod Wheeler would agree entirely with the headline *Story on DNC staffer's murder dominated conservative media — hours later it fell apart.*

Darcy's mystery "Wheeler email" almost certainly doesn't condone CNN's misleading headline. If anything, the majority of the Fox interview was about something other than an FBI source. Wheeler clearly spoke about the D.C. Police Department cover-up (and Rich's laptop) for the majority of his short interview with FOX 5 and it's telling that FOX and CNN's Darcy fail to make that distinction.

In terms of Darcy's article (a piece that everyone in the "Seth Rich was killed by two bullets in the back from a botched robbery" crowd used as political ammunition), the CNN piece is

more of a public relations press release, than actual investigative journalism. Rod Wheeler clearly states he doesn't have possession of the computer, and clearly states he believes DC Police aren't doing their job. Both claims are ignored by Darcy's laser-focus on these quote, introduced by specious introductions:

> Wheeler instead said he only learned about the possible existence of such evidence through the reporter he spoke to for the FoxNews.com story. He explained that the comments he made to WTTG-TV were intended to simply preview Fox News' Tuesday story. The WTTG-TV news director did not respond to multiple requests for comment. "I only got that [information] from the reporter at Fox News," Wheeler told CNN.
>
> Asked about a quote attributed to him in the Fox News story in which he said his "investigation up to this point shows there was some degree of email exchange between Seth Rich and Wikileaks," Wheeler said he was referring to information that had already been reported in the media.

For a breakthrough article in the Seth Rich saga, Wheeler is hardly quoted at all (short, likely out of context quotes) in the over 800 word CNN piece. Interestingly, nobody knows what [information] Darcy is referring to in one quote of Wheeler, nor does the reader know the actual question Wheeler answered.

Mr. Darcy, do you think it's somewhat important to show readers the question Wheeler answered with

> "I only got that [information] from the reporter at Fox News," and not simply your summary of the question?

Then Wheeler clearly refutes Darcy's thesis, that an FBI source is the only basis for other claims, within this Fox interview on Hannity:

In the interview on Fox, Wheeler states he has a source, but doesn't specify only an FBI source; the maniacal focus of Darcy's CNN piece.

Take note, CNN, because at 2:10 of the Hannity interview, Wheeler states

> "I have never the seen the emails myself directly, I haven't even seen the computer that Seth Rich used… I don't even know where the computer is… where did this information come from… there was a federal investigator… a person that's very credible… he said he laid eyes on the computer and he laid eyes on the case file… it's very consistent for a person with my experience… perhaps there were some email communications between Seth and WikiLeaks… every time I talk to the police department about the WikiLeaks or the emails, it's automatically shut down…that discussion is automatically shut down."

Why would that discussion be automatically shut down by DC Police? Any thoughts, Oliver Darcy?

WikiLeaks has a decade-long pristine reputation for accuracy; they've only published

authentic documents. Unlike spy agencies or news organizations linked to political parties, Wikileaks is not affiliated with any American political group, despite the belief by some that DNC or Podesta emails (that CNN used to fire Donna Brazile and the DNC used to fire Debbie Wasserman Schultz) swayed the election. It could be quite meaningful that WikiLeaks offered a reward for information about Seth Rich's murder, and Tweeted about the case six times, including one Julian Assange retweet of the original Fox story:

Assange retweeted:

WikiLeaks also retweeted the following:

FOX & friends
@foxandfriends

Follow

Slain DNC staffer had contact with WikiLeaks, investigator says fxn.ws/2rl4hjH

3:35 PM - 16 May 2017

Slain DNC staffer had contact with WikiLeaks, investigator s...

There is tangible evidence on the laptop of a former DNC staffer

WikiLeaks
@wikileaks

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Most comprehensive report of the developments in DNC staffer Seth Rich's murder investigation today: okcfox.com/news/nation-wo...

6:15 AM - 17 May 2017

'No facts, no evidence' supporting claim slain DNC staffer tie...

WikiLeaks
@wikileaks

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Seth Rich's new "family spokesman" is Brad Bauman a professional Democrat crisis PR consultant with the Pastorum Group.

5:38 AM - 12 Aug 2016

7,292 7,164

On Sun, Feb 22, 2015 at 6:12 PM, John Podesta <john.podesta@gmail.com> wrote:

> Agree. Happy to talk to the David's. Call me crazy, but I think if we can
> survive the next month, it will be possible, maybe even straightforward to
> get our arms around this once there is an actual campaign. I'm definitely
> for making an example of a suspected leaker whether or not we have any real
> basis for it.
>
> JP

WikiLeaks
@wikileaks

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Podesta: "I'm definitely for making an example of a suspected leaker whether or not we have any real basis for it."
wikileaks.org/podesta-emails…

7:46 AM - 31 Oct 2016

23,799 20,693

As a matter of policy we do not confirm or deny whether any person has ever been a source for WikiLeaks. After the Aaron Swartz case we formalised this policy to also cover alleged sources who were deceased.

We treat threats toward any suspected source of WikiLeaks with extreme gravity. This should not be taken to imply that Seth Rich was a source to WikiLeaks or to imply that that his murder is connected to our publications. We hope our efforts will contribute to the family's calls for information and to the separate reward issued by police. We have a history of obtaining information that has significantly contributed to many legal proceedings, including successful prosecutions.

WikiLeaks
@wikileaks

Follow

Our original and only statement on the murder of US Democratic National Committee staffer Seth Rich. #DNCLeak

10:41 AM - 11 Aug 2016

6,685 7,281

These six Tweets were sent at different times after the latest Fox story, and there are potentially a greater number of WikiLeaks Tweets since last year, after Seth Rich was murdered.

Is CNN's Oliver Darcy claiming that 5 retweets by WikiLeaks and one by Julian Assange have zero relevance to this case?

It's highly doubtful WikiLeaks or Assange would go out of their way to retweet various pieces of information pertaining to the Seth Rich case, if there was no link whatsoever to Seth Rich. In addition, this doesn't mean Seth Rich was the WikiLeaks source. It only means there's a possible connection (Rich might have been involved, in some way with WikiLeaks) due to the Podesta emails stating Clinton's campaign chairman was willing to make an example of leakers, or the WikiLeaks reward, etc.

Darcy's overt disregard for Wheeler's claim of a cover-up and his statements on the importance of Seth Rich's laptop also discredits CNN's obvious hit piece on Wheeler.

Ultimately, we have the Comey memo in the news, but Americans must now see the "Darcy email."

If your email, Mr. Darcy, shows that Rod Wheeler approves 100% of the title *Story on DNC staffer's murder dominated conservative media — hours later it fell apart,* then I'll offer a sincere apology and retract my claims that you've deceived people regarding this topic.

Until then, there's a possible cover-up at the DC Police Department, and a laptop that holds the keys to the Seth Rich murder is nowhere to be found. Even if Wheeler had an IRS or NASA contact as a source, or any other federal employee, those two issues (DC Police cover-up and laptop information) would remain just as relevant, and sadly, just as ignored by people like CNN's Oliver Darcy.

Dianne Feinstein and James Clapper have both stated categorically that no direct evidence of Trump colluding with Russia exists (to their knowledge), yet circumstantial ties have dominated American media. If the same logic is applied to the Seth Rich case, circumstantial evidence points to far more than a failed robbery. Thankfully, more people care about potential police corruption, or the fate of whistleblowers, than CNN and establishment pundits.

Finally, millions of progressives, liberals, independents, and people who never vote Republican want justice for Seth Rich. To claim it's only of interest to right-wing conspiracy theorists isn't only disingenuous, but ignores a large portion of the United States wondering at this moment if there's indeed a Seth Rich cover-up.

For a complete explanation of why CNN's latest journalistic hit piece actually exonerates Rod Wheeler, just watch my critique of CNN:

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