

Danalynn Recer Interview with Sissamis half Brother 8-20-04

[Material that is irrelevant to *Los Tocayos Carlos* and contains sensitive personal information about one or more persons has been removed.]

I spoke with Mr. Sissamis twice. The first time, he called to find out who William was and whether he was legitimate and why he showed up asking about his dead brother. I explained that William was legitimate and that he was working with me and that I was his supervising attorney but that we have a lot of projects going on and I needed to look at the file and speak with William and I would call him back.

The second time, I explained that I had looked into the matter and figured out what was going on and that, first, I wanted to apologize and second, to explain. I let him know that we are looking to document the history of Carlos Hernandez and demonstrate the harm he had caused and the people he had hurt and that William had come across documents indicating that Hernandez had obviously hurt Mr. Sissamis' family, which is how William ended up on his doorstep. Mr. Sissamis repeated what he had said in the first call about William being unknown to them and they didn't understand the relevance and that he didn't have a business card the first time he came by and they were not sure what he was doing, but he also said that William was very polite and that he understands someone trying to do their job but that he was listening to the conversation between his mother and William and he felt the conversation was going in circles and that William wasn't being clear on what he really wanted. [Material removed] Mr. Sissamis then explained that his mother didn't lose a child. She wasn't the mother of Louie. Louie was the son of Mr. Sissamis' father from a previous marriage. Louie was 14 when his father re-married and he lived with his mother in Corpus, while Mr. Sissamis and his new wife were in New York starting a new family which includes Elias. So, the woman William spoke with had no biological relationship with Louie and had very limited exposure to him. Louis only lived with Elias' family for a very short time. But, Elias says that Louis was thought of in the family as a "nice, kindhearted and sweet person just like his mother."

He said the family really doesn't know what happened. Louie was in the service and came home (he doesn't know if he served in Viet Nam) on leave and met up with Carlos Hernandez' sister and started dating her. All the family knows is that one day Louie asked his father for the keys to the boat and the next thing they know, the hospital calls and he is brain dead and on life support. Elias' remembers the impact of this accident on his father:

"My father was never the same. This happened right around New Year's and every year around New Year's, my dad would get upset. He wouldn't say anything, but his whole demeanor changed and we all knew why. But, that's all I know about the loss of my brother. It's not that he was just forgotten, it's that no one who is now alive really knew him well enough to say what kind of person he was. My father is dead and my family has closed the book on this episode."

We talked a little more about what we are doing and Mr. Sissamis said that if he thought of anything helpful, he would call. They are happy to co-operate if we have a legitimate reason to ask questions, they were just taken off guard, but he doesn't think they really have much to contribute. He said that everything was fine with William and that they didn't realize he was an intern but it all makes sense now and if we need more information, we should write, but if there is something we can't wait for, then we should call his cell. Don't call the house and don't go to the house. He also mentioned that he called the Secretary of State's Office to verify that we are a legitimate corporation and wanted me to know that they told him someone else had made a complaint to the State Comptroller's Office. He says that he asked them if they had notified us of the problem and they told him that they were not allowed to do that, (which, Elias says is "typical government employee"), so he suggests that I call and try to track down the problem. He gave me phone numbers to call and figure this out on Monday.

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William Belord's interviews with Sissamis family on 8-19 and 20:

I spoke to Anna Sissanis, [material removed], aunt of the victim Louis Sissamis, on 08/19/04 at [material removed], Corpus Christi. Anna remembers nothing of the accident beyond that it happened. I asked if anyone was better able to recall the car crash and Anna said I should speak "to his mother" Frances/Frances Sissamis, [material removed], Corpus Christi.

As Danalynn has mentioned, from my second visit of 08/20/04, I met Louis's half-brother, Elias Sissamis, [material removed], at [material removed] - he came to the door half naked so there's a reasonable likelihood he lives there.

On 08/20/04 Frances was able to clarify the information she gave me on 08/19/04. Louis Sissamis was in the Army and within a short period of time was to ship out to Vietnam. For this reason his father, against his better judgment, let his son throw a party on his boat. The father is possibly Elias Sissamis Sr, [material removed]. The father was not at this party, he was working at a restaurant in Corpus Christi - whether he owned or merely worked there Frances didn't say. After work Louis's father went to his boat and found "a rough scene", with broken bottles and a woman's handbag lying on the deck. This was to be a very small party and Frances believed that if Carlos Hernandez, "that boy", had arrived, he hadn't been invited. Louis's father came home around midnight in an angry state - it was then that the phone call came to tell them of the accident. The family were told Louis had been in an accident and was being given the last rights - he died 9 days later. A newspaper article from the Corpus Christi Times on 01/01/71 puts the time of the crash at 11:20pm.

Louis's biological mother went by the name Helen Bogamary/Bogamara or similar at the time of the accident. Frances told me that she had been married four times and was also called Helen Venezuala. Helen is deceased. The father died 3 years ago.
William