

The Oregonian

Police Investigating Whose Knife Intruder Held When Shot by Portland Officer

*By Maxine Bernstein
January 14, 2018*

The dagger-type knife that detectives recovered after a Portland police officer fatally shot an intruder inside a Southeast Portland home is similar to a knife that officers commonly carry on the job.

Police officials and prosecutors on Monday declined to say if the knife belonged to Officer Consider Vosu, who shot Andre Gladen, 36, on Jan. 6.

“The DA has requested that (the Portland Police Bureau) not release further details at this time to avoid tainting an open and active investigation,” spokeswoman Lt. Tina Jones said in an email.

Brent Weisberg, Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office spokesman, also declined comment, saying in an email, “This remains an on-going investigation and no additional information about the knife, which was recovered at the scene, can be released.”

Police released a photo of the knife two days after the fatal encounter. It shows a double-sided 3/12-inch blade with finger rings. It costs about \$100, according to retail postings.

The officer’s lawyer, Michael Staropoli, declined to say whether the knife was Vosu’s, saying he had “an ethical obligation” not to violate attorney-client privilege and discuss the facts of the case while it remains under investigation.

Deputy Police Chief Bob Day said Vosu was interviewed by internal affairs investigators last week. He said the knife is similar to a type that officers often carry. Day said he didn’t know if it was Vosu’s.

One witness said Gladen was holding it at one point. It was the only knife found at the scene.

Officer Daryl Turner, president of the Portland Police Association, said officers aren’t issued knives but frequently carry their own as a tool to cut everything from seat belts or ropes on the job.

Gladen’s cousin, Diamond Randolph, said she had seen Gladen carrying a knife in the past, but it was a kitchen-type knife. She saw the photo of the knife police released as the one recovered from the scene but said she never saw Gladen “have anything like that before.”

The encounter began when Desmond Pescaia called 911 about a stranger sleeping on his front stoop. When the officer arrived, the stranger, later identified as Gladen, burst into Pescaia’s home through the open front door, he said.

Vosu followed Gladen inside the home in the 9600 block of Southeast Market Street.

Gladen slipped and fell on the living room floor and the officer tried to turn Gladen onto his stomach to put handcuffs on him, Pescaia said. Gladen then kicked the officer off and into a rear bedroom.

When Gladen reached the entry to the bedroom, the officer ordered Gladen to stand down several times before firing his Taser at him, Pescaia told The Oregonian/OregonLive. Gladen fell but got

back up and Vosu, cornered in the rear bedroom, continued to order Gladen to stand down before firing three shots at Gladen with his handgun, Pescaia said.

As Gladen fell down on his back, Pescaia said he saw a knife fall from Gladen's right hand and land beside him. Pescaia said he didn't see Gladen with a knife till then.

Gladen, who is legally blind and suffered from paranoid schizophrenia, had been at Portland Adventist Medical Center less than half a mile away before he showed up on Pescaia's doorstep, his family confirmed.

Gladen told Pescaia that he was blind, had been released from the hospital and thought someone was coming after him to kill him, Pescaia said.

Disability Rights Oregon has called for an independent inquiry into Gladen's death.

"We express our deepest sympathies to the family of Andre Gladen who was shot and killed by a Portland police officer on Sunday. Media reports indicate that Mr. Gladen experienced a mental illness and was in a mental health crisis at the time of the shooting. Many facts remain unknown," Disability Rights Oregon said in a statement.

The Portland Tribune

City Hall Update: Bike Path Approved for N. Greeley

By Jim Redden

January 15, 2019

Plus, the agenda of the City Council for the 2019 Oregon Legislature is posted online, and so is the South Reach inventory.

The City Council approved spending \$1.9 million last week to build a protected multi-use path on North Greeley Avenue between Interstate 5 and Going Street, the location of several serious crashes between trucks and bikes. It will include a two-lane bike path.

Construction is expected to begin this summer and will include a bike-only traffic signal at Going. It will be financed in part by \$650,000 raised through the city's heavy vehicle use tax.

The impact statement that accompanies the ordinance said that the Greeley Multi-Use Path "will solve a critical safety issue on N Greeley Ave in the southbound direction where the current bike facility crosses the onramp to 1-5 southbound."

Legislative agenda posted online

The Office of Government Relations has posted the City Council's agenda for the 2019 Oregon Legislature online.

It includes six priorities, which range from creating more affordable housing to supporting "resilience" efforts by helping to fund seismic upgrades in schools, municipal infrastructure and emergency service buildings.

The agenda also includes policy positions on seven issues, including economic development, transportation safety, and tax and finance reform.

The 2019 Oregon Legislature starts Tuesday, Jan. 22. The full agenda can be found at: portlandoregon.gov/ogr/article/703191.

'South Reach' inventory now on web

An updated inventory of the natural resources along the southern stretch of the Willamette River in Portland is now online.

The inventory was prepared and posted by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability to support its River Plan/South Reach project. The intent is to help protect and enhance natural resources in the South Reach and ensure the city's continued compliance with local, regional, state and federal regulations for river health and safety.

The inventory provides a useful and accessible "status report" on the location of existing natural resources, including the river, riverbanks, floodplains, tributary streams, wetlands and upland features. You can find it at: portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/707558

The Daily Journal of Commerce

An Important Investment in Revitalization

*By Josh Kulla
January 14, 2019*

O'Neill/Walsh Community Builders was very busy in 2018, and that hasn't changed in the new year.

The partnership of general contractors Walsh Construction Co. and O'Neill Construction Group specializes in building affordable housing projects in the Portland-metro area, often with public or nonprofit partners. The latest collaboration fitting that bill is under way at 8118 S.E. Division St. There, ROSE Community Development and the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) are developing a new four-story mixed-use project dubbed Orchards of 82nd.

The 51,700-square-foot building will include 48 affordable housing units with one, two or three bedrooms. The ground floor will house APANO's new headquarters and community amenities for residents. SERA Architects designed the building to Earth Advantage gold standards.

The project's budget is \$11.5 million. Some of that cost is being covered by grants from Oregon Housing and Community Services, the city of Portland and Metro.

Currently, drywall, interior and exterior finishing, painting and other finishing touches are taking place. A temporary certificate of occupancy is expected to be received within the next 30-60 days, according to Walsh Construction project manager Kent Usher and superintendent Ben Bechdolt.

Cascade Management is handling leasing of the apartments, which will be rented in tiers to households of one to eight persons making no more than 30, 50, 55 or 60 percent of the median family income, respectively.

The project fits within the vision for the Jade District – an initiative spearheaded by APANO to revitalize the 10-square-block area around Southeast 82nd Avenue and Division Street. In 2011, Prosper Portland selected the Jade District as a Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative district. The district, according to its website, “focuses on community development work in the neighborhood.”

Ground was broken on Orchards of 82nd in October 2017. The project was originally known as The Jade, but the APANO board of directors voted late last year to change the name as a nod to

the history of the area. It once featured a number of orchards and farms owned by Japanese-American families, but then much of that land was seized and the owners were interned during World War II.

The Portland Business Journal

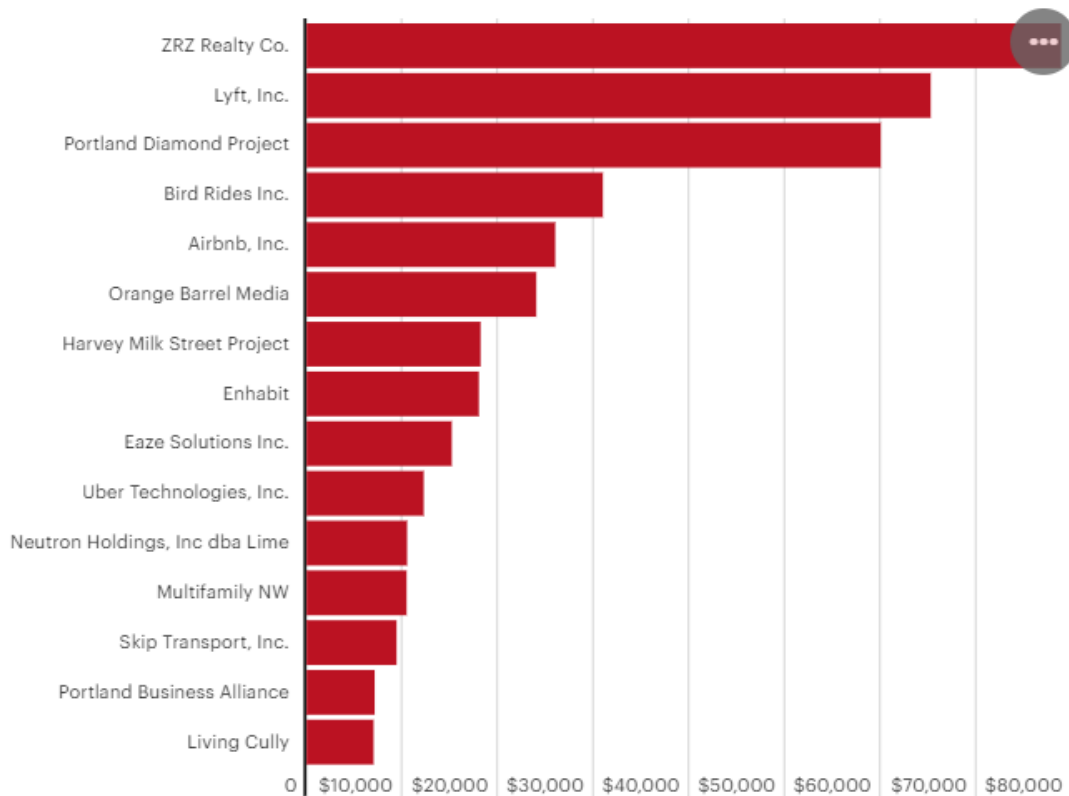
DataBank: Spending Money at Portland's City Hall

By Andy Giegerich
January 10, 2019

Each odd-numbered year, the hallowed halls of Salem teem with lobbyists looking to make deals or, at least get their faces in front of lawmakers as they make cases for the bills or causes favored by their employers or clients.

And while Oregon’s regular legislative session attracts the state’s most-noted power players (see who they are on the following pages), a variety of businesses and community groups visit with Portland’s City Hall contingent year-round. The city of Portland releases lists of how much organizations spent lobbying city commissioners and bureau heads each quarter.

Below is a chart of who spent the most through the first three quarters of 2018, the most recent timetable for which data is available. Those filing reports spent money on such items as food, refreshments, travel, entertainment and gifts, along with “compensation paid to lobbyists and reimbursements to lobbyists for their expenses.”



What They Talked About

- ZRZ Realty Co. – Zidell Yard development discussions
- Lyft, Inc. – Transportation networks
- Portland Diamond Project – Major League Baseball sites
- Bird Rides Inc. – Pilot scooter program
- Airbnb, Inc. – Short-term rentals, tourism taxes
- Orange Barrel Media – Transportation networks
- Harvey Milk Street Project – Name change for SW Stark Street
- Enhabit – Housing and community development
- Eaze Solutions Inc. – Marijuana delivery details
- Uber Technologies, Inc – Transportation networks
- Neutron Holdings, Inc dba Lime – Business licenses
- Multifamily NW – Pilot scooter program
- Skip Transport, Inc. – Rental registration, screening proposals
- Portland Business Alliance – Business and economic development
- Living Cully – Zoning, Arbor Mobile Home Park

OPB

Risks Remain At Portland Schools After Millions In Earthquake Spending

*By Rob Manning
January 14, 2019*

“This is an unreinforced masonry building. Unreinforced masonry buildings may be unsafe in an event of a major earthquake.”

That’s the message people across Portland are starting to see on the outsides of buildings, and by fall, a few thousand parents of school children will be seeing that sign on buildings they visit every day.

Parents of children in Portland Public Schools have already gotten alarming messages that more than two dozen schools are at risk in an earthquake because of aging building materials.

For now, the district has sent out messages. By fall, officials intend to post signs outside the schools, as the city of Portland requires.

The placards at PPS buildings will go up in spite of the district spending millions to address seismic problems at schools using money from three voter-approved bond measures — in 2017, 2012 and 1995.

Citywide, the Bureau of Development Services database lists more than 1,500 buildings that require placards, warning people that the structures are made of unreinforced masonry and may be at higher risk of collapse in an earthquake. Among that list are nonprofit organizations, businesses and schools, as well as churches.

Earlier this month, NAACP-Portland rallied outside of City Hall calling the placards a “scarlet letter” on older buildings, such as historically-Black churches and businesses.

“Putting a plaque on a faith institution basically closes that faith institution,” argued recently-elected city Commissioner JoAnn Hardesty the rally, as reported by the Portland Mercury. Hardesty is the city’s first African-American woman to serve on Portland City Council.

The City’s Bureau of Development Services downplayed the significance of the placards in response to concerns.

“The declaration is not a lien and does not compel any retrofitting on the part of the building owner,” said BDS Communications Manager Alex Cousins in a statement. “We look forward to working with community members and building owners to make our city safer in the event of a large earthquake.”

Seismologists have been pushing policy makers to take steps to prepare the region for a massive earthquake expected to hit the state at some point in the years to come.

Portland Public Schools began its efforts to improve the seismic resilience of its schools in 1995, when it spent \$47 million on retrofits. The improvements affected 26 schools on the city’s list of unreinforced masonry buildings. But the work was generally limited to roofs and considered “incremental,” according to a summary PPS provided to OPB.

Likewise, millions invested from the 2012 bond was considered “incremental” at 11 buildings, though the complete rebuilds at Franklin, Grant and Roosevelt high schools removed those campuses from the city’s list. Work from the 2017 bond has barely begun.

District officials say there are a few more buildings likely to be removed from the city’s “placard list,” as a result of ongoing work from the 2012 and 2017 bond. Those include Alameda, Hayhurst and Lewis. The Fernwood campus of the Beverly Cleary K-8 school and Rigler Elementary are slated to get their roofs strengthened – a step that in previous projects has been considered “incremental” and not sufficient to negate the need for a city placard.

A handful of schools are scheduled to get major overhauls under the 2017 bond, as happened with the voter-approved measure in 2012. Fully-funded master plans are underway for Lincoln and Madison – though neither of those buildings is in the city’s database as an unreinforced masonry building in need of warning signs.

Benson High School is on the city’s list, and was part of the PPS 2017 bond that voters approved, but financial overruns mean that construction of Benson will rely on a future bond, or an alternative financing plan.

George Middle School is on the city’s list of URM buildings, but has received no seismic work and is not slated to receive any, according to information PPS has provided.

Not all the PPS work was funded through construction bond measures. The district also received \$4.5 million in 2017 through the state’s Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program.

Some of the district’s seismic efforts have been directed at buildings that the city did not identify as being made of unreinforced masonry. PPS has done seismic work at 16 such schools over the last several years, guided by its own evaluation of risk and other factors.

More than half of those schools were rated as having an “expected seismic performance” of “poor,” on a district list composed in 2012, long before the city’s ordinance on unreinforced masonry buildings. But a handful, including Bridlemile, Maplewood, Stephenson elementary schools and Wilson High — all on the city’s wealthier west side — were rated as “fair” or “good,” under the seismic ratings. George Middle School, which has not received seismic work, was rated as “fair” on the district’s rating chart in 2012.