

murderer of the decedent. Mr. Kaplan knew that investigations were being conducted by the Medical Examiner's Office (at one point the Medical Examiner stated that the Medical Examiner's investigation was being monitored by the Prosecutor's Office) and the Sayreville Police, and at any point for several months he could have initiated his mandated investigation, even as Carolyn Ausley and William H. Strouse were pleading with him and his various divisions to do so, yet he refused.

For example, Mr. Kaplan was in receipt of an email sent from [REDACTED] (daughter of the decedent) to Carolyn Ausley documenting the physical and emotional abuse she and the decedent suffered at the hands of the alleged murderer, [REDACTED]. Mr. Kaplan was not even curious to act on this possible lead. Had he pursued this lead, he would have discovered that the Sayreville Police Department never developed the lead as an aggravating factor in the case against [REDACTED].

Finally, had Mr. Kaplan conducted the mandatory investigation required of him, it is highly likely the cause of death of the decedent would have been established beyond a reasonable doubt and any and all litigation, and collateral representation and expenditure of resources, both personal and on behalf of the State of New Jersey, would have been completely unnecessary. And it is possible an alleged murderer would have been brought to justice.