

Written by Kathy
Tuesday, 10 October 2017 18:28



Pictured is Euclid police fatal shooting victim Luke Stewart

ClevelandUrbanNews.Com and the KathyWrayColemanOnlineNewsBlog.Com , Ohio's most read digital Black newspapers with some 5 million readers on Google Plus alone. And the ClevelandUrbanNews.Com website stats reveal some 26 million hits since 2012. Tel: (216) 659-0473. Email: editor@clevelandurbannews.com. Kathy Wray Coleman, editor-in-chief, and who trained for 17 years at the Call and Post Newspaper in Cleveland, Ohio. We interviewed former president Barack Obama one-on-one when he was campaigning for president. As to the Obama interview, [CLICK HERE TO READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE AT CLEVELAND URBAN NEWS.COM, OHIO'S LEADER IN BLACK DIGITAL NEWS](http://ClevelandUrbanNews.Com)

CLEVELAND URBAN NEWS-COM, CLEVELAND Ohio- The family of 23-year-old Luke Stewart, a Black man killed by a Euclid, Ohio cop in March, has filed an excessive force and wrongful death lawsuit against the city, the cop that killed him and a host of other defendants, including the city's mayor, **Kirsten Holzheimer Gail**

The suit says in relevant part that Rhodes was unnecessarily beaten by officer Matthew Rhodes, tased and fatally shot, simply because he tried to drive away from cops that approached him while he was asleep in a parking lot.

Family of Luke Stewart, a Black man killed by a White Euclid, Ohio cop, sues city, cop, the city's mayor, and

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Rhodes was not indicted by a largely White grand jury for fatally shooting Stewart, who was unarmed and Black, which is routine in Cuyahoga County, from the fatal police shooting of 12-year-old Tamir Rice by Cleveland police in 2014 to a host of other Cleveland police killings in the past five years, including Tanisha Anderson, Malissa Williams, Timothy Russell, and aspiring rapper Kenneth Smith.

Led by Black Lives Matter Cleveland, activists temporarily shut down a Euclid City Council meeting this summer after city council and the mayor ignored their concerns relative to what they say is clearly excessive force by police.

"That was my son and we want justice," said Stewart's mother, Mary Stewart, to [ClevelandUrbanNews.Com](#)

and

[KathyWrayColemanOnlineNewsBlog.Com](#)

editor-in-chief Kathy Wray Coleman at the city council sit-in rally last Monday at Euclid City Hall.

His sister, Tierra Stewart, told [ClevelandUrbanNews.Com](#) and the [KathyWrayColemanOnlineNewsBlog.Com](#) that "we

need officer Mathew Rhodes off the streets."

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Euclid is a middle class Cleveland suburb of some 50,000 residents that is roughly 60 percent Black.

An attorney for the Stewart family said that the young man's family members had hoped grand jury proceedings would be fair, but to no avail.

The office of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, who, among others, is seeking the Republican nomination for governor next year, handled the investigation and presented the case to the grand jury after Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael O'Malley passed on investigating the matter, partly because of political implications, sources said.

O'Malley ousted then county prosecutor Tim McGinty in an election last year and campaigned, in part, on his posture that the office of the Ohio attorney general investigate such controversial shootings by police, although it is also within his job purview to take such cases before grand juries.

Cuyahoga County includes the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, among other cities, villages and townships, and is 29 percent Black.

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Rhodes and his partner, both of them still employed and on the job, were purportedly investigating a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of South Lakeshore Boulevard and East 215th Street in March.

As Stewart allegedly tried to pull away the officers allegedly tried to pull him from the car, Rhodes then jumping into the moving car and shooting the young Black man five times.

Police say that Stewart allegedly tried to run them over with his car, a claim his family members and attorneys say they believe is bogus.

The grand jury determination as to the Stewart killing comes on the heels of the beating by a White Euclid police officer on Aug. 12 of unarmed Black motorist Richard Hubbard, 25, whom police said had a suspended driver's license.

A video of that incident went viral.

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It was a routine traffic stop, police said of Hubbard's beating, ignoring the fact that the Black young man was beaten unmercifully, his face bruised, and swollen.

Officer Michael Amriott, who is suspended without pay pending the outcome of external and internal proceedings, is seen on the dash cam punching Hubbard several times while he was on the ground, with his partner and other witnesses watching.

Hubbard was arrested and taken to the Cuyahoga County Jail and ultimately posted bond on charges of driving under suspension and resisting arrest, charges he denies.

He now says he fears police.

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