

From: Jeremy Singer-Vine jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com
Subject: Re: Request for Clarification on Case Status Types in Homicide Log and Online Data
Date: September 10, 2018 at 5:13 PM
To: McBride, Chauncey chauncey.mcbride@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us
Bcc: sryley@thetrace.org

JS

Good afternoon Sgt. McBride, and thank you for following up via phone today. To recap our conversation (and, again, please do correct me if I've misinterpreted or misstated anything):

• You very helpfully looked into the cases classified as "GJR" (grand jury referral), and told me that they are classified as the following in DPD's system:

- 019164-2016 — CBA
- 038311-2017 — CBA
- 053328-2016 — CB*E*A
- 1020408P — Justifiable Homicide
- 105348B — CBA
- 131609T — Suspended (not a CBA or CBEA)
- 220269-2016 — CB*E*A
- 257166-2014 — Open
- 292326Z — Suspended
- 358076V — CB*E*A
- 96191B — CBA

• You also said that you had inquired about the source of the "2017-08472 Homicides & Shootings.xlsx" homicide log spreadsheet, and you are waiting to receive a response from your colleagues about it.

All best, and thanks again,
Jeremy Singer-Vine
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News

On Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 5:30 PM Jeremy Singer-Vine <jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Good afternoon Sgt. McBride, and thanks for chatting again today. To recap our conversation (and, again, please do correct me if I've misinterpreted or misstated anything):

- You looked up case # 230346X — the only case in the homicide log with a "Status" of "ONE" — and found that it currently cleared by arrest. You said that "ONE" must be an internal status; you'd never seen it before, and it's not obvious what it means.

- You also looked up the two cases marked in the homicide log as "CLOS" (cases 101474W and 296225T). Both of these cases are currently suspended.

- And you looked up the four cases I sent from the online data portal that had an "Offense Status" that was blank or "Closed/Cleared". Three (134826-2018, 135480-2018, and 221110-2016) are suspended, and the fourth (141437-2018) is open.

- You also said that, based on your review of the 68 cases in the homicide log that weren't CBA, CBEA, OPEN, or SUSP, that all 68 were murders; none were justifiable homicides or involuntary manslaughter. From a review of the entire homicide log, you said that none of the cases were unfounded.

- You said that GJR (grand jury referral) cases aren't necessarily cleared, and that it's not possible to tell from the homicide log whether a GJR case should be counted as cleared — other than by individually looking up all of those cases individually. **Follow-up question:** Given that there are just 12 such cases, would you be able to look them up? The case numbers are 019164-2016, 038311-2017, 053328-2016, 1020408P, 105348B, 131609T, 220269-2016, 220269-2016, 257166-2014, 292326Z, 358076V, and 96191B.

- You also very kindly **offered to track down the source** of the "2017-08472 Homicides & Shootings.xlsx" homicide log spreadsheet, which we received via ORR 2017-08472. Eager to hear what you find.

Sincerely, and thanks again,
Jeremy Singer-Vine
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News

On Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 12:44 PM, Jeremy Singer-Vine <jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Hello Sgt. McBride, and many thanks for taking the time today to speak on the phone. To recap our conversation (and please do correct me if I've misinterpreted or misstated anything):

- The "STATUS" codes we received in the homicide logs are internal to the homicide division. These statuses aren't necessarily used in determining how the cases are counted for UCR reporting. You said you'd be able to take a look at the homicide log spreadsheet, and provide some more detailed answers once you've seen it. The spreadsheet is attached. ("2017-08472 Homicides & Shootings.xlsx")
- "FOAL" stands for "Filed On, At Large." The status means that DPD has enough evidence to issue a warrant, but has not yet arrested the suspect.
- "PEND" stands for "Pending." Prior to DPD's transition to the current case-tracking system, "Pending" was one of the possible statuses. It could mean many different things.
- In the online data, you said there really shouldn't be blank statuses or statuses that say "Closed/Cleared". You said that if I sent a spreadsheet with those cases, you could take a closer look. The spreadsheet, with four such cases, is attached. ("dallas-online-status-blank-closedcleared.csv")

One additional inquiry, while you're looking at the homicide logs: Is it possible to determine whether all cases are murder and/or non-negligent manslaughter? Or might some be justifiable homicides and/or involuntary manslaughter?

Sincerely, and thanks again,
Jeremy Singer-Vine
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News

On Thu, Aug 23, 2018 at 8:08 PM, McBride, Chauncey <chauncey.mcbride@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us> wrote:

Greetings Mr. Singer-Vine:

Please call me at the numbers listed below. I would like to assist you with this request. I tried to call you but your voicemail was full.

Have a great evening.

Chauncey McBride, #7506
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