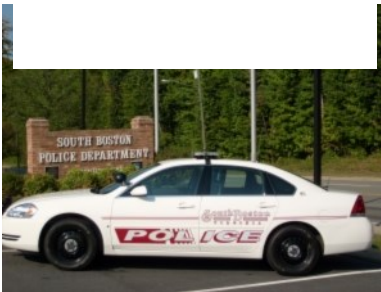


# \$25 Million Lawsuit Filed Against South Boston Police, Town

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By Valerie Bragg

CONNECT



South Boston, Va.- Relatives of a man who died in police custody have filed a \$25-million lawsuit against the South Boston police department.

The lawsuit names the unidentified officers, the police chief, the deputy police chief, and the town of South Boston all as defendants.

It states 46-year-old Linwood Lambert went with police to the hospital after they were called to his hotel room in May of 2013. They responded to his hotel room after a loud noise complaint.

A medical report referred to in the suit states Lambert was tased by police outside the hospital and then taken away by police. He was not given medical treatment at that time. Then, Lambert's whereabouts are unknown for about an hour.

The lawsuit alleges that a short time later, he was taken back to the hospital, by an ambulance, and was unresponsive. He was later pronounced dead. The lawsuit states they are told Lambert was transported from Blue Ridge Regional Jail.

Messa and Associates law firm tells ABC 13 that the medical examiner's report found three punctures in Lambert, suggestive of taser barb sites.

"We've gotten no response to our questions, we haven't gotten report and a decision was made, we weren't going to wait any longer," said Joe Messa, Attorney. "This gentleman, I mean he deserved better than this."

The State Police said it has handed over its findings in this case to the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

ABC 13 reached out to the South Boston police department's attorney, but we have not gotten a response yet.