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LAS VEGAS SWAT RAID HITS WRONG HOUSE DURING BROTHEL BUST

By James Thompson

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A peaceful Wednesday morning turned into chaos for southwest Las Vegas homeowner Kim Layson when her security system alerted her to a SWAT truck in her driveway. What followed was a devastating case of mistaken identity during a human trafficking

investigation that left her home with thousands of dollars in damage and sparked questions about police procedures.

The August 20 incident left extensive damage to Layson's garage, front door, and various parts of the property, according to KSNV News 3. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officials say the homeowner had no connection to the allegations, with the only tie coming through property records showing one of the suspects had been the previous homeowner who sold the property in 2020.

Months-Long Human Trafficking Investigation

The raid was part of a complex investigation that began in December when LVMPD documents show detectives observed advertisements promoting prostitution in a digital Chinese newspaper. Upon contacting the listed number, undercover detectives received pricing details for sexual services starting at \$300 per hour, with women between ages 18-30 being scheduled for appointments, as reported by KSNV News 3.

After several months of surveillance, police executed

multiple search warrants across several properties, leading to arrests at an active brothel near Hacienda and Tenaya. The suspects identified include Wei Wang and his girlfriend Ting Ting Wu, with Wang telling police he made around \$10,000 monthly by providing places for women to work and chauffeuring them to Las Vegas Strip casinos, as noted by News 3.

Security Cameras Capture Dramatic Raid

Layson, who has owned her Melridge Road home for five years, was away with her boyfriend and daughter during the raid. Her security footage captured the dramatic moments as SWAT teams arrived. "I got alerted for my security system, saying that someone is in my driveway. And then when I went to go look, that's when I saw the SWAT truck in my driveway. And that's when a lot of my cameras just kind of got shot at and went offline," Layson told KSNV.

Initially, Layson was told she would be liable for the damage costs, even though the suspect police were searching for hadn't lived there in over five years. Her homeowner's insurance also declined to cover the damages, as per a report by FOX5 Las Vegas.

Department Reverses Course After Media

Coverage

Following media coverage and public pressure, LVMPD changed its position and agreed to cover the repair costs. "LVMPD does have a process in place through our risk management section to handle such claims, and unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding, this claim was prematurely denied," department officials stated, as mentioned by FOX5.

The investigation also led to the raid of DG Karaoke
Lounge near Jones and Desert Inn, where Wang's
vehicle was frequently observed. That connection
resulted in the arrest of Cheng Ping Hu, who allegedly
managed the lounge.

Broader Human Trafficking Crackdown

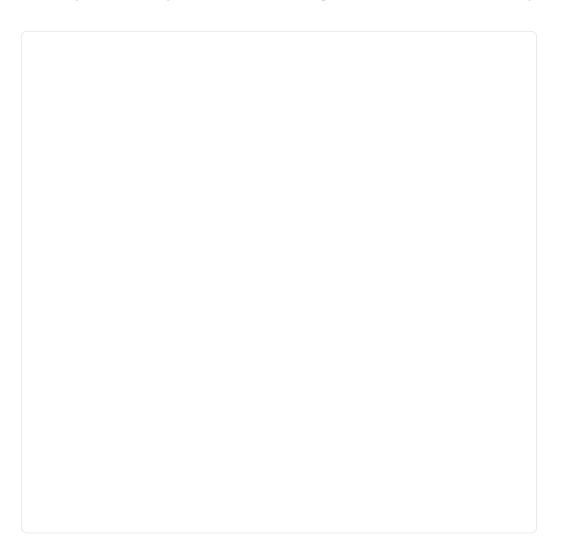
This incident occurs amid Las Vegas's intensified efforts to combat human trafficking, with FOX5 reporting new numbers from Metro showing increased enforcement activity. "We want to eliminate the environment that allows sex trafficking to flourish," police officials said, obtained by News 3.

Local attorney Neama Rahmani of West Coast Trial Lawyers suggests this case may differ from typical

scenarios. "In this particular case, if it is really true that officers didn't do their homework, didn't surveil the property, this individual hadn't been there for years, then it may be negligent," Rahmani told News 3.

The suspects are facing charges including pandering, sex trafficking, living from earnings of prostitution, and encouraging a brothel, with preliminary hearings scheduled for September 10. While LVMPD ultimately took responsibility for the damages, the incident raises questions about pre-raid intelligence gathering and verification procedures in ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking operations in the valley.

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