

Doreen Phillips was also in attendance at the pool. Her account of the incident is that the female lifeguard on the north side of the pool yelled, "Everyone out of the pool" twice then she said, "Jason : someone's in the deep end". Next she walked over to the deep end and took her cover-up off, paused a second and dove in. A crowd of people were in front and Mrs. Phillips was watching three children so she didn't see what happened in the water. After that, she noticed her neighbor and her husband were running over to help. A female lifeguard yelled, "Someone call 911". According to Mrs. Phillips, once the rescue got there they moved slow to get to the victim, got him on a stretcher and left.

Joe Klimczak observed the incident from across the pool. His account of the incident is that he heard the megaphone and observed the lifeguard come down and stand at the side of the pool. According to Mr. Klimczak, the lifeguard stood looking into the water for approximately two minutes before she finally dove in and came up with the victim. Mr. Klimczak said there were two other people attempting to help the lifeguard to which she told them that they had no authority to be there. Mr. Klimczak saw no CPR administered until EMS pulled into the parking lot. He further states that the entire incident appeared to be in slow motion and, when the rescue squad arrived, the Livonia Fire Rescue workers moved very slowly.

Danielle Newell was interviewed by writer on August 5, 1996. Ms. Newell gives the following account of the incident. She had been in the pool since approximately 1:15 P.M. with friends. She was first sitting near the shallow end of the pool but decided to move to the deep end where there were less people. At this time, there were two lifeguards sitting at the office door and another one taking money and one on a guard stand. After removing their things, one of the female guards came to her post right in front of them. A couple of minutes later they all jumped in the pool and within second the lifeguard asked, "Is that a body?". The brother of the drowning boy said, "Oh that's my brother. He can hold his breath for a long time". Ms. Newell went on to state that the lifeguard called to the male lifeguard and told him to get everyone out of the pool. She did this twice. Next she took her shirt off and dove in. By this time, a few men were running over. When she surfaced with the boy, the other lifeguards were not there to help her. She was asking for someone to grab his arms. Ms. Newell states the victim was completely blue and unconscious. The boy was removed from the pool, placed on his back and some of the other people were telling the guard to turn him on his side which didn't happen until he started vomiting. Ms. Newell stated prior to this it looked as if the guard tried CPR. Ms. Newell states that the victim did come to enough to moan. When the fire rescue units arrived, according to Ms. Newell, they seemed in no hurry as they basically strolled down to the victim.

8

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Fatal Drowning Investigation
Location: City of Livonia
Clement Circle Public Pool
Livonia, Michigan 48150

Investigator: Ken Ascher

Information requested and released
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