

To:

police@corvallisoregon.gov

benjamin.harvey@corvallisoregon.gov

crystal.patterson@corvallisoregon.gov

michele.tycker@corvallisoregon.gov

Cc (optional):

Police Chief Jason Harvey

Re: Community Grievance and Request for Factual Clarification Regarding the Death of Joshua Browning (Corvallis, Oregon)

To Chief Harvey and Members of the Corvallis Police Department,

I write on behalf of a grieving and deeply affected community to respectfully request factual clarification regarding the death of Joshua Browning in Corvallis,

Oregon.

Joshua was a beloved artist, friend, and community member. Although he was unhoused, he was not without connection, care, or family. He was known and loved across multiple overlapping communities, including the day-center community, the unhoused community, the local artist community, mutual-aid organizers, and members of the faith community. His loss has had a profound and shared impact.

At present, the absence of clear, factual public information has compounded that grief. Uncertainty has created fear and emotional distress among those who knew and loved him. This letter is submitted not to accuse, speculate, or interfere, but to respectfully request general factual clarification so that the

community can better understand the circumstances of his death and begin a process of collective healing.

Purpose and Scope of This Inquiry

This inquiry is made in good faith and with full respect for any ongoing investigative process. The community does not seek confidential evidence, investigative strategy, or information that would compromise the integrity of any inquiry. Rather, we seek high-level factual information commonly included in death-investigation summaries and public statements.

When a death affects a vulnerable individual and a tightly connected community, the absence of clear information can unintentionally foster fear

that others may be at risk. Transparent communication, where appropriate, supports both public trust and public safety.

Areas of Factual Clarification Requested

To the extent permitted by law and investigative protocol, the community respectfully requests clarification on the following factual points:

1. Personal Effects

Whether Joshua Browning's personal effects were found on his person or nearby, and if so, a general description of those items (without disclosing sensitive or evidentiary details).

2. Observed Injuries or Markings

Whether responding personnel observed

any visible injuries, markings, or indications of defensive wounds, struggle, or trauma, and whether such observations are consistent with preliminary findings.

3. Preliminary Manner of Death Classification

Whether the death is currently considered non-suspicious, suspicious, undetermined, or pending further review, recognizing that classifications may change as information develops.

4. Public Safety Considerations

Whether there is any indication that members of the public, particularly unhoused individuals or those utilizing community spaces, should be concerned about an ongoing or unresolved safety risk.

5. Next Steps and Communication

Whether additional public updates are anticipated, and if so, through what channel and on what general timeline the community might expect further information.

Community Impact

Joshua's death has deeply affected people who rely on mutual trust, shared spaces, and community-based care. For individuals already navigating precarity, silence and uncertainty can feel destabilizing and frightening. Clear, factual communication—where appropriate—would significantly assist the community in moving from fear and speculation toward understanding and healing.

This request is rooted in respect for

Joshua's dignity, for the work of your department, and for the community's need for truthful, careful communication.

Closing

Thank you for your time, attention, and service. We recognize the complexity and sensitivity of death investigations and appreciate your consideration of this request. Any clarification you are able to provide will be received with gratitude and respect.

Sincerely,

**Concerned Community Members of
Corvallis**

Mailing Address (if sending by post):

Corvallis Police Department

180 NW 5th Street

Corvallis, OR 97330