

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

PROVIDENCE, SC.

SUPERIOR COURT

RHODE ISLAND AFFILIATE, AMERICAN
CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, INC. AND
STEVEN BROWN,

Plaintiffs

v.

JOSEPH MORAN, III, IN HIS CAPACITY
AS THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE CITY
OF CENTRAL FALLS,

Defendant

C.A. No. _____

COMPLAINT

1. Plaintiff, Rhode Island Affiliate, American Civil Liberties Union, Inc. (RI ACLU) is a non-profit corporation existing under the laws of the State of Rhode Island with a principal place of activity in Providence, Rhode Island.

2. Plaintiff, Steven Brown, is a resident of Barrington, Bristol County, Rhode Island and is Executive Director of Rhode Island Affiliate, American Civil Liberties Union, Inc.

3. Defendant, Joseph Moran, III, is sued in his capacity as the Chief of Police of the Central Falls Police Department of Central Falls, Rhode Island.

4. This action is brought under R.I. Gen. Laws §§38-2-1, *et seq.*, entitled, "Access to Public Records."

The Shooting

5. On Sunday, April 8, 2007, Central Falls police responded to a 9-1-1 call on Rand Street. During that call, the Central Falls police shot and killed a man later identified as

Selvin Garrido Morales.

6. Defendant Moran has released various and selective details regarding this shooting.

7. On Monday, April 9, 2007, Defendant Moran announced to the public and press that a man called 9-1-1 for help at 9:53 p.m. on April 8th.

8. Defendant Moran also announced to the public and press that when police entered the apartment at 71 Rand Street, a man was holding a knife over his head.

9. Defendant Moran also announced that the man came at the police and that the officers warned the man to put the knife down.

10. Defendant Moran also announced that the man did not listen and the officers were forced to fire at him.

11. Defendant Moran also announced that the man who was shot was in his late twenties.

12. Defendant Moran also announced that he was convinced that the officers' lives were in danger and that the Central Falls Police Department was standing by its officers.

13. Defendant Moran also announced that faced with similar circumstances, he would have done the same thing and that the shooting was justified.

14. On Tuesday, April 10, 2007, Defendant Moran publicly confirmed the identity of the shooting victim as Selvin Garrido Morales, age 27.

15. Despite the disclosure of other facts relating to the shooting, Defendant Moran refused and continues to refuse to release the police report or other details of the shooting, including the identities of the police officers involved in the shooting.

The Public Records Request

16. On or about April 16, 2007, Plaintiffs, RI ACLU and Steven Brown,