

# CALUMET COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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Complaint No.  
05-0157-955

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**TYPE OF ACTIVITY:** Contact with George, Jason and Jo Ellen Zipperer

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:** 11/03/05

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Inv. John Dederling

**DOCUMENTS**

**GENERATED:** None

On Thursday, 11/03/05 at approximately 2140 hrs., Det. REMIKER, Sgt. COLBORN and myself (Inv. DEDERING) did attempt to make contact at the residence of GEORGE ZIPPERER located at 4433 CTH B, Manitowoc, WI.

We initially received no response to our repeated knocks at the door. MANITOWOC CO. DISPATCH was advised to place calls to the phone number for the ZIPPERERS and they indicated that they reached an answering machine. I also attempted to contact the ZIPPERER residence via cellular phone and obtained the same results.

The door was ultimately answered by the following individual:

GEORGE B. ZIPPERER  
DOB 05/16/40  
4433 CTH B  
Manitowoc, WI  
Phone 920-682-5719

GEORGE was extremely belligerent initially, and it was my impression that he was apparently intoxicated. GEORGE indicated to me that the person from the AUTO TRADER had been at his residence, and that he wanted her arrested. He indicated that she had no permission to be on his property, and therefore, she was trespassing. GEORGE continued in a boisterous manner even after I advised him that TERESA HALBACH had been reported as a missing person, and that his telephone number was one of the last numbers she had placed outgoing telephone calls to from her cellular phone.

I also spoke with GEORGE's son, JASON W. ZIPPERER, 09/14/87, same address and phone. He indicated that he had advertised a '77 Pontiac Firebird for sale, but to his knowledge, he had not made any contact with the AUTO TRADER to have it advertised. JASON ZIPPERER indicated that he attends LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL, Manitowoc, WI, and that he was there the entire day on Monday, 10/31. He further indicates that he attends LTC in Cleveland on Tuesdays.

During this time, he did walk me out to the '77 Firebird that he had for sale. He indicated that this vehicle was located south of the ZIPPERER residence and it was somewhat concealed by

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trees. JASON indicated the vehicle could be seen from the road, and when I looked backwards towards the road, I determined that this, in fact, was the case.

I asked JASON and GEORGE whether either of them had made contact with the AUTO TRADER to schedule a photography shoot of the vehicle. JASON indicated he did not and GEORGE further denied calling the AUTO TRADER magazine.

I did address statements made apparently by GEORGE to Cpl. LEMIEUX (see LEMIEUX's detailed report for information concerning this). GEORGE indicated that he had, in fact, told Cpl. LEMIEUX that his son, JASON, was on his way to Alaska to find work. ZIPPERER indicated that he does this to "have a little fun" when people who he does not know call his phone.

At 2153 hrs., I was allowed into the ZIPPERER residence. I did review voice mail messages left on the answering machine and Caller IDs. I did locate a Caller ID entry on 10/31/05 at 2:12 p.m. from phone number 920-737-4731. I recognized this as being the cellular phone number of TERESA HALBACH.

I did review the voice mail messages and did locate a voice mail message from TERESA HALBACH indicating that she was calling on Monday about 2:15 p.m. She stated she was in the neighborhood, and that she was trying to photograph a 1977 Pontiac Firebird. She stated that she was having problems finding the residence and hoped to do so in the next few minutes.

I had been allowed access to the residence by both JO ELLEN ZIPPERER and GEORGE ZIPPERER.

It should be noted that this voice mail message or answering machine message was subsequently copied by Det. JACOBS on Sunday, 11/06/05.

In speaking with JO ELLEN NMI ZIPPERER, DOB 07/15/46, she stated she was in the backyard and apparently missed the telephone call that Ms. HALBACH placed. She stated sometime in the afternoon, a young lady did come to the residence and advised that she was from the AUTO TRADER and was there to photograph a vehicle. She indicated she gave the young lady directions to where the car described as a 1977 Firebird had been located, and the girl had come back between five and ten minutes later indicating that she had gotten her pictures. JO ELLEN ZIPPERER advised the girl was happy and smiling. Ms. ZIPPERER indicated that she did not see what vehicle, if any, the young lady had arrived in, nor could she tell me whether the young lady had arrived by herself or with someone else. JO ELLEN indicate she could not determine which direction the young lady traveled on CTH B when she left as she had never actually seen the vehicle the young lady arrived in.

JO ELLEN and GEORGE did provide me with a copy of an AUTO TRADER magazine, which had been left by the photographer, along with some pricing information and a yellow sign

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indicating "For Sale as Advertised in AUTO TRADER." I thanked the ZIPPERERS for their information and left the residence. These items were subsequently placed into evidence.

John Dederig, Inv.  
Calumet Co. Sheriff's Dept.  
JD/ds

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**TYPE OF ACTIVITY:** Contact with George Zipperer

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:** 11/06/05

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Inv. John Dederling

**DOCUMENTS  
GENERATED:** None

On Sunday, 11/06/05 at 0821 hrs., I (DEDERING) assisted by Det. JACOBS did make contact with GEORGE ZIPPERER, previously mentioned in this report at his residence, 4433 CTH B, Manitowoc, WI.

Prior to asking ZIPPERER any questions, I advised him he was free to go, was not under arrest and could terminate the conversation at anytime he so chose. He indicated he understood this. HE stated he would agree to answer questions.

I asked GEORGE ZIPPERER if he had ever done business with the AVERY'S AUTO SALVAGE operation. His response was "Hell no, I don't even know them." I asked him if he had ever been at the AVERY business and he responded, "No." I asked him if he was in any way related or close friends with the AVERYS and his response was "No."

GEORGE ZIPPERER indicated that on Monday, 10/31/05, he was at BELABAN REAL ESTATE OFFICES near the intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> and Marshall in the City of Manitowoc. He stated that he was on the job site from 8:00 a.m. approximately until 5:00 p.m. He stated that he never left the job site and has witnesses that can verify this.

GEORGE indicated that a female photographer had called the residence previously and was told by GEORGE not to come onto the property. GEORGE did not recall when this conversation had taken place.

I did take the following written statement from GEORGE ZIPPERER:

- *"On Monday, 10/31/05, I was on a job on Marshall Street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in Manitowoc. I got there at 8: am. I didn't leave the site during the day, and I left the job about 5 pm. Mark Belaban was there, along with at least one employee, Rick Strosner (ph). There was also a painter there. The building is on the S/W corner 11<sup>th</sup> & Marshall.*

*I've never done business with the Avery family. I've never been to the Avery junk yard. I am not friends with any of the Avery family.*

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*I have dictated this statement to Investigator Dederling. I have read this statement and have initialed all the corrections. The statement is true and accurate."*

This statement was signed in my presence by GEORGE ZIPPERER at 1045 hrs. on 11/06/05.

My contact with GEORGE ZIPPERER ended at 0852 hrs.

Investigation continues.

John Dederling, Inv.  
Calumet Co. Sheriff's Dept.  
JD/ds

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**TYPE OF ACTIVITY:**     **Attempted Contact with George Zipperer**

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:**     **01/19/06**

**REPORTING OFFICER:**   **Inv. John Dederling**

**DOCUMENTS GENERATED:**   **None**

On Thursday, 01/19/06, at 1220 hours, Inv. BALDWIN and I (DEDERING) did attempt to contact GEORGE ZIPPERER, previously mentioned in this report. The individual I spoke with indicated she did not know where GEORGE was and was unable to contact him, as he had no cell phone. She indicated no one ever knows where GEORGE works. She indicated GEORGE does not have a cellular telephone nor does JASON have a cellular telephone.

Investigation continues.

Inv. John Dederling  
Calumet Co. Sheriff's Dept.  
JD/bdg

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**TYPE OF ACTIVITY:** Telephone Contact with George Zipperer

**DATE OF ACTIVITY:** 01/20/06

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Inv. John Dederling

**DOCUMENTS GENERATED:** None

On Friday, 01/20/06, at 8:44 a.m., I (DEDERING) did place a telephone call to GEORGE ZIPPERER, previously mentioned in this report, in response to a call he had placed to the sheriff's department.

GEORGE indicated there are no cell phones in the house with the exception of his daughter's cell phone.

GEORGE stated he did call AUTO TRADER on one occasion after HALBACH went missing. He stated he spoke to someone about HALBACH coming onto his yard without permission and that she was trespassing.

GEORGE denied making any sort of phone call in which he purported himself to be STEVEN AVERY.

GEORGE stated he believes some AUTO TRADER representative called asking when he was going to "pay the bill." He then indicated it was a possibility he had called the AUTO TRADER regarding this matter.

GEORGE once again denied making any sort of phone calls to AUTO TRADER purporting himself to be STEVEN AVERY.

I asked GEORGE if it was possible that JASON had contacted AUTO TRADER and he stated he was unsure about this.

Investigation continues.

Inv. John Dederling  
Calumet Co. Sheriff's Dept.  
JD/bdg