

# Convicted murderer seeks report on Springfield police

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STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

*Posted Jun 01, 2008 @ 11:09 PM*

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Attorneys for a man sentenced to 25 years in prison for murder are asking to see a 2,300-page Illinois State Police report on the conduct of detectives at the Springfield Police Department.

John V. Dougherty, 50, was convicted in October 2005 of stabbing Michael Stursa to death in a dispute over a \$40 marijuana debt. The case was mentioned in a summary of the state police report on charges by a fellow police officer against former detectives Jim Graham and Paul Carpenter.

The summary indicated that Graham and a third detective had butted heads over whether an informant should have been paid for information provided in the Stursa murder. The third detective submitted one of his informant's names for Crime Stoppers money but learned that a relative of Graham's had already been paid for the information.

The request for the report, filed by attorney Mark Wykoff in the appeal of Dougherty's conviction, states that the summary "potentially triggers a plethora of constitutional wrongs pertaining to the very cause before this Honorable Court."

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