

# EXHIBIT 1

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## Police search home of Patriots' Hernandez

*Follows discovery of body in town*

Boston Globe - Boston, Mass.

Subjects: District attorneys; Criminal investigations; Athletes; Professional football; Human remains

Author: Andersen, Travis; Reiss, Jaclyn

Date: Jun 19, 2013

Start Page: A.1

Section: Metro

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### Document Text

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NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH -- State and local police descended on the upscale home of New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez on Tuesday night, one day after a body was found in an industrial yard in town.

North Attleborough police stood guard on either side of Hernandez's home as troopers passed in and out of the residence and a crowd of onlookers and media milled outside.

Sports Illustrated's website, citing unnamed sources, reported Tuesday that Hernandez was not believed to be a suspect in the person's death. But State Police had spoken with him in connection with an investigation into the discovery of the body on Monday night, according to the report.

The Sports Illustrated report also said troopers wanted to search Hernandez's home and that a rental car linked to the football player is tied to the death.

A State Police spokesman could not confirm Tuesday that troopers had questioned Hernandez.

Shortly before 7 p.m. Tuesday, two men got into a white, four-door sedan parked in Hernandez's driveway and tried to drive out, but they were prevented from leaving by state troopers. The men exited the white sedan and spoke briefly with authorities before getting into separate cruisers that drove off. Troopers later searched the sedan in the driveway.

Also at the scene, troopers escorted a young woman into Hernandez's sprawling home on Ronald C. Meyer Drive at about 7:35 p.m., and additional State Police personnel were visible inside the three-story, gray house adorned with columns at the front entrance.

State Police could also be seen taking pictures inside, and a man who resembled Hernandez peered out the glass panes of the front door just before 9 p.m. One trooper who left the house just after 9:30 was carrying a box.

Bristol District Attorney C. Samuel Sutter's office released no new details on Tuesday of the death investigation, and a spokeswoman would not say whether officials suspected foul play or confirm media reports that the deceased was a 27-year-old Boston man.

Sutter's office said previously that the body was found in an industrial park at about 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

The district attorney did not identify the precise location of the park, but Erik Dahl, a neighbor, said that he saw police at an industrial yard about a quarter-mile from Ronald C. Meyer Drive when he was driving home at about 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

"There were cops with metal detectors on both sides of the road -- it's a main road, everybody uses it," Dahl said.

He described the area as quiet and family friendly. During Halloween, he said, many children flock to the neighborhood and try to figure out which houses belong to the Patriots players that live in the area.

Hernandez, 23, was the Patriots' fourth-round pick in 2010 and is currently rehabbing from shoulder surgery. He has become one of the team's top offensive stars, catching 18 touchdown passes in three seasons.

The Patriots, Hernandez's agent, the Bristol district attorney's office, and local police all declined to comment Tuesday on Hernandez and the investigation.

"I am aware of the reports, but I do not anticipate that we will be commenting publicly during an ongoing police

investigation," said team spokesman Stacey James in a statement.

Hernandez has had prior off-field issues during his playing career.

NFL team sources told the Globe in 2010 that Hernandez, who played at Florida, slipped to the fourth round in the draft because of multiple failed drug tests for marijuana as a collegian.

He told teams at the NFL Scouting Combine that his drug use stemmed from the 2006 death of his father, Dennis, who died of complications following hernia surgery while Hernandez was a junior at Bristol (Conn.) Central High.

"Depending on who you talk to, some people thought he was a late first- or early second-round prospect. Eventually, the risk was overcome by the value," one pro scout told the Globe at the time.

Ben Volin of the Globe staff and Globe correspondent Haven Orecchio-Egresitz contributed to this report. Travis Andersen can be reached at [tandersen@globe.com](mailto:tandersen@globe.com). Follow him on Twitter @TAGlobe.

Credit: By Travis Andersen and Jaclyn Reiss Globe Staff and Globe Correspondent

### Illustration

Caption: Police surrounded the North Attleborough home. New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez is shown on the field during practice in Foxborough last month. He is currently rehabbing from shoulder surgery. Robert E. Klein for the Boston Globe Michael Dwyer/AP

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### Abstract (Document Summary)

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# EXHIBIT 2

## Probe swirls around Hernandez

*Acquaintance is deemed victim of homicide*

Boston Globe - Boston, Mass.

Subjects: Professional football -- New England Patriots; Murders & murder attempts; Victims of crime; Criminal investigations

Author: Arsenault, Mark; Lowery, Wesley; Ballou, Brian

Date: Jun 20, 2013

Start Page: A.1

Section: Metro

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### Document Text

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The Dorchester family of Odin Lloyd, an acquaintance of New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez, pleaded for justice Wednesday for the 27-year-old found slain Monday in an industrial park near Hernandez's home in North Attleborough.

Lloyd's violent death, ruled a homicide Wednesday after an autopsy, has brought police to Hernandez's door, inside his house, and embroiled the Patriots tight end in an unfolding murder investigation.

Police are asking for help finding a silver side-view mirror, which may have broken off a car between Dorchester and North Attleborough, according to a statement from Bristol District Attorney C. Samuel Sutter. Sutter did not explain why the mirror is significant, or whose car it might have come from.

Lloyd's sister Olivia Thibou wept Wednesday evening for her brother, saying, "He's always had my back through everything. . . .

And I hope that they find out who did it."

Meanwhile, in a federal lawsuit filed last week in Florida, Hernandez is accused of shooting a man in February after an argument at a Miami strip club, Tootsie's.

Alexander S. Bradley, a Connecticut resident, says in court filings that Hernandez fired a gun at him, either intentionally or by gross negligence, destroying Bradley's right eye and causing extensive damage requiring multiple surgeries "to reconstruct his face."

Now disfigured, Bradley has become "substantially disabled" and will need medical care for the rest of his life, the lawsuit says.

Police in Florida investigated the incident at the time, but Bradley did not name Hernandez as the shooter and investigators closed the case without filing charges.

After searching Hernandez's sprawling North Attleborough home Tuesday, state troopers scoured the underbrush Wednesday near where Lloyd's body was found. They used long sticks to push back the thick brush.

An investigator also searched the neighborhood around Lloyd's home on Fayston Street in Dorchester for security or surveillance cameras. Though Boston police are working on the case with State Police from Sutter's office, it was unclear which agency was looking for videotape.

Ropes & Gray, the law firm representing Hernandez, declined to discuss the case. "It has been widely reported in the media that the State Police have searched the home of our client, Aaron Hernandez, as part of an ongoing investigation," Michael Fee of the law firm said in a statement. "Out of respect for that process, neither we nor Aaron will have any comment about the substance of that investigation until it has come to a conclusion."

In Dorchester Wednesday, a stream of friends, neighbors, and family members visited the yellow, two-family home where Lloyd lived.

About 11 a.m. a man describing himself as Lloyd's uncle came to the door and spoke briefly about his nephew. No one in the family, he said, had seen Lloyd since Sunday.

"We're not doing good," said the uncle, who identified himself only as Ed. "It's very tough, and I never expected to be put in this type of situation."

Ursula Ward, Lloyd's mother, addressed reporters Wednesday evening.

"First and foremost, I would like to thank the person who found my son," she said. "My son is a wonderful child. He's a family guy."

She struggled to continue, overcome with grief. "He hasn't done anything to hurt anyone," she said. "And all I have to say to you guys is please let me grieve my child in peace."

She declined to comment about Lloyd's relationship with Hernandez.

Several neighbors who live on the busy street said they have seen Lloyd and Hernandez together.

One Fayston Street neighbor, Kevin Mallory, said it was well known in the neighborhood that Lloyd hung out with members of the Patriots and was often seen driving a variety of cars, always marked with Patriots decals and stickers.

Mallory also said Lloyd usually kept to himself, but was a regular at a nearby park where Lloyd would go to work out, not hang out. He said Lloyd was in good shape and would probably be able to defend himself in a confrontation.

"Of everybody on this street, he was the one who could take care of himself," Mallory said, "so there had to be some shaky stuff if he was the guy killed."

Lloyd, a linebacker for the semipro Boston Bandits, was in a good mood Saturday night, after knocking heads in a football scrimmage at a high school field in Boston, said his coach. Not only had he played well, Lloyd had taken time to mentor a younger teammate, in what is known as a working man's league for amateurs who play for the love of the game.

Lloyd had played for the Bandits since 2007, head coach Olivier Bustin said in an interview. The speedy pass rushing specialist, listed at 5 feet 11 inches and 215 pounds, had played at the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science in Roxbury, said Bustin.

The scrimmage finished about 9:30 p.m. Saturday, and that was the last Bustin heard from Lloyd.

Lloyd attended O'Bryant until 2003 and earned a diploma from Hyde Park High School in 2005, according to the School Department.

Two criminal cases against Lloyd were dismissed in Dorchester District Court, records show.

He was arrested in 2008 for an alleged fight and in 2010 was accused of breaking and entering.

In North Attleborough, State Police returned to the Hernandez home about 10 a.m. Wednesday. After knocking on the door and making several telephone calls from the front porch, they left.

A woman driving a silver Nissan Juke sport utility vehicle with license plate "Herndz" pulled into the driveway about 10:40 a.m., and carried a small white dog into the house. She declined to comment.

On Tuesday, a small platoon of troopers spent several hours searching Hernandez's house on Ronald C. Meyer Drive.

The lawsuit in Florida, first reported Wednesday by the website TMZ, was filed last week. Bradley, the plaintiff, withdrew the lawsuit Monday because of an error in the text of the complaint, said his lawyer, David Jaroslawicz. He intended to refile the complaint Wednesday, after making a correction to a list of Bradley's alleged injuries from the gunshot.

According to police reports on the incident filed with the Palm Beach sheriff's office, authorities responded to 3635 Fiscal Court in Riviera Beach about 7 a.m. Feb. 13 and discovered Bradley, 30, lying behind a John Deere store with apparent gunshot wounds to his head and right hand. Staff at an area hospital later told police that Bradley had been shot in the right temple and had lost his right eye, said one of the reports. Bradley repeatedly told police he did not know who shot him and said the assailants were Hispanic and black males, the reports said.



Kevin Riddle, manager of the John Deere store, told police that he and an employee heard a single gunshot shortly after 6:30 a.m., and he later saw Bradley lying outside in a fetal position, bleeding from the head with his eyes swollen shut. Bradley begged for help: "Tell them to hurry -- I'm gonna bleed out." Bradley also told Riddle he did not know who shot him, saying: "I'm done talking -- it hurts too bad."

Bradley was "extremely uncooperative" with police on the way to the hospital and was "very rude and uncooperative" with hospital staff, as well, one report said. He refused to cooperate with investigators, prompting them to close the case.

Travis Andersen, Akilah Johnson, and Shalise Manza Young of the Globe staff and Globe correspondents Derek J. Anderson and Javier Panzar contributed to this report. Mark Arsenault can be reached at [marsenault@globe.com](mailto:marsenault@globe.com).

Credit: By Mark Arsenault, Wesley Lowery, and Brian Ballou Globe Staff

### Illustration

Caption: Neighbors of Odin Lloyd (above) reported seeing him with Patriots receiver Aaron Hernandez (top). State Police searched a wooded area in North Attleborough Wednesday. Ursula Ward is the mother of Odin Lloyd. Photos by Robert E. Klein for the Boston Globe

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### Abstract (Document Summary)

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Lloyd's violent death, ruled a homicide Wednesday after an autopsy, has brought police to Hernandez's door, inside his house, and embroiled the Patriots tight end in an unfolding murder investigation. "First and foremost, I would like to thank the person who found my son," she said.

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# EXHIBIT 3

## A clue that Hernandez was with man found slain

*Officials cite video taken in Boston on day body was discovered*

Boston Globe - Boston, Mass.

Subjects: Law enforcement; Reporters; Human remains; Criminal investigations

Author: Arsenault, Mark; Irons, Meghan E

Date: Jun 21, 2013

Start Page: A.1

Section: Metro

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### Document Text

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Video images taken early Monday morning appear to show New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez together on Fayston Street in Boston with a Dorchester man whose bullet-ridden body was discovered later that day in a North Attleborough industrial park near Hernandez's house, say two law enforcement officials.

Hernandez, an up-and-coming NFL star, is not cooperating with police, said a law enforcement official with direct knowledge of the investigation.

The existence of the video evidence and a second video showing Hernandez later that morning in North Attleborough came to light Thursday as police continued to search the industrial park where the body of Odin L. Lloyd, 27, an acquaintance of Hernandez and a semipro football player, was discovered. The source of the videos was not immediately clear.

"He was killed where they found the body," said one law enforcement official. "He was shot multiple times."

Investigators have not declared Hernandez a suspect, though police moved swiftly to speak to him after Lloyd was found slain. State Police searched Hernandez's sprawling home Tuesday. On Wednesday and Thursday they scoured the site where Lloyd was found dead, looking for shell casings, said two officials.

Investigators are trying to determine a possible motive as they continue to work to build a case, said one official.

Reporters have staked out Hernandez's home for days, as questions continue to build about his connection to Lloyd.

In a surreal scene uncannily reminiscent of O.J. Simpson's infamous white Bronco chase, 19 years ago this week, television news helicopters trailed Hernandez's white sport utility vehicle Thursday, following him from his home to Gillette Stadium, in nearby Foxborough, and to his lawyer's office in Boston. He declined to speak to a surge of reporters when he stopped at a gas station.

An attorney for Hernandez, Michael Fee, emerged around 8 p.m. from the offices of Ropes & Gray, a law firm in the Prudential Center. As a small group of reporters followed him asking questions, he said his client had left the building, though did not say when. He declined to comment on the substance of the meeting.

Fee did not return a call and e-mail seeking comment.

Meanwhile in Florida, lawyers for a man who says that Hernandez shot him in February, leaving him disfigured and half-blind, refiled a federal lawsuit seeking damages against the football player. The case, originally filed last week, had been withdrawn Monday so that an error could be fixed in the text of the complaint.

Alexander Bradley, 30, of East Hartford, Conn., says in the suit that Hernandez pointed a gun at him after an argument in a Miami strip club and, either intentionally or through negligence, fired.

Bradley's lawyer, David Jaroslawicz, said the police investigation in Massachusetts does not directly affect his case, "except that if he's not playing football, he might not have any money for us to collect once we get a damage award."

Jaroslawicz could not explain why Bradley stymied the criminal investigation into the shooting by telling Florida police in February that he did not know who shot him, as police described in reports.

"I haven't seen the police report," Jaroslawicz said in a phone interview. "You know more than I do. Bye." Then he hung up.

In July 2006, Bradley was convicted in Connecticut of selling drugs and sentenced to five years in jail with the balance suspended after 18 months, according to court records.

Several people on Thursday evening came in and out of the green duplex with attached garage listed as Bradley's home. All declined comment.

Bradley has not spoken publicly since the news of his lawsuit was reported on Wednesday and it is unclear if Hernandez, who is also from Connecticut, knew him prior to the incident.

On Dorchester's Fayston Street, where Lloyd's family lives at the edge of Blue Hill Avenue, grief arrived in twos and threes as mourners stopped by Thursday.

His family, which has roots in Antigua, placed several of Lloyd's sports trophies on the rail of their front porch. A framed photograph set amid the trophies showed Lloyd in a blue football uniform with what appeared to be the number 82.

Lloyd played linebacker for the semipro Boston Bandits and participated in a scrimmage at a high school field in Boston Saturday night. Lloyd had played for the Bandits since 2007 and was considered a speedy pass rushing specialist, according to his coach.

Grieving neighbors and family were filled with disbelief and questions about Lloyd's death and the connection to Hernandez.

"I want to know, what happened? Who did this to him? Who brought him there? Why?" said one woman, who would only say she is a cousin of the slain man.

Another cousin said someone picked up Lloyd from the family home hours before he was found dead on Monday.

"This is hurting his mother," said cousin Genevieve Monell, speaking of Lloyd's mother, Ursula Ward. "That's her only son. She's a loving mother." Monell said Lloyd was born in St. Croix.

He had a job and did not have children, she said. The last person he spoke with was his sister.

Residents on the street sounded shaken. "Let's not forget that he is the victim," said neighbor Paul Sandefur. "When you are dealing with these cases involving big-name people, the victim gets lost. Everybody is talking about the celebrity, but the victim gets lost."

Maria Cramer, Wesley Lowery, Travis Andersen, and Brian Ballou of the Globe staff and Globe correspondents Nikita Lalwani and Colin A. Young contributed to this report. Mark Arsenault can be reached at [marsenault@globe.com](mailto:marsenault@globe.com). Follow him on Twitter @bostonglobemark. Meghan Irons can be reached at [mirons@globe.com](mailto:mirons@globe.com). Follow her on Twitter @meghanirons.

Credit: By Mark Arsenault and Meghan E. Irons Globe Staff

### Illustration

Caption: State Police dug for evidence Thursday in an industrial park in North Attleborough. Aaron Hernandez drove away from Gillette Stadium on Thursday. Reporters gathered across the street from the North Attleborough home of Aaron Hernandez. A photo on the porch of Odin Lloyd's Dorchester home showed the semipro football player in uniform for the Boston Bandits. He had played for the team since 2007. Mark Stockwell/The Sun Chronicle via Associated Press/NEWS Boston/Jessica Rinaldi For The Boston Globe Yoon S. Byun/Globe staff

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# EXHIBIT 4



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Aaron Hernandez Lloyd

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SEP 24, 2014 12:45 AM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Hernandez cousin guilty in contempt case



BY [PETER SCHWORM](#) | GLOBE STAFF

Tanya Singleton, who had already pleaded guilty to contempt in a separate case, is battling incurable cancer, her lawyer said.

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SEP 23, 2014 6:13 PM | METRO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Aaron Hernandez's cousin gets probation for 2nd contempt charge



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tanya Singleton, who had already pleaded guilty to contempt in a separate case, is battling incurable cancer, her lawyer said.

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SEP 17, 2014 4:22 PM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Jenkins perjury charges should stay intact, prosecutors say



BY [JOHN R. ELLEMENT](#) | GLOBE STAFF

Prosecutors say the lawyer for Aaron Hernandez's girlfriend was making legal arguments "out of whole cloth."

[READ FULL STORY](#) →

SEP 17, 2014 12:55 AM | METRO

## Hernandez felt 'helpless' during police questioning

Former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez says he felt helpless and worried about his fiancée and their baby when he was questioned by police who were searching his house after the murder of Odin L. Lloyd.

[READ FULL STORY →](#)

SEP 17, 2014 12:55 AM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Hernandez felt 'helpless' during police questioning



BY [JOHN R. ELLEMENT](#) AND [MARTIN FINUCANE](#) GLOBE STAFF

Aaron Hernandez's sworn statement appears to be the first time his voice has been heard in the Odin Lloyd murder case.

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SEP 9, 2014 7:44 AM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Hernandez lawyers seek to suppress cellphone evidence



BY [MARTIN FINUCANE](#) GLOBE STAFF

Hernandez's lawyers say they were misled by investigators into turning a cellphone over to police.

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SEP 8, 2014 3:36 PM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Aaron Hernandez's girlfriend again seeks dismissal of perjury charge



BY [JOHN R. ELLEMENT](#) GLOBE STAFF

The attorney for Shayanna Jenkins cited "excessive prosecutorial zeal" in seeking the dismissal.

[READ FULL STORY →](#)

AUG 27, 2014 10:58 AM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Judge tosses out electronics evidence in Hernandez case



BY TRAVIS ANDERSEN GLOBE STAFF

The evidence is from several cellphones and tablets that were seized in a search of Aaron Hernandez's home.

[READ FULL STORY →](#)

AUG 23, 2014 1:59 AM | METRO | GLOBE STAFF

## Hernandez fiancee seeks dismissal of perjury charges



BY LAURA CRIMALDI AND JOHN R. ELLEMENT GLOBE STAFF

Shayanna Jenkins's attorney said she didn't know that Aaron Hernandez had multiple firearms in their home.

[READ FULL STORY →](#)

AUG 18, 2014 6:42 PM | METRO | AP

## Aaron Hernandez fiancee wants perjury charges dismissed



AP

Shayanna Jenkins is charged with lying to a grand jury investigating the killing of Odin Lloyd.

[READ FULL STORY →](#)

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# EXHIBIT 5



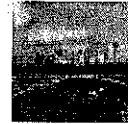
NATION

In ISIS fight, much rests on allies on ground



OPINION

Ebola's front lines



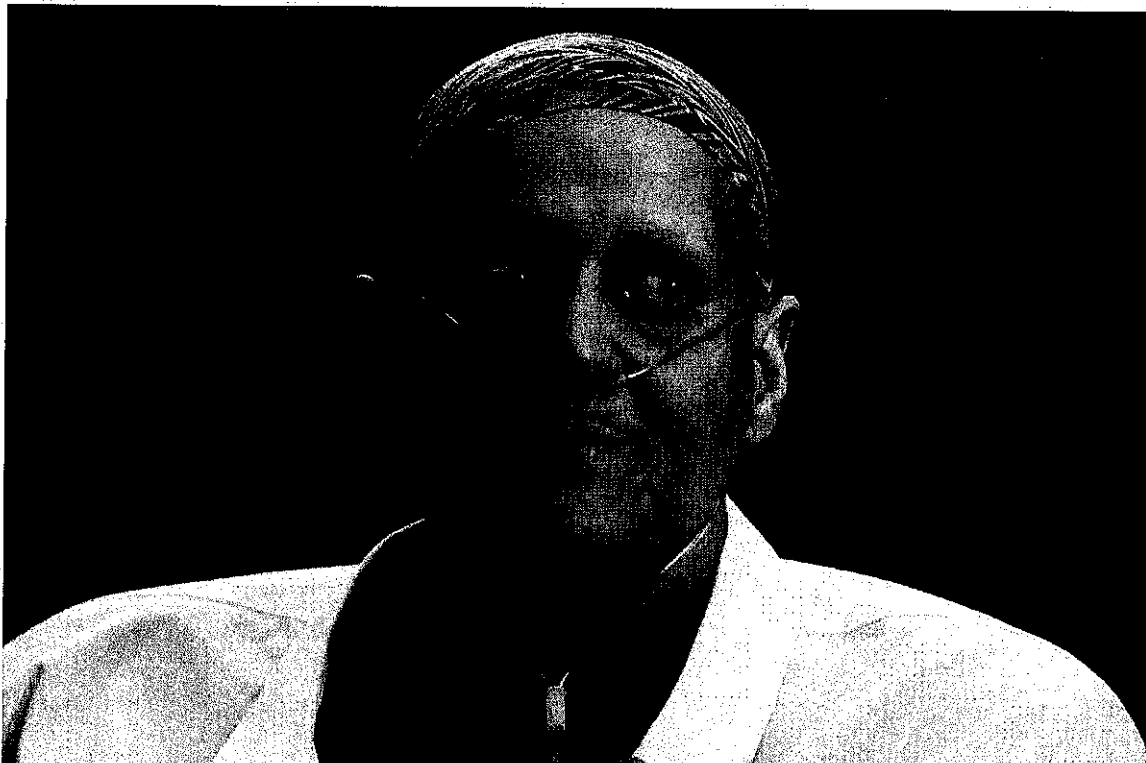
METRO

Soldi stop

# Hernandez cousin guilty in contempt case

Judge orders her restricted to home 2 years

By Peter Schworm | GLOBE STAFF SEPTEMBER 23, 2014



THE BOSTON GLOBE

**Tanya Singleton, who had already pleaded guilty to contempt in a separate case, is battling incurable cancer, her lawyer said.**

A cousin of accused murderer Aaron Hernandez was sentenced to two years of home confinement Tuesday after pleading guilty to contempt of court, authorities said.

Tanya Singleton, 38, of Bristol, Conn., admitted she refused to testify before a grand jury investigating Hernandez's role in a 2012 double killing in the South End, despite being granted immunity.

CONTINUE READING BELOW ▼

Prosecutors believed that Singleton had conversations with Hernandez, a former New England Patriots player, in the days after the killings and had information about a car allegedly used in the drive-by shootings.

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“This defendant made a deliberate choice to stymie a double homicide investigation,” Daniel Conley, the Suffolk County district attorney, said in a statement. “That choice wasn’t made out of fear or intimidation, but to help her cousin get away with two cold-blooded murders.”

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After she refused to testify a year ago, Singleton, who has been battling breast cancer, served four months in jail.

Hernandez has pleaded not guilty in the slayings of Daniel Abreu, 28, and Safiro Furtado, 29, after an encounter at a Boston nightclub.

On the contempt charges, prosecutors sought the maximum penalty of 2½ years behind bars. Suffolk Superior Court Judge Thomas Connors imposed two years of home confinement.

Singleton's lawyer could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

In August, Singleton pleaded guilty to a similar charge stemming from the 2013 slaying of Odin Lloyd, a Dorchester man allegedly killed by Hernandez and two other men in North Attleborough. She was sentenced to two years' probation with one year of home confinement.

Prosecutors had argued that Hernandez paid Singleton for her silence, but Singleton's lawyer said in August that her refusal to testify spoke to her devotion to her family.



“She chose family loyalty and family love over civic duty,” said the lawyer, E. Peter Parker.

Prosecutors said Singleton could have provided insight into the actions of Ernest Wallace and Carlos Ortiz, both accused of aiding Hernandez in the Lloyd killing. Hernandez, Wallace, and Ortiz have all pleaded not guilty in the Lloyd case.

Hernandez, 24, was a promising young player for the Patriots before he was arrested last summer. A number of friends and loved ones, including Wallace, Ortiz, and Singleton, have since found themselves caught in the swirl of legal trouble.

Hernandez’s fiancée, Shayanna Jenkins, is accused of lying to the grand jury that investigated the Lloyd killing.

Hernandez is set to go to trial in the Lloyd case in January.

#### **More on Aaron Hernandez:**

- **Interactive: A closer look at Aaron Hernandez's tattoos**
- **Inside the double life of Aaron Hernandez**
- **What it's like for Aaron Hernandez in jail**
- **Globe coverage of the 2012 South End double murder**
- **Timeline of the Aaron Hernandez investigation**
- **More on the charges against Aaron Hernandez**



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAF

**Tanya Singleton as hugged by her sister (left) after she was given two years probation.**

*John R. Ellement contributed to this report. Peter Schworm can be reached at [schworm@globe.com](mailto:schworm@globe.com).*

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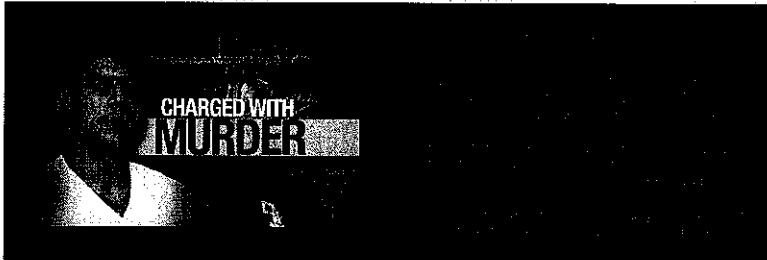










HERNANDEZ VIDEO PLAYER



**Hernandez's cousin Tanya Singleton sentenced to probation after pleading guilty**

**Court denies Hernandez fiancée motion to dismiss charges**

**Court docs: Hernandez 'felt helpless' during investigation**

**Judge grants Hernandez bid to suppress evidence**

**Hernandez fiancée seeks dismissal of perjury charge**

**Hernandez cousin sentenced to 2 years probation, GPS monitoring**

**Prosecutors recommend 2 years probation, GPS monitoring for Hernandez cousin**




**Hernandez wants some evidence suppressed**

**Hernandez cousin set to change plea to guilty**

### Prosecutors: Lawyers can block Hernandez evidence

Updated: Sep 25, 2014 6:32 PM EDT

Prosecutors won't oppose a move by lawyers for former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez to suppress evidence against him in a 2013 murder case. [More](#)

-  Hernandez's cousin Tanya... 02:38
  -  Why did a judge grant... 01:52
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### Patriots attorney: Belichick and Hernandez exchanged 34 texts

Updated: Jul 18, 2014 11:02 PM EDT



New information was released Friday regarding text messages sent between former Patriot Aaron Hernandez and Patriots Coach Bill Belichick.

### DA claims evidence of Hernandez fiancée perjury, defense not opposed to delaying trial



Prosecutors say they have "direct evidence" that the fiancée of Aaron Hernandez lied to the grand jury that indicted him on a murder charge in the slaying of Odin Lloyd, including about a box she discarded at Hernandez's direction.

### New documents in Hernandez case list interviews with Kraft, Belichick

Updated: Jul 14, 2014 7:05 PM EDT



The list of all the evidence collected in the murder case against Aaron Hernandez is staggering. It fills more than 100 pages, and several items involve Hernandez's former employer, the New England Patriots.

### Judge denies bid to suppress Hernandez evidence taken from home



A Massachusetts judge has rejected a bid by lawyers for former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez to suppress evidence from a cellphone and video surveillance taken from his home during an investigation into the...

### Aaron Hernandez cousin to plead guilty to contempt




The cousin of Aaron Hernandez who was charged with criminal contempt after refusing to testify before the grand jury that indicted the former New England Patriot intends to change her plea to guilty, her lawyer said Monday.

**Sheriff: Hernandez will be treated same as others in Suffolk County Jail**

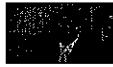
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- Golden Globes 2014: The Best Fashion and Beauty Tra...** (*InStyle.com*)
- Report: How Business Owners Are Preparing for Risk in 2014** (*Travelers*)
- Little Known Way To Pay Down Your Mortgage** (*LendingTree*)



**mass save**  
Savings through energy efficiency

Updated: Jul 09, 2014 4:50 PM EDT



Former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez, who has pleaded not guilty to three murder charges, was transferred Wednesday to the Suffolk County Jail on Nashua Street jail in Boston.

#### Aaron Hernandez moving to Boston jail Wednesday



A jail spokesman says former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez, who has pleaded not guilty to three murder charges, will be transferred Wednesday to a Boston jail.

#### Murder victims' families allowed to freeze up to \$5M of Hernandez mansion's worth



The families of Boston murder victims Daniel de Abreu and Safiro Furtado will be allowed to freeze up to \$5 million from Aaron Hernandez's North Attleborough home.

#### Judge allows Hernandez to be moved to jail in Suffolk County

Updated: Jul 07, 2014 3:50 PM EDT



A judge granted a motion from Aaron Hernandez's defense team Monday that would allow him to move from Bristol County Jail to a jail closer to Suffolk County.

#### Prosecution not opposed to Hernandez transferring jails

Updated: Jul 03, 2014 6:19 PM EDT



Former Patriot Aaron Hernandez may be able to transfer to a jail closer to Boston. Hernandez filed the request about two weeks ago, and prosecutors said Thursday that they're not opposed to the move, but did address "some of the many misstatements of fact" in the original filing.

#### Patriots: Team owes Aaron Hernandez nothing

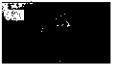
Updated: Jul 02, 2014 6:49 PM EDT



The New England Patriots don't owe "another penny" to former tight end Aaron Hernandez, who is charged in three killings, a team lawyer told a judge Wednesday.

#### Judge denies gag order in Hernandez double murder case

Updated: Jul 01, 2014 5:35 PM EDT



A judge denied the gag order without prejudice in the Aaron Hernandez double murder case, meaning it can be revisited.

#### Hernandez defense submits additional photographic evidence in case

Updated: Jun 26, 2014 5:30 PM EDT



Former Patriot Aaron Hernandez's defense submitted new evidence in his trial Friday and then sent in additional photographic evidence Thursday regarding the search of his home in 2013.

#### Hernandez's Boston murder trial set for May 2015



A judge has tentatively scheduled former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez to stand trial next year in May on murder charges in the 2012 drive-by slayings of two men.

#### Hernandez defense: Media footage contradicts troopers testimony

Updated: Jun 23, 2014 8:59 PM EDT



Former Patriot Aaron Hernandez submitted additional evidence in his trial Monday after hearings on June 16 and 18.

#### Aaron Hernandez spent time in hospital Saturday



Former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez, who has been charged with the murder of three people, spent a brief stint in the hospital Saturday.

#### Hernandez files motion requesting to move to jail closer to Boston

Updated: Jun 21, 2014 11:59 AM EDT



Former Patriot Aaron Hernandez filed a motion Friday requesting to be moved to a jail closer to Boston.

#### Patriots, Kraft named co-defendants on civil suit against Hernandez

Updated: Jun 20, 2014 3:24 PM EDT



Both the New England Patriots and Kraft Enterprises were named co-defendants in a civil suit against former Patriot Aaron Hernandez regarding the 2012 Boston double murder he is accused in.

#### Hernandez's lawyers challenge search warrant



Lawyers for Aaron Hernandez questioned the validity of a search warrant executed at the former New England Patriots player's home in court Wednesday.

**Hernandez defense subpoenaed medical records from Patriots**

Updated: Jun 17, 2014 9:42 PM EDT



Aaron Hernandez's lawyers have subpoenaed his medical records from the New England Patriots.

**Hernandez attorneys challenge evidence in Lloyd murder case**

Updated: Jun 16, 2014 1:07 PM EDT



Aaron Hernandez's attorneys on Monday challenged the evidence one's of the former NFL star's murder cases, arguing at a pretrial hearing that prosecutors have not established probable cause in a semi-pro football player's slaying.

**Aaron Hernandez to appear in court Monday for 2 separate cases**

Updated: Jun 15, 2014 6:29 PM EDT



Aaron Hernandez will have a busy day Monday, as he is scheduled for hearings in two separate cases.

**Prosecutors file against dismissal of charges in Hernandez case**

Updated: Jun 12, 2014 7:14 PM EDT



Prosecutors released their response to a request from Aaron Hernandez's lawyers to suppress evidence surrounding murder and firearm charges against the former Patriot in the Odin Lloyd case.

**Hernandez's lawyers want access to original surveillance footage**

Updated: Jun 11, 2014 8:56 AM EDT



Lawyers for Aaron Hernandez want access to the original footage from the ex-Patriot's home surveillance system.

**Aaron Hernandez's cousin pleads not guilty to contempt**

Updated: Jun 02, 2014 6:21 PM EDT



A cousin of Aaron Hernandez was arraigned in Suffolk Superior Court Monday after investigators allege she refused to testify against the former New England Patriot.

**Hernandez 'making financial arrangements to retain counsel'**

Updated: May 31, 2014 6:16 PM EDT



Aaron Hernandez signed a multi-million dollar signing bonus before his arrest, but apparently the former Patriot is having trouble paying his legal fees.

**Prosecutors: Spilled drink was Hernandez's motive in 2012 double murder**

Updated: May 29, 2014 6:43 PM EDT



Former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez entered not guilty pleas in court Wednesday in the 2012 murders of two Boston men outside a nightclub.

**Hernandez associate pleads not guilty**

Updated: May 27, 2014 2:49 PM EDT



An associate of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to a murder charge in the shooting death of a man near Hernandez's home last summer.

**Investigators looking to speak with tattoo artists who inked Hernandez**

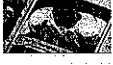
Updated: May 27, 2014 2:49 PM EDT



Investigators are looking to speak with tattoo artists who provided former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez with tattoos on his right forearm, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office announced Wednesday.

**Similarities between '12 Boston double murder Hernandez indicted on and unsolved '07 FL shooting**

Updated: May 27, 2014 2:49 PM EDT



As one of the top tight ends coming out of high school in 2007, Aaron Hernandez from Bristol, Conn. was in demand.

**Man Hernandez got in jail fight with has returned to same jail**

Updated: May 19, 2014 6:51 PM EDT



The man who Aaron Hernandez fought in jail back in February is back in the same jail Hernandez is in - the Bristol House of Corrections.

**Exclusive photos of Hernandez taken weekend after double murder**

Updated: May 18, 2014 10:57 AM EDT



FOX 25 has obtained exclusive photos of Aaron Hernandez that were taken the weekend after the 2012 double murder in Boston.

**Aaron Hernandez indicted on two counts of first degree murder 2012 double homicide**

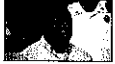
Updated: May 18, 2014 10:57 AM EDT





Former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez has been indicted on two counts of first degree murder in a 2012 homicide that took place in Boston. Multiple sources tell FOX 25 that the murders were the result of a spilled drink.

### Carlos Ortiz, Ernest Wallace to be arraigned in Odin Lloyd murder case



Arraignment dates have been set for two associates of former Patriots player Aaron Hernandez in connection to the June 2013 murder of Odin Lloyd.

### Carlos Ortiz, Ernest Wallace charged with murder in death of Odin Lloyd



Both Carlos Ortiz and Ernest Wallace, associates of Aaron Hernandez, were charged with the murder of Odin Lloyd Friday.

### Judge won't delay gag order in Hernandez case

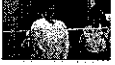
Updated: Mar 18, 2014 6:25 PM EDT



A Massachusetts trial judge has refused prosecutors' request to change or delay a gag order she imposed in the murder case of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez.

### Contempt trial date set for Hernandez cousin

Updated: Mar 14, 2014 7:00 PM EDT



A Massachusetts judge has set an Aug. 12 trial date on a criminal contempt charge filed against the cousin of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez in connection with his murder case.

### Sheriff pursues criminal complaint against Hernandez in alleged jailhouse fight



An application for a criminal complaint has been filed against Aaron Hernandez after the alleged jail fight he was involved in last month.

### Lawyer for murder victims' families claims 'abundance of evidence' in Hernandez suit



The families of the two men shot and killed in Boston on July 16, 2012 haven't said much publicly, until this week.

### Hernandez sued by families of victims in July 2012 murder



One day after getting in a jail house fight, Aaron Hernandez is facing two new wrongful death civil lawsuits.

### TMZ: Hernandez not wearing handcuffs when involved in jail fight



Aaron Hernandez was not wearing handcuffs when he was involved in a fight with another inmate inside the Bristol County jail, TMZ Sports reports.

### 8 months later: The grand jury, Aaron Hernandez and a 2012 double murder

Updated: Feb 21, 2014 6:40 PM EST



FOX 25 was first to report that Aaron Hernandez was under investigation for a double murder in Boston eight months ago.

### Bristol County DA plans to appeal gag order in Hernandez case



Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter reportedly plans to appeal a gag order imposed by a Massachusetts judge in the Aaron Hernandez case.

### Troopers deliver subpoenas to Hernandez 'flophouse' neighbors

Updated: Feb 20, 2014 6:49 PM EST



State troopers delivered subpoenas at an apartment complex in Franklin Tuesday where former Patriot Aaron Hernandez once rented.

### Judge approves gag order in Aaron Hernandez case

Updated: Feb 15, 2014 1:51 PM EST



A Massachusetts judge says she found no ethical violations by prosecutors in the Aaron Hernandez murder case, but she did impose a formal gag order to protect the ex-New England Patriot's right to a fair trial.

### Report: Hernandez caught on surveillance dancing on night of Lloyd's murder

Updated: Feb 14, 2014 4:49 PM EST



A new report from the Daily Mail says that Aaron Hernandez danced outside at a gas station on the night of Odin Lloyd's murder.



### Hernandez's barber could be key witness in Lloyd murder case



**SPECIAL REPORT:** If Aaron Hernandez looked clean cut when he left his North Attleboro mansion in handcuffs last June, it's because his barber, Robby Olivares, made a house call two days before Hernandez was arrested.

### Prosecutors lose bid for ex-NFL star's phone calls



A request by prosecutors to obtain official copies of Aaron Hernandez's jailhouse recordings was denied during a pre-trial conference Friday.

### Attorneys for former Hernandez pal say their client was 'targeted'



A former associate of Aaron Hernandez was held on \$1 million cash bail Tuesday amid allegations that he shot up the front of a Hartford bar Sunday night.

### Former Hernandez associate facing charges after Hartford shooting



A former associate of Aaron Hernandez was brought into the Hartford Police Department Monday afternoon to be booked after an overnight shooting outside a bar.

### Aaron Hernandez Investigation: Bradley v. Hernandez

Updated: Feb 03, 2014 2:18 PM EST



For months, FOX 25's Ted Daniel has been investigating the relationship between Alexander Bradley and Aaron Hernandez and the role an alleged shooting in Miami might have played in it.

### Prosecutors will not have Ortiz testify against Hernandez

Updated: Feb 01, 2014 12:13 PM EST



Prosecutors will not have Carlos Ortiz testify against Aaron Hernandez during the trial, according to documents filed Friday.

### Hernandez allegedly discussed Lloyd's murder in jail recordings

Updated: Feb 01, 2014 1:48 PM EST



Court documents released Friday allege former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez talked about the June 2013 murder of Odin Lloyd in conversations recorded at Bristol County Jail and House of Correction.

### Hernandez's cousin posts bail



The cousin of Aaron Hernandez has posted bail on two charges in connection with the murder case against the former New England Patriots tight end.

### Warrant: Hernandez 'may' have been shooter in Boston slayings



Details released in a newly unsealed search warrant in the Aaron Hernandez case detail why Boston investigators wanted to visit a home belonging to the former Patriot's uncle in the first place.

### Hernandez's lawyers request investigators swear they haven't leaked info



Lawyers for Aaron Hernandez want every investigator and prosecutor involved in the former New England Patriot's case to sign paperwork saying they have not and will not give any information to reporters.

### Hernandez associate to appear in accessory case



An associate of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez who has been charged as an accessory to murder is set to make his next court appearance.

### Report: Former Hernandez pal testified before Suffolk County Grand Jury



A new report claims Aaron Hernandez's former right-hand man testified before a grand jury probing the 2012 slayings of two men in Boston.

### Warrant lays out evidence against Hernandez in Boston murders



Explosive new information in the Aaron Hernandez case backs up what law enforcement sources have been telling FOX 25 for months.

### Hernandez's girlfriend wants charge dismissed



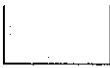
An attorney for the girlfriend of Aaron Hernandez plans to seek dismissal of the perjury charge she faces in connection with the former New England Patriot's murder case.

### Police: Hernandez's uncle DUI in fatal Conn. crash

Updated: Jan 06, 2014 8:19 PM EST



An uncle of Aaron Hernandez, the former New England Patriots tight end charged with murder, was operating a motor scooter under the influence of alcohol and drugs when he crashed in August and was killed.



**Hernandez's lawyers accuse authorities of leaking info to media**



Defense attorneys for Aaron Hernandez accused investigators of jeopardizing their client's right to a fair trial during the former New England Patriot's pre-trial hearing Monday.

**Hernandez family associates hit with number of tragedies**

*Updated: Dec 23, 2013 2:50 PM EST*



Since Aaron Hernandez was arrested this summer, three family associates have died.

**Judge grants order preserving Hernandez assets**

*Updated: Dec 19, 2013 6:13 PM EST*



A Massachusetts judge has granted a restraining order preserving some of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez's assets in connection with a wrongful death lawsuit by the family of the man he's accused of killing.

**Hearing set in Hernandez wrongful death lawsuit**



A hearing is scheduled in a Massachusetts court on the assets of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez after the family of the man he is charged with killing filed a wrongful death lawsuit against him.

**Odin Lloyd's family files wrongful death suit against Aaron Hernandez**

*Updated: Dec 17, 2013 3:47 PM EST*



The family of Odin Lloyd has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Aaron Hernandez, who has been criminally charged with his death.

**Woman connected to Aaron Hernandez found dead in Conn.**



A Connecticut woman who survived a car crash that killed the husband of Aaron Hernandez's cousin died Monday.

**Report: Dolphins center Pouncey testifies before grand jury in Hernandez case**



A Miami Dolphin reportedly missed practice Wednesday because he was testifying before a grand jury in the Aaron Hernandez murder investigation.

**New jailhouse letter from Aaron Hernandez surfaces**



Aaron Hernandez is writing from behind bars at the Bristol County House of Corrections again.

**Hernandez associate Ernest Wallace seeks more detail on charge**



An attorney for a so-called "right-hand man" of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez wants more detail from Massachusetts prosecutors about the accessory to murder charge he faces.

**Bail restrictions eased for Hernandez cousin**

*Updated: Dec 05, 2013 6:10 PM EST*



A Massachusetts judge has eased bail restrictions for a cousin of Aaron Hernandez who faces two charges in connection with the murder case against the former New England Patriots tight end.

**Hernandez girlfriend lied to grand jury almost 30 times, prosecutor alleges**



The prosecutor in Aaron Hernandez's murder case claims the former Patriot's girlfriend lied to a grand jury 29 times.

**Hernandez pleads Fifth in lawsuit filed by former right-hand man**



Ex-Patriot Aaron Hernandez reportedly exercised his Fifth Amendment right to remain silent in a civil suit filed by his former right-hand man.

**Judge believes Aaron Hernandez may walk free**

*Updated: Nov 27, 2013 10:40 PM EST*



It's a possibility that Aaron Hernandez could walk away from the Odin Lloyd murder case a free man, and Retired Massachusetts Superior Court Judge Isaac Borenstein said he would not be surprised if that happened.

**Hernandez associate court appearance postponed**



A court appearance scheduled for an associate of ex-New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez accused of being an accessory to murder after the fact was postponed Wednesday.

**Lawsuit against Hernandez moves forward in Florida**



A lawsuit involving Aaron Hernandez in was moving forward in Florida Monday morning.

**Hernandez girlfriend seeks details on her charge**



A judge has ordered Massachusetts prosecutors to provide more detail about their allegations that the girlfriend of Aaron Hernandez lied to a grand jury that indicted him on a murder charge.

**SI.com: Dolphins' Pouncey subpoenaed in Hernandez investigation**

*Updated: Oct 28, 2013 9:31 PM EDT*



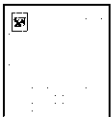
Miami Dolphins' center Mike Pouncey was served with a grand jury subpoena about an hour after the team's loss to the New England Patriots Sunday.

**Legislature approves \$40K for N.Attleborough Police in Hernandez probe**



The state Legislature has approved \$40,000 to reimburse the North Attleborough Police Department for some of the costs associated with the murder investigation that led to the arrest of Aaron Hernandez.

**New court date set for Woman tied to Hernandez probe**



A new court date has been set for a 19-year-old woman connected to the Aaron Hernandez investigation.

**Cousin granted bail in Hernandez case**

*Updated: Oct 24, 2013 3:22 PM EDT*



A cousin of Aaron Hernandez has been granted bail with conditions as she faces charges in connection with the murder case against the former New England Patriots player.

**Cousin charged in Hernandez case due in court**



A cousin of Aaron Hernandez is due to appear in a Massachusetts court in connection with the murder case against the former New England Patriot.

**Aaron Hernandez supporters hold out hope for not guilty verdict**



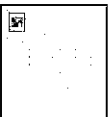
When Aaron Hernandez walked into court Monday, he probably expected to see his fiancé Shayanna Jenkins; however, he might not have been expecting to see the other people who attended to show their support.

**Man linked to Boston murder weapon says he and Aaron Hernandez are 'clean'**



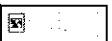
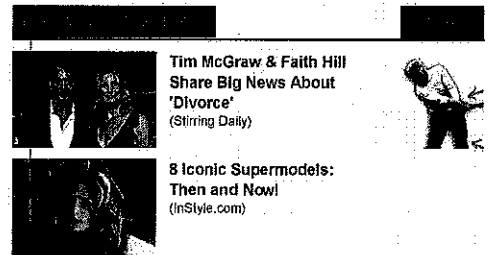
The controversy surrounding Aaron Hernandez seems to be never-ending, and while it began with one murder accusation, it has since possibly expanded to include another deadly incident that occurred in Boston's South End in July 2012.

**Hernandez judge declines to recuse self**



The judge in the Aaron Hernandez murder case on Monday rejected prosecutors' request to step aside because of what they called bias in an earlier case, saying she was free of it then, is free of it now and will be guided in her rulings only by the law.

**Hernandez associate arraigned on accessory charge**

**Tim McGraw & Faith Hill Share Big News About 'Divorce'**  
(Stirring Daily)

**8 Iconic Supermodels: Then and Now!**  
(InStyle.com)

An associate of former Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez pleaded not guilty Friday to an accessory to murder charge and was ordered held on \$500,000 cash bail under an agreement with Massachusetts prosecutors.

**Hernandez defense: Request for new judge meritless**

Lawyers for ex-New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez say the prosecution's request that the judge assigned to the murder case recuse herself because of alleged bias is without merit.

**Hernandez's neighborhood has trick-or-treat concerns**

Updated: Oct 17, 2013 6:36 PM EDT

Neighbors of former Patriots Tight End Aaron Hernandez are asking police to keep gawkers out of their neighborhood this Halloween.

**NFLPA, Aaron Hernandez file \$6.21M worth of grievances against Patriots**

The National Football League Players Association and Aaron Hernandez have filed two grievances, totaling \$6.21 million, against the New England Patriots, claiming the team owes him unpaid money from his contract and his signing bonus, reports The Boston Herald.

**EXCLUSIVE: Hernandez's jailhouse phone friend**

The cast of shady characters that Aaron Hernandez once surrounded himself with is well known, but FOX Undercover has learned the identity of a friend Hernandez calls frequently from jail, a name unknown to the public until now.

**Hernandez girlfriend said to throw out evidence**

The girlfriend of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez pleaded not guilty Tuesday to a perjury charge for allegedly lying to a Massachusetts grand jury, including about disposing of evidence in the murder case against him.

**Aaron Hernandez investigation: The secrets of 114 Lake Avenue**

**SPECIAL REPORT** - The modest home located at 114 Lake Avenue in Bristol, Conn. is two hours from Boston and a world away from the North Attleborough mansion where Aaron Hernandez lived prior to his arrest.

**Hernandez answers judge's questions during pre-trial hearing**

Updated: Oct 09, 2013 8:37 PM EDT

Prosecutors in the murder case against former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez want the judge to recuse herself because, they said Wednesday, she and the lead prosecutor have a public history of antagonism and she has shown bias.

**Hernandez due in court for pre-trial hearing**

Former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez is due back in a Massachusetts court for the first time since being arraigned on a murder charge.

**Hernandez associate wanted for questioning captured in Conn.**

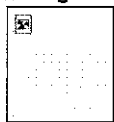
An associate of Aaron Hernandez who was wanted for questioning was held on \$250,000 cash bail after he was captured by Hartford police and U.S. Marshals.

**EXCLUSIVE: Witness says Hernandez was triggerman in 2012 double murder**

A man who survived a drive-by shooting last year that left two of his friends dead tells FOX Undercover that he believes former Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez pulled the trigger.



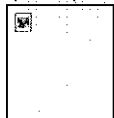
**Arraignment dates set for Hernandez's fiancée, alleged accomplice**



Arraignment dates have been set for Aaron Hernandez's fiancée and an alleged accomplice in the death of Odin Lloyd.

**Cousin of ex-Patriot Hernandez pleads not guilty**

*Updated: Sep 30, 2013 3:37 PM EDT*



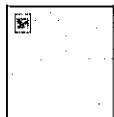
A cousin of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez pleaded not guilty Monday to a conspiracy charge for her alleged actions following the killing of Hernandez's friend.

**Hernandez's fiancée indicted on perjury charge**



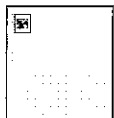
Aaron Hernandez's fiancée was indicted on a single charge of perjury Friday in connection to the murder investigation surrounding the ex-New England Patriot.

**Aaron Hernandez associate indicted as accessory**



A second associate of former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez has been indicted on a charge of accessory to murder after the fact in the killing of Hernandez's friend, the Bristol County district attorney said Friday.

**Hernandez associate's deal with prosecutors is falling apart**



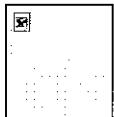
One co-defendant cooperating with authorities investigating Odin Lloyd's murder could be indicted on more charges.

**New details from key witness account revealed during Wallace bail hearing**



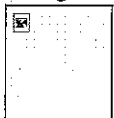
The key witness in the case against Aaron Hernandez and the ex-Patriot's so-called "right-hand man" has changed his account of the night.

**Hernandez friend arraigned on accessory charge**



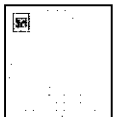
An associate of ex-New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to an accessory charge in the case in which Hernandez is charged with murder.

**Arraignment date set for Hernandez co-defendant Ernest Wallace**



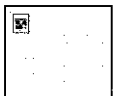
A date has been set for the arraignment of a man charged as an accessory to murder in the case involving former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez.

**Source: Hernandez associate appears before grand jury in 2012 killings**



A former associate of Aaron Hernandez appeared before a grand jury in connection with a 2012 double-murder in Boston's South End, a law enforcement source told FOX 25.

**Whereabouts of former Hernandez protege wanted for testimony unknown**



A grand jury investigating a 2012 double murder FOX 25 first said Aaron Hernandez could be connected to wants to speak with a Connecticut man about the incident, however, authorities can't find him.

**TMZ: Aaron Hernandez is not allowed to watch Patriots, football**



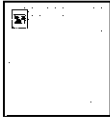
Former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez would be back on the gridiron by now if a murder charge had not put him behind bars.

**FOX Sports: Towel could discredit witness against Hernandez**



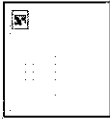
A towel found near Odin Lloyd's body may help Aaron Hernandez's lawyers paint a potential prosecution witness as a liar.

**Aaron Hernandez to be arraigned in Superior Court**



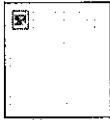
All eyes will be on Fall River Superior Court Friday as former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez is arraigned on murder and gun charges.

**Hartford Courant: Video shows Hernandez, 2012 murder victims at club**



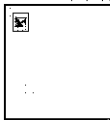
There are major developments in the 2012 double murder in the South End linked to former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez.

**Aaron Hernandez seeks delay in Fla. lawsuit**



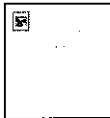
Former NFL star tight end Aaron Hernandez is seeking to delay proceedings in a Florida lawsuit until a murder charge against him in Massachusetts is resolved.

**Aaron Hernandez to be arraigned Friday**



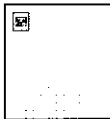
Former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez is scheduled to be arraigned Friday. Hernandez will appear in Fall River Superior Court at 2 p.m.

**Mass. DA: Hernandez defense claim untrue**



Massachusetts prosecutors in the Aaron Hernandez murder case said Friday there's no truth to an allegation by lawyers for the former New England Patriot that investigators misled a potential witness.

**Patriots President Jonathan Kraft disputes Rolling Stone story**



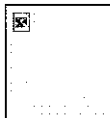
During a radio interview Thursday, New England Patriots President Jonathan Kraft said there were at least four things that were "factually inaccurate" in this week's explosive Rolling Stone article on former player and accused killer Aaron Hernandez.

**Rolling Stone article describes Hernandez as ticking time bomb**



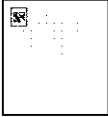
A Rolling Stone article is suggesting former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez's first love was not football, but rather being a gangster.

**Hartford man arrested in former Hernandez associate's shooting**



A 29-year-old Hartford man was arrested Tuesday night for his alleged connection to Alexander Bradley's shooting.

**911 calls from Connecticut club shooting released**



Law enforcement officials released 911 tapes Thursday that detail the chaos at a Hartford night club following the shooting of a former associate of Aaron Hernandez.

**DA: 2012 homicide victims were 'stalked, ambushed and murdered'**



Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel Conley announced Thursday that a Grand Jury has returned indictments against Aaron Hernandez in the "brutal" July 16, 2012 double homicide of Safiro Furtado and Daniel Abreu.

**Hernandez attorneys file motion to dismiss in Lloyd murder case**

*Updated: May 15, 2014 3:56 PM EDT*



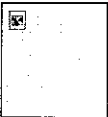
Attorneys for Aaron Hernandez filed a motion to dismiss indictments charging him with first degree murder and unlawful possession of a firearm in the death of Odin Lloyd.

**Hernandez associate pleads not guilty to murder**



An associate of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to murder in the shooting death of a man last summer near Hernandez's home.

**Grand jury indicts Hernandez on charges related to jailhouse fight, lawyer of victim speaks out**



Aaron Hernandez has been indicted on charges stemming from an alleged assault inside the Bristol County House of Corrections in February.

**Hernandez associate linked to gun-running ordered held**



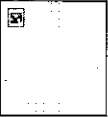
The Florida man charged with lying to a federal grand jury investigating gun trafficking and former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez was ordered held without bail by a federal magistrate judge.

**Man tied to Aaron Hernandez charged with lying to federal grand jury**



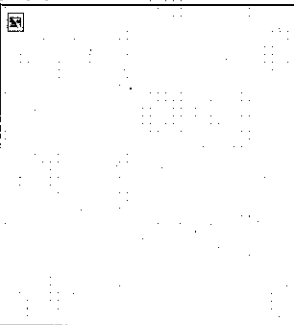
Oscar Hernandez was arrested Wednesday night on federal charges amid allegations that he lied to a federal grand jury in a gun trafficking investigation that began after a June 2013 homicide in North Attleboro.

**Report: Hernandez under investigation for alleged threats to guard**



Former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez is reportedly under investigation amid allegations that he threatened to shoot and kill a guard at the Bristol County Jail late last year.

**Families of Boston double murder victims express concern over grand jury probe**



04.14.2014: Families of Boston double murder victims express concern over grand jury probe

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**Hernandez discovery filings Jan. 31**

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**Hernandez Gag Order**

**2012 Aaron Hernandez Search Warrant**

**READ: Aaron Hernandez indictment**

Read official documents related to the indictment of Aaron Hernandez.

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**Author sues Disney for \$250 million, claiming movie 'Frozen' copied her life story**



A Peruvian author is claiming Disney plagiarized the story from her autobiography, "Yearnings of the Heart" -- not from Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale, as the company has said -- and she wants her money.

**Guests find python in their rental car**

**Friends grant man's unusual final wish**

**POLITICS**

**Baker holding slight lead over Coakley in gubernatorial race, fundraising dollars**



While candidate for governor Charlie Baker is leading in a new poll, he's also ahead in fundraising dollars. If anything polls show this race is very much in play.

**Attorney General Eric Holder resigning**

**Former DCF Commissioner Olga Roche, ousted in May, now on family leave**

**CRIME FILES**

**Woman faces drug trafficking charges after police find cocaine, marijuana, heroin in her car**



A woman was arrested on Friday after police say they confiscated cocaine, marijuana, and heroin from the car she had been parked in.

**5 Boston airline workers accused of smuggling cash**

**Police: Alleged child rapist cuts off GPS bracelet, makes violent return home**

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Aaron Hernandez

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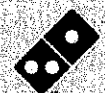
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Page 1 of 29 from 285 results for "Aaron Hernandez"

Photos: Aaron Hernandez arrested, charged with murder article

Former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez was arrested outside his North Attleborough home Wednesday morning.

June 26, 2013 04:19 PM

Alleged Aaron Hernandez associate appears in court article

An alleged associate of accused murderer Aaron Hernandez appeared in court Tuesday.

May 13, 2014 12:34 PM

Photos: Patriots star questioned about killing article

New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez was questioned Tuesday afternoon by police investigating a possible homicide in North Attleborough.

June 18, 2013 08:34 PM

Photos: Timeline of former Pats star's troubled past article

Former Patriots star Aaron Hernandez, facing charges as part of homicide investigations in both Boston and North Attleborough, has many controversies in his career.

May 15, 2014 12:10 PM

Aaron Hernandez fiancee Shayana Jenkins indicted article

The fiancee of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez has been indicted on a charge of perjury.

September 27, 2013 05:21 PM

Aaron Hernandez defense team seeks gag order article

The Herald News reports Aaron Hernandez's defense team is accusing the Bristol County district attorney of creating a publicity stunt after issuing a grand jury subpoena to Michael Pouncey.

November 22, 2013 01:10 AM

Pats offering fans to exchange Aaron Hernandez jerseys article

The New England Patriots ProShop is announcing it will offer a free jersey exchange of any Aaron Hernandez jersey purchased at the Patriots ProShop or online for a new Patriots jersey of comparable...

July 06, 2013 05:29 AM

Former Patriots WR Deion Branch defends Aaron Hernandez article

For the first time since his arrest, a former member of the New England Patriots is defending former tight end Aaron Hernandez.

June 30, 2013 06:37 PM

Eyewitness: Hernandez admitted shooting Lloyd article

Documents show a man linked to the murder case against former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez told police Hernandez admitted firing the fatal shots.

July 10, 2013 06:37 PM

Hernandez wants delay in shooting lawsuit article

VIDEO RESULTS

Page 1 of 48 from 190 results for "Aaron Hernandez"



Uncut: Aaron Hernandez arrested  
June 26, 2013 11:06 AM



ABC: Arrest warrant being prepared for Pats Aaron Hernandez  
June 21, 2013 12:20 PM



Police search North Attleborough home of Aaron Hernandez  
June 22, 2013 06:25 PM



Aaron Hernandez arrested at North Attleborough home  
June 26, 2013 09:21 AM

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Photos: Timeline of former Pats star's troubled past  
May 15, 2014 05:13 PM



Photos: Aaron Hernandez arrested, charged with murder  
May 15, 2014 05:11 AM



Photos: Patriots star questioned about killing  
June 19, 2013 06:10 AM

Ex-Patriots star Hernandez in court  
July 07, 2014 07:12 PM

Former NFL star tight end Aaron Hernandez is seeking to delay proceedings in a Florida lawsuit until a murder charge against him in Massachusetts is resolved.

September 03, 2013 07:52 PM

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Jennifer Lopez Shocked The World. The Hidden Secret's Finally Exposed

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#### Aaron Hernandez - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Aaron Michael Hernandez (born November 6, 1989) is an American football tight end who is currently being held without bail following his indictment on three ...  
en.wikipedia.org

#### Aaron Hernandez « CBS Boston

Aaron Hernandez in Suffolk Superior Court, June 24, 2014. (WBZ-TV - Aaron Hernandez Seeks Evidence Suppressed Due To 'Unlawful Police Interrogation'.  
boston.cbslocal.com

#### Aaron Hernandez (AaronHernandez) | Twitter

The latest Tweets from Aaron Hernandez (@AaronHernandez). TE for the New England Patriots. Foxboro, MA.  
twitter.com

#### Aaron Hernandez: Patriots Tight End Violent Evolution | Rolling Stone

Aug 28, 2013 ... Aaron Hernandez, the Pro Bowl tight end of the New England Patriots, was coming by later to scoop him up for another five-star debauch, just ...  
www.rollingstone.com

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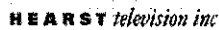
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Aaron Hernandez double-homicide indictment: No athlete has had a ...

May 15, 2014 ... In two separate cases, Aaron Hernandez faces three first-degree murder charges. (Reuters) ... The details of the night are chilling. Hernandez ...

sports.yahoo.com

Aaron Hernandez's Chilling 2012 Patriots Camp Interview About His ...

May 15, 2014 ... Audio of Aaron Hernandez's chilling 2012 Patriots Camp interview talking about the fun he's had during the offseason.

gamedayr.com

Aaron Hernandez on Rhode Island vacation days after alleged ...

May 18, 2014 ... Pictured: Smiling accused killer Aaron Hernandez on carefree seaside ... Chilling: Hernandez partied with friends in Newport while showing no ...

www.dailymail.co.uk

The Chilling Details Of Aaron Hernandez's Arraignment « CBS ...

May 28, 2014 ... Field Yates, who covers the Patriots for ESPN, joined The Triple Threat to talk about Aaron Hernandez

houston.cbslocal.com

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# EXHIBIT 8



## Aaron Hernandez Destroyed Home Security System and Phone, Sources Tell ABC News

**Murder Probe of Hernandez Associate Has Not Cleared Patriots Star, Sources Say**

By MICHELE McPHEE

BOSTON June 20, 2013—

Police plan to go back to the home of New England Patriot's tight end Aaron Hernandez today with another warrant based on evidence that "he destroyed his home security system," an investigator close to the case told ABC News. The investigator, and other law enforcement sources, confirmed that the security system - which included video surveillance - was smashed intentionally.

And a cell phone used by Hernandez was handed over to investigators "in pieces" by his attorneys, the sources said.

Police also want to know why a team of house cleaners were hired on Monday to scrub Hernandez's mansion, sources told ABC News.

The revelations come as multiple sources tell ABC News that the star NFL player has not been ruled out as a suspect in the murder of a semi-pro football player Odin Lloyd, 27, who was Hernandez's friend.

Hernandez has been at the center of the investigation since Lloyd's body was found shot in the back of the head in a scrubby clearing of an industrial park roughly a mile from the Patriots star's million-dollar mansion in North Attleborough Monday.

Police believe Lloyd was killed between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Monday, but his well dressed body was not found until 5:30 p.m. by a teenage jogger, several law enforcement sources told ABC News on the condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss the case.

"He [Hernandez] has not been ruled out. We are not calling him a suspect, but he is definitely not in the clear," said one police official close to the investigation.

An attorney for Hernandez, Michael Fee, has not commented on the investigation but released a statement saying: "It has been widely reported in the media that the state police have searched the home of our client, Aaron Hernandez, as part of an ongoing investigation. Out of respect for that process, neither we nor Aaron will have any comment about the substance of that investigation until it has come to a conclusion."

State Police searched the Hernandez home that he shares with his girlfriend Shayanna Jenkins, the mother of his infant daughter, with a warrant several times. Hernandez was seen going inside the house Wednesday with his mother and has not emerged since.



Jenkins' sister, Shanea Jenkins, was dating Lloyd, who played for the semi-pro football team Boston Bandits, several law enforcement sources told ABC News.

Shanea Jenkins could not be found in the aftermath of her boyfriend's murder, and investigators were concerned for her safety. Police were able to locate her Wednesday, the sources said.

Investigators have also searched three Enterprise rental cars that were registered to the NFL star, including one that had its silver mirror knocked off. That vehicle, sources said, was recovered at an Enterprise location in Boston Wednesday, a day after police issued a BOLO [Be On The Lookout] for it. The sources said it had been dropped off abruptly sometime Tuesday with the broken mirror.

Another rental vehicle was recovered not far from Lloyd's body. A third rental was stopped from pulling out of Hernandez's driveway Tuesday by state police and its two occupants were questioned and released. Police were seen searching that car Tuesday night.

In another development in the case, ABC News has learned from investigative sources that Hernandez had partied with Lloyd at a Boston nightclub Friday night into Saturday morning. Police reviewed surveillance video Wednesday that was taken at that club.

Police are also investigating "other incidents of violence" that Hernandez is suspected of being involved in, two sources told ABC News.

Hernandez is being sued by a former friend who lost his eye after he claims the Patriots player shot him in the face in February. A lawsuit in that case stated that Hernandez "possessed a gun he was not legally licensed to have."

### **Aaron Hernandez Not Cleared in Friend's Murder**

In the lawsuit initially filed in federal court on June 13, attorneys representing Alexander Bradley, 32, said that Hernandez and several others were at Tootsie's strip club in Miami on Feb. 13 when Bradley and Hernandez got into an argument. The group then left the club, and while driving towards Palm Beach, Hernandez's gun discharged inside the vehicle. "It fired, and a bullet went through my client's arm and blew out his right eye," attorney David Jaroslawicz told ABCNews.com. "It has been enucleated -- replaced with a prosthetic eye. He has also lost use of his right arm."

The victim, however, apparently did not tell Palm Beach County sheriffs who responded that the shooter was his friend Aaron Hernandez. The tight end's name is not mentioned on the police report.

The Patriots have been tight-lipped about the investigation into Hernandez, who has spent the off-season recovering from a shoulder scope. A team official, Stacey James, said the team would not be commenting on the case citing on the ongoing investigation.

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- Mother of Odin Lloyd breaks silence**  
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## Hernandez's body language in court scrutinized

Posted: Jun 24, 2014 11:16 PM EDT  
Updated: Aug 06, 2014 7:13 PM EDT

Reported by Adam Williams - blo

BOSTON (WHDH) - Aaron Hernandez is charged with three murders, but anyone who has watched him at trial has noticed him smiling.

"He's smiling, he's looking off into the distance. It doesn't seem to bother him very much," Northeastern University criminologist Jack Levin said.

Levin said Hernandez's body language might be tied to his childhood as a football prodigy.

"They feel superior, they begin to look invincible and sometimes when you look at Hernandez in court, he looks like he simply doesn't care," he said.

A CNN special aired Tuesday night looking at Hernandez's roots and looked at the sudden loss of his father when he was 16.

"I've talked to him at length, there's a warmth within this person," Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson told CNN.

Even his former Patriot teammate, Kevin Faulk, is speaking out in support of Hernandez.

"I don't want him to have done it, so if you want me to say no then no, I don't think he did it. At the same time anyone could be pushed to do something drastic like that," Faulk told CNN.

But Levin says, Hernandez's past feelings of superiority might have lead him to face murder charges.

"So he can have thug membership, he can stay in the gang, he can do the wrong thing, and he'll get away with it. That may be in his mind," Levin said.

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longtail • 3 months ago

Rodger Clemens was the poster boy for spoiled athletes everywhere. He never had to pay for a round of golf and had a hissy fit if he ever had to carry his own suitcase but it didn't drive him to murder. This is more then a spoiled athlete, Hernandez seems to be a psychopath.

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Will see how much he's smiling when he gets life in prison. I hope he rots there and gets roed by his cell-mates.

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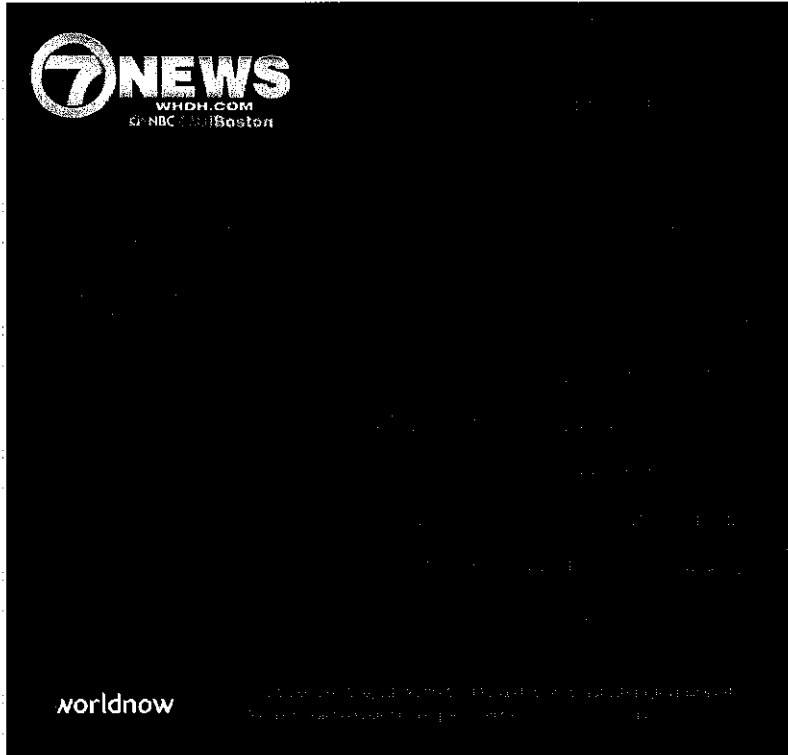
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Aaron Hernandez in Suffolk Superior Court, June 24, 2014. (WBZ-TV · AaronHernandez Seeks Evidence Suppressed Due To 'Unlawful Police Interrogation'.

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**Aaron Hernandez Seeks To Suppress Phone Evidence** « CBS Boston  
Sep 8, 2014 ... FALL RIVER (AP) Lawyers for former New England Patriots tight end AaronHernandez have asked a judge to suppress evidence from his ...

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**DA Seeking Tattoo Artists Who Worked On Aaron Hernandez After ...**  
May 21, 2014 ... The Suffolk County District Attorney's office is trying to track down any tattoo artists who may have worked on former Patriot Aaron Hernandez ...

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**Prosecutor: Aaron Hernandez Killed 2 Men Over Spilled Drink ...**  
May 28, 2014 ... Aaron Hernandez pleaded not guilty Wednesday to two murder charges for allegedly ambushing and gunning down two men in 2012 after one ...

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**DA: Aaron Hernandez 'Ambushed And Executed' Men In 2012 ...**  
May 15, 2014 ... BOSTON (CBS) Former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez was indicted on first-degree murder charges Thursday in a double ...

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**Aaron Hernandez Requests Transfer Out Of Bristol County Jail ...**  
Jun 20, 2014 ... BOSTON (CBS) Former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez is demanding a transfer out of the Bristol County Jail. Hernandez says he ...

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**Aaron Hernandez Takes Stand, Answers Questions About Possible ...**  
Oct 9, 2013 ... At the hearing Wednesday in Fall River Superior Court, the judge asked Hernandez to take the stand to question him about a potential conflict ...

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**Aaron Hernandez Moved To Nashua Street Jail In Boston** « CBS ...  
Jul 9, 2014 ... The Suffolk County sheriff says ex-New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez will be treated the same as other inmates at the Boston facility.

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**Kevin Faulk Supports Aaron Hernandez: 'He Has Somebody On His ...**  
Jun 25, 2014 ... BOSTON (CBS) Kevin Faulk has not played for the New England Patriots since 2011, but his loyalty to his former team and his former ...

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Jun 22, 2014 ... Accused killer Aaron Hernandez was taken to the hospital briefly this weekend, Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson told WBZ-TV.

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**VIDEO Some Hernandez Evidence to Be Thrown Out**

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**Hernandez's Fiancee Asks Court to Throw Out Charges**

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**VIDEO Hernandez's Fiancee Asks Court to Throw Out Charges**

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# Aaron Hernandez Spent Weekend in Newport, RI Days After Alleged Murders

Former Patriots TE has been indicted for 2 murders in 2012; he had previously been charged with 2013 murder of Odin Lloyd  
Thursday, Jun 19, 2014 • Updated at 11:35 AM EDT

(NECN: John Moroney, Newport, R.I.) - Tom Welby remembers the weekend two summers ago very well, when Aaron Hernandez, then a tight end for the New England Patriots, posed for pictures with himself and the staff at Scooter World in Newport, Rhode Island.

The visit came four days after he allegedly shot and killed two men outside a night club in Boston 's South End.

"He's a really big guy, so we recognized him immediately," said Welby. "Really laid back, he didn't seem bothered at all. He was in good spirits, they were goofing around."

Welby says the former Patriot and three of his friends rented scooters and jet-skis on July 20, 2012.

Hernandez has been indicted by a grand jury for the murders of Daniel Abreu and Safiro Furtado on July 16 of that year, less than a week before his weekend trip to Newport.

"What I know now, looking back at it, it's even more shocking that somebody would do that and then, four days later, go out and have a blast," said Welby.

Hernandez and his posse rented their scooters for a couple of days. Welby says Hernandez came him to on the second day of his stay in town, apologizing profusely to the Scooter World for losing the key to his vehicle.

Welby had the picture of himself and the former tight end hanging in his shop, but he moved it to the bathroom after Hernandez was charged last year in the death 27-year-old Odin Lloyd. Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to killing Lloyd and dumping his body in a North Attleboro, Massachusetts industrial park.

Hernandez's attorneys, Charles Rankin and James Sultan, issued a statement and said their client was looking forward to his day in court on the latest charges. "It is one thing to make allegations at a press conference, and another thing to prove them in a courtroom."

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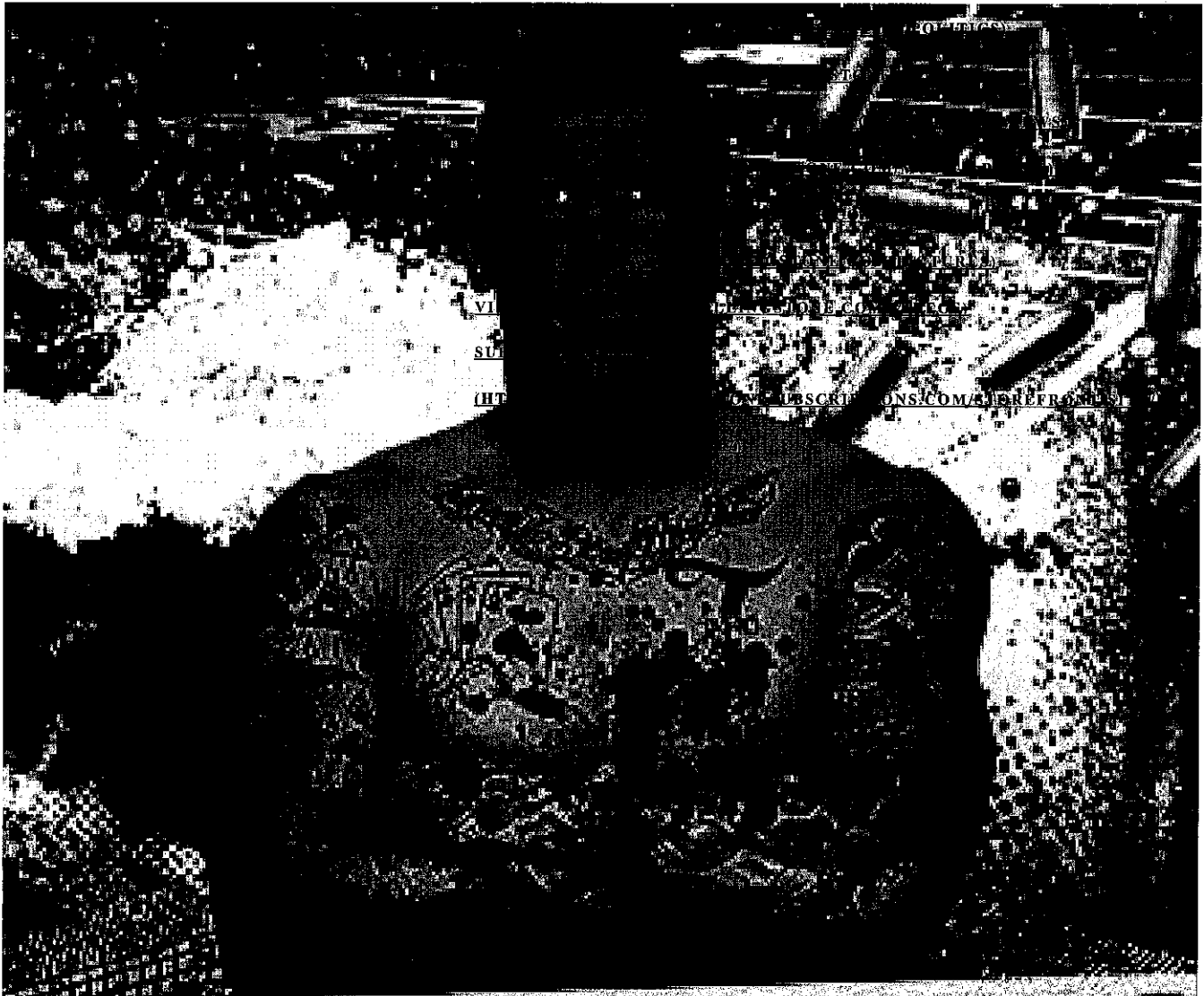
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# EXHIBIT 12



# THE GANGSTER IN THE HUDDLE

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN MCCABE, PHOTOGRAPH OF HERNANDEZ IN ILLUSTRATION BY AARON FRUTMAN/DGA PRODUCTIONS

Aaron Hernandez might have been one of the NFL's all-time greats, but he could never escape drugs, guns and a life of violence

BY PAUL SOLOTAROFF WITH RON BORGES | August 28, 2013

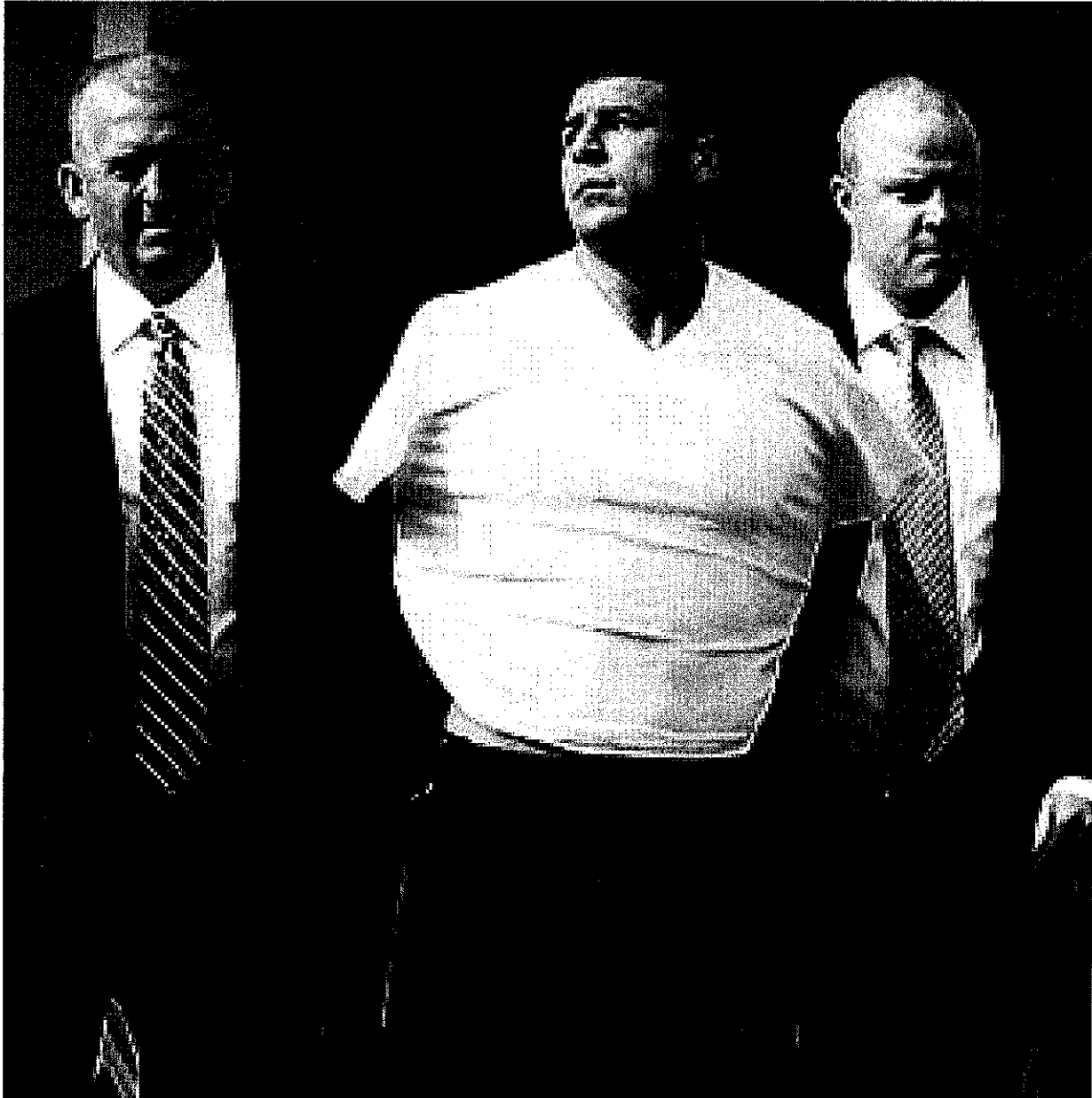
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**T**he first text pinged him around nine that Sunday night: *I'm coming to grab that tonight, you gon b around? I need dat and we could step for a little again.* For Odin Lloyd, this was bang-up news, proof that his luck had turned around. Aaron Hernandez, the Pro Bowl tight end of the New England Patriots, was coming by later to scoop him up for another five-star debauch, just 36 hours

after he'd taken Lloyd out for the wildest ride of his life. All night Friday, they'd kicked it at Rumor, popping bottles and pulling models up the steps of the VIP section of the Boston theater district's hottest club. "Shit was crazy," Lloyd told friends the next day at his niece's dance recital. "The girls were off the chain. We smoked that super-duper and Aaron dropped 10 G's like it was nothing. We kept rolling past dawn at his big-ass mansion, then he tossed me the keys to his Suburban."



**MURDER IN THE FIRST** Hernandez was arrested and led out of his mansion in North Attleborough, Massachusetts, on June 26th. GEORGE RIZER/BOSTON GLOBE/GETTY IMAGES

Big doings for a semipro football player and underemployed landscape helper, though there, too, fortune smiled on Lloyd, 27. He'd just gotten word that he'd have shifts all week, his first steady hours in some time. And now he was about to burn it down again with Hernandez, the \$40 million man with the restless streak and a bottomless taste for chronic. The problem, Lloyd said, was it didn't end there with Hernandez and his how-high crew: "Them boys is into way worse shit than herb."

☞ **Five Sports Stars Accused of Killing Someone** (<http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/five-sports-stars-accused-of-killing-someone-20130627>)

How much worse? About as bad as it gets, say longtime family friends. In exclusive conversations with *Rolling Stone*, those friends, who insisted they not be named, say Hernandez was using the maniacal drug angel dust, had fallen in with a crew of gangsters and convinced himself that his life was in danger, carrying a gun wherever he went. Sources close to the tight end add that throughout the spring, when players are expected to be preparing themselves for the marathon NFL season, Hernandez had missed workouts and sessions with a rehab trainer, and had been told by his head coach, Bill Belichick, that he was one misstep from being cut.

But training camp was six weeks away, and Hernandez wasn't one to heed a warning. He went on hitting the clubs with his boys, including Lloyd, who was dating his fiancée's sister. That Sunday, Lloyd's best friend urged him to stay home, saying he needed his sleep for the week ahead. Lloyd had already been up all weekend – he'd taken his friends clubbing Saturday night in Hernandez's black Suburban. Hernandez wouldn't hear it, though; he kept texting Lloyd. *Aite, where?* Lloyd relented, ignoring his friend. *It don't matter but imma hit you*, said Hernandez at 9:39. *If my phone dies imma hit u when I charge it.*

**ODIN LLOYD**

The night of his murder, Lloyd texted his sister: *U saw who I'm with... Nfl... just so u know...*  
\*BOSTON HERALD\*/POLARIS

Tonight, though, wouldn't be anything like Friday. All weekend, Hernandez had been stewing in his 7,000-square-foot mansion 45 minutes outside Boston in North Attleborough, not far from Gillette Stadium, where the Patriots play, fixated on something that happened in the club two nights earlier. Per a close friend of Lloyd's, they'd been getting buzzed in VIP when Lloyd saw two of his cousins downstairs.

He went to hug them up and buy them drinks when one of them, a West Indian with dreads, started pointing and mean-mugging Hernandez. "I don't like that nigger, he's one of them funny people," said the cousin. "Stop pointing, that's my boy," said Lloyd of Hernandez. "You're gonna start some shit 'tween me and him." "Well, I don't want you with him, he's a punk," said Lloyd's cousin, jabbing his finger again in Hernandez's direction.

When Lloyd went back upstairs, Hernandez was enraged. Club security cameras allegedly capture the two men squabbling, showing Hernandez, six-two and a rippled 250, facing off with the five-11 Lloyd. The friends stopped short of throwing punches, though cameras mounted outside the club show the argument resuming in the street.

Most people, even self-important stars blowing thousands on bottle-shape women, might have simmered down about now. But the 23-year-old Aaron Hernandez wasn't like most people; for ages, he hadn't even been like himself. The sweet, goofy kid from Bristol, Connecticut, with the klieg-light smile and ex-thug dad who'd turned his life around to raise two phenom sons – *that* Aaron Hernandez had barely been heard from in the seven hard years since his father was snatched away, killed in his prime by a medical error that left his boys soul-sick and lost. Once in a great while, the good Aaron would surface, phoning one of his college coaches to tell him he loved him and to talk to the man's kids for hours, or stopping Robert Kraft, the Patriots' owner, to kiss him on the cheek and thank him damply. There was such hunger in that kid for a father's hand, and such greatness itching to get out, that coach after coach had covered for him whenever the bad Aaron showed – the violent, furious kid who was dangerous to all, most particularly, it seems, to his friends.



**CARLOS ORTIZ**

Ortiz claims he stayed in the back seat when the shooting occurred, but told cops that Wallace said Hernandez killed Lloyd.  
GEORGE RIZER/BOSTON GLOBE/AP IMAGES, POOL

And so, two days after the spat with Lloyd, he was nursing his rubbed-raw grievance. "You can't trust anyone anymore!" he's heard screaming on the footage of his home-security system. Sometime that night, he reached out to a couple of Bristol goons, Ernest Wallace and Carlos Ortiz – two stumble-bum crooks with long sheets of priors and no job or fixed address to lay their heads – and ordered them to take the two-hour drive to Boston on the double, telling one of them, *Hurry ur ass up here, nigga*.

### **According to family friends, Hernandez was using angel dust and was so paranoid he always carried a gun.**

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Around 1:10 a.m., Hernandez set off with Wallace and Ortiz in a rented Nissan Altima to pick up Odin Lloyd. Hernandez's security cams show him with what looks like a Glock .45 in hand, pacing in his living room. On the 30-mile drive to Fayston Street, a war-zone block in the Dorchester neighborhood of Boston, where Lloyd lived with his mother and younger sister (he'd been forced to move home after losing his job at the local utility company), the three men stopped to buy a pack of blue cotton-candy Bubblicious and a cheap cigar, the type used to roll blunts. Usually, that was Lloyd's job – Hernandez fondly called him the Bluntmaster. Making do without him, they got to Lloyd's house at 2:33 a.m., where a surveillance camera posted across the street showed Lloyd getting into the back seat of the Nissan. It fast became clear to Lloyd, though, that this wouldn't be a night of hot-sheet fun. He began firing texts off to his sister, sending distress flares every few minutes. *U saw who I'm with... Nfl... just so u know...*



**ERNEST WALLACE**

A co-defendant in the murder, who became, says an associate, "Aaron's muscle."  
 BILL GREENE/BOSTON GLOBE/GETTY IMAGES

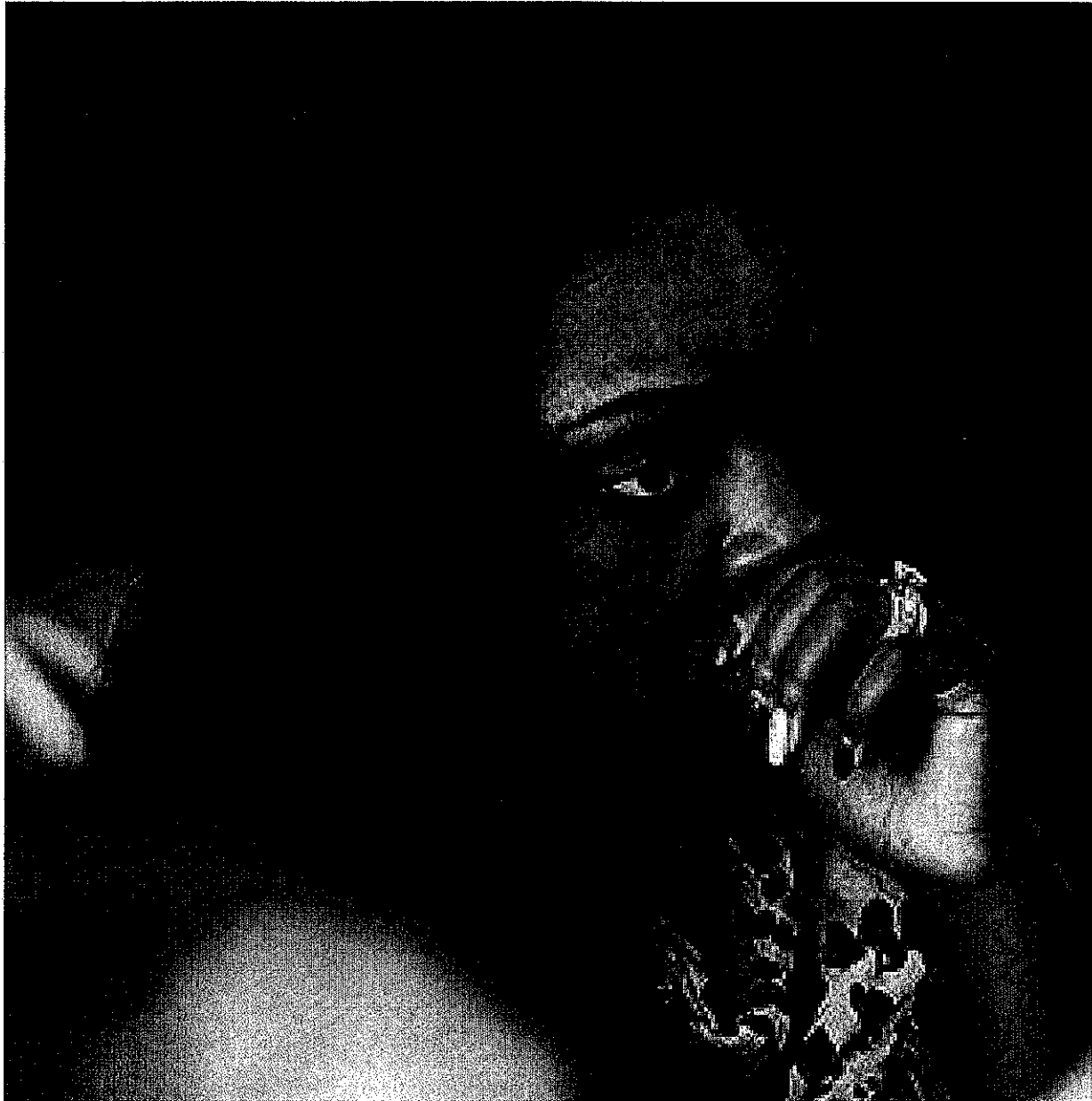
The last one reached her at 3:23 a.m. Minutes later, Lloyd got out of the car in an industrial park in North Attleborough. He seemed to know what was coming, but decided to make a stand: The driver's side mirror of the Nissan was broken off, a sign that he might have gone down swinging. On a sand-and-gravel patch, Lloyd raised his arms in defense of the first shot, and was then hit in the back twice as he turned away and fell to the ground. The gunman pumped two more rounds into his chest for good measure. The next day, cops lifted tire tracks near the body that matched the Nissan. Tracing the car back to the rental agency, police would eventually recover a .45 shell case and a wad of cotton-candy Bubblicious. And though Hernandez would monkey with his home-security system, getting rid of six hours of key recordings, and smash up the cellphone he'd turn in to cops, he'd neglect to scrub all the data they contained, handing police a honey pot of incriminating evidence.

They'll need every bit of it to convict Hernandez of murder and send him away for life. Both on the field and off, he's been hell to bring down; the man has a genius for breaking loose. According to several experts, he might just do it again, make one last run to daylight around the edge.

☞ [How Football Destroys Your Brain \(http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/this-is-your-brain-on-football-20130131\)](http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/this-is-your-brain-on-football-20130131)



**T**here have been 47 arrests of NFL players since the end of the last regular season: bar brawls, cars wrecked, spouses shoved or beaten. Violence travels; it follows these men home, where far too many learn they have no kill switch. But there's the sociopathy of a savage game, and then there's Aaron Hernandez. Since 2007, he's been charged with, or linked to, the shootings of six people in four incidents. Three of the victims were gruesomely murdered. One survivor, a former friend named Alexander Bradley, has had multiple operations and lost his right eye. The other two survivors were shot in their car outside a Gainesville, Florida, bar after an altercation involving Hernandez and two of his teammates his freshman year at the University of Florida. While in Gainesville, he sucker-punched a guy and shattered the fellow's eardrum, and reportedly failed multiple drug tests, though he was suspended only once for those offenses. He posed for selfies in the mirror while a) wielding a .45 and b) swathed from head to toe in Bloods regalia, and threatened to "fuck up" Wes Welker, his Pro Bowl teammate, just days after being drafted by the Patriots. (Welker, a veteran, had refused to help the rookie operate the replay machine.) Since high school, he's scourged his skin with a scree of tattoos. Writ large on his left arm: HATE ME NOW. On the meat of his right hand, just above the knuckles: the word BLOOD in bright-red scrawl.



Of all the questions raised by the murder of Lloyd, two enigmas underpin the others: How did a kid so rich in gifts and honors – the most celebrated son in the history of Bristol – grow into such a murderously angry man? And why does Bristol, the town that time forgot, keep landing in the middle of this lurid story?

This city of 60,000 was always a sweet, sleepy place to buy a house, raise children and send them elsewhere. The locals built firearms and doorbells in the plants here, then car parts and mainsprings for clocks. The population spiked in the decades after D-Day – vets moving in to take factory jobs and rent small pillbox homes on the west side of town. No one got rich or stuck around for college, but it was heaven to be a 12-year-old here: manicured ballfields, Boys Club summers, a sky-blue pool in every park.

Aaron's father, Dennis, ruled those fields before his son followed in his footsteps. In the Seventies and Eighties, Dennis and his twin brother, David, became local sports heroes. Enormous for their age and fast and tough, they took to football straightaway and were happier running through, than around, you. They'd be three-sport stars in high school and draw scouts to their games, though as good as they were at football, they were better in street fights, say friends: Nobody fucked with the Hernandez boys.

"They were the roughest kids by far in Guinea Alley," says Eddy Fortier, who went to Bristol Central with them in the Seventies and is a former youth counselor. "They had to be tough – they were about the only Puerto Ricans in an Irish-Italian town," says Fortier's brother, Gary, a reformed ex-con who's now a painter and assistant pastor at a Bristol church.

Dennis, in particular, was built for big things. A larger-than-life charmer with a maitre d's flair and a habit of hugging everyone he met, he was called "The King" in his glory days and owned the back pages of *The Bristol Press*. An All-Everything tailback, he was the rare kid from Bristol to get a full-ride offer to the University of Connecticut, the state's only Division I football program. (David, a wide receiver, got one too.) Alas, Dennis was no angel: He loved to drink and get high, and had lousy taste in friends, which did him in. His best buddy was a teammate, Rocco Testa, who fancied himself a mobster-in-training. "Rocco and his uncle did burglaries together, broke into houses here in town," says Detective Sgt. John Sassu of the Bristol Police Department, who also went to high school with the twins. "He got Dennis and David in it before the three of them went to UConn, then more so after they all dropped out."

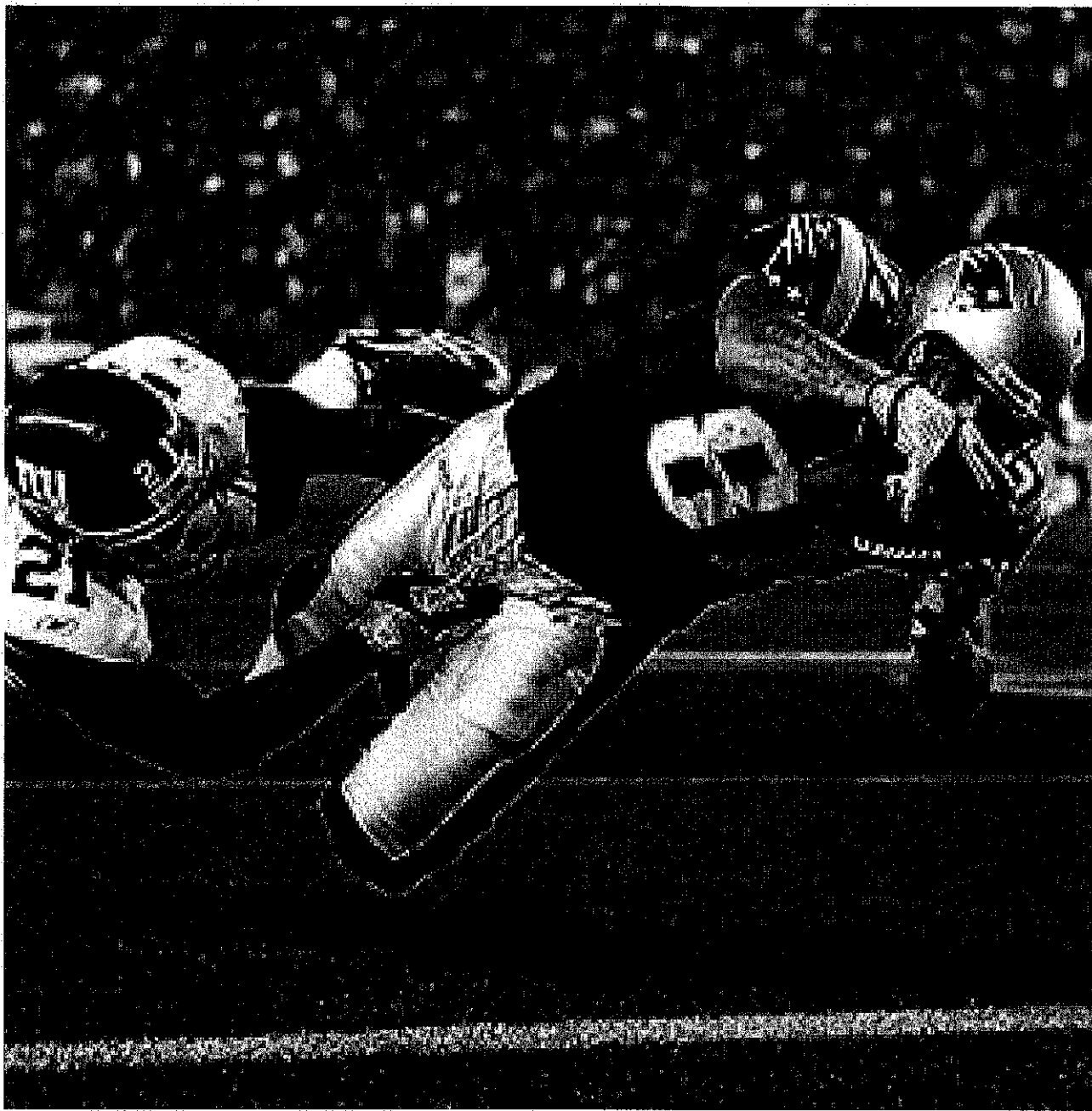
The twins were pinched for small-change crimes – assault and petty larceny – in the decade after they both left UConn. As late as 1990, Dennis was busted for burglary, though neither brother seems to have done prison time. Friends say they also occasionally smoked crack, beat up dealers for drugs and cash, and bet way over their heads on sports. As for their pal Testa, he was caught in the act while robbing a house with his uncle, who shot and killed a cop while they tried to escape. "The rumor on the street was Dennis and David were there too," says Sassu, "but we couldn't make the case."

☞ [The NFL Is Killing Its Workers \(http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/the-nfls-head-game-20120903\)](http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/the-nfls-head-game-20120903)

Either way, parenthood seemed to scare the twins straight. Both became fathers, found steady work and had no further truck with Bristol cops. (Neither David nor anyone else in the Hernandez family returned phone calls seeking comment.) Dennis married Terri Valentine, a school secretary in Bristol, and got a job on the custodial staff at the other of the town's two high schools, Bristol Eastern. They bought a small cottage on Greystone Avenue and produced two wildly gifted sons: DJ, now 27 and an assistant football coach at the University of Iowa, and Aaron, three years younger but bigger and faster, the apogee of the family's genetics.

Each surpassed his father, both on the field and off, in part because Dennis took elaborate pains to keep them on the straight and narrow. Dennis built a gym in the family basement, paved a chunk of the backyard over for a half-court and staged three-on-three tourneys there, and peppered the boys with can-do slogans, burning them in through repetition. "Some do, some don't," he was always telling them. "If it is to be, it is up to me," went another. He was bent on getting his sons to do everything right, whether it was making the proper blitz read or handing homework in on time, perhaps because he'd squandered his own chance.

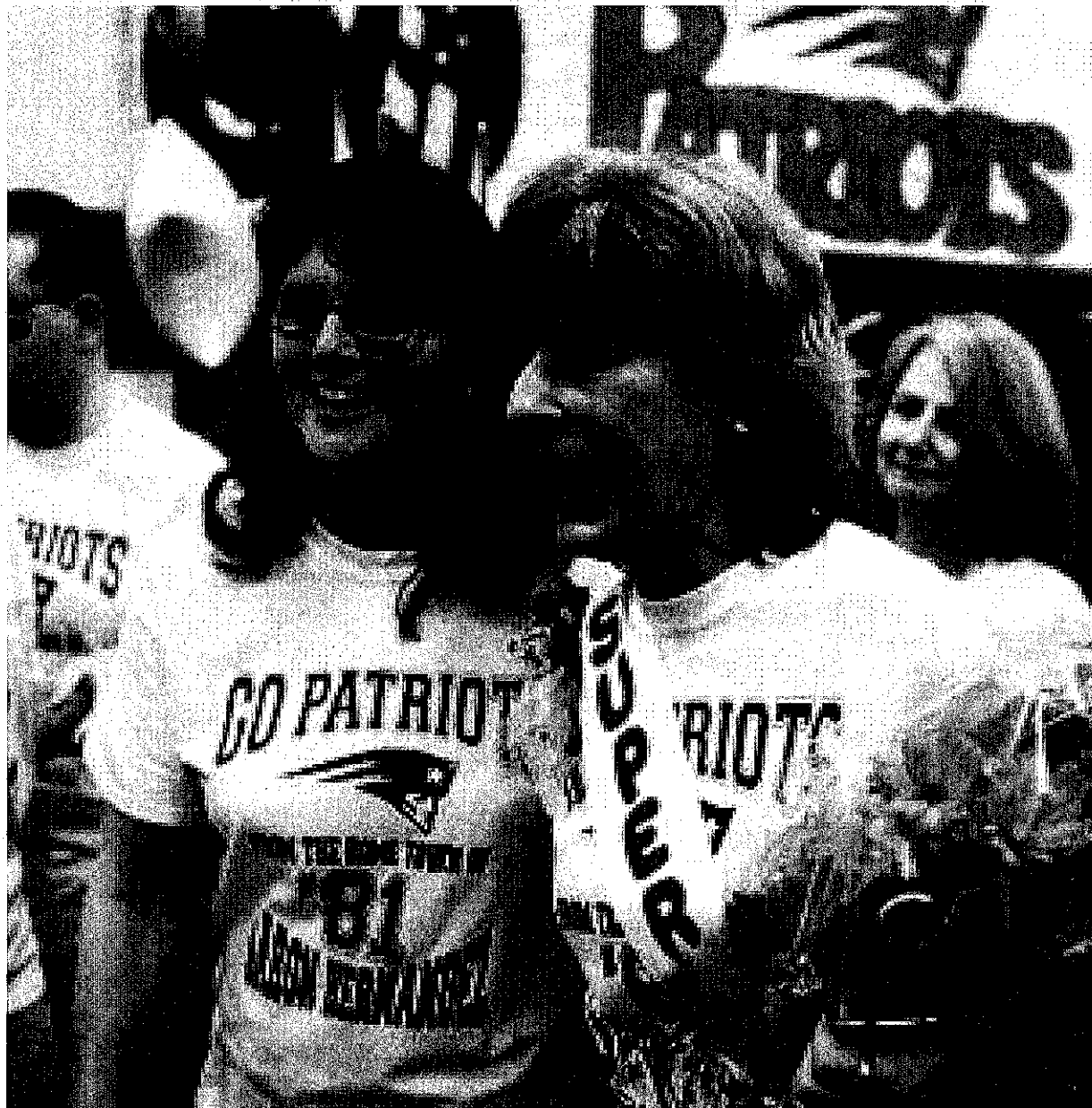
DJ seemed his natural heir – the star passer and guard at Bristol Central who played three years of quarterback at UConn and made the dean's list two years running – until Aaron blew by him on the rail. A huge-for-high-school tight end with wideout speed and a pair of glue-trap hands, he posted the kind of numbers you never see in Northeast states: 1,800 yards and 24 touchdowns in a season, almost 400 yards receiving in a single game, and 12 sacks and three forced fumbles as a part-time blitzer, winning Defensive Player of the Year honors his junior year in 2005. His great asset, besides his hands, which were strong as clamps, was the gift scouts call escapability; he couldn't be brought down after the catch. He was too big and too fast, and he used his free arm well to shed tacklers. You had to gang up or pin him against the sideline, and even then he'd wriggle out for more yards. "Best athlete this city's ever produced, and a more polite, humble kid you couldn't find," says Bob Montgomery, a columnist for the *Press* and the town's official historian. "He'd be in here with his father being interviewed as Athlete of the Week, and there was never any swagger or street stuff from him, just 'Yes, sir,' 'No, sir' and 'Thank you.'"



**FALLEN PATRIOT** Despite all the warning signs, the Patriots signed Hernandez to a five-year, \$40 million contract. Hernandez himself acknowledged, in a letter he allegedly wrote from prison, that he “fell off especially after making all that money.” BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS/LANDOV

“Part of Aaron’s problem is, he never got no street sense; Dennis sheltered them from that life with all his might,” says Gary Fortier. “He was the perfect dad: He went to every scrimmage, and got ’em up at dawn to work out,” says Brandon Beam, an insurance agent in Southington who played against Aaron in practice each day as a cornerback for Bristol Central. A middle-class, mixed-race kid (mom Italian; dad Puerto Rican), Aaron had little trouble fitting into suburban Bristol. “He didn’t speak Spanish and had no tattoos,” says Jordan Carello, a Bristol football teammate who recently worked at the Doubletree hotel in town. “He was so focused on his body that he barely partied, maybe snuck a little weed here and there. But we all did that, ’cause our parents were always home. If we wanted to drink on weekends, we had to run out to someone’s car.”

## THE FAMILY HERNANDEZ

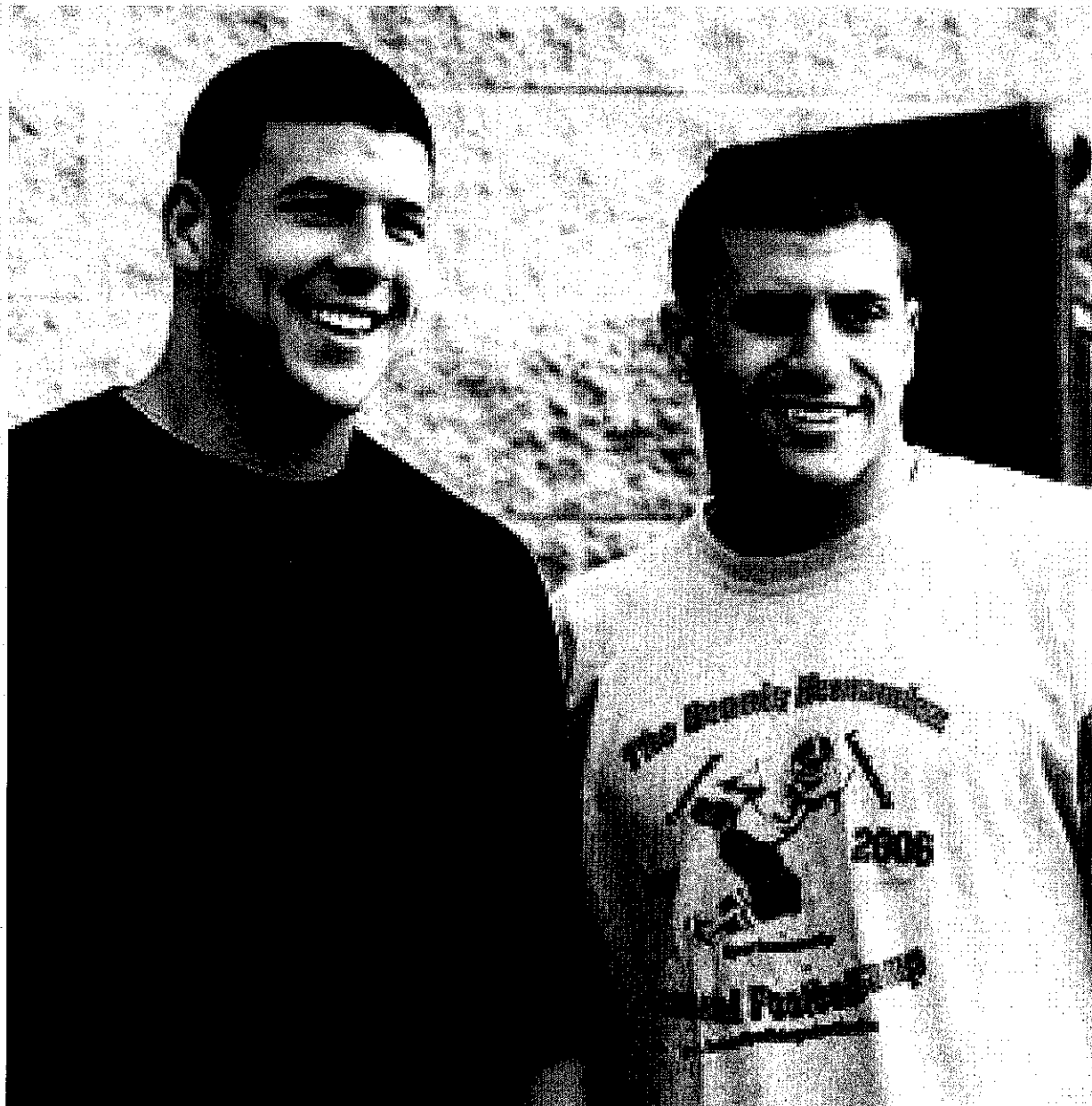


**TERRI HERNANDEZ** Aaron's mother, Terri, a school secretary, was arrested in a statewide sting for booking bets on sports. Her split with Aaron's father, Dennis, dug a rift with Aaron that deepened over the next several years. "She brought drama into that house," says one family friend. **MIKE ORAZZI/BRISTOL PRESS**

His high school friends describe Aaron as an overgrown goof who was always trolling for laughs. "The guy would do anything to crack us up," says Beam. "Stuff his lunch in his mouth in a single bite, or take a booger that was hanging out and eat that shit." That was Hernandez: physically older than everyone else, but socially about five years younger. Friends say DJ was fiercely protective of his happy-go-lucky lug of a kid brother, and taught him what hard work really looked like. They'd be out running suicides in the dead of summer, and rising early to do squats in the basement. "Aaron was driven by DJ, who was like his second dad," says Beam. "He really wanted to make Dennis happy."

It was a very different story with his mother, Terri. "She was good about schoolwork and that sort of stuff," says a friend of the family, "but she brought drama into that house – starting with the bust for taking bets." In 2001, when Aaron was 12, Terri was arrested in a statewide sting for booking bets on sports. The matter was handled quietly and she did no time, but she cast shame on the boys and dug a rift with Aaron that deepened over the next several years. Friends say Terri had begun cheating on Dennis with a physically abusive coke dealer named Jeffrey Cummings, who was married to Dennis' niece, Tanya Cummings.

Terri's relationship with Cummings, whose nickname is Meathead, was a bottomless source of grief for the sons. There was an ugly spectacle in the stands at a UConn game, says a family friend. Terri, on hand to watch DJ play, was angrily confronted by her niece and slapped in the face. The aftermath, says the friend, "hurt Aaron bad and broke his heart."



**THE HERNANDEZ BROTHERS** Aaron's older brother DJ (right) was a star quarterback and is now a coach at Iowa. "Aaron was driven by DJ, who was like his second dad," says a high school teammate. MIKE ORAZZI/BRISTOL PRESS

He might have held it together, or handled the fallout better, if Dennis had been around to see him through it. But in January 2006, Dennis checked himself in for a hernia repair at a local hospital. Something happened on the table, though, and he contracted an infection; two days later, he was dead. He was 49, in otherwise splendid health, and beloved by virtually everyone in town. His funeral, at the Church of St. Matthew, was like an affair of state: 1,500 mourners packed the biggest church in Bristol, and hundreds more waited to view the body. DJ was inconsolable, sobbing over the casket, but Aaron, 16 and shocked beyond tears, sat stone-faced. Friends tried to console him or draw him out; instead, he locked down, going mum. "He'd open up the tiniest bit, then say nothing for weeks, like it was a sign of weakness to be sad," says Beam. "His brother was at college, and the only other person he would really talk to was the one who was taken away."

Heartsick and furious, Aaron seemed to implode. "He would rebel," Terri told *USA Today* in an interview three years later. "He wasn't the same kid, the way he spoke to me. The shock of losing his dad, there was so much anger." Small wonder there: She moved Cummings into the house she shared with Aaron, and married him when his divorce from Tanya was final.



**THE TWINS** Dennis (top left) and David (bottom right) were star athletes and had a fierce reputation in Bristol.

To no one's great surprise, cops soon fielded phone calls that Cummings was abusing Terri. "We responded to that address on more than one occasion," says Detective Lt. Kevin Morrell of the Bristol P.D. In June 2010, Cummings got drunk one night and flew into a rage. Grabbing a knife from the kitchen, he slashed Terri's face and body before she fled to her neighbors next door. Cops arrested Cummings in the yard and charged him with assault and sent him to prison for two years. Terri divorced him that year, but took him back, say friends, when he was released in 2012. At last report, they had split for good; she currently lives alone on Greystone Avenue, though she hasn't been seen there much since Lloyd's murder. It bears noting that she's the rare-bird NFL mother whose son didn't buy her a big house when he got drafted.

With Cummings around, Aaron began getting scarce, spending a lot of time with family across town, in a roughneck stretch called Lake Avenue. This was the Bristol version of downward mobility, a hop from the hot plate to the fire. His father's brother-in-law, Uncle Tito, had a house up the block from the projects, where he lived with his grown daughter Tanya — the woman Cummings had ditched to be with Terri. Aaron and Tanya, first cousins bonded by loss, drew close very quickly, friends say. (He has the name of her son — Jano — tattooed on his chest, and has supported them both financially since college.) Among the dubious people hanging around the house were goons like Ernest Wallace and T.L. Singleton, an older-but-not-wiser drug dealer who'd been in and out of prison since the Nineties. Singleton would wind up marrying Tanya and siring a child with her after Cummings left. Along with fringe hustlers like Carlos Ortiz, the angel-dust twaker, they filled the heart-size hole Dennis left, bolstering Aaron with bromides about family love and vowing that they'd always have

his back – which is another way of saying they sunk their claws in. Their motives couldn't have been plainer if they'd hung them in neon: Here was a kid with can't-miss skills, a malleable man-child who'd be rich one day and fly them out of the hood in his G-5. All they had to do was get him high and gas his head, inflame his sense of grievance at life's unfairness.

☞ **What's Behind the Outbreak of Atrocious NFL Sideline Decisions? (<http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/the-nfl-coaching-crisis-20120106>)**

**F**rom middle school, Hernandez had his sights set on UConn, and committed there as a star at Bristol Central. It had been Dennis' dream to see his boys play there together, having quit the school himself after a couple of years and gone home with his tail between his legs. But then Dennis died, making a jumble of things, and the world came courting his younger son. Enter the University of Florida and the messiah, Urban Meyer, who persuaded Hernandez to renege on UConn and come to Gainesville. It seemed a gift from on high: a championship program in a Bible Belt town with a deeply pious coach and devout assistants. Meyer had a rep for reforming players who'd had trouble elsewhere with the law. And he tried, God knows, to convert Hernandez; did everything short of an exorcism. "But there's only so much you can do in three years," says John Hevesy, Hernandez's position coach with the Gators and now a coach at Mississippi State. "Bristol had him for 17 before he came to us. In the end, I guess, that trumped what we put in."

Hernandez left home in January 2007, taking early graduation to enroll at Florida and be eligible for spring football. But he was miserable and overmatched his first year there and told friends on the phone he wanted to quit. Meyer brought him in for face-to-face meetings, reading Scripture in his office each morning. He assigned Mike and Maurkice Pouncey, twin All-American linemen, to baby-sit Hernandez, and detailed Tim Tebow, the truest of believers, to be his life instructor. But even Tebow couldn't save him from himself once Hernandez got a few beers in his system. The pair went out that April to a bar near campus, where the underage Hernandez had an argument with a waiter and punched him in the head as he walked away. Michael Taphorn suffered a ruptured eardrum, but didn't press charges on Hernandez, telling the cops he was talking to Florida coaches, according to a police report. The matter seems to have been settled quietly out of court, which was fine with Gainesville cops and the DA. They treated the punch-out as a juvie offense, giving Hernandez a deferred prosecution on the hush.

"We didn't hear that story till much, much later – the police didn't file a report," says a local reporter who was covering the team. As a sophomore, Hernandez was benched for the season opener, meaning he'd likely failed drug tests over the summer. But Meyer denied it, saying he "wasn't ready to play," again giving cover for bad behavior. "Meyer kept us at such a distance," says the reporter, "or flat-out lied, that we couldn't verify a pot suspension."

Hernandez would fail other drug tests, according to reports, and should have faced bans for up to half a season, per school regulations. Instead, he didn't miss a single snap, though he was seen hanging out with a crew of thugs at a local bar. One of them was Bristol pal Ernest Wallace, who came down to Florida, says a friend, to be "Aaron's muscle."

"I never saw him with them, but misery attracts misery: There's vultures waiting to swoop," says Coach Hevesy, who did everything he could to protect Hernandez. He brought him home for meals twice a week, took him deep-sea fishing and treated him like the oldest of his three kids. "He played video games with my son, and my daughter wore his jersey to sleep. But whenever he left campus, he'd come back different. That's when the problems happened."

Those problems didn't hinder his development, however. He was the rare college freshman who outworked upperclassmen, training by himself even before the gym opened, doing kick-flips off the wall of his dorm. As a sophomore, he became a starter and Tebow's third-down outlet, leading the team in catches in the national-championship win in 2008, the school's second title in three years. "You see his athleticism and explosiveness, and as an athlete, it's incredible," said Tebow. By 20, Hernandez was a first-team All-American and winner of the 2009 John Mackey Award as the country's top tight end. He could have written his own ticket if he'd kept his nose clean: been a high-first-rounder in the 2010 NFL draft and pulled an eight-figure bonus to sign. Instead, he cemented his don't-touch rep by getting embroiled in a shooting outside a bar. "He was out with the Pounceys and [ex-Gator safety] Reggie Nelson, and some guys tried to snatch a chain off one of the Pounceys," says the local reporter. "The guys drive off, then stop at a light, and someone gets out of a car and shoots into their car through the passenger window. One victim described the shooter as possibly Hispanic or Hawaiian, with lots of tattoos on his arms." The Pounceys were questioned as witnesses to the crime, but Hernandez invoked his right to counsel and never gave a statement, most odd since he was also called as a witness. No charges have ever been filed, and the case is still open. Again, he walked away unscathed: He wasn't even named in the police report. In hindsight, it might have been the worst thing for him. He seems to have concluded, with an abundance of probable cause, that he was untouchable.

☞ **Matt Taibbi Decodes the NFL Draft (<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/blogs/taibblog/the-nfl-draft-decoded-part-iii-20130423>)**

**I**n April 2010, a few months before the NFL draft, Hernandez sat down and composed a letter, or had his agent at Athletes First do so for him. (The firm is a top-tier NFL shop, repping Ray Lewis, Aaron Rodgers and Clay Matthews, among others.) It was a Hail Mary pass to 32 teams, asking them to spike their bad reports and pick a dope-smoking, hair-trigger hothead. "My coaches have told you that nobody worked harder than me," he wrote. "The only X-factor is concerns about my use of recreational drugs. To address that, I am putting my money where my mouth is" by offering to take eight drug tests during the season, and to return a portion of his paycheck if found dirty. This was both delusional and an empty vow: The players' union would block even one extra test and any attempt to pay back guaranteed money. After seeing his pre-draft psychological report, where he received the lowest possible score, one out of 10, in the category of "social maturity" and which also noted that he enjoyed "living on the edge of acceptable behavior," a handful of teams pulled him off their boards, and 25 others let him sink like a stone on draft day, April 24th. Only one team took the bait, burning a midround pick on a guy with "character issues": the stoop-to-conquer Patriots of Bill Belichick.

Time was, the Pats were the Tiffany franchise, a team of such sterling moral repute that they cut a player right after they drafted him, having learned he had a history of assaulting women. But Belichick, the winner of three Super Bowl titles and grand wizard of the greatest show on turf, had decided long before he got to New England that such niceties were beneath him. Over a decade, he'd been aggregating power unto himself, becoming the Chief Decider on personnel matters. He signed so many players bearing red flags they could have marched in Moscow's May Day parade (Randy Moss, Donte Stallworth, et al.), and began drafting kids with hectic pasts, assuming the team's vets would police them. Some of this was arrogance, some of it need: When you're picking from the bottom of the deck each spring, you're apt to shave some corners to land talent.

Hence, Hernandez, who'd make the Pro Bowl one season later on an NFL-minimum salary. Such was his immediate impact, in fact, that the Patriots rewrote the book on tight-end play. In 2011, the tandem of Hernandez and Rob Gronkowski blew away the league marks for most combined yards, catches and touchdowns at the position, pushing the records far out of reach. It was a wrinkle opponents hadn't seen before and were helpless to defend: two hybrid tight ends who could overpower safeties and outrun any linebacker in coverage. Belichick signed both to big extensions years before their rookie deals expired, giving Hernandez \$40 million and Gronkowski \$54 million, while stiffing Wes Welker, the slot receiver.

## **After his dad died, his mom married a violent coke dealer. "It hurt Aaron bad," says a friend, "and broke his heart."**

Like most of Belichick's recent gestures, this would come back to burn him – he'd lose Gronkowski and Hernandez to injuries. But the seeds of the fiasco were sown years earlier, when Belichick replaced the Pats' security chief with a tech-smart Brit named Mark Briggs. The NFL and its teams spend millions each year employing a web of former cops and ex-FBI agents to keep an eye on players and their posses. For decades, the Patriots relied on a homegrown crew of retired state troopers to do surveillance. Whenever a player popped up where he didn't belong – a strip joint in Southie or a weed spot in Brockton – Frank Mendes, the team security chief from 1990 to 2003 and a former state trooper himself, would get a call from his cop or statie friends, whether they were on payroll or not. "I'd have known within a half-hour if Hernandez had gotten in trouble with police," he says, "and told Belichick and he'd do whatever." But when Belichick hired Briggs, who'd managed security at London's Wembley Stadium and had limited street associates in the States, the tips from cops and troopers dried up. "The Patriots aren't receptive to those kind of calls," says a law-enforcement official who knows the team and dislikes Briggs. "It's not a friendly environment to call over."

In his first remarks after Odin Lloyd's murder, Robert Kraft described himself as "duped" by Hernandez, saying he'd had no knowledge of his troubles. That is arrant nonsense: Every team knew him as a badly damaged kid with a circle of dangerous friends and a substance problem. Once a Patriot, Hernandez practically ran up a banner that said STOP ME! I'M OUT OF CONTROL! He'd get high all the time driving away from games, say friends of the family, "smoking three or four blunts" in the ride back to his place. He avoided all contact with teammates after practice, even among the guys in his position group, which is unheard of in the league. Since his arrest, several Patriots have called him a "loner," saying, "No one hung with him." Retired lineman Matt Light went a step further, telling the *Dayton Daily News* that he "never believed in anything Hernandez stood for."

Instead of teammates, Hernandez built a cohort of thugs, bringing stone-cold gangsters over to the house to play pool, smoke chronic and carouse. "One of his uncles went to Boston to talk to him, and these scary-looking dudes are hanging out in his game room," says a friend. "They wouldn't say hi or shake his hand, and when he brought it up to Aaron, he laughed him off."

**T**here's broad agreement that the problem snowballed once Hernandez signed his megadeal last summer (\$40 million over a five-year term, including the largest signing bonus, \$12.5 million, ever given to a tight end). In an alleged letter to a supporter from jail, he acknowledged that he "fell off especially after making all that money," though added, with the diplomacy of a preschool kid, that "all the people who turned on me will feel like crap" when they hear "not guilty."



But even before fixing his name to the deal, Hernandez raised the stakes on bad behavior. Six weeks earlier, at a Boston club called Cure Lounge, he and his crew got into a scrap with some men from Cape Verde, a bar brawl that bred two murders, police suspect. Afterward, a few blocks from the club, a silver Toyota 4Runner with license plates from Rhode Island pulled up beside the sedan carrying the Cape Verdean men. A gun came out the window of the Toyota, spraying the sedan. Safiro Furtado and Daniel Abreu were killed by the barrage. The Toyota sped off and went missing for months, despite a statewide search by Boston cops. It turned up a year later, undriven and caked in dust, in the garage of Hernandez's Uncle Tito back in Bristol.

Hernandez had a dismal season, hobbled by an ankle sprain that cost him six games and about half his yardage from 2011. Then, a week after the Patriots' loss to the Baltimore Ravens in the AFC Championship game, he and a friend named Alexander Bradley were pulled over by a state trooper on Boston's Southeast Expressway, going 105 mph. Bradley, who was behind the wheel, was charged with driving under the influence and speeding, but once again Hernandez (who stuck his head out the window and said, "Trooper, I'm Aaron Hernandez – it's OK") walked away with no summons or team-imposed fine. Weeks later, driving from a strip club in Miami, he allegedly shot Bradley in the face, then dumped him, badly hurt and bleeding but alive, in an alley north of the city. (Bradley, keeping it gangsta, declined to tell cops who had shot him and where. No street code says you can't get paid for it, though; he's filed suit against Hernandez in civil court.) Then, months after that, Hernandez and his crew got in a beef outside a nightclub in Rhode Island. Someone matching Ernest Wallace's description pulled a .22, then ditched it beneath a car. Police traced the piece to a Florida gun shop near Wallace's parents' house, where a second .22 had been purchased that would later turn up in the woods near Hernandez's mansion in the wake of the murder.

## **According to a source, Hernandez believed the gangsters he befriended "were trying to kill him."**

By now, even Hernandez seems to have sensed that he was wildly off course. According to a source close to Hernandez, he flew to the NFL Combine in Indianapolis this past February and confided to Belichick that his life was in danger. Hernandez was trying to break away from the gangsters he'd befriended. He worried "they were actually trying to kill him," says the source. Hernandez began arming himself, stashing a rifle in his gym bag and installing a 14-camera security system at his mansion. "He was very paranoid, but was that because of his addictions or because he was trying to leave the gang?"

This past spring he skipped out on team training drills, going to California to rehab an aching shoulder and take a much-needed break from New England. But while out there, according to the source, he blew off sessions with his therapist, Alex Guerrero, and stood up Tom Brady, who was running a camp for Pats receivers. Worse, the police were called out to his Hermosa Beach rental on March 25th, summoned by his fiancée, Shayanna Jenkins, after a loud dispute during which Hernandez put his fist through a window. No arrest was made, but word got back to Belichick, who exploded and tendered notice: Any more disruptions and he'd be traded or cut at the end of the 2013 season.

Mortified, Hernandez returned to Boston; Belichick, per a close Hernandez associate, had told him to lay low, rent a safe house for a while. In May, he leased a condo in Franklin, Massachusetts, that Carlos Ortiz referred to as the "flophouse," 12 miles from his mansion in North Attleborough. Wallace moved in there, telling neighbors his name was "George," and drove Hernandez to and from team workouts. Neighbors described them as "quiet" or absent, until the day after Lloyd's shooting, when Wallace and Ortiz camped out there before taking off in a rented Chrysler for Bristol, according to a statement Ortiz gave cops.

En route, said Ortiz, Wallace claimed Hernandez had shot and killed Lloyd. Of course, Ortiz also said he'd stayed in the back seat and couldn't say exactly what happened, a contention everyone but his government-appointed lawyer laughs at. The dust-addled Ortiz, the only one of the three men not indicted, is now the star witness in the case against Hernandez, and his account is probably worthless if he takes the stand. Meanwhile, Hernandez is paying a team of strong lawyers to defend him in his first-degree-murder and weapons charges, and there's speculation he's paying the legal bills for Wallace, who is being charged as an accessory. It will shock no one if Aaron Hernandez tries to save himself by turning on his friend Ortiz. He and Wallace could tell the same story in court: that it was Ortiz who shot Lloyd out of misplaced panic, and that all they'd meant to do was rough him up.

Whatever went down in that industrial park, Hernandez's motive remains unclear. Had Lloyd, one of the few people Hernandez hung with who wasn't mobbed up or in the drug game, done something else that night to set him off? Did Hernandez mistake Lloyd's West Indian cousins for some of the Cape Verdeans he'd come to blows with? Or did the argument begin as one thing and end as another, broadening into a beef over drugs and money, as was widely conjectured?

"Don't matter what it's about: Aaron's out of his mind," says one friend of the family. "He's been twisted on dust now for more than a year, which is when all of this crazy shit started."

The friend has an intimate knowledge of the player's family and his thug-life cohorts from Bristol. He also knows plenty about angel dust, or phencyclidine, the scourge of the 1970s. Before crack came along in the mid-Eighties, dust was the madman's drug of choice. First marketed in the Fifties as a surgical anesthetic, it was banned for its psych-ward side effects: mania, delirium, violent hallucinations. Cops shake their heads in awe at the crazy-making powers of dust: "Kids fighting four of us and running naked down the street because their body temp is going through the roof," says Morrell, the Bristol detective. For his department, alas, dust isn't a dead letter; it's still one of the drugs of abuse in Hernandez's hometown. "We have been experiencing a resurgence in the use of angel dust. We deal with it all the time."

**After being pulled over, he stuck his head out of the car and said, "Trooper, I'm Aaron Hernandez - it's OK."**

As befits a crime studded with gross stupidities – killing Lloyd minutes from Hernandez's house, drawing a bread-crum trail of texts and calls to the victim's cell, then leaving that phone on the dead man's body for the cops to find – the story ends with an idiot run by Wallace and Ortiz. They would lead cops back to Uncle Tito's house in Bristol – the very place from which Hernandez's life vectored off course – leaving evidence out for the cops to bag up. Ortiz was picked up a week later, while Wallace had the sense to leave the state, at least, fleeing to Georgia, then Miramar, Florida, where he was arrested; Tanya Cummings-Singleton bought him a bus ride with her credit card. She, meanwhile, sits in jail for contempt and accessory charges, having refused to testify to the grand jury weighing murder charges against Hernandez. Her husband, T.L., was being sought by cops in connection with the double killing of the Cape Verdean men last July. But before detectives could come to take him in for questioning, he hopped into his car and took off with a former girlfriend sitting beside him. Hitting a curve at high speed, T.L. made no attempt to brake; he jumped the curb and flew 100 feet into a wall of a country club. The woman survived, but T.L. was killed on impact – a loose end neatly knotted; an accomplice who'd never flip.

And so here we are now, a year out from trial, and the open-and-shut case against Aaron Hernandez probably won't be as easy to prosecute as it seems. Without the gun used in the shooting, a persuasive motive or a witness to the crime and its planning, the state's chances of winning a conviction on murder in the first will depend entirely on circumstantial evidence. There's no shortage of that, of course, and much of it is compelling: the security tape seems to show Hernandez with the black .45 the night of the crime; the videotapes that track his car's movements, from the time he picked up Lloyd at his house in Boston to the second they entered the industrial park before the shooting; the shell casing recovered from the rental car that matched the ones found beside Lloyd.

To undercut the damning evidence, Hernandez may have to take the stand and provide an explanation, says Gerry Leone, the former district attorney of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, who convicted Richard Reid, the shoe bomber, among other high-profile cases. "You put him on if your defense case hinges on something that can only come from him" – for instance, the claim that he always carried a gun when leaving the house, protection from the gangsters who wanted him dead, and that it was Ortiz, not Hernandez, who pulled the trigger after a botched attempt to scare Lloyd. "If he says he was shocked by the shooting and only agreed to scare him, that might get him off," says renowned Boston attorney Anthony Cardinale, who repped John Gotti and other mobsters and has taught at Harvard Law School. "It's not a crime to be there if you had no reason to expect that someone would be shot."

A bigger problem for the prosecution is the all-or-nothing charge they've levied against Hernandez. In deciding to try him for murder in the first, they'll be asking jurors to send a young man to prison for the rest of his life, no parole. "In these cases, juries think that reasonable doubt means no doubt at all," says Cardinale. "If the defense can create even the slightest crack, he may walk like George Zimmerman walked – probably guilty, but the DA overcharged."

So call him stupid or sloppy or a menace to society, Hernandez keeps catching the breaks. He's gotten rich running to daylight after being hemmed in, shedding tacklers and accusers to escape. If he eludes pursuit again, there will be blame to go around, but no one can claim they didn't see it coming. He's been getting away with murder, figuratively, if not literally, his whole life.

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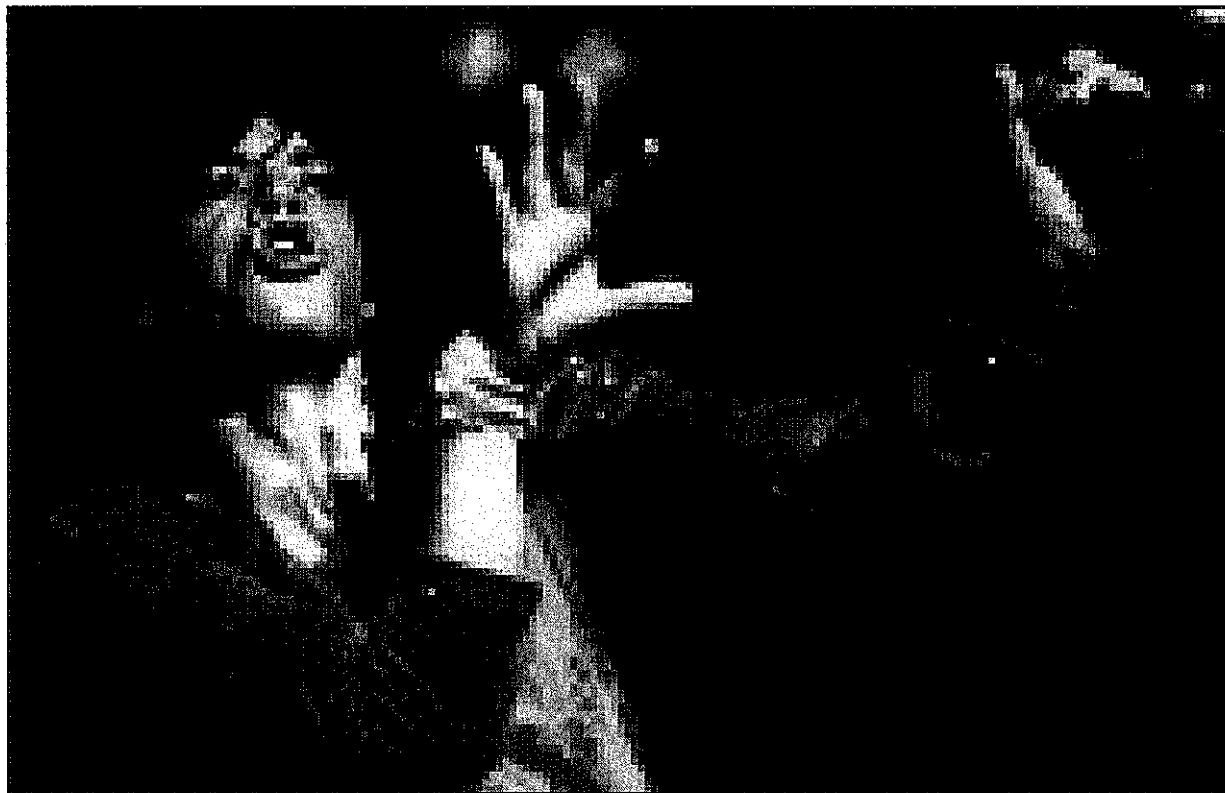
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