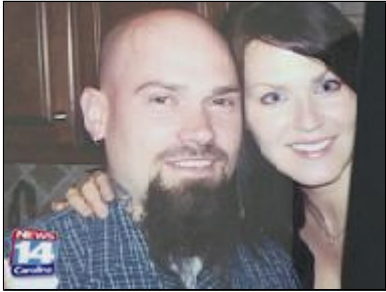


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Murder case talk moves to CraigsList

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By: Johnell Johnson



A picture of Dana Brynarsky and her husband Chris sits on her desk.

UNION COUNTY, N.C. -- It's been five months since a husband and father was shot and killed in his mechanic shop in Union County. Chris Brynarsky's widow, Dana, says writing about it helps her, but she's writing her thoughts and feelings online and possibly to the person she believes is responsible for her husband's death.

She is using the Internet to help her get her life back after losing her husband and the father of her five children in October. Chris Brynarsky was shot and killed at his paint shop in Union County. Now Mark Thomas is charged with the killing.

"I wanted to express my feelings on the devastation as far as me and the children," Dana Brynarsky said.

But not all of the responses on CraigsList.org were positive. One says Thomas is innocent. Another response says to Dana, "You act like you are the only one this has happened to."

It makes her believe at times she is talking to someone in the Thomas family or even Thomas himself.

"The way that they talk, the issues that they talk about make us think that it's someone close," she said.

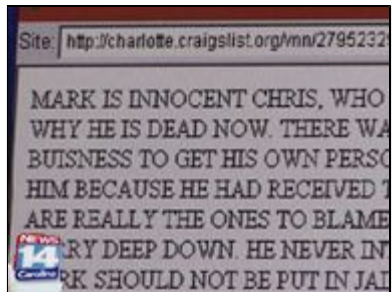
Now the question is how will Dana's writings affect the trial that's scheduled to begin in September? One professor at the Charlotte School of Law says it probably won't impact it one way or the other.

"The attorneys will be in a position to decide whether or not there has been any adverse impact and will be able to select their jurors accordingly," said law professor Scott Broyles.

But a murder case in California questions what a potential witness can put on the Internet. There, the mother of a murder suspect used her MySpace page to petition a drive against the district attorney's office.

Dana has used her blog site to petition Thomas' bail be revoked, but professor Broyles still thinks it will not change the case. In the meantime, Dana brynarsky has continued to respond to some of the bloggers.

"Speaking the truth does not hurt the case. You have not had to



look into the eyes of your children and feel their agony, but understand this – we will not stop until justice has been served for our family,” she said.

News 14 Carolina spoke to Mark Thomas' mother. She says no one in her family has gone online to discuss the case. She did say she has read some of the messages and thinks many are cruel to the Brynarsky family.

Now someone is responding to Brynarsky's blog on CraigsList.

Thomas' attorney told the family not to make any official comments.

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