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# Bondsteel's ex-wife says he confessed to crimes

## Woman says unvetted letters delivered by attorney asked her to create alibi

3:33 AM, Apr. 28, 2011 | Comments



Written by **Maria Servold**

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Tami Bondsteel referenced coming to the Larimer County Detention Center, where James Bondsteel was being held, and paying his bail several times in the letters.

Vanatta confronted Tami Bondsteel about her apparent love for her husband and interest in bailing him out of jail but noted that she eventually talked to the police in February 2010 with information about James Bondsteel's involvement in the crimes they were investigating.

"Yeah, I loved him, but he was a scary person and he did a lot of bad things," Tami Bondsteel said.

She told Brinegar and Vanatta that she went to the police after her husband mentioned her ability to always do the right thing. Vanatta pointed out that she wrote to her husband in May 2010, telling him that she talked to the police because they threatened to put her in jail, as well.

Tami Bondsteel told Brinegar that she told her husband police threatened her with jail "so that he wouldn't hurt me when he got out."

Near the end of the day Wednesday, the prosecution called Sgt. Justin Chase of the Loveland Police Department and asked him about a motorcycle at the Larimer County Detention Center, taken from James Bondsteel's home, that he examined Tuesday.

The motorcycle's headlights have come into question throughout the trial, as some witnesses said they were attacked by a man on a motorcycle that had one large, round headlight on it. The motorcycle taken from James Bondsteel's home has one large headlight in the middle, with one smaller round one on each side of it.

Chase said, when he turned the key to start the bike's battery (which he had to jump with a spare battery), only the main, middle light came

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on. The other smaller ones came on when he flipped on the motorcycle's bright lights, he said.

Public defender Kathryn Hay asked Chase what voltage battery he used to jump-start the motorcycle and whether he examined the voltage of the motorcycle's battery first, as using different voltages can damage wiring in the bike.

At the end of the day Wednesday, Judge Dave Williams told the jury they should prepare themselves to possibly come back next week to finish the trial because a previous discussion with the case's attorneys indicated that it most likely won't be handed over to the jury until Friday, at the earliest. The trial had been scheduled to end this Friday.

"I do not feel that this case has been focused," Williams told attorneys, expressing his frustration about the length of cross-examinations by the defense.

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