



Bill Lueders <blueders@gmail.com>

Releasing Names of Victims

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Mr Lueders,

I read:

"But Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council President Bill Lueders, a longtime Madison journalist, said Wednesday that authorities should be more transparent with the facts.

"It's a problem that so little information has been released. I do not accept that this is necessary to protect the integrity of the investigation," he said. "The public has a right to know." "

I think the problem stems from the reality that releasing names leads to a violation of privacy by unsympathetic reporters and insensitive journalists who pound on the doors of the home and ring the phones of the victim's families. And why do these vultures do this ? To sensationalize the stories increasing their personal importance in driving up readership of the papers and viewership of the TV news to satisfy the public's unquenchable appetite for unnecessary personal details of the gore.

I would support the efforts of your council if any of your work includes making it illegal for these vultures to attack the privacy of the grieving family and friends of the victim by camping on lawns and placing unwanted phone calls to get a story about how sad they are.

Your profession has no respect for these folks. None.

I seldom complain about anything without offering a suggestion. My suggestion:

Make it mandatory for these vultures to communicate (letter, telegram, public announcement, etc) that they are interested in writing a story, soliciting an invitation from the families to contact them.