



Mollie Tibbetts Died of 'Multiple Sharp Force Injuries,' Preliminary Autopsy Says

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Tibbetts, 20, died as a result of "multiple sharp force injuries", according to the Iowa State Medical Examiner.

The Iowa Medical Examiner's office added that further examination "may result in additional findings".

The arrest of a Mexican farmworker in the death of an Iowa college student renewed calls to change immigration laws, but it also focused attention on the immigrant workers whose labor is essential to the state's agricultural industry. While investigators were confident then that the body was that of Tibbetts, the autopsy definitively confirmed her identity. He and Tibbetts have no known connections, other than that Rivera allegedly told investigators that he saw her running previously. He then dragged her to a cornfield, covered her body and left her there, police said. He faces life in prison without the possibility of parole if convicted. He also complained about the government officials weighing-in on the case publicly.

"Let's let the process go", he said. "We're only at the very preliminary stages".

For years, the young man from Mexico presented himself as a legal USA resident and reliable worker at a family dairy farm in small town Iowa, his employer said.

Cristhian Bahena Rivera speaks with his attorney during his initial court appearance, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018, at the Poweshiek County Courthouse in Montezuma, Iowa. He was ordered jailed on a \$5 million cash-only bond after a prosecutor said he was a danger to the community who was accused of a "heinous crime". "They are strictly pathetic", he said.

After dismissing Mollie Tibbetts as just a "girl from Iowa" that Fox News would be obsessed with covering, MSNBC guest and professor at Fordham University, Christina Greer, apologized for her "flippant" comment.

"Our employee is not who he said he was", Lang said at a news conference at the farm. "This was shocking to us". That information was run through the Social Security Administration's employment-verification system and checked out.

Officials said Rivera has been in the USA for about seven years, and Mitch Mortvedt, assistant director of field operation with DCI, said he lived in a mobile home on the Yarrabee Farms property where he had been employed for about four years, according to the Des Moines Register.

"He showed up every day and he did his job".

According to pictures and Facebook posts analyzed by YourTango, Monarrez and Rivera dated from 2013 to 2015 and had a baby together during that time. "Where did he come from, and what has he been doing?"

Tibbetts' immediate family released a statement Tuesday focusing on their grief and gratitude. At that point, Rivera tells investigators that he blacked out and when he came to, he realized Mollie was in the trunk of the vehicle he was driving.

Even Fox News was at fault, Patrick said, because host Geraldo Rivera expressed an unwillingness to blame Tibbetts' murder on immigrants. He reminded that his client is innocent until proven guilty.

But a study by the libertarian Cato Institute, reported in USA Today, concluded that only 0.5 percent of illegal immigrants here, are behind bars for crimes other than immigration violations. Our family has been blessed to be surrounded by love, friendship and support throughout this entire ordeal by friends from all different nations and races. The agency declined to elaborate on the nature of the injuries or what caused them.

Rivera has lived in Iowa for four to seven years, working at Yarrabee Farms, a Brooklyn-area farm owned by Eric Lang, the brother of Craig Lang, a prominent Republican.

"This is a scary situation", he said.

She said that she was gifted an ownership interest in the land many years ago from her husband's family and that she has no role in the farming operation.

A poster of Tibbetts found on the floor the U.S. Senate was put there by Iowa's Sen.

Rivera said that "anyone could have done this", referring to murdering Tibbetts.

"Shame on Senator **Elizabeth Warren** for being insensitive and dismissive of the tragedy that happened to **Mollie Tibbetts**". Rivera's employers, though, said he had used false documents to apply for his job almost four years ago. It's about a three-hour drive from the resort city of Acapulco.