Michael Andrew Fife died in hospital following an attack after he was falsely accused of sexual assault in Utah on April 23, 2019. (GoFundMe)

Utah Man Dies After False Sexual Assault Claim Sparks Fatal Revenge Attack

BY TOM OZIMEK
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A Utah man has died after being struck shortly after being accused of a sexual assault aboard a city bus.

The Logan Police Department said in a news release that Michael Fife of Logan died on April 27 at the McKay-Dee Hospital, where he was being treated for injuries sustained in a revenge attack.

Fife was accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old aboard a Cache Valley Transit District bus in Logan at around 3 p.m. on April 23, according to police.

Shortly after the alleged incident on the bus, the 16-year-old girl called her 17-year-old brother and claimed Fife had sexually assaulted her.
Minutes later, as Fife got off the bus, he was met by the 17-year-old brother of the alleged victim. The teenager struck Fife, according to police. Fife fell and suffered head injuries when he hit the sidewalk.

The 17-year-old suspect fled the scene on foot as Fife lay on the ground unconscious.

Someone called 911 and paramedics rushed Fife to the hospital.

“His injuries were so bad that he was transferred to McKay-Dee Hospital in Ogden, UT where they performed emergency surgery on his skull to relieve the swelling of his brain,” said Brandie Callahan, the organizer of a GoFundMe campaign to cover funeral expenses. The Logan City Police Department announced on May 7, “Early Saturday morning, April 27, 2019, Mr. Michael Fife died of his injuries.”

When detectives reviewed surveillance footage of the alleged sexual assault, they said that “the video showed Mr. Fife walking past the girl, but no sexual assault occurred.”

The police have not released the names of the 16-year-old accuser or her 17-year-old brother, the assault suspect.

The case remains under investigation, police said, adding they were consulting with prosecutors on further steps.

In a post on the campaign page, Callahan has asked people to “help lay big Mike to rest,” adding that donations would go towards settling “the cost of hospital bills, cremation, and entering into a burial plot.”

**Woman JAILED for False Rape Claims**

The incident recalls the case of a woman who was handed a 10-year prison sentence for making a string of false rape allegations and sexual assault claims. Jemma Beale, from Hounslow, west London, was given the jail term in August 2017 after claiming she was raped by nine men and sexually assaulted by six in four incidents over the course of three years.

Beale made a bid to overturn her convictions for perverting the course of justice and perjury. Her appeal was rejected by three judges at the Southwark Crown Court of Appeal on March 28, 2019.

[The above article continues, but I have curtailed it here. The full version can be retrieved from the archived link].