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## Police take samples from missing boy's parents

### Hair, prints taken from Hollands, who are called 'persons of interest'

*By Kelly Hassett*

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WILLIAMSTON - For the first time Friday, police described the parents of Ricky Holland as "persons of interest" after executing search warrants at their home for the fourth time in about two months.

Ingham County sheriff's officials took hair samples and fingerprints from Tim and Lisa Holland this time, said their attorney, Neil Rockind.

The Hollands said they last saw their son, who was 7 at the time, on July 1 when he went to bed.

"The Hollands are suffering too much, and I'm sickened by it," Rockind said. "The Hollands' civil rights are being violated."

Rockind said the term "persons of interest" has no definition.

"They're not suspects, so leave them the hell alone," he said.

Detective Sgt. Roy Holliday said information from a previous search warrant required authorities to come back Friday.

"We're not ignoring any leads," he said. "They take us where they take us."

Lisa Holland declined to comment when she answered the door Friday and referred all questions to Rockind.

Police have made no arrests in Ricky's disappearance, which triggered a massive nine-day search and Amber Alert.

Authorities chased possible sightings, searched the Red Cedar River and followed tips from a July 16 airing of "America's Most Wanted," but came up cold.

On Aug. 12, they dug up a dog's remains in the Hollands' back yard.

The family had told police two weeks earlier that their dog died and they were going to bury it. Police dug up the area to be sure it was the dog and not Ricky, they said at the time.

On Sept. 6, authorities seized the Hollands' cars and home computer, and searched their house.

They were back on Oct. 4 and took a bed comforter from the home.

Rockind said Ingham County sheriff's officials are harassing the Hollands.

But Holliday said detectives are making progress and believe they'll solve the case.

"There's no tip that goes uninvestigated .... no suspicion that goes uninvestigated," he said. "We're doing everything possible to solve this case."

Dawn Cole lives across the street from the Hollands and said she doesn't know what to think of the searches.

"I know the police keep going in there, but other than that I don't think people are unduly suspicious, and if they are they keep it to themselves," Cole said.

"Nobody has accused (the Hollands) of anything."

Cole said people shouldn't criticize the detectives, though.

"I think they're doing what they should do," Cole said. "They're looking for a little boy."

Staff writer Tracy Burton contributed to this report. Contact Kelly Hassett at 267-1301 or [khassett@lsj.com](mailto:khassett@lsj.com).

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