

## **POLICE, WOMAN SAY DJ RENEGED ON BABY REWARD HE SAYS HE DEFINED ONLY A SAFE RECOVERY**

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As TV cameras rolled and radio listeners tuned in, Detroit DJ John Mason pleaded with Detroiters to safely return a 3-month-old baby who was missing because its mother left him with a stranger at a bus stop.

Mason's incentive: \$5,000 to anyone who had information leading to the infant's return, no questions asked. Detroit police matched Mason's offer, increasing the fund to \$10,000.

More than two months later, police and the woman who eventually led police to a suspect and baby Isaiah's body say Mason reneged on his part of the deal.

"We were extremely happy that a prominent figure in Detroit, someone that has a reputation of integrity in the community, would step forward and try and help the baby," said Police Cmdr. Dennis Richardson. "I think the tipster acted in good faith, and I think we have a moral duty to follow through on our commitment."

But Mason said he was clear: The money would be rewarded to whomever led to the safe recovery of Isaiah. Isaiah's body was found under a mattress in an abandoned house after a feverish six-day search.

Mason said Monday he would be willing to pay Dianna Dellihue -- the woman who turned in the baby's confessed killer, **Harold Reed**, 48 -- out of his own pocket, but he would not feel comfortable going back to his company and asking for more money. Of the initial \$5,000, Mason gave \$1,000 of his own money and his station contributed \$4,000. Mason said they used the money to pay for Isaiah's funeral.

"I think all my listeners will vouch for me," Mason said, adding that he'll see to it she gets the money. "I said that if you would bring us the baby, we would just give you the money. "We didn't get the baby back."

Dellihue said she has called Mason at his radio station, WDMK-FM (102.7), every week but he hasn't returned her calls. "I try not to bug him because he's a busy man, but don't make a promise and then don't stick with it."

Dellihue, 31, is **Reed**'s niece. She said that as soon as she saw **Reed** on television holding Isaiah, she called police.

Mason said Monday: "I'll set up a payment plan with her and get her the money. I was sincere in my efforts for the return of the baby. I will not let the death of the baby be turned into a spitting contest."

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Caption: Photo

John Mason

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