



<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/Bellaire-police-very-tight-lipped-over-1550479.php>

## Bellaire police 'very tight-lipped' over shooting, family says

By LINDSAY WISE, **Mike Tolson**, and JENNIFER LATSON Published 6:30 am, Monday, January 5, 2009



### IMAGE 1 OF 2

Marian Tolan, left, her husband, Bobby Tolan, center, and their attorney, Geoffrey Berg, attend the Bellaire City Council meeting Monday.

**Robbie Tolan** will likely live the rest of his life with a bullet lodged in his liver.

It's a painful reminder of his encounter last Wednesday with a white Bellaire police officer, who fired at least three shots at the unarmed 23-year-old black man in his own driveway.

Bellaire police and city officials have said Sgt. **Jeff Cotton** mistakenly thought Tolan's Nissan Xterra had been stolen, but Tolan's relatives say he was a victim of racial profiling and did nothing to justify being shot as his parents watched outside their

home.



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cousin **Anthony Cooper** returned from a nearby Jack-In-The-Box and pulled into the

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minority residents of Bellaire about mistreatment by the city's police force.

"I have never heard any minority resident come forward and say they were being picked

end in Bellaire that's something you would have heard about," Cisneros said. "People



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[lindsay.wise@chron.com](mailto:lindsay.wise@chron.com)

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