```
The deposition of LARRY MITCHELL is
1
   taken on this, the 10th day of NOVEMBER,
   2009, on behalf of the Defendants, pursuant
3
   to notice, beginning at approximately
4
5
   1:00 p.m. in the offices of West Memphis
   City Hall, 205 Redding Road, West Memphis,
6
7
   Arkansas.
             This deposition is taken pursuant
8
   to the terms and provisions of the Federal
9
   Rules of Civil Procedure.
10
             All forms and formalities,
11
12
   including the signature of the witness, are
13
   waived, and objections alone as to matters
   of competency, irrelevancy and immateriality
14
   of the testimony are (RESERVED/NOT RESERVED)
15
   to be presented and disposed of at or before
16
17
   the hearing.
18
19
20
2.1
22
23
24
25
```

```
-
```

```
APPEARANCES
 1
 2
 3
   FOR THE PLAINTIFF:
 4
       TED THOMAS, ESQ.
        (Via Telephone)
        THE HILAND LAW FIRM
 5
        557 Locust Avenue
 6
        Conway, Arkansas 72034
        (501)679-3940
 7
   FOR THE DEFENDANT NATALIE PASDAR:
 8
       D'LESLI DAVIS, ESQ.
        FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI, L.L.P.
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        2200 Ross Avenue
        Suite 2800
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       Dallas, Texas 75201
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        (214)855-8000
   FOR THE DEFENDANT DIXIE CHICKS:
12
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       ROBERT WELLENBERGER, ESO.
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       Dallas, Texas 75201
        (214)871-8200
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   FOR THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT:
17
       DAVID PEEPLES, ESQ.
        CITY OF WEST MEMPHIS
18
        205 South Redding
       P.O. Box 1728
19
       West Memphis, Arkansas 72303
        (870)732-7515
20
21
   COURT REPORTING FIRM:
22
       ALPHA REPORTING CORPORATION
       HOLLIE T. ALLEN
23
        236 Adams Avenue
       Memphis, Tennessee 38103
24
        (901) 523-8974
       www.alphareporting.com
25
```

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```
1
                  LARRY MITCHELL,
2
   having been first duly sworn, was examined
   and testified as follows:
3
                 (WHEREUPON, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
4
5
   DOCUMENTS WERE PREMARKED AS EXHIBIT NOS. 1
   THROUGH 5 TO THE TESTIMONY OF THE WITNESS
6
   AND ARE ATTACHED HERETO.)
7
8
                 MR. WELLENBERGER: Do you need
   us to state our appearances for the record?
9
                 COURT REPORTER:
10
                    EXAMINATION
11
12
   BY MR. WELLENBERGER:
             Okay. Lieutenant Mitchell, would
13
       Q.
14
   you state your full name for the record,
   please?
15
             Larry Kent Mitchell.
       Α.
16
17
             And Lieutenant Mitchell, you are
18
   with the West Memphis Police Department?
19
       Α.
             Correct.
             And you are here today in response
20
       Ο.
21
   to a subpoena for the deposition of the West
   Memphis Police Department; is that correct?
22
23
       Α.
             Correct.
                      Yes, sir.
24
             Let me show you what I've marked as
   Exhibit 1 and ask you if you recognize this
25
```

```
document.
1
                 (WHEREUPON, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
 2
3
   DOCUMENT WAS PASSED TO THE WITNESS.)
                 MR. THOMAS:
                              Hey, Bob.
 4
5
                 MR. WELLENBERGER: Yes.
 6
                 MR. THOMAS: I didn't mean to
 7
   interrupt. Do we need to say our
   appearances for the court reporter?
 8
                 MR. WELLENBERGER: I asked her
9
   and she said no.
10
11
                 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
12
                 MR. WELLENBERGER: We already
13
   gave her your name. But who --
14
                 MR. THOMAS: Proceed then.
                 MR. WELLENBERGER: Okay.
15
             Yes, sir, I do recognize it.
16
       Α.
17
   BY MR. WELLENBERGER:
          And that is the subpoena or the
18
19
   deposition notice for your deposition today,
   correct?
20
21
       Α.
             Yes, sir.
             Now, you are designated by the West
22
   Memphis Police Department as their witness
23
   for this deposition?
24
25
       A .
             Correct.
```

- Q. And what did you do to prepare for the deposition?
- A. I looked through various parts of the case file and as they pertain to the questions that were -- I was going to be asked that are in this notice of deposition.
- Q. Did you also interview any of the other police officers or former police officers concerning the subject matter?
 - A. Did I interview anybody on it?
- Q. Interview, discuss any of this with anybody else?
 - A. Yes, sir, briefly.

2

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22

23

24

- Q. And who did you talk?
- A. Assistant Chief, Mike Allen, and Captain Brian Ridge and Officer -- excuse me, Sergeant Johnny Moore.
- Q. Now, the first area of inquiry that we have is all communications that occurred before January 1, 2007 between the West Memphis Police Department and Terry Hobbs concerning his activities during the time in question. Time and question, as a defined term, that is from 3:00 p.m. on May 5, 1993 and ending at 10:00 p.m. on May 6th, 1993.

```
Were there communications with
1
   Mr. Hobbs about his activities during this
   time period?
            There were limited contacts with
4
   Mr. Hobbs. Primarily the first contact
5
   was -- involved our dispatch log where
6
   contact was made with him on May 5, 1993 of
7
   the 3:00 to 11:00 shift. And that contact
8
   would start at 9:19 when the call was
9
10
   received, dispatched at 9:21. It's on Page
   6 of that log.
11
12
            All right. And I'm going to hand
   you what's marked as Exhibit 5 to your
13
   deposition.
14
                 (WHEREUPON, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
15
   DOCUMENT WAS PASSED TO THE WITNESS.)
16
   BY MR. WELLENBERGER:
17
             Is that the log that you're
18
       Ο.
19
   referring to?
            Yes, sir, it is.
20
       Α.
21
            All right. Any other
   communications that occurred before January
22
   1 between the West Memphis Police Department
23
   and Terry Hobbs concerning his activities
24
   during the time in question?
25
```

- A. No other contacts with him before -- during that time period.
 - Q. All right. Okay.
 - A. Excuse me.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

- Q. The second area of communications were between West Memphis Police Department and Terry Hobbs during the time in question. In other words, communications during the time in question as opposed to concerning his activities during the time in question. Do you understand that distinction?
- 13 A. Yes, sir, I believe so.
- Q. And are there any communications

 other than those reflected in Exhibit 5 that

 you're aware of that occurred during that

 time period?
- 18 A. No, sir, not during that time 19 period.
- Q. Next area of inquiry is, any
 videotape surveillance of the West Memphis
 Police Department offices during the time in
 question that would or might show the
 comings and goings of persons entering those
 offices.

```
Are there any videotapes that might show comings and goings into the West Memphis Police Department on May 5 and May 6th, 1993?
```

- A. No, sir, there are not.
- Q. Were there ever?

- A. No, sir. There was no recording, to my knowledge. After checking the records, there's no indication that there were any type of surveillance or recordings at any time during those years.
- Q. All right. The next area of inquiry is, any background check made concerning Terry Hobbs at any time before January 1, 2007 in connection with the murders. And the murders are the three little boys whose bodies were discovered on May 6th.

Was any background check made concerning Terry Hobbs at any time before January 1, 2007 in connection with the murder investigation?

A. The only records -- the only thing
I could find viewing the case file was where
Mr. Hobbs was fingerprinted; and that took

```
1 place on January the 15th, 1994.
```

- 2 Q. Okay. I'm going to hand you
- 3 | Exhibits 3 and Exhibits 4 to your
- 4 deposition.
- 5 (WHEREUPON, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
- 6 DOCUMENT WAS PASSED TO THE WITNESS.)
- 7 BY MR. WELLENBERGER:
- Q. Are those the records that you're referring to about fingerprints?
- 10 A. Yes, sir. Exhibit 4 is the set of
 11 prints both rolled inked -- fingerprints and
- 12 palm prints that were done January 15th,
- 13 | 1994. And the Exhibit 3 is a list of test
- 14 prints, sheets that were filled out by the
- 15 | West Memphis Police Department with not only
- 16 Mr. Hobbs but also Pam Hobbs, Melissa Byers
- 17 | and Timothy Branch.
- 18 Q. Do you know who Timothy Branch is?
- 19 A. No, sir. I don't have any other
- 20 | information on him.
- 21 Q. Thank you.
- There was no NCCI (sic) report
- 23 | taken for Mr. Hobbs that you're aware of?
- 24 A. Are you referring to NCIC or...
- 25 Q. NCIC.

```
1
        Α.
             Okay. No, sir, not that I've --
   not that I've seen.
             And no blood samples?
3
        0.
             Not that I've seen, sir.
        Α.
 4
 5
        Q.
             No hair samples?
             Not that I've seen.
        Α.
 6
             And again, we're talking about
 7
        Ο.
   before January 1, 2007.
 8
        Α.
             Yes, sir.
9
             All right. Any investigation of
10
        Ο.
   Terry Hobbs related to the murders
11
   undertaken at any time before January 1,
12
   2007?
13
             Could you repeat the question? I'm
14
        Α.
15
   sorry.
             Was there any investigation of
        Q.
16
   Terry Hobbs related to the murders that was
17
18
   undertaken at any time before January 1,
19
   2007?
             I've not found anything of that
20
21
   nature in the records file.
             Okay. Did you have any
22
        Q.
    communications with residents to the 1600
23
   block of South McAuley Street that were
24
   conducted before January 1, 2007?
25
```

```
We have checked. There were area
1
       Α.
   canvases done. Everything, though, was
   north of that particular area.
                                    Nothing on
3
   the -- nothing in the 1600 block of South
   McAuley.
5
            Okay. Now, have you brought with
6
       O.
   you every document that you were able to
7
   locate that's responsive to the documents to
8
   be produced section of the notice of
9
   deposition?
10
            Yes, sir, everything that I'm aware
11
12
   of.
```

- Q. All right. And there's one document that's left that we haven't discussed, and that's Exhibit 2. Would you tell us what Exhibit 2 is, please, sir?

 (WHEREUPON, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DOCUMENT WAS PASSED TO THE WITNESS.)
- A. Yes, sir. This is a transcription of an interview done with Mark Byers on April -- excuse me, May 19th, 1993. And the investigators that were conducting this interview were Detective Brian Ridge and Lieutenant James Sudbury.
- 25 BY MR. WELLENBERGER:

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

- Q. And in that -- you brought that statement because it refers to Terry Hobbs?
- A. There are a couple references to Terry Hobbs in this statement, so that is why that was provided for you.
- Q. And based on your review of the records and the conversations that you had with others at the West Memphis Police

 Department, do you believe that these are all the documents that you have relative to any investigation of Terry Hobbs or about Terry Hobbs before -- that existed before January 1, 2007?
- 14 A. That's correct, to the best of my 15 belief.
- MR. WELLENBERGER: I pass the
- 17 | witness.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

18

EXAMINATION

- 19 BY MS. DAVIS:
- Q. Just to be clear, Lieutenant, there
 is no documentation anywhere in the West
 Memphis Police Department file that shows
 that Hob was -- Hobbs was investigated in
 any way regarding the murders prior to
- 25 January 1st, 2007; is that correct?

- A. Not that I've been able to locate, ma'am.
- Q. My statement is correct? There's no -- there's no documentation that would show any investigation of Hobbs prior to January 1st, 2007?
- 7 A. Again, best -- none to my 8 knowledge.
- 9 Q. There's no documentation anywhere
 10 in the West Memphis Police Department files
 11 that would show that Hobbs was even formally
 12 interviewed by the West Memphis Police
 13 Department prior to January 1st of 1007,
- 15 A. Correct.

correct?

14

21

- Q. And there is no documentation
 anywhere in the West Memphis Police
 Department file that would show that any
 background check was done on Terry Hobbs by
 the West Memphis Police Department prior to
- A. Correct, to the best of my
- 23 knowledge.
- MR. WELLENBERGER: I'll pass
- 25 the witness. Cody?

January 1st of 2007?

```
MR. THOMAS:
                              This is Ted
1
   Thomas.
 3
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                     Ted, any
   questions?
 4
 5
                 MR. THOMAS: Yes, I have just a
 6
   few.
 7
                    EXAMINATION
   BY MR. THOMAS:
 8
 9
             Sir, is Terry Hobbs a suspect for
   the murder of those three little boys who
10
   was killed on -- in May of 1993?
11
12
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                     I'm going to
13
   object to the question. It's outside the
   scope of this deposition. And the West
14
   Memphis Police Department was not called to
15
   testify concerning that. And it's outside
16
17
   the scope of this deposition.
                 MS. DAVIS:
                            Can we have an
18
19
   agreement that objection on behalf of one
   Defendant is good for all so that I don't
20
21
   slow things down by joining in, Ted?
                 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
22
                                      That's
   fine.
23
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
24
                                     I can't
   instruct this witness not to answer.
25
```

```
just saying that it's outside the scope and
   if we're going to go outside the scope and
   try to get in to 2007, 2008, 2009, we're
   going to have a different deposition than
5
   we've got right now.
                 MR. PEEPLES: Well, and I'm not
6
   going to let him answer anything that's
7
   beyond what we've been noticed of to do
   here. So if you want to restate your
9
   question, maybe we can talk about it then.
10
   BY MR. THOMAS:
11
12
       Ο.
            Do you know Ron Lax?
                 COURT REPORTER:
13
                                  I'm sorry.
   didn't hear him.
                 MR. PEEPLES: Can you restate
15
   that?
16
   BY MR. THOMAS:
17
             Do you know Ron Lax?
18
       Q.
                                    Again, I'm
19
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
   going to object to the question is outside
20
21
   the scope of the notice.
                 MR. THOMAS: Well, if the scope
22
   of the notice is the extent to which Terry
23
   Hobbs has been investigated, this is
24
   relevant to that question.
25
```

```
MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                    I think you
1
   were served with the notice and it has to do
2
   with the West Memphis Police Department, not
3
   Mr -- Lieutenant Mitchell's personal
   knowledge. And he's here to testify today
5
   on behalf of the West Memphis Police
6
7
   Department on certain designated categories
   of information, none of which have to do
8
   with Ron Lax.
9
                MR. THOMAS:
                              They do have to do
10
   with Ron Lax because Ron Lax assisted the
11
12
   defense and if Ron Lax had problems with the
   investigation conducted by the West Memphis
13
   Police Department about the manner that
14
   which the investigation was conducted, then
15
   he should have told the West Memphis Police
16
   Department about those back when he was
17
   helping the defense.
18
19
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                    I'm not
   certain what you're trying to get at there,
20
21
   Ted, but I think that's outside the notice
   of this -- outside the scope of this
22
   deposition.
23
                 MR. THOMAS:
                              The scope of the
24
25
   deposition pertains to the investigation of
```

```
Terry Hobbs prior to January 1st, 2007, then
1
   suggestion from other persons as to what
   should have been done in the course of that
   investigation is relevant to the scope.
5
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
6
   certainly rephrase the question to ask
   that. But that's not what you asked.
7
8
                 MR. THOMAS: Well, I have to
   make a foundation that he even knows Ron Lax
9
   before I can ask if Ron Lax communicated to
10
   him about the quality of his investigation.
11
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                    I think that
12
   the West Memphis Police Department is the
13
   witness here, not Lieutenant Mitchell. And
14
   I think you -- you know, I think you can ask
15
   the question about what the West Memphis
16
   Police Department did or did not receive.
17
   Lieutenant Mitchell wasn't with the West
18
   Memphis Police Department before 2007, I
19
   don't think. Correct me if I'm wrong.
20
                 THE WITNESS: I've been with
21
   them since 1991.
22
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                    1991.
23
                                            I'm
24
   sorry.
   BY MR. THOMAS:
25
```

```
Q. Lieutenant Mitchell, are you aware
1
2
   of any communication from any representative
   of any of the three persons convicted to
3
   those crimes?
5
       Α.
             Repeat that for me, please, sir.
             Are you aware of any communication
6
        Q.
   from any representative of the three persons
   who were convicted of the crime that suggest
   that you examine Terry Hobbs as a suspect
   for the crime?
10
                 MR. PEEPLES:
                               And during what
1.1
12
   time frame is that question?
   BY MR. THOMAS:
13
14
       Ο.
             From the date of the murders until,
   say, the year 2000.
15
       Α.
16
             No, sir, I'm not.
             Are you aware of whether or not --
17
   scratch that.
18
                 MR. THOMAS:
                               I'm going to check
19
   him with something past the 2000 frame.
20
                 I believe that's all I have.
21
                 MR. WELLENBERGER:
                                     Okay.
22
   think we're done.
23
24
            (WHEREUPON, THE DEPOSITION
25
      CONCLUDED AT APPROXIMATELY 1:18 p.m.)
```

```
(AND FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NOT)
 1
                   (SIGNATURE WAIVED)
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF TENNESSEE:

COUNTY OF SHELBY:

I, HOLLIE T. ALLEN, Notary Public, Shelby County, Tennessee, CERTIFY:

The foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place stated in the foregoing styled cause with the appearances as noted.

Being a Court Reporter, I then reported the proceedings in Stenotype, and the foregoing pages contain a true and correct transcript of my said Stenotype notes then and there taken.

I am not in the employ of and am not related to any of the parties or their counsel, and I have no interest in the matter involved.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that this transcript is the work product of this court reporting agency and any unauthorized reproduction and/or transfer of it will be in violation of Tennessee Code Annotated 39-14-104, Theft of Services.

Witness my signature this the day of , 2009.

HOLLIE T. ALLEN

Notary Public at Large For the State of Tennessee

My Commission Expire OCTOBER 26, 2010

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS WESTERN DIVISION

TERRY HOBBS

PLAINTIFF

VS.

NO: 4-09-CV-008 BSM

NATALIE PASDAR, ET AL.

DEFENDANTS

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF ORAL DEPOSITION OF THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendants Martha Maguire and Emily Robison, sued in their capacity as d/b/a Dixie Chicks, will take the deposition upon oral examination of the West Memphis Police Department beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at the Conference Room, West Memphis City Hall, 205 South Redding, West Memphis, Arkansas.

The deposition will be conducted pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The matters for examination are set forth in Part II of Exhibit A hereto. The West Memphis Police Department must designate one or more officers, directors, managing agents, or other persons who consent to testify on its behalf for each of the matters for examination set forth in Exhibit A. The West Memphis Police Department may set out the matters on which each person designated will testify. The person(s) designated must testify about information known or reasonably available to the West Memphis Police Department.

The deposition will be taken before a person authorized to administer oaths. The deposition will be recorded by stenographic means and may be recorded by videotape or other audiovisual means. The deposition is being taken for all purposes permitted under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Evidence, including, but not limited to, discovery and for use as evidence in the trial of this case.

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF ORAL DEPOSITION OF THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PACE LOF 2

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in connection with this deposition, the West Memphis Police Department is requested to produce at the beginning of the deposition the documents described in Part III of Exhibit A hereto.

Dated this 30th day of October, 2009.

Robert B. Wellenberger

Texas Bar No. 21135200

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY certify that I served Plaintiff Terry Hobbs and Defendant Natalie Pasdar in her individual capacity with the foregoing by sending a copy thereof to their respective counsel of record via electronic mail and regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, on this 30th day of October, 2009, addressed as follows:

J. Cody Hiland
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Robert B. Wellenberger

SCHEDULE A TO FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF DEPOSITION OF THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

I. DEFINITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. The terms "West Memphis Police Department," "you" and "your" shall mean the West Memphis Police Department. Unless otherwise indicated, the use in this Exhibit "A" of any of these terms shall include all of your present and former employees, officers, agents, representatives, and all other persons acting on your behalf.
- 2. The term "Areas of Inquiry" shall mean the matters for examination which extend to and include all information known or reasonably available to you.
- 3. The Areas of Inquiry are to be construed to give words their most expansive and inclusive meanings. You should, therefore:
 - (a) Construe the words "and" as well as "or" in the disjunctive or conjunctive, as necessary to make each of the enumerated Areas of Inquiry more inclusive;
 - (b) Construe the term "including" to mean "including, but not limited to";
 - (c) Construe the word "any" to include and mean "each and every" and "any and all";
 - (d) Construe the plural form of a word to include the singular and vice versa; and
 - (e) Construe a masculine pronoun or adjective to include the feminine and vice versa.
- 4. The term "time in question" shall mean the period beginning at 3:00 p.m. on May 5, 1993, and ending at 10:00 p.m. on May 6, 1993.
- 5. The term "communication" shall mean any oral or written utterance, notation, or statement of any nature whatsoever, by or to whomsoever made, including, but not limited to,

correspondence, conversations, dialogues, discussions, interviews, consultations, and statements between two or more persons.

- 6. The term "murders" shall mean the deaths of Stevie Branch, Chris Byers and Michael Moore, and includes their disappearance on May 5, 1993, and the search that resulted in the discovery of their bodies on May 6, 1993.
- The term "document" is used in the broadest sense and includes, but is not limited to, all originals, non-identical copies, and drafts thereof. The term "document" includes, but is not limited to, the following items, whether printed, recorded, reproduced by mechanical or electronic process, or written or produced by hand: agreements; communications; letters; correspondence; telegrams; cables; telexes; memoranda; records; books; summaries of records or papers; graphs; charts; maps; blueprints; diagrams; tables; indices; pictures; recordings; tapes; computer storage media; email; accounts; analyses and analytical records; memoranda of telephone calls; minutes or records of meetings or conferences; reports or summaries of interviews; transcripts; reports; microfilm; microfiche; telecopies; faxes; computer printouts; photographs; videotapes; audio recordings; calendars; day timers; logs; bulletins; press releases; notes; drafts; and other documents, papers, or writings of whatever description including, but not limited to, any information contained in any computer or information retrieval device. The term document specifically includes all drafts of documents, amendments, and revisions to documents and all non-identical copies of documents.

II. AREAS OF INQUIRY FOR EXAMINATION

- All communications that occurred before January 1, 2007 between you and Terry Hobbs concerning his activities during the time in question.
 - All communications between you and Terry Hobbs during the time in question.

- 3. Any videotape surveillance of your offices during the time in question that would or might show the comings and goings of persons entering those offices.
- 4. Any background check made concerning Terry Hobbs at anytime before January 1, 2007, in connection with the murders.
- 5. Any investigation of Terry Hobbs related to the murders undertaken at anytime before January 1, 2007.
- 6. Any communications with residents of the 1600 block of South McAuley Street, West Memphis, Arkansas, relating to the murders conducted before January 1, 2007, specifically including Jamie Clark [Ballard], Brandy Clark [Williams], and Deborah Moyer, but excluding Terry Hobbs, Pam Hobbs, and Amanda Hobbs.

III. DOCUMENTS TO BE PRODUCED

- 1. All documents relating to any communication between Terry Hobbs and you during the time in question, including, but not limited to, any videotape showing Terry Hobbs at your offices during the time in question.
- 2. All documents relating to any communication between Terry Hobbs and you that occurred before January 1, 2007, concerning his activities during the time in question.
- 3. All documents relating to any communication between Terry Hobbs and you that occurred before January 1, 2007, concerning his observations during the time in question.
- 4. All documents relating to your investigation of Terry Hobbs concerning the murders before January 1, 2007, including, but not limited to, any background check of Terry Hobbs.
- All documents related to your communications with residents of the 1600 block of
 South McAuley Street, West Memphis, Arkansas, relating to the murders conducted before

January 1, 2007, specifically including Jamie Clark [Ballard], Brandy Clark [Williams], and Deborah Moyer, and specifically excluding Terry Hobbs, Pam Hobbs and Amanda Hobbs.

THIS IS DET. BRIAN RIDGE OF THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY IN THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH DETECTIVE/LIEUTENANT JAMES SUDBURY AND MARK BYERS. THE TIME IS 5:20 P.M.. TODAY'S DATE 5-19 OF '93. CASE FILE NUMBER 93-050666. OKAY, MR. BYERS, WE'RE JUST IN INFORMAL STAGES. WE'RE STILL INVESTIGATING THIS OCCURRENCE. UM, FIRST, ONE OF THE FIRST QUESTIONS WE NEED TO KNOW IS WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU FIRST FOUND OUT THE KIDS WERE MISSING.

MARK- WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT ALL 3 OF THEM WERE MISSING.

RIDGE- WELL, YOURS.

MARK- WELL, WHEN I, WHEN I REALIZED CHRISTOPHER WASN'T AT HOME, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AROUND 6:30.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- AND THE REASON FOR THAT TIME, I LEFT THE HOUSE AT 5:30
TO COME GET MY OLDEST SON, RYAN, WHO WAS HERE AT THE
COURTHOUSE TESTIFYING ABOUT A CASE THAT HE'D SEEN ON A LABY
FOR RECKLESS DRIVING.

confidential

RIDGE- OKAY.

MEZI - WEWBHIZ ... DOTICE

MARK- AND UH, IT WAS THE DAY THAT THE LITTLE GRAY-HEADED LADY HELD COURT. I CAN'T THINK OF HER NAME.

SUDBURY- MARGARET.

RIDGE- MISS MARGARET.

MARK- MARGARET, MISS MARGARET, THAT'S IT. WELL, AS SOON AS COURT WAS OUT. LET ME BACK UP. WHEN I LEFT THE HOUSE AT 5:30, I LEFT CHRISTOPHER UNDER THE CARPORT WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO PICK UP PAPER UNDER THE CARPORT AND CLEAN UP THE CARPORT, AND JUST AS SOON AS I GOT RYAN, WE WAS GOING TO COME BACK AND GO EAT SUPPER. SO, I CAME UP HERE AND WAITED UNTIL THE COURT CASE WAS OVER. AND THAT WAS OVER. I GOT RYAN AND WE DROVE HOME. WELL, WE PULLED UP IN THE DRIVEWAY, AND I DIDN'T SEE HIM UNDER THE DRIVEWAY, BUT I THOUGHT MAYBE, YOU KNOW, HE WAS IN THE HOUSE. SO I WENT IN THE HOUSE, AND RIGHT INSIDE OUR DOOR, OF COURSE, THERE'S THE KITCHEN. MY WIFE WAS ON THE PHONE TALKING TO HER BOSS. AND UH, I ASKED HER, I SAID, WHERE'S CHRISTOPHER AND SHE KIND OF DID LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW, JUST A MINUTE. AND THEN SHE GOT OFF THE PHONE FROM TALKING WITH HER BOSS. AND SAID, WELL, HE'S RIGHT OUTSIDE. SHE SAID, HE'S COME IN AND OUT A TIME OR TWO. ONCE TO GET, I THINK, A DRINK OF WATER, OR A COOKIE. SHE SAID, HE'S BEEN IN AND OUT A COUPLE OF TIMES. HE'S JUST RIGHT OUTSIDE. SO I WALKED BACK OUT AND HOLLERED ACROSS THE FENCE TO THE NEIGHBORS, BECAUSE SOMETIMES HE'S GOES NEXT DOOR AND PLAYS WITH THE NEIGHBOR'S KIDS. WE DIDN'T HEAR ANY ANSWER, AND THEN I TOLD MY SON RYAN, I SAID, GET ON YOUR SKATEBOARD AND

EXHIBIT

2 KM

11-10-09

GO DOWN AND SEE IF HE'S PLAYING WITH THE TWO LITTLE GIRLS DOWN THE STREET. SO HE TOOK OFF DOWN THERE AND CHECKED. AND WHEN HE CAME BACK, HE SAID, NO THEY HADN'T SEEN HIM. GOT IN THE CAR, MY WIFE, MYSELF AND RYAN AND STARTED DRIVING AROUND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, WHICH WOULD LIKE BE, DOWN TO INGRAM AND THEN DOWN INGRAM AND COME BACK UP GOODWIN AND CUT THROUGH UH, WILSON AND MCAULEY AND JUST DRIVING ALL AROUND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, AROUND EAST HIGH SCHOOL. JUST DRIVING ALL AROUND THAT AREA RIGHT THERE LOOKING FOR HIM. AND ABOUT 7:30, WE LOOKED FOR ABOUT AN HOUR, AND I HAD COME UP HERE TO BROADWAY AND KIND OF SITTING BY THE DOLLAR GENERAL, WELL. YEAH, IT WAS KIND OF BY THE DOLLAR GENERAL STORE, THERE WAS A BLACK POLICE OFFICER SITTING THERE IN HIS CAR, AND I PULLED UP BESIDE HIM, AND I ROLLED MY WINDOW DOWN. I SAID, SIR, WE CAN'T FIND MY SON. HE'S MISSING. HE SAID, WELL HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM. I SAID ABOUT AN HOUR OR SO. AND HE LOOKED AT HIS WATCH. HE SAID, WELL WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT 'TIL AROUND 8 O'CLOCK, AND HE SAID, IF YOU DON'T FIND HIM, CALL THE POLICE STATION AND LET THEM KNOW WHAT HE WAS WEARING AND ALL, AND THEY'LL SEND AN OFFICER BY AND YOU CAN GIVE THEM A REPORT AND THEN THEY'LL PUT OUT OVER THE MIC WHAT HE'S WEARING AND A PATROLMAN RIDING AROUND WILL MAYBE SEE HIM. SO I WENT BACK TO THE, WE LOOKED A LITTLE BIT MORE AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE WE MADE IT BACK HOME. WHEN WE GOT BACK HOME, I TOLD MY WIFE, I SAID, I'M GOING TO CALL THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, I SAID CAUSE THEY GOT A SEARCH AND RESCUE SQUAD. I SAID, AND WE MIGHT NEED THEM. I SAID, LET'S, YOU KNOW, I WAS STARTING TO GET, YOU KNOW, WORRIED CAUSE MY SON HAS NEVER GONE OFF ANYWHERE. YOU KNOW, FOR ANY AMOUNT OF TIME. HE'S ALWAYS STAYED RIGHT THERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. AND IT'S NOW, YOU KNOW, DARK'S GOING TO BE COMING ON PRETTY SOON. CALLED THE SHERRIFF'S DEPARTMENT, AND THE GUY ANSWERED. TOLD HIM MY SITUATION, WHO I WAS. IT WAS THE DISPATCHER. A LITTLE BIT BEFORE 8 O'CLOCK. AND HE SAID, YOU WEED WOLL TOUS JUST WHOEVER ANSWERED AT THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, WHICH WAS NEED TO CALL THE WEST MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT TELECOMES AND THEY'LL CALL IT, HE BASICALLY OLD MULTIPLE TO THE STATE OF T WHAT THE POLICE OFFICER UP THERE ON THE STREET TAY ME. SO HUNG UP. I CALLED UP HERE TO THE, YOU KNOW, THE MAIN MOBER. AND THEY SAID OKAY, WE'LL SEND AN OFFICER RIGHT OVER. REGINA MEEKS SHOWED UP JUST A FEW MINUTES LATER, CAME IN AND I TOLD HER WHEN I LAST SAW HIM WHICH WAS 5:30 UNDER THE CARPORT BEFORE I COME UP HERE TO GET RYAN. AND TOLD HER WHAT HE WAS WEARING AND UH. THEN SHE DID HER MIC YOU KNOW AND PUT IT OUT, I GUESS OVER THE AIR WHAT HE WAS WEARING AND WHERE HE WAS LAST AND ALL. WELL SHE SAID, I'M GOING TO GET OUT IN MY CAR AND I'LL START RIDING AND LOOKING AND WE'LL BE LOOKING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD FOR YOUR SON. WELL AS I START TO LET HER OUT, DANA MOORE'S KNOCKING ON THE DOOR FROM ACROSS THE SHE SAID, HAVE YA'LL FOUND CHRISTOPHER? AND WE STREET. SAID, NO, WE'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, AND SHE SAID, WELL, HE'S WITH MICHAEL AND STEVIE. WELL, THAT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT MY WIFE AND I KNEW THAT HE WAS WITH ANYBODY ELSE. WE FIGURED HE

WAS JUST ALONE. SO, DANA SAID, DANA THEN TOLD ME, SHE SAID, WELL AROUND 6:15, 6:20, SHE SAID, I WAS WALKING OUR DOG AROUND THE BLOCK. AND SHE SAID, I SAW MICHAEL RIDING HIS BIKE, STEVIE WAS ON HIS BIKE AND CHRISTOPHER WAS ON THE BACK OF THE BIKE WITH STEVIE. AND DANA SAID, JUST ABOUT HALFWAY DOWN THE STREET HERE, LOOKS LIKE CHRISTOPHER'S SKATEBOARD. AND SURE ENOUGH, IT WAS HIS SKATEBOARD. SO THEN, THE POLICE OFFICER, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, ASKED DANA, YOU KNOW, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING FOR YOUR LITTLE BOY. AND SHE TOLD HER, YOU KNOW, WELL, FOR THE LAST HOUR AND A HALF. AND SHE SAID THE BRANCH, UH, STEVIE BRANCH, WHICH HIS, YOU KNOW, MR. HOBBS, SHE SAID, TERRY, WHICH IS STEVIE'S DADDY HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM SINCE AB OUT 5 O'CLOCK. 4:30, 5 O'CLOCK. AND SHE SAID, I SAW CHRISTOPHER WITH 'EM AT 6:30. SO WE'RE THINKING, WELL, THEY'RE AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD HERE. ALL THREE OF THEM TOGETHER.

SUDBURY- YOU KNOW AT 6:30 THEY WERE ALL TOGETHER...

MARK- DANA TOLD US, DANA TOLD ME AT 6:30, TOLD MY WIFE AND I AND REGINA MEEKS THAT AT 6:30 SHE SAW. SO WE FELT LIKE, WELL, THEY'RE ALL THREE TOGETHER AND ALL THREE OF THEM BEING CUB SCOUTS, MAYBE THEY'RE, YOU KNOW, MAYBE THEY'RE DOING, YOU KNOW, WE DIDN'T REALLY KNOW AT THE TIME. AND UH, I TOLD RYAN AND I, I SAID, LET'S START GOING DOOR TO DOOR JUST DOWN THE STREET ASKING ALL THE KIDS IF THEY'D SEEN 'EM. WELL. WE'D GONE DOWN THE STREET A LITTLE WAYS AND THERE WAS THIS BLACK GIRL AND THIS LITTLE BLACK BOY THAT LIVE ON, LIKE MY HOUSE IS RIGHT HERE ON THE CORNER. THEY LIVE ON THIS SIDE OF 14TH ABOUT HALFWAY DOWN. I DON'T REMEMBER WALL PURSE REOLIC:
OFF. I COULD SHOW YOU THE HOUSE PRUBABLY. AND I KNOW MY SON
RYAN COULD SHOW YOU HOW, 'CAUSE THERE'S A LCONTINENT AND GIRL THAT LIVE THERE THAT CHRISTOPHER WOWLD ALAY WOTH. PROSECUTOR LITTLE BOY AND LITTLE GIRL SAID, YEAH, WE SAW CHRISTOPHER AND STEVEN AND MICHAEL A LITTLE BIT AFTER 6 NOV OULS MAMA 1983 BRINGING US HOME FROM THE STORE AND WE WAS COMING DOWN GOODWIN, AND WE SAW 'EM GOING IN THE ROBINHOOD AREA. WELL, THEN THAT CONCRETE SHOOT, YOU KNOW WHERE THE CONCRETE PART IS THAT GOES IN DOWN THERE JUST RIGHT OFF OF 14TH. SO, RYAN AND I THEN, CAME BACK TO THE HOUSE AND DANA IS AROUND HER HOUSE LOOKING AND THEN TERRY HOBBS, I THINK HAD COME UP BY THEN AND TOLD 'EM YOU KNOW, THAT THAT WAS THE AREA THEY'D LAST SEEN. SO WE KIND OF ALL CONVERGED DOWN THERE LOOKING IN THE WOODS.

SUDBURY- DID THE LADY SAY ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT SEEING ANYONE ELSE, OR, OR ANYTHING?

MARK- WELL, THAT LADY, SEE WE DIDN'T TALK TO A LADY. IT WAS JUST THE KIDS, BUT I...

SUDBURY- THE KIDS.

MARK- THE KIDS. NOW 1'LL GET TO LATER ON, THURSDAY. I'LL GET TO THAT IN A MINUTE. UH, WE STARTED LOOKING AND LOOKED IN

IT HAD GOT DARK. IT'S NOW PROBABLY 8:30. TERRY SAID, WELL, HE WAS GOING TO SPREAD OUT DOWN, YOU KNOW, TOWARDS WHERE THEY WERE FOUND. I DON'T KNOW HOW FAR DOWN THAT WAY HE WENT, BUT HE WAS GOING TO LOOK THAT WAY AND MY SON, RYAN AND I AND RICHIE MASTERS, JUST SOMEHOW RICHIE MASTERS SHOWED UP TO HELP LOOK. AND MY SON RYAN AND I THINK, BRETT SMITH. RICHIE MASTERS GOES WITH BRETT SMITH'S SISTER. SO THAT'S HOW THEY WERE KIND OF TOGETHER. SO, WE'RE LOOKING IN THAT AREA KIND OF WHERE THE LOOP IS. YOU KNOW, THERE'S, IN THAT OPEN FIELD THERE'S JUST KIND OF A CIRCLE AROUND IT OUT THERE. WE WERE LOOKING IN THAT AREA OF THE BAYOU AND WELL, I HAD ON A PAIR OF SHORTS AND A PAIR OF FLIP FLOPS, SO I RUN BACK TO THE HOUSE AND CHANGED CLOTHES AND PUT ME ON SOME COVERALLS AND BOOTS THAT I HAD ON PROBABLY FOR THE NEXT 2 OR 3 DAYS. AND I WENT BACK OUT THERE AND I MADE A I WENT ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE BACK, AND WALKED UP THE GULLY TO WHERE IT MAKES A REAL STEEP WASHDOWN. . YOU CAN SEE WHERE THE WATER WASHES INTO THE BAYOU. WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE A FLASHLIGHT, OR ANYTHING WITH ME. AND I THOUGHT, WELL, I'M GOING TO GO BORROW A FLASHLIGHT FROM ROBERT FOUNTAIN. I KNEW I'D BORROW A HE JUST LIVED DOWN THE STREET FROM ME. LIGHT FROM SOMEBODY. SO, AS I COME BACK OUT, I SEE A POLICE CAR PULL UP. AND IT WAS OFFICER MOORE, I BELIEVE. AND HE SAID, DID YOU FIND ANYTHING. I SAID, NO, I SAID, BUT I DON'T HAVE A LIGHT. WILL YOU HELP ME LOOK? HE SAID, YEAH, I'LL HELP YOU LOOK. SO HE GOT HIS LIGHT OUT AND WE WALKED BACK THAT TRAIL AND THEN WE CUT BACK UP THIS SIDE, WHICH RUNS INTO THAT DITCH KIND OF THAT'S A STEEL DITCH. IT'S GOT THAT ROPE HANGING DOWN FROM A TREE.

RIDGE- UH HUH.

MARK- WE, WE FOLLOWED IT BACK TO THE BAYOLS TAND WENDERS SEPOLIC WHERE SOME GRASS, IT LOOKED LIKE A TRAIL KIND OF WENT THE RIGHT. SO HIM AND I WENT THAT WAY. AND WE FOLSON THAT TRAIL ON AROUND TO WHERE WE SAW THAT HAY CORY ROPFO APROSECUTOR WENT DOWN THE BANK, AND I KIND OF STAYED UP ON THE BANK AND LOOKED AROUND IN THE TOTAL HIS AND HE SAID, IT DON'T LOOK TO ME LIKE ANYBODY, YOU KNOW, HAS BEEN DOWN IN HERE. SO, WE THEN CIRCLED BACK AND WE COME BACK TO WHERE THE REAL DEEP WASH WAS, AND IT WASHED OUT INTO THE BAYOU. AND HE CLIMBED ON UP THE OTHER SIDE. AND AS HE CLIMBED ON UP THIS SIDE, I WENT ON IN THE BAYOU THIS WAY, WHICH IS AWAY FROM THE BAYOU DITCH. I JUST WENT ON IN THE DITCH THIS WAY. AND HE WENT ON UP THE OTHER SIDE. AND I COULD HERE HIM HOLLERING OVER THAT SIDE, YOU KNOW, ALL THREE OF 'EM'S NAMES, AND I WAS DOWN HERE ON THIS SIDE HOLLERING ALL THREE OF 'EM'S NAMES. WELL, HE FINALLY COME BACK DOWN. HE SAID, I REALLY, HE SAID, I COULDN'T SEE ANY BICYCLE TRACKS, HE SAID, AND I COULDN'T REALLY SEE ANY PRINTS. CAME BACK DOWN. HE ASKED ME, HE SAID WHERE DOES THE TRAIL GO THIS WAY. I SAID, WELL IT JUST MAKES A BIG CIRCLE OUT HERE. SO, WE WALKED AND MADE THE CIRCLE BACK AROUND KIND OF HEADING TO HIS POLICE CAR AND WHEN WE GOT AROUND THE OTHER WAY, WHERE

YOU, WHERE YOU COME IN RIGHT THERE FROM THE MAIN SPOT. YOU KNOW YOU'RE PARKED RIGHT HERE ON THE CONCRETE SLAB, YOU WALK IN AND THE ROAD GOES THAT WAY, BUT THEN IT FORKS, THERE'S A WELL WE HAD ORIGINALLY GONE BACK, LOOKED FORK THAT WAY. HERE, AND WE WERE COMING BACK UP THIS WAY. WELL AS WE CAME BACK UP THIS WAY, WE SAW WITH HIS FLASHLIGHT SOME BICYCLE TRACKS RIGHT HERE. IT LOOKED LIKE 2 SETS OF BICYCLE TRACKS. AND HE MADE THE COMMENT, HE SAID, THAT LOOKS LIKE ... I SAID, YEAH, THAT LOOKS LIKE THE TRACKS RIGHT THERE. AND HE SAID, IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE THAT MAYBE THEY'RE HEADED IN THAT DIRECTION, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN DOWN TOWARDS WHERE THEY WERE HIM AND I CAME OUT OF THE WOODS. HE GOT IN HIS CAR, AND IT SEEMED LIKE THEN, IT'S LIKE, OH, MAYBE 10:30, QUARTER TIL 11. AND HE SAID, WHAT YOU NEED TO DO, IS HE SAID, GO HOME, HE SAID AND CALL UP TO THE STATION AND GET A HOLD OF THE OFFICER THAT TOOK THE REPORT. DO YOU KNOW THE OFFICER? I SAID, YES, REGINA MEEKS. HE SAID, CALL UP AND SEE WHAT'S GOING ON, AND WE'RE GOING TO BE DRIVING AROUND THE AREA. SO I GOT HOME, AND IT WAS RIGHT AT 11. I CALLED REGINA MEEKS, AND I ASKED HER, YOU KNOW, WHAT THE SITUATION WAS. SHE SAID, I'M TELLING MY COMMANDER ABOUT IT. SHE SAID, AND HE'LL INFORM THE NEXT GROUP, YOU KNOW, THE NEXT SHIFT THAT'S COMING ON AND THEY'LL BE LOOKING FOR THEM OUT ON THE STREETS. SAID, WE GOT A CURFEW LAW, I THINK IT WAS HER THAT TOLD ME WE HAD A CURFEW LAW, AND IF THEY SEE 'EM YOU KNOW, RIDING THEIR BIKES, YOU KNOW, THEY'LL PICK 'EM UP. AND THEN UH, I CAME BACK TO THE HOUSE, AND OF COURSE THERE WAS STILL PEOPLE STILL OUT IN THE WOODS LOOKING. I MEAN, I LEFT THE HOUSE AND WENT BACK DOWN TO START LOOKING. BEFORE I LEFT THE HOUSE, I PICKED UP THE PHONE, AND I CALLED THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT THE SECOND TIME. 1 SAID, LOOK, I'VE HAD ONE POLICE OFFICER OUT HERE HELPING ME LOOK FOR THESE BOYS. I SAID, NOW, I CALLED ONCE AND YA'LL TOLD ME WHAT TO DO, AND I DID THAT. SAID, NOW I'M CALLING NOW, AND I WAN WESTKNOWNEWPHIS SEAFOLIC: AND RESCUE SQUAD WON'T COME OUT HERE AND HELP ME LOOK FOR MY BOY. AND HE SAID, WELL THEY'RE PROBABLY AT SONTEGER HOUSE AND THEY 'VE JUST FORGOT WHAT TIME IT COPY HE FOID. PROSECUTOR WORRY ABOUT IT. I SAID, I'M DAMN WORRIED ABOUT IT. I SAI MY KID DON'T STAY OUT. I SAID, IT'S 11 OVOCK 19T NI THEY'RE NOT AT SOMEBODY'S HOUSE. HE SAID, WELL I TELL YOU WHAT YOU DO. IF THEY DON'T COME HOME TONIGHT, HE SAID, YOU GET A HOLD OF DENVER REED. AND I SAID, WELL, WHO'S DENVER HE SAID, HE'S HEAD OF THE SEARCH AND RESCUE FORCE. SAID, OKAY. SO, WE LOOKED OUT, WE JUST WENT BACK LOOKING. WE DIDN'T KNOW, MATTER OF FACT, MY SON, RYAN AND I GOT IN THE CAR AND WE DROVE AROUND THERE TO BLUE BEACON, AND WENT INTO BLUE BEACON TRUCK WASH, AND I SAID, LOOK, WE GOT 3 BOYS MISSING. I DIDN'T WANT YA'LL, YOU KNOW, I WANT TO GO BACK HERE BEHIND YA'LL'S PROPERTY AND HOLLER AND YELL IN THESE WOODS, BUT I WANTED YOU TO KNOW WHY MY CAR'S BACK THERE. SO, WE PULLED OUR LITTLE SILVER CAR BACK THERE, AND RYAN, MY 14-YEAR-OLD, HE'S HONKING THE HORN AND I'M OUT HOLLERING AND YELLING AROUND THE EDGE OF THE WOODS. AND HE KIND OF DROVE THE CAR AROUND. WELL, A LITTLE SKINNY BLACK GUY AND KIND OF

A GREAT, BIG HEAVY BLACK GUY COME WALKING OUT THERE. AND YOU KNOW, SAID, WELL, WHAT'S GOING ON. WELL, I TOLD HIM, YOU KNOW, 3 BOYS ARE MISSING. AND HE SAID, WELL, IF THEY COME UP HERE, YOU KNOW, WE'LL HOLD ON TO 'EM FOR YOU. WELL, WE HOLLERED AND YELLED THERE FOR A WHILE WHERE THAT LITTLE ENTRANCE IS FROM THAT SIDE WHERE YOU CAN WALK IN THAT ENTRANCE, YOU KNOW, THERE'S THAT POND, AND IF YOU WALK ON AROUND THE EDGE OF THE POND, YOU CAN KIND OF SEE A TRAIL THAT GOES INTO THE BAYOU, OR WHEREVER THAT IS. I KIND OF WALKED INTO THAT BAYOU, WELL I WALKED INTO THAT AREA, AND HOLLERED AND YELLED DOWN TOWARD THE BAYOU, AND I CAN REMEMBER TURNING AND HOLLERING AND YELLING TOWARDS THAT HILL, 'CAUSE I COULD TELL IT MADE A HILL THAT WENT UP AND DOWN. AND ME NOT HAVING A LIGHT, I DIDN'T GO UP OVER THE HILL, OR GO DOWN IN THERE. SO WE HOLLERED AND YELLED AROUND THERE FOR QUITE A WHILE. THEN WE WENT BACK, AND ABOUT THE TIME I GOT BACK TO MY HOUSE, THAT'S WHEN I MET UH, TERRY'S, UH, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN STEVIE BRANCH'S GRANDFATHER. PULLED UP IN DANA MOORE'S YARD IN HIS TRUCK, AND HE WALKED OVER. WE WERE KIND OF LIKE ALL STANDING OUT UNDER THE STREETLIGHT. THEN IT WAS ME AND MY WIFE, DANA MOORE, TODD WAS STILL AT WORK AND THEN TERRY HOBBS, A FRIEND OF HIS WITH A BEARD THAT LIVED, I THINK HE SAID ON 17TH STREET, AND THEN UH, STEVIE BRANCH'S GRANDPA. AND WE WERE JUST KIND OF TALKING ABOUT WHERE ALL WE HAD BEEN LOOKING, AND KIND OF DEBATING ON IF THEY HAD FELL IN THE BAYOU AND DROWNED, WHERE WOULD THE BIKES BE. AND WE COULDN'T SEE HOW BOTH BICYCLES COULD HAVE RUN OFF IN THE BAYOU. AND I KNEW MY SON WAS A REAL STRONG SWIMMER, AND HE, THE ONLY WAY HE COULD HAVE DROWNED WOULD HAVE BEEN MAYBE TRYING TO HELP ONE OF THE OTHER KIDS THAT FELL IN. YOU KNOW, WE JUST KIND OF FELT HELPLESS. SO WE STOOD THERE TALKING, THEN WE JUST WENT BPOLIC: TO THE WOODS AND SAID LET'S MAKE ANOTHES TASS MEROUGH. SO WE WENT BACK DOWN THERE WHERE WE WERE, AND LOOKED IN CHANGER.
WE NEVER DID CONCEN... I SAY I NEVER DID CONCENTRATE PROSECUTOR
THAT WAY WHERE THEY WERE FOUND. I MACON STAYED IN THIS AREA
HERE. AND THE ONLY REASON I STAYED IN THAT AREA HAS THE PROSECUTION TIMES THAT MY OLDER SON, RYAN, HAD GONE DOWN THERE TO RIDE HIS BIKE, THAT'S WHERE, YOU KNOW, HE HAD RODE. AND THE FEW TIMES THAT CHRISTOPHER HAD TOLD ME THAT HE'D BEEN DOWN THERE, THAT WAS THE AREA THAT HE'D BEEN IN. I HAD HEARD 'EM TALK ABOUT SOME PIPES THAT YOU COULD CROSS THE BAYOU WITH, BUT I HADN'T EVER SEEN IT. AND THAT NIGHT, I NEVER DID REALLY SEE THE PIPE REAL GOOD 'TIL THE NEXT MORNING. SO, ABOUT 1:30, QUARTER 'TIL 2, IT WAS SEARGENT BALL AND MY WIFE WILL NEVER FORGET THIS. HE PULLED UP TO THE STOPLIGHT. YOU KNOW, WE ASKED WHAT THEY WAS DOING. HE SAID, WELL, WE'RE PATROLLING AROUND, WE'RE LOOKING AND ALL. HE SAID, WE'LL FIND 'EM, THEY'RE JUST, THEY'RE JUST, SGT. BALL SAID, MAYBE THEY HAVE FOUND AN ABANDONED HOUSE OR A SHED IN SOMEBODY'S BACKYARD OR A BUILDING AND THEY'VE GOT UP IN THAT BUILDING, YOU KNOW, FOR CAUSE THE MOSQUITOS, IT WAS WARN THAT NIGHT, AND MOSQUITOS WERE KIND OF BAD. SO, UH, WHEN HE SAID THAT, I THOUGHT OF AN ABANDONED HOUSE DOWN THE STREET FROM ME, SO I WENT AND LOOKED IN THAT. THEN ANOTHER FRIEND OF MINE, TONY

HUDSON CAME OVER. AND TONY HUDSON AND MY WIFE AND I UP HERE ON THE SERVICE ROAD WHERE THERE USED TO BE THE MID-CONTINENT BUILDING AND IT BLEW DOWN ANE THEY'RE RE-BUILDING IT NOW, WE THOUGHT, WELL MAYBE THAT'S NOT LOCKED AND THEY CAN GET IN THERE. SO WE WENT DOWN THERE AND LOOKED, AND THERE WAS A LADDER IN THE BACK. AND TONY CLIMBED UP THE LADDER AND GOT UP ON THE ROOF AND LOOKED AND HE EVEN GOT DOWN INSIDE THE THING AND LOOKED AROUND. AND THEN THERE WAS A BLACK VAN PARKED THERE ON THAT LOT. JUST A SOLID BLACK VAN. AND I. IT WAS LOCKED. I WENT UP AND TRIED THE BACK DOOR, AND THE SIDE DOOR AND OTHER DOORS THAT WAS LOCKED AND ALL I COULD SEE THROUGH THE WINDOW WAS LIKE, GARBAGE BAGS AND PAPER AND I JUST WAS KIND OF ASSUMING THAT THE PEOPLE THAT WERE WORKING ON THE BUILDING, IT WAS LIKE A WORK VAN OF THERE'S THAT MAYBE IT JUST HAD THEIR TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT IN IT. THEN THAT TRAILER THAT SITS BACK THERE, WE WENT BACK THERE AND TRIED TO SEE IF THAT TRAILER WAS UNLOCKED. AND LOOKED AROUND THAT TRAILER AND ALL. THEN TONY BROUGHT MELISSA AND I HOME, AND HE SAID, I'M GOING TO MAKE, YOU KNOW, A FEW MORE ROUNDS AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD. AND IT'S PROBABLY 2 OR 3 O'CLOCK BY NOW. SO, WE JUST SAT THERE WAITING FOR DAYLIGHT. AND THEN JUST AS SOON AS IT GOT DAYLIGHT, TERRY HOBBS AND I THINK DANA AND MAYBE TODD YOU KNOW, KNOCKED ON THE DOOR, AND THEN I GOT MY BOOTS ON. AND THEN WE TOOK OFF LOOKING AGAIN. AND UH,

RIDGE- WELL LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION. WHILE YA'LL WERE OUT SEARCHING DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME AFTER IT HAD GOTTEN DARK, WE HAD SEVERAL REPORTS OF GUNSHOTS BEING FIRED. WAS SOMEBODY DOWN THERE WITH A GUN MAYBE SHOOTING UP IN THE AIR HOLLERING AT THE KIDS?

WEST WENT'S FOLC.

MARK- I NEVER HEARD A GUNSHOT FIRED. CONFIDENCE COPY TO PROSECUTOR RIDGE- WE GOT SOME REPORTS OF THAT. ITNOV HAVE BEEN BACK. BEHIND THE EXPRESSWAY.

MARK- I NEVER HEARD A GUNSHOT. UH, THERE BY THE HOUSE, WHEN WE WERE STANDING AROUND THE HOUSE, MY WIFE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT, DID YOU HEAR THAT GUNSHOT? THIS WAS LIKE, 12 OR 1 I SAID, NUH UH. AND THAT WAS JUST A CAR RIGHT DOWN O'CLOCK. THERE ON WILSON THAT BACKFIRED. BUT, WHILE WE WERE IN THE WOODS, I NEVER HEARD A GUNSHOT. NOW, MY OLDER SON, RYAN, WHEN WE CAME IN THAT NIGHT, TOLD ME, AND OF COURSE I DON'T KNOW WHERE ALL HE WAS RUNNING AROUND OUT THERE LOOKING WITH BRET AND RICHIE, BUT HE TOLD ME, HE SAID, DAD, I THOUGHT THAT I HEARD A ROCK OR SOMETHING HIT THE ROCKS. HE SAID, I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING SPLASH IN THE WATER. AND HE SAID, IT KIND OF SOUNDED LOUD. I SAID, WELL, WHERE WERE YOU? HE SAID, WELL I WAS, YOU KNOW, IN THEM TRAILS THAT GO ALONG THE BAYOU. AND I REALLY DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHERE HE WAS. AND THE NEXT MORNING, WE GOT TO LOOKING AND I CAME DOWN 7TH STREET FIRST THING AND JUST AS SOON AS I CAME ACROSS THE BRIDGE, I SAW TODD, AND TERRY AND STEVIE BRANCH'S BIOLOGICAL

THEY SAID WE'VE JUST WALKED UP AND FATHER WAS RIGHT THERE. DOWN BOTH SIDES OF THE BAYOU HERE, AND WE DIDN'T SEE NOTHING. HE SAID, ONE OF US WAS ON THIS SIDE, ONE OF US WAS ON THAT SIDE. WE WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHERE TO LOOK SO WE JUST WOULDN'T BE ON TOP OF EACH OTHER. I SAID, WELL I'M GOING TO GO BACK DOWN, AND I SAID I'M GOING TO GO BACK AROUND THE AREA WHERE I WAS LAST NIGHT. MAYBE I MISSED SOMETHING. MAYBE THERE'S A CAP OR A PIECE OF CLOTHING OR SOMETHING I DIDN'T SO I WENT DOWN THERE AND THEN I NOTICED UH, THE SEARCH AND RESCUE, WE HAD ALREADY MET WITH UH, DENVER REED AND 8 O'CLOCK. WE WAITED UP AT THE SCHOOL. WE SEARCHED AROUND TIL LIKE 7:30, QUARTER 'TIL 8. THEN WE WENT TO THE SCHOOL. PARENTS AND THE GROUP THAT WAS HELPING US. THERE WAS PROBABLY STILL PEOPLE OUT THERE LOOKING THAT I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT. BUT, THE PARENTS WERE THERE AT SCHOOL. AND WHEN THEY DIDN'T SHOW UP AT 8 O'CLOCK, I HAD ALREADY KNOWN TO MEET DENVER REED CAUSE I HAD TALKED TO HIM LIKE 6:30, 7 AND I THINK HE SAID 8:30, 9 O'CLOCK MEET ME AT INGRAM AND BARTON AND WE'LL GET THIS SEARCH GOING. SO WE MET DOWN THERE AND THEN SOME OF THE SEARCH AND RESCUE TRUCKS HAD PULLED UP. THEN I NOTICED THAT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAD PICTURES AND MAYBE DESCRIPTIONS THAT THEY HAD MEMOGRAPHED OFF AND THEY WERE PASSING OUT TO EVERYBODY. AND I MADE THE COMMENT, DENVER REED, WHEN ARE YA'LL GOING TO PUT A BOAT IN THE BAYOU, YOU KNOW. IF THEY'VE DROWNED, YOU KNOW, LET'S GET A BOAT IN THE BAYOU. AND HE TOLD ME, YOU KNOW, THAT THEY WOULD DO AND IT SEEMED LIKE AROUND 9:30, 10 O'CLOCK, I WAS TOLD. THERE'S A BOAT IN THE BAYOU AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY. SO, TERRY HOBBS AND HIS FATHER-IN-LAW AND THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF STEVIE BRANCH AND MYSELF WENT DOWN AND KIND OF SAT ON THE BANK BY THAT PIPE. WE WAS JUST GOING TO WAIT ON THE BOAT TO COME DOWN THE BAYOU. AND I WAS SITTING THERE LOOKING, AND I THOUGHT, NOW, HOW COULD THEM LITTLE BOYS GOT THEIR BIKES, YOU KNOW, ACROSS THAT PIPE. AND I THOUGHT, WELL MAYBE THEY COULD HAVE WALKED ON THE EYELDAM AND BIRED THEOLIC BIKES, YOU KNOW, ACROSS. SO I WALKED ACROSS THE PIPES, AND WHEN I GOT ACROSS THE PIPE, I COULD SEE THERE CONSIDERAL GOING THIS WAY, AND I THOUGHT, WELL THE PROSECUTOR TO THE BLACK, OR BLUE, OF THE TRUCKWASH, THERE SA TRAIL THAT GOES UP THIS HILL. AND I SAID NOVLL 19WAS 1993 STANDING RIGHT HERE LAST NIGHT. I SAID, CAUSE I COULD SEE SO I WENT UP THE HILL, AND WHEN I GOT UP THE HILL AND COME DOWN OVER THE OTHER SIDE, I SAW A BROWN COAT. FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS MAYBE SOMEBODY LAYING SOMEWHERE, BUT IT WAS A BROWN COAT. AND I WALKED OVER AND I PICKED THE BROWN COAT I DIDN'T INSPECT IT REAL CLOSE. ALL I DID WAS I STUCK MY HAND IN THE POCKETS AND IN ONE POCKET THERE WAS A DISPOSABLE SCHICK RAZOR BLADE. WHITE WITH A YELLOW CAP ON THE END OF IT. AND I PUT IT BACK IN THE POCKET. I MEAN, IT JUST DIDN'T LOOK NATURAL. I'VE BEEN TOLD, I THINK BY GARY GITCHELL, THAT HE'D BEEN DOWN THERE A MONTH OR TWO BEFORE, AND IT BEEN YOU MAYBE, THAT IT HAD BEEN THERE A LONG TIME. BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THAT AT THE TIME. I JUST SAW THE COAT AND I PICKED THE COAT UP FROM THERE AND I DIDN'T GO ANY FARTHER

ON UP THE CREEK BANK. I CAME BACK TO WHERE TERRY AND HIS DAD WAS TO SHOW THEM THE COAT I HAD FOUND. AND I LEFT THE COAT RIGHT THERE ON THE BANK. THEN MY WIFE, OR TERRY'S WIFE OR SOMEBODY STANDING UP THERE BY THAT RAILING WHERE YOU PARK CALLED US AND WE WENT BACK UP THERE. THEN IT SEEMED LIKE WE WENT BACK TO THE HOUSE, AND MAYBE LISTENED TO THE SCANNER. THEN IT SEEMED LIKE IT GOT AROUND LUNCHTIME AND IT SEEMED LIKE CHANNEL 3 OR THE MEDIA SHOWED UP....

RIDGE- LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING. DID YOU SEE A YOUNG, WHITE MALE RIDING A BICYCLE? WEARING A RED SHIRT, BICYCLE WITH BLACK, LIKE AN ALL-TERRAIN BICYCLE?

MARK- I SAW A GUY THAT I HAD NEVER SEEN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE THAT ACTED LIKE HE WAS HELPING US SEARCH. HE WAS ON ONE OF THE BIGGER BIKES KIND OF LIKE A RACING SIZE BIKE. YOU KNOW, IT WASN'T A LITTLE BIKE. IT WAS KIND OF A FULL SIZE BIKE.

RIDGE- DID IT HAVE MUD GRIP TYPE TIRES ON IT?

MARK- IT SEEMED LIKE IT DID HAVE MUD GRIP TYPE TIRES ON IT.
UH, HE WAS SLENDER AND HAD REAL SHORT HAIR AND KIND OF A THIN
FACE. UH, I DON'T REMEMBER IF HE HAD A RED SHIRT ON OR
ANYTHING. BUT I REMEMBER HIS FACE BECAUSE I THOUGHT, BOY
IT'S JUST A REAL THIN FACE AND HIS HAIR WAS REALLY SHORT.
ALMOST MILITARY SHORT. IT WAS REAL SHORT. BUT HE SAID I'VE
BEEN RIDING MY BICYCLE DOWN THERE LOOKING FOR YA'LL. HE
SAID, I'M HELPING YA'LL LOOK, YOU KNOW, AND I SAID THANK YOU
AND WE JUST KEPT ON GOING.

RIDGE- YOU REMEMBER ANYBODY, HE HAD A FLAT ON HIS BICYCLE AND HE CAME BACK FROM ACROSS THE PIPE. DO YOU REMEMBER, WERE YOU THERE WHEN SOMEBODY CAME BACK ACROSS THE PIPES WITH A FLATOLICE TIRE?

MARK- NO SIR. NOW WHERE I DID HEAR SOMETHING THAT SUBJECTION ODD. THAT THURSDAY EVENING WAS PROBLED VLIKE G. PROSECUTOR WASN'T EVEN THAT LATE. THEY WERE STILL SAARCHING. THOM 3 HADN'T FOUND THE BOYS YET. IT WAS A LITTLE AFTER LUNCH TIME, AND I, THIS FELLOW TALKED TO GITCHELL. BUT IT WAS A WHITE GUY, KIND OF CHUNKY, HEAVY-SET, HAD KIND OF SHOULDER LENGTH WAVY HAIR AND SAID WHEN HE HAD COME HOME THE NIGHT BEFORE 6:30, QUARTER 'TIL 7, SOMETHING LIKE THAT, THAT WHEN HE DROVE BY THERE, HE HAD SEEN 4 PEOPLE AND 2 BICYCLES. AND I THOUGHT, YOU KNOW, ARE YOU SURE IT WAS 4. HE SAID YEAH, IT WAS 4. AND THAT'S WHEN WE WERE RIGHT THERE AT MY HOUSE AND I THINK GITCHELL PULLED UP AND I WENT OVER AND SAID, GARY THERE'S A GUY THAT SAW 'EM. AND I THINK HE WENT AND TALKED TO THE GUY RIGHT THERE. BUT DURING THE DAY, THE GUY WAS ON A LIKE A 180 OR A 250 RED 3-WHEELER HELPING US LOOK THROUGH THE DAY. KIND OF A HEAVY-SET...

RIDGE- YOUNG GUY.

MARK- LOOKED MAYBE TO BE, I'M GOING TO SAY 22, 23. BUT HE SAID HE SAW 4 PEOPLE.

RIDGE- OKAY, UH, WHO WOULD BE CHRIS'S CLOSEST FRIEND?

MARK- THAT HE PLAYED WITH?

RIDGE- YEAH.

MARK- HIS CLOSEST FRIEND. I'D SAY THE CLOSEST FRIEND THAT HE PLAYED WITH WOULD BE STEVE AND THEN THIS LITTLE BOY NAMED AARRON BEFORE THEY MOVED TO MARION. THAT WAS THE ABANDONED HOUSE I CHECKED. WHERE...

RIDGE- DO YOU KNOW AARRON'S LAST NAME?

MARK- NO SIR. BUT, I CAN TELL YOU THE HOUSE. WHERE I LIVE, YOU GOT WILSON RIGHT HERE..

RIDGE- UH HUH.

MARK- THEN YOU GOT A CORNER HOUSE THAT'S GOT A BRICK FENCE AROUND IT, THEN YOU GOT ANOTHER HOUSE RIGHT BESIDE IT. WELL THEY LIVED IN THAT SECOND HOUSE. AND I REMEMBERED IT HAD A STORAGE BUILDING OUT BACK. SO I RAN DOWN THERE AND LOOKED IN THAT STORAGE BUILDING THINKING MAYBE THEY WERE HIDING BACK THERE. BUT I COULD TELL THE GRASS WAS REAL TALL. I COULD TELL HADN'T NOBODY WALKED THROUGH THERE AND THERE WASN'T NO PAPER. THE STORAGE ROOM WASN'T MUCH BIGGER THAN THIS ROOM. AND IT WAS ALL CLEANED OUT, SO I KNEW THEY WEREN'T DOWN THERE. BUT AARRON WAS A REAL GOOD FRIEND OF THE THAT HE POLC

RIDGE- WAS HE IN THIS CUB SCOUTS?

COPY TO PROSECUTOR

MARK- CHRISTOPHER WAS IN THE CUB SCOUT DEAL... NOV 19 1993

RIDGE- I MEANT AARRON.

MARK- I DON'T KNOW. CHRISTOPHER HADN'T GONE BUT TO ONE MEETING UP AT THE CHURCH. AND IT WAS ONLY BECUASE IT'S THE ONLY MEETING WE KNEW ABOUT. HE WOULD GET A NOTE AT SCHOOL THAT A MEETING WOULD BE TODAY. AND THEN TWO OR THREE DAYS LATER, WE'D FIND IT IN HIS BACKPACK. NOW, HE KNEW WE'D TAKE HIM THEM. I DON'T THINK HE HAD A LOT OF INTEREST IN IT. I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW WHY. I DON'T THINK HE WAS AS INTERESTED IN IT AS MICHAEL AND STEVIE WAS. HE WAS IN IT, BUT HE DIDN'T, IT WASN'T LIKE, I WANT TO GO, I WANT TO GO, GET ME A UNIFORM. HE JUST DIDN'T HAVE A GREAT MOTIVATION ABOUT IT TO ME.

RIDGE- I KNOW THESE KIDS GET STARTED A LOT EARLIER THAN WHAT I DID BACK WHEN I WAS KID. DID HE HAVE ANY GIRLFRIENDS OR

ANYBODY THAT HE CONSIDERED HIMSELF CLOSE TO?

MARK- WELL THIS IS GOING TO BE KIND OF FUNNY SOUNDING. HE TOLD US LIKE ON SUNDAY OR MONDAY NIGHT BEFORE THAT WEDNESDAY, HE WAS GETTING READY TO GO TO BED AND HE TOLD US, HIS MOM AND I, HE SAID, I GOT A GIRLFRIEND. AND I SAID, WELL, WHO'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND. HE SAID AMANDA. I SAID, WELL, HOW OLD IS AMANDA. HE SAID 4. I SAID, AWW. I SAID WHO IS AMANDA. HE SAID STEVIE'S LITTLE SISTER.

RIDGE- YOU KNOW SO THAT....

MARK- AND THEN I DIDN'T.. WELL THAT CAME OUT IN TALKING TO TERRY. TERRY HAD TOLD ME SOMETHING ABOUT ONCE CHRISTOPHER WAS DOWN THERE AND WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE TO HER. AND HE SAID WELL YOU CAN SAY GOODBYE TO HER NOW, YOU KNOW. AND HE SAID, HE TOLD, THAT CHRISTOPHER TOLD STEVIE THAT HE WANTED TO GIVE HER A LITTLE KISS GOODBYE. THAT'S WHY HE WANTED HER TO COME OUTSIDE, YOU KNOW. CAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY GIRLFRIEND, JUST KIDS STUFF.

RIDGE- HOW ABOUT ANY TEENAGERS THAT HE WAS ATTRACTED TO. YOU KNOW, HE WANTED TO HANG AROUND WITH. WE'RE PROBABLY TALKING 16, 17, 18 YEAR OLDS.

MARK- THERE'S ONE BOY IN PARTICULAR THAT STICKS OUT IN MY MIND THAT MY WIFE AND I BOTH FEEL WERE, WAS AN ODD INDIVIDUAL. I HAVE HEARD THROUGH MY OLDER SON, RYAN THAT HE THINKS THEY'VE MOVED TO MEMPHIS. THE ONLY NAME I GOT WAS TAIL.

RIDGE- T.J.

MARK- T.J.

RIDGE- DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE LIVED?

WEST NEMPHS POLIC confidential PROSECUTOR

MARK- YES, IT SEEMED LIKE HE DID LIVE AROUND NOWE 19 HOLIDAY CIRCLE, OR ON WILSON. MY SON, RYAN WENT OVER TO HIS HOUSE SEVERAL TIMES AND RYAN COULD SHOW YOU RIGHT WHERE HE LIVED. BECAUSE I REMEMBER WHERE HIM TALKING ABOUT T.J.'S DAD HAD A SKI BOAT AND HOW ONE TIME THEY WENT OUT RIDING IN IT, AND HOW T.J.'S DAD LET RYAN DRIVE THE SKI BOAT. I THINK OUT AT DACUS, MAYBE. THEY DIDN'T GO OFF FAR. BUT T.J. ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY WITH CHRISTOPHER AS MUCH, OR MORE THAN RYAN. AND HE WAS LIKE 15, 16. REAL TALL, SKINNY. STILL PLAYING WITH MUTANT NINJA TURTLES, YOU KNOW. AND CHRISTOPHER'S SIX, YOU KNOW. AND I REMEMBER HE PAINTED A T'SHIRT WITH MAGIC MARKERS WITH A MUTANT NINJA TURTLE DEAL ON IT FOR CHRISTOPHER. AND MELISSA AND I JUST THOUGHT IT ODD THAT THIS BIGGER, OLDER KID WOULD WANT TO PLAY WITH OUR YOUNGER ACTUALLY MORE THAT HE DID RYAN KIND OF HUNG AROUND WITH HIM CAUSE AT THE TIME HE WAS INTO MUTANT TURTLES TOO AND SKATEBOARDS AND THIS KID WAS SKATEBOARDING TOO AND CHRISTOPHER KIND OF TAGGED ALONG.

THIS BOY SEEMED LIKE HE REALLY ENJOYED PLAYING WITH CHRISTOPHER, CAUSE A LOT OF TIMES HE'D COME OVER AND KNOCK ON THE DOOR. IS CHRISTOPHER HOME? I COME TO PLAY WITH HIM. AND I TOLD HIM ONE TIME, SON I THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO BIG TO BE PLAYING WITH CHRISTOPHER. YOU NEED TO PLAY WITH BOYS YOUR AGE.

RIDGE- YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE I'M EXPLAINING IT TO YOU. EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE SUSPECTS. THAT WE'RE GETTING THESE QUESTIONS FROM YOU AND WE'RE NOT LEADING YOU TO BELIEVE THAT WE KNOW WE'RE GETTING YOU TO RECALL THE INFORMATION FROM YOU BASICALLY. YOU DON'T KNOW WHO WE'RE LOOKING AT. UH WHO WE'VE TALKED TO BASICALLY.

MARK- I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST.

RIDGE- SO ANY RESPONSE WE GET FROM YOU IS JUST SPONTANEOUS FROM YOUR MEMORY.

MARK- YES SIR.

RIDGE- OKAY. THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU KNEW. THIS T.J., HOW OLD WOULD YOU SAY HE WAS ACTUALLY?

MARK- THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM WAS PROBABLY ABOUT A YEAR AGO. AND IT SEEMED LIKE MY OLDER SON, RYAN THEN TOLD ME HE WAS, LIKE 15.

RIDGE- OKAY. HE A WHITE MALE?

WEST NEMPHS POLIC BOPYCLATO PROSECUTOR RIDGE- DO YOU KNOW THE COLOR OF HIS HAIR? NOV 19 1993

MARK- YES, HE HAS DARK HAIR. HE WAS CLEAN, DIDN'T HAVE ACNE OR ANYTHING. FAIRLY CLEAN COMPLEXION. KIND OF SHORT. KIND OF SHORT.

RIDGE- SO YOU THINK THAT CHRIS, MORE OR LESS, TRUSTED HIM BECAUSE HE PLAYED WITH HIM AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

MARK- HE WOULD HAVE.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- IF HE HAD SEEN T.J., I DON'T THINK HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SCARED OF HIM.

HAS CHRIS TALKED TO YOU ABOUT GOING RIDGE- OKAY. ALRIGHT. IN THESE ROBINHOOD WOODS?

MARK- HE HADN'T REALLY MENTIONED MUCH ABOUT GOING DOWN THERE, BECAUSE HE KNEW IT WAS OFF LIMITS.

RIDGE- YOU TOLD HIM NOT TO BE GOING THERE.

MARK- I TOLD HIM NOT TO GO DOWN THERE BECAUSE LAST SUMMER ONE DAY RYAN AND BRETT SMITH WERE DOWN THERE ON THEIR BICYCLES PLAYING AND COME RUNNING HOME JUST KIND OF ALL WHITE IN THE FACE AND EXCITED AND SAID DAD, DAD WE SAW A BUM, OR A JUNKIE OR IT WAS SOMEBODY AND THEY WERE LAYING IN THE DITCH DOWN THERE AND WE THOUGHT MAYBE THEY WERE DEAD AND WE HOLLERED AND KIND OF CHUNKED SOME ROCKS OVER THAT WAY AND THEY MOVED. IT WAS A BUM DOWN THERE. AND I SAID NOW, THAT'S THE REASON WHY I DON'T WANT YA'LL DOWN THERE. SO I HAD TOLD RYAN AND CHRISTOPHER ON MANY, MANY OCCASIONS DON'T GO PLAY IN ROBINHOOD. DON'T RIDE YOUR BIKES DOWN THERE. THERE'S NOTHING DOWN THERE FOR YOU TO GO DOWN THERE FOR. STAY AWAY FROM THERE.

RIDGE- DID CHRIS EVER TELL YOU OF SEEING ANYTHING DOWN THERE?

MARK- THE ONLY PERSON THAT CHRISTOPHER, THAT I CAN REMEMBER, TOLD ME ABOUT WAS OVER BY MAYFAIR APARTMENTS, RIGHT WHERE THAT RAILING WAS, WHERE THE PIPE CROSSES. THERE WAS A GUY ONE DAY HAD A CAR PARKED OUT THERE, AND HE COME RUNNING HOME. CHRISTOPHER TELLING ME THAT HE SAW A MAN DEAD UNDER A CAR AND I NEEDED TO COME HELP HIM. AND HE WAS SO SURE THAT HE SAW A DEAD MAN UNDER A CAR, I GOT HIM IN THE TRUCK AND HE TOOK ME OVER THERE TO SHOW HIM AND THERE WAS A MAN UNDER HIS CAR, BUT HE WAS CHANGING HIS OIL. YOU KNOW, SO, THAT WAS THE ONLY PERSON THAT HE HAD EVER SAID.

RIDGE- DOES CHRISTOPHER HAVE A FRIEND THAT HE WOULD HAVE CONFIDED IN ON ANYTHING, OR JUST SOMEBODY THAT HE WELD TO ABOUT ANYTHING? TO ABOUT ANYTHING?

MARK- OTHER THAN HIS BROTHER, RYAN, I WOULD PROBABLORGE TO TO NOV 19 1993

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- STEVEN BRANCH.

RIDGE- ALRIGHT, WE'VE ALREADY COVERED WHERE YOU WENT DURING THE SEARCH, WHO DID YOU SEE. UH, WE ALREADY COVERED EARLIER HE MAY HAVE HAD A SLING SHOT. YOU KNOW THAT HE DIDN'T HAVE A SLING SHOT.

MARK- NO SIR.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- I KNOW WHEN I LEFT HIM UNDER THE CARPORT, HE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT WITH HIM, AND I KNOW IT WASN'T OUTSIDE. AND MELISSA KNOWS THAT HE DIDN'T GO UPSTAIRS. SAID SHE REMEMBERED HIM COMING IN A TIME OR TWO, BUT IT WAS JUST FOR LIKE A DRINK OF WATER AND TO USE THE BATHROOM.

RIDGE- COULD HE HAVE HAD A POCKET KNIFE, NORMALLY?

MARK- NOT NORMALLY, BUT AT TIMES, HE WOULD PICK UP ONE OF RYAN'S LITTLE POCKET KNIVES BECAUSE I'D BEEN CALLED TO SCHOOL SINCE HE'D BEEN GOING TO SCHOOL THERE, I'D BEEN CALLED TO SCHOOL TWICE ABOUT YOU KNOW, A LITTLE POCKET KNIFE THAT ONE OF THE TEACHERS HAD FOUND AND I'D HAVE TO GO UP THERE AND GET IT.

RIDGE- OKAY. HOW ABOUT A WALLET, BILLFOLD?

MARK- HE DID HAVE SEVERAL BILLFOLDS. I WAS SHOWN A BLUE ONE WITH A RED STRIPE ON IT. AND MY WIFE AND I HAVE BOTH LOOKED AT IT AND THOUGHT ABOUT IT. MY SON, RYAN, COULD DEFINITELY I.D. IT AND THEY WERE GOING TO SHOW IT TO HIM, AND I ASKED HIM, RYAN, I SAID, RYAN, DID THEY SHOW YOU THAT BILLFOLD. HE SAID THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO SHOW IT TO ME, BUT IT WAS IN A CRIME LAB, OR SOMEWHERE, RIGHT THEN.

RIDGE- IT STILL IS.

MARK- I THINK, I THINK IT WAS CHRISTOPHER'S AND THE REASON WHY, HE HAD HAD A DARK COLORED BILLFOLD LIKE THAT, AND EITHER ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY, HE HAD ASKED ME FOR SOME MONEY FOR BOOK FAIR. AND I'D GIVEN HIM 3 DOLLARS T AND ENTRY BOUGHT THIS LITTLE BOOK ABOUT BATS, WHICH COST \$2.50, AND FAID BEEN SHOWING IT TO ME TUESDAY NIGHT. AND I CANDOWELL YOU STALL GOT THE 50 CENTS. HE SAID OH YEARY I PUD MY PROSECUTOR.

I'LL USE THAT FOR SNACK MONEY. SO I DON'T KNOW TO BE PUT IT BACK IN THE BILLFOLD. BUT MELISSA BOID THAT SHE THOUGHT WHEN HE CAME IN AND OUT A TIME OR TWO, THAT SHE HAD NOTICED THE BILLFOLD IN HIS BACK POCKET.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- BUT MY SON, RYAN, I KNOW, COULD POSITIVELY I.D. IF IT WAS HIS OR NOT, CAUSE IF CHRISTOPHER WOULD HAVE GOT IT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PASSED DOWN FROM RYAN TO HIM. I MEAN I KNOW IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A HAND-ME-DOWN.

RIDGE- OKAY. WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHER PARENTS?

MARK- UH, AS FAR AS PAM AND TERRY HOBBS, CHRISTOPHER, SMART LITTLE RASCAL, I HAD TOLD HIM THAT GOING DOWN 14TH TOWARDS BROADWAY, THAT I DIDN'T WANT HIM RIDING HIS BIKE, SKATEBOARD OR ANY, ANY DIRECTION DOWN 14TH. AND THE REASON FOR IT WAS THAT THERE WAS SO MANY BLACK KIDS THAT WALKED THIS WAY. I SAID IF YOU WANT TO PLAY, YOU RIDE DOWN 14TH TOWARDS GOODWIN. THEY NO YOU STAY THIS WAY. DON'T HEAD TOWARDS BROADWAY FOR ANY REASON. AND WHEN STEVEN TURNED UP AS A BUDDY OF HIS, I ASKED HIM, I SAID, WHERE DOES STEVEN LIVE? AS LITTLE BOYS WILL DO, HE SAID, WELL YOU KNOW RYAN'S BUDDY, JOE, JOE GARNER

WHO LIVES ON HOLIDAY DRIVE, THE GARNER'S GOT 4 OR 5 BOYS AND THEY LIVE ON, I THINK, HOLIDAY CIRCLE OR HOLIDAY DRIVE WHICH IS JUST KIND OF BACK BEHIND US.

RIDGE- UH HUH.

MARK- THEY HAVE ONE SON NAMED JOE, WHO'S RYAN'S AGE AND THEY GOT ANOTHER ONE NAMED CLINT, WHO'S LIKE A YEAR OLDER THAN CHRISTOPHER. AND CHRISTOPHER TOLD ME, HE SAID, WELL STEVIE JUST LIVES A COUPLE OF HOUSES DOWN FROM JOE. I SAID, SO HE JUST LIVES RIGHT OVER THERE BY THE GARNERS. YEAH. OKAY. YOU CAN GO PLAY WITH HIM. CAUSE CHRISTOPHER KNEW IF HE'D HAVE TOLD ME THAT THEY LIVED DOWN THERE ON MCAULEY WITH THAT BAYOU IN THEIR BACKYARD THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM GONE AND PLAYED WITH STEVEN. YOU KNOW, KIDS ARE SMART, THEY'LL FIGURE YOU. AND HE KNEW THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM I BASICALLY DID NOT KNOW TERRY AND PAM AT GO DOWN THERE. I THOUGHT THEY LIVED BACK THERE ON HOLIDAY AND WHEN WE WERE DOING OUR HOUR AND A HALF SEARCHING AROUND THAT NEIGHBORHOOD, WE WENT UP TO THE GARNER'S HOUSE AND ASKED IF THAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A THEY KNEW WHERE STEVEN LIVED. HOUSE OR TWO ON EITHER SIDE OF THEM. AND THEY SAID, WELL, WE KNOW WHO LIVES OVER HERE AND WE KNOW WHO LIVES OVER HERE, AND SO AT THAT THERE'S NOT NO LITTLE STEVEN LIVE OVER THERE. POINT WE DIDN'T, REALLY DIDN'T KNOW, I MEAN, THE MOORE'S ACROSS THE STREET, WE'VE BEEN NEIGHBORS ACROSS THE STREET, UH, SINCE WE BOUGHT, WE MOVED IN THE HOUSE IT SEEMED LIKE IN MARCH, THIS MARCH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FOUR YEARS AGO. AND THEN IT SEEMED LIKE IN JULY OR AUGUST OF THE SAME YEAR, THEY MOVED I WOULDN'T SAY WE WERE CLOSE FRIENDS, AND WE WEREN'T ENEMIES. IT WAS JUST A NEIGHBOR, HI. AQUALNTANCE. OVE CHADN'T HAD A LOT TO DO WITH THEM. UH. THEY HAD KIND OF HAD A LITTLE BEEF, NOT A BEEF, BUT I'D SAY THEY, ICOMMINIALLY KNOW A WAY OF PUTTING IT. WE HAD HAD SOME BACKYARD BAPROSECUTORERE WE WOULD GET TOGETHER AND HAVE FORMS OFER. I QUIT INVITING THEM. AND THE REASON WHY I QUIT KOUTING THEM 199 BECAUSE THEY WOULD GET A LITTLE TOO MUCH TO DRINK AND THEY WOULD GET BELLIGERENT AND LOUD AND THEIR GOOD TIME WOULD INFRINGE ON SO I BASICALLY JUST QUIT INVITING EVERYBODY ELSES GOOD TIME. AND THEN, THIS PAST SUMMER, THEY THEM BECAUSE THEY PARTIED. CALLED THE POLICE ON ME 4 TIMES. I MEAN ONCE, 2 TIMES WAS YOU'VE GOT THE STREET, THEN YOU'VE GOT THAT LITTLE 4 FOOT SECTION OF GRASS, THEN YOU'VE GOT THE SIDEWALK. WELL THERE WOULD BE SOME PEOPLE THAT WOULD COME OVER THAT WOULD PARK IN THE STREET AND THEY WOULD HAVE LITERALLY THE WIDTH OF THEIR TIRE WHEEL IN THAT LITTLE SECTION OF YARD BEFORE YOU GOT TO THEY HAD CALLED THE POLICE AND SAID WE DON'T THE SIDEWALK. WANT THEM PARKING IN OUR YARD. SO THE POLICE WOULD COME OUT. WE'D FIND OUT WHOSE CAR IT WAS, AND THEY'D MOVE IT. ONCE THEY SAID THE MUSIC WAS TOO LOUD. AND THEN THE TIME THEY COMPLAINED ABOUT THAT, AND THE POLICE CAME OUT, THERE WASN'T EVEN ANY MUSIC PLAYING. ONCE THEY SAID ANOTHER CAR WAS PARKED IN THEIR DRIVEWAY AND THAT PARTICULAR INCIDENT I WAS GIVEN DALLAS BROGDON HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY, WHO WAS THE

SHERIFF OF ST. FRANCIS COUNTY FOR 10, 15 YEARS. YOU KNOW, SO THAT WAS BASICALLY. WE JUST REALLY DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TO DO WITH THEM. YOU KNOW, THEY WERE KIND OF MAD AT US, CAUSE WE DIDN'T INVITE THEM. SO WE JUST KIND OF LEFT IT AT THAT. THEY DIDN'T ASSOCIATE WITH US. WE DIDN'T ASSOCIATE WITH AND EVERYBODY JUST WENT ON ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS.

ON THE DAY OF THE DISAPPEARANCE, AND THINKING RIDGE- OKAY. ABOUT WHAT WAS SAID AND WHO SAID WHAT. WAS ANYTHING THAT JUST STRUCK YOU AS JUST REALLY ODD ABOUT WHAT ANYBODY WAS ASKING OR SAYING, OR ...

MARK- OF THE PEOPLE SEARCHING AND LOOKING.

RIDGE- YEAH.

MARK- I DON'T, I DON'T THINK OF ANYTHING THAT COMES TO MIND. YOU KNOW, THAT NIGHT, YOU KNOW, THROUGH ALL OF THIS, THE ONLY THING THAT I HAVE HEARD FROM AN INDIVIDUAL THAT SOUNDED ODD OR WEIRD TO ME, AND I KNOW IT WAS PROBABLY JUST FROM EMOTIONAL STRESS. I KNOW THAT TODD MOORE MADE THE COMMENT. WHEN HE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT HIS SON WAS CASTRATED, THAT HE JUST HAD WISHED THAT THEY'D DONE IT TO ALL OF THEM. AND THEN COME TO FIND OUT, IT WASN'T HIS SON THAT WAS CASTRATED, IT. WAS MINE.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE ONLY THING ODD, YOU KSOW THOSE VEHEARD THAT I THOUGHT WAS KIND OF THE SHUULDN'T HAVE BEEN SAID, BUT I'M GOING TO TAKE IT. YOU KNOWONTIDER. COPY TO PROSECUTOR

RIDGE- UNDER STRESS.

19 MARK- UNDER EVERYTHING. I DON'T FEEL LIKE MAYBE HE MEANT IT. BUT THAT'S THE ONLY THING I'D HEARD THAT JUST SOUNDED WEIRD. DURING THE SEARCH I DON'T REMEMBER ANYBODY SAYING, YOU KNOW, EVERYBODY KEPT SAYING THE POLICE THAT WOULD DRIVE BY, WOULD SAY THEY'RE JUST IN SOMEBODY'S HOUSE WATCHING T.V. THEY'VE LOST TRACK OF TIME.

RIDGE- YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THAT'S AN EFFORT TO TRY TO CALM PEOPLE DOWN.

MARK- THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT HAPPENS A LOT OF TIMES.

RIDGE- YEAH, YOU KNOW, I, LET ME ASK YOU. YOU'RE NOT THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF CHRISTOPHER.

MARK- NO SIR.

RIDGE- WHAT'S HE LIKE?

MARK- I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME.

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RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- HE'S IN, I FOUND OUT WHEN WE SAW HIM. HE CAME TO THE FUNERAL. HE NOW LIVES IN INDIANA.

RIDGE- WHAT'S HIS NAME?

MARK- HIS NAME IS RICKY LEE MURRAY.

RIDGE- MURRAY.

MARK- I KNOW THAT HE GAVE MY WIFE A VERY HARD TIME. I KNOW AT ONE TIME HE TRIED TO PUT HE WAS VERY MEAN TO HER. LIGHTER FLUID ON HER AND SET HER ON FIRE. OR THREATEN TO. UH, SHE BELIEVES, MY WIFE BELIEVES THAT EITHER HIM OR HIS BROTHER, PATRICK, SEXUALLY ASSAULTED HER OLDER SON RYAN. BECAUSE ONE DAY, RYAN TOLD HER ABOUT SOME THINGS THAT PATRICK DID, THAT PATRICK SAID THEY WERE GOING TO PLAY A GAME. UH, THAT RYAN WAS GOING TO BE THE HOT DOG BUN AND HE WAS GOING TO BE THE HOT DOG. AND MELISSA FEELS LIKE THAT THIS UH, HIS NAME'S PATRICK MURRAY, THAT MY WIFE FEELS LIKE THAT PATRICK ASSAULTED RYAN WHEN HE WAS LIKE 4. BUT THIS RICKY, HE'S GOT A RECORD. HE WAS ARRESTED. HE DID 11-29 IN MEMPHIS FOR A HIT AND RUN. HE WAS IN THE PENAL FARM IN MEMPHIS, I THINK, IN 88, I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM. I KNOW ON ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST WANTED, THEY SHOWED A PICTURE OF SOME CLERK THAT GOT HIT IN THE HEAD BY A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY, AND HAD TALKED ABOUT AN EAGLE TATTOO THAT HE HAD AND RED HAIR AND A BEARD, AND SHOWED A COMPOSITE OF HIM. AND MY WIFE WAS SO SURE THAT THAT WAS HER EX-HUSBAND THAT SHE CALLED AMERICA'S MOST WANTED AND TOLD HER, YOU KNOW TOLD THEM ALL THAT THE KNEW ABOUT HIM. AND AT THE TIME SHE THOUGHT HE WAS LIVING IN WASHINGTON STATE. THAT THE SHE THOUGHT WAS AGO NOW, RICKY WAS NOT THERE WHEN CHRISTOPHER WAS BORD THE LEGALLY MARRIED FOUR YEARS, BUT THEY DIDN COLVE TOGETHER, HIS ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF OUT OF THAT 4 YEARS. NOT LAST TIME THAT HE LAID EYES ON CHRISTOPHER, CHRISTOPHER WAS ABOUT 2 AND A HALF OR 3. HE BOUGHT HIM A BICYCLE AND BROUGTH IT TO CHRISTOPHER'S GRANDPARENTS IN MEMPHIS. AND WHEN WE WENT BY THERE AND PICKED IT UP, HE WAS THERE AND SAW HIM FOR JUST A MINUTE.

RIDGE- THE NIGHT THAT CHRISTOPHER CAME UP MISSING. DID ANYBODY CALL RICKY?

MARK- NOT THAT NIGHT. AFTER THE BOYS WERE FOUND, MY WIFE CALLED ONE OF RICKY'S AUNTS THAT WAS A....

RIDGE- OKAY, CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION, UH, CONTACTED AN AUNT OF RICKY'S.

MARK- YES SIR.

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RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- AND THEN AS FAR AS I KNOW, THROUGH THAT FAMILY RELATION, THEY TRACKED HIM DOWN AND TOLD HIM ABOUT IT.

RIDGE- ALRIGHT, WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME YA'LL HEARD FROM RICKY?

MARK- FIRST TIME WE HEARD FROM HIM WAS TUESDAY EVENING, YOU KNOW, BEFORE OUR FUNERAL ON THE WEDNESDAY. TUESDAY EVENING THERE WAS A KNOCK ON THE DOOR AND IT WAS HIM,...

RIDGE- SO, BASICALLY WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHERE HE WAS DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME.

MARK- WELL YES SIR. I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE WAS.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- HE SAYS HE'D BEEN LIVING IN INDIANA.

SUDBURY- DID HE DO ANYTHING AT ALL TO HELP SUPPORT CHRIS IN ANY CHRISTMAS PRESENTS, NO CHILD SUPPORT, NO NOTHING.

MARK- NO BIRTHDAY CARDS. HE HAD NOT SEEN HIM SINCE HE BOUGHT HIM THAT BICYCLE WHEN HE WAS THREE. THERE HAD BEEN NO CONTACT...

RIDGE- DID CHRIS KNOW HIM. DID HE EVEN KNOW HECONFICIENTIAL

MARK- YES, HE KNEW HAD EXISTED BECAUSE CORY LITER PROSECUTOR GRANDMOTHER AND GRANDFATHER TALK ABOUT RICK NOV BUT 1993 HAD TALKED WITH HIS GRANDPARENTS. THIS WOULD BE THE IT WAS RICKY'S GRANDPARENTS WHEN SHE WAS MARRIED TO HIM. GREAT GRANDPARENTS ACTUALLY. SO IT WOULD HAVE MADE IT CHRISTOPHER'S GREAT, GREAT GRANDPARENTS. AND MELISSA HAD SAID LOOK, IT REALLY CONFUSES CHRISTOPHER FOR YA'LL TO TALK ABOUT RICKY. AND IF YA'LL ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TALKING ABOUT RICKY, I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM COME OVER HERE. THEY QUIT TALKING ABOUT RICKY, ABOUT RICKY'S REALLY YOUR DADDY AND MARK'S JUST YOUR STEP-DADDY AND RICKY REALLY LOVES YOU, BUT HE CAN'T BE WITH YOU NOW. YOU KNOW, AND CRAP LIKE THAT. AND THAT WAS CONFUSING A CHILD, AND HE DIDN'T NEED TO HEAR THAT. AND THEN WHEN HE WAS 4, I BELIEVE IT WAS WHEN HE WAS 4 OR 5, I ADOPTED HIM. JAN THOMAS HANDLED MY ADOPTION. WE DID EVERYTHING WE COULD TO TRY TO FIND LAST KNOWN ADDRESS TO SEND HIM THE RECORDS AND YOU KNOW THAT HE NEEDED TO SIGN, AND COULDN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE. BUT WHEN HE CAME TO OUR HOUSE TUESDAY, HE HAD MADE THE COMMENT, HIS GRANDMOTHER HAD PASSED AWAY THE END OF DECEMBER. AND BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY, SHE HAD BEEN IN A COMA FOR QUITE A LONG TIME, AND WAS ON LIFE SUPPORT FOR LIKE 3 OR 4 WEEKS BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY. WELL WE HAD HEARD THAT HE HAD COME TO MEMPHIS AND GONE UP TO THE

HOSPITAL, AND THEY HAD TOLD HIM THEY REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHEN HIS GRANDMOTHER, YOU KNOW, WOULD PASS AWAY. AND HE MADE THE COMMENT AT OUR HOUSE, WELL, I JUST COULDN'T STAY UP THERE IN THE HOSPITAL. WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY WORK. WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY SO, HE, I THINK HE'S A CARPENTER BY TRADE. HE SAID. SO I WENT DOWN TO FLORIDA TO SEE IF I COULD PICK UP SOME WORK DOWN THERE. HE SAID, WE'RE LIVING IN INDIANA NOW. AND I MEAN, WE WEREN'T EVEN ASKING HIM, WE YOU KNOW, WE HOPED WE NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN. HE WAS JUST TELLING US THAT HE LIVED IN AND THE WOMAN THAT WAS WITH HIM, I DON'T KNOW IF INDIANA. THAT'S HIS WIFE, OR, I DON'T KNOW. IT'S JUST A BLONDE-HEADED BUT AT THE FUNERAL, HE CAME OUT TO WOMAN THAT WAS WITH HIM. THE GRAVESIDE SERVICES, AND I NOTICED WHEN WE WERE SITTING IN THE LIMOUSINE AFTER EVERYBODY KIND OF BACKED AWAY FROM THE THERE WAS A GUY THAT HAD REAL SHORT RED HAIR AND A TENT. HE WAS ABOUT 6'1, 6'2, MAYBE REAL SHORT CROPPED NEAT BEARD. IT WAS HIM, THEN AN ELDERLY WOMAN, WHICH WAS HIS 170 POUNDS. MOTHER, THEN A BLACK-HEADED, CURLY-HEADED GIRL, WHICH IS HIS SISTER, AND HER SISTER'S EITHER BOYFRIEND OR HUSBAND. KIND OF CURLY LONG BLACK HAIR, AND KIND OF A GRUBBY BEARD. THEY KIND OF STOOD UP UNDER THE CANOPY THERE FOR A MINUTE WHILE WE WERE WAITING TO LEAVE. PEOPLE WERE STOPPING BY TO SPEAK TO MELISSA, AND I LOOKED OVER, AND JUST HAPPENED TO SEE 'EM STANDING UP THERE.

RIDGE- SHORTLY, I MEAN, JUST PRIOR TO THE KIDS COMING UP MISSING, HAD YOU GOTTEN ANY VISITORS THAT JUST, OUT OF THE BLUE. YOU DON'T EVER REMEMBER THEM EVER VISITING BEFORE, OR... WEST MEMPHIS POLIC:

MARK- DID SOMEBODY COME UP TO THE HOUSE? CONFIDENTIAL RIDGE- YEAH. ANY SALESMEN IN THE OREA? STREBOT ROSECULOR JUST BEEN VISITING THAT YOU HADN'T SENOVIM TO A LOGOSTIME. HE COMES TO VISIT- MAN OR WOMAN. NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

MARK- I CAN'T THINK OF ANYBODY, YOU KNOW, THAT'S NOT LIKE A REGULAR PERSON THAT WOULD STOP BY AND VISIT FROM THE CHURCH, OR EITHER ANY FRIENDS OF OURS THAT COMES BY REGULAR. I CAN'T THINK, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYBODY CAME UP SELLING ANYTHING OR MAYBE A STRANGER COME UP ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

RIDGE- ALRIGHT. ANYBODY IN YOUR FAMILY THAT HAS A HISTORY OF ABUSE?

MARK- NO SIR.

RIDGE- OKAY. UH, CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING WE NEED TO BE ASKING? CAN YOU THINK OF A DIRECTION WE OUGHT TO BE GOING IN?

SUDBURY- SOMEONE YOU THINK WE OUGHT TO TALK TO?

RIDGE- OR SOMEBODY YOU'VE WONDERED ABOUT.

SUDBURY- OR HAD SOMEONE THAT CHRIS SAID HE WAS AFRAID OF, OR LEARY OF.

MARK- WHO ALL'S GOING TO HEAR THAT TAPE? I MEAN...

RIDGE- ONLY US INVESTIGATOR'S.

MARK- I MEAN, NOT LIKE THE MEDIA, OR...

RIDGE- NO, DEFINITELY NOT.

MARK- I'M NOT TRYING TO KEEP SOMETHING FROM YOU, I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRING THIS OUT, UH,....

SUDBURY- IT WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO WITH ANTHONY GRIFFIN WOULD IT?

MARK- WHO?

SUDBURY- ANTHONY GRIFFIN.

MARK- ANTHONY GRIFFIN.

SUDBURY- LEE ANTHONY GRIFFIN.

MEMPAS FOL.C ESI

MARK- LEE ANTHONY GRIFFIN. LEE ANTHONY GRIFFIN PROSPONTOR
LEE GRIFFIN.

COPY TO TO TO THE PROSPONTOR SUDBURY- WELL, I MEAN, GRIFFIN, HE'S THOUSAME GUY.

MARK- IN MEMPHIS.

SUDBURY- YEAH.

MARK- THAT ...

SUDBURY- IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT?

MARK- THAT'S WHAT I'M THINKING ABOUT.

RIDGE- WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WE OUGHT TO BE LOOKING AT HIM?

MARK- CAUSE ...

RIDGE- DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU MIGHT BE VINDICTIVE TOWARDS HIM? I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHY OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HIS NAME.

MARK- YEAH, I KNOW ALL ABOUT HIM.

RIDGE- OKAY, I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW. I KNOW I HAVE HEARD THAT HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN MEMPHIS FOR HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITY.

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SUDBURY- IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU WERE THINKING OF BEFORE I SAID THAT?

MARK- NO. THAT WAS THE PERSON I WAS WONDERING ABOUT.

RIDGE- ALRIGHT, IS THAT, ... I'VE GOT A PICTURE. DOES THAT RING A BELL? HAVE YOU EVER SEEN HIM?

MARK- THIS ISN'T THAT T.J. I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT. NOT HIM. AND THAT'S DEFINITELY ISN'T LEE GRIFFIN.

RIDGE- NOT SOMEBODY THAT JUST STICKS OUT THAT YOU KNOW THEN.

SUDBURY- DID YOU SEE THIS PERSON HELP TRY TO LOCATE THE BOYS?

MARK- THIS ONE, HELP TRY TO LOCATE THE BOYS.

SUDBURY- DID YOU SEE HIM OUT THERE ANYWHERE? HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYBODY THAT EVEN RESEMBLES THAT MAN?

MARK- HE KIND OF DOES LOOK FAMILIAR TO ME.

SUDBURY- FROM WHERE?

MARK- I WANT TO SAY HE KIND OF LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY THAT I RAN INTO NOT TO LONG AGO DOWN AT FLASH MARKET THERE AT INGRAM. K.LMP43 YOU KNOW, COMING IN, GOING OUT.

SUDBURY- JUST IN THERE BUYING CIGARETTES OR SCONFIGERTIAL

MARK- YEAH, I WAS JUST IN THERE GETTICORYLK TO LEGAR TIES. OR SOMETHING...

SUDBURY- IS HE A CUSTOMER, OR ...

MARK- HE WAS COMING IN OR GOING OUT, BUT IT SEEMED LIKE I BUMPED IN, IT WASN'T THAT I BUMPED INTO HIM, BUT HE WAS RIGHT THERE, BECAUSE I HAD A THING OF MILK AND MY SACK BROKE AND THE MILK FELL DOWN AND JUST IT WAS IN A THING, AND I LOOKED UP AND HE WAS LIKE, STANDING THERE. AND IT SEEMED, UH, HE DOES LOOK FAMILIAR, AND I THINK I SAW HIM IN FLASH MARKET. AND IT SEEMED LIKE IT WAS A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO.

RIDGE- DID CHRIS EVER TELL YOU OF SOMEBODY HE MAY HAVE BEEN SCARED OF?

MARK- YOU KNOW, A LOT YOU'LL SEE KIDS COME IN LOTS OF TIMES. THERE'S A GUY DOWN THE STREET THAT'S JUST WEIRD. HE, BOY, DON'T GO AROUND HIS HOUSE, 'CAUSE HE'S GOING TO RUN YOU OFF. SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

RIDGE- DO YOU REMEMBER ANYBODY HE WAS SCARED OF? THESE ARE SORT OF OPEN-END QUESTIONS, AND IT'S SOMETHING HE...

MARK- I'M THINKING.

RIDGE- THAT'S WHAT I MEAN, IT'S SOMETHING FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT. IF YOU CAN'T GIVE ME AN ANSWER TODAY, THESE ARE THINGS I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT AND GIVE ME A CALL LATER.

MARK- ALRIGHT.

RIDGE- AND ANOTHER THING. IS THERE ANYBODY THAT YOU NORMALLY SEE AROUND THAT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN SINCE THIS HAPPENED? THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE QUESTIONS I JUST WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT. MAYBE CALL ME, IF NOTHING JUST OBVIOUS COMES UP RIGHT NOW. CALL ME LATER.

MARK- I SEE WHAT YOU'RE ASKING. SOMEONE THAT USED TO COME AROUND A LOT, AND NOW SINCE THIS HAPPENED THEIR JUST LIKE GONE, YOU COULDN'T FIND 'EM. AND THE ONLY OTHER THING ABOUT LEE GRIFFIN. I HAD JUST, BECAUSE OF A SITUATION THAT HAPPENED. AND I'M SURE YOU'RE AWARE OF, THAT I WORKED WITH THE CITY HERE ON. I JUST FELT LIKE MAYBE HE WOULD BE VINDICTIVE. I DON'T KNOW IF HE HAS AT ANY OR NOT.

SUDBURY- IS THERE ANYBODY ELSE LIKE LEE THAT YOU DEALT WITH IN THAT SAME MANNER?

MARK- UH,

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SUDBURY- THAT MAYBE YOU MADE ONE OTHER ATTEMPT DENT THAT...

MARK- WELL, I HELPED 'EM ON A METH LABYOUT INGMARIA1998UT I NEVER GOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN...

SUDBURY- IS THERE ANYONE FROM MEMPHIS THAT, PERHAPS YOU TALKED TO OCU ABOUT?

MARK- YES, THERE SURE IS. BUT, I THINK HE'S IN JAIL RIGHT NOW. HIS NAME..DO YOU WANT HIS NAME?

SUDBURY- DOESN'T MATTER.

MARK- YEAH, HIS NAME WAS SCOTTY REDDIN.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- I WORKED WITH ...

SUDBURY- SCOTTY'S FROM WEST MEMPHIS, IS HE NOT?

MARK- I THINK SO, AND HIS GIRLFRIEND OR SOMETHING, LIVES DOWN THERE OFF MCAULEY, I THINK. OR NO, HIS WIFE'S SISTER LIVES ON MCAULEY. DRIVES A LITTLE MAROON CHEVROLET PICK-UP TRUCK.

AND THEY WERE JUST BOUND AND DETERMINED, SCOTTY'S SISTER, SCOTTY'S SISTER-IN-LAW, LET ME GET IT RIGHT. EVERYTIME SHE'D SEE ME OR MELISSA, SHE'D FLIP US OFF, CUSS US- YOU SON OF A BITCHES, WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU. WE KNOW YOU BUSTED SCOTTY. YOU KNOW, THINGS LIKE THAT.

SUDBURY- ANYBODY ELSE LIKE SCOTTY, OR LEE THAT...

MARK- SCOTTY AND LEE ARE THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE I'VE WORKED WITH THAT, YOU KNOW...

SUDBURY- IN THAT MANNER.

MARK- IN THAT MANNER.

SUDBURY- THAT WOULD HAVE SOME TYPE OF GRUDGE OR WHATEVER AGAINST YOU.

MARK- IF THEY KNEW FOR SURE I DID IT.

SUDBURY- OKAY.

MARK- OF COURSE THEY HAD, LEE DEFINITELY HAD SUSPICION. HELL, HE LEFT MY HOUSE AND GOT ON BROADWAY AND BOOM, YOU KNOW, IT'S, IT'S JUST ONE OF THEM THINGS.

SUDBURY- OKAY.

RIDGE- WE'VE INTERVIEWED A BUNCH OF PEOPLE. HAS ANYBODY CAME BACK TO YOU AND TOLD YOU WHAT WE'RE ASKING. CONFIDENTIAL CONF

RIDGE- YOU HAVEN'T TALKED TO ANYBODY WE'VE INTERVIEWED?

MARK- THE ONLY PERSON THAT I HAVE TALKED TO IS THE LITTLE FELLOW THAT'S A FRIEND OF MINE, ANDY TAYLOR. I THINK SOMEBODY CAME DOWN TO THE FUNERAL HOME AND GOT HIM. AND UH, I ASKED HIM. HE SAID WELL, THEY JUST ASKED ME, YOU KNOW, A FEW GENERAL QUESTIONS, AND UH, I TOLD THEM THAT I'D COOPERATE IN ANY WAY. THAT IF THEY WANTED BLOOD OR HAIR, OR WHATEVER THEY WANTED, I'D BE GLAD TO GIVE IT TO 'EM, SO THEY COULD GET ON TO SOMEBODY ELSE. AND THAT'S ALL HE SAID.

RIDGE- THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE TODAY.

MARK- THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT I FIGURED.

SUDBURY- IS THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU THINK YOU NEED TO TELL US ABOUT, THAT MAYBE WE JUST HAVEN'T TOUCHED ON? CAUSE I KNOW WE'VE BEEN THROWING A LOT OF QUESTIONS AT YOU, BUT JUST SOMETHING THAT, THAT'S IN THE BACK OF YOUR MIND THAT WE JUST HAVEN'T GIVEN YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAY YET.

MARK- I HAD REALLY WONDERED ABOUT LEE AND SCOTTY REDDIN. YOU KNOW, THOSE WERE TWO THAT I HAD WONDERED ABOUT. UH, I HAD WONDERED A LITTLE BIT ABOUT DANIEL HATCHET.

SUDBURY- WHO'S DANTEL?

MARK- HE WAS A FELLOW THAT I WAS PARTNERS WITH FOR A WHILE OVER HERE AT THIS PAWN SHOP. AND I FOUND OUT THROUGH DICK BUSBY THAT HE WAS JUST BOGUS AND NOT A GOOD BUSINESS PARTNER TO BE IN BUSINESS WITH. SO I HAD MIKE MORGAN INVESTIGATE HIM, AND MIKE MORGAN FOUND OUT THAT HE DIDN'T LIVE WHERE HE SAID HE WAS. THAT HE NEVER WAS A LAWYER LIKE HE SAID HE WAS. HE'S RIDING AROUND RIGHT HOW, WITH HOUSE OR REPRESEN.... TENNESSEE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TAGS ON HIS CAR. THEY SAY RWS. HE AIN'T NO DAMN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. HAD MY JEWELRY STORE HERE, AND HAD DONE JEWELRY WORK FOR HIM, AND KNOWN HIM FOR YEARS, AND HE HAD PRESENTED HIMSELF TO ME THAT HE WAS A LAWYER AND THAT HE LIVED ON WALNUT GROVE, AND THAT HE HAD MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. AND WHEN I CAME DOWN WITH THIS BRAIN TUMOR, HE KNEW I WAS CLOSING MY STORE, AND HE SAID, WELL WHY DON'T WE OPEN US UP THIS PAWN SHOP SINCE YOU KNOW THE JEWELRY BUSINESS AND I GOT THE MONEY. WE'LL RUN THIS THING. WELL, THINGS JUST STARTED GETTING KINKY, AND THINGS WOULD COME IN TO WHERE I KNEW WE SHOULD BUY, BUT HE WOULDN'T BUY IT. SO I STARTED THINKING, WELL, IF HE'S GOT ALL THE MONEY HE SAYS HE'S GOT, WHY WOULDN'T HE, YOU KNOW, GET THAT. SO A FRIEND OF MINE FROM HOUSTON NAMES MATT ELBONN WHO'S A GOLD BUYER. HE TRAVELS AROUND THE COUNTRY, YOU KNOW AND BUYS SCRAP GOLD. CAME IN THAT DAY, AND THE FIRST DAY HE MET HIM, HE TOLD ME, YOUR PARTNER'S WEST. # MEMPHISEXT POLICE DAY, HE COME HOME, HE CAME, HE WORKED IN MEMPHISTIC MIKE SPENT THE NIGHT WITH US, AND HE CAME IN, HE SAPPICE MIKE MORGAN'S CAR, I'VE HIRED HIM TO RIND COPYHER TO HAT PROSECUTOR LIVES. AND COME TO FIND OUT HE LIVED ON AND OFF OF STANKS STREET IN MEMPHIS JUST IN A LITTLE OLD DUMP. AND THEN THE PROBABLY 5 OR 6 MONTHS LATER, MY WIFE AND I DRIVE BY THERE AND THERE'S ALL THIS GARBAGE OUT ON THE STREET WHERE HE'D BEEN EVICTED FROM HIS HOUSE. AND THEN WHEN I QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT IT, HE TOLD ME, HE SAID OH, HE SAID, I'M IN THE WITNESS, FEDERAL WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM AND ALL THIS OTHER BIG LINE OF BULLSHIT. AND THAT'S WHY I'VE GOT THOSE TAGS ON MY CAR. THAT'S WHY I HAD TO TELL YOU I WAS A LAWYER. I'M REALLY PROTECTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND THEY PAY ME A SALARY. JUST, YOU KNOW, THE BIGGEST PATHOLOGICAL LIAR I'VE EVER MET IN MY LIFE. AND HE CONNED THE CRAP OUT OF ME. YOU KNOW, CAUSE I MOVED ALL MY STUFF IN FROM THE STORE DOWN THERE, THEN I HAD JAN THOMAS DRAW UP A PARTNERSHIP DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT WHERE HE BOUGHT ME OUT. NOW, FOR QUITE A WHILE AFTER THAT, HE CAN GO, YOU KNOW FROM WHERE THE PAWN SHOP IS THERE'S MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO GET TO THE POST OVER THERE. HE WOULD MAKE A HABIT TO COME DOWN BARTON AND STOP OFFICE. AT THE STOP SIGN OR COME UP 14TH STOP SIGN, AND IF YOU'D SEE ANY OF US OUT IN THE YARD, HE'D CUSS US OR FLIP US OFF OR CUSS, YOU KNOW, - YOU LITTLE SON OF A BITCHES, YOU KNOW,

CUSSING AT MY KIDS AND STUFF. AND I DESPISED HIM. YOU KNOW, I MEAN TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YOU KNOW, I REALLY CAN'T STAND THE GUY, TO BE HONEST WITH YOU. HE CONNED ME, TOOK ME FOR A RIDE AND A HALF. AND THEN ENDED UP WITH MY SAFE, MY ALARM SYSTEM, MY SHOWCASES. HE BOUGHT 'EM FROM ME FOR A LOT LESS THAN I HAD IN 'EM. BUT, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM DRIVE AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD LATELY AT ALL. BUT THOSE WOULD BE THE ONLY 3 PEOPLE THAT I COULD THINK OF THAT MIGHT BE VINDICTIVE, YOU KNOW, TOWARDS ME. OR THAT MAYBE HAD A BONE TO PICK WITH ME.

RIDGE- ALRIGHT. THE DAY THAT THE BOYS CAME UP MISSING, WAS THERE ANY KIND OF A CONFLICT? ANY KIND OF ARGUEMENT BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR WIFE, YOU AND THE BOYS, ANYTHING LIKE THAT?

MARK- THERE WAS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN MY WIFE AND I. I GOT HOME, I WAS IN THE CLINIC FROM 9 O'CLOCK TO ABOUT 2:45 HAVING MORE TESTS MADE OVER IN MEMPHIS. I GOT HOME, AND IT WAS 10 AFTER 3. WELL CHRISTOPHER'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE IF I AM NOT AT HOME WHEN YOU GET HOME, WAIT RIGHT UNDER THE CAR PORT TIL 20 AFTER 3. YOUR BROTHER RYAN WILL BE HERE. HE'LL UNLOCK THE DOOR AND LET YOU IN. CAUSE HE WASN'T OLD ENOUGH FOR ME TO LET HAVE A HOUSE KEY. SO I LET RYAN, WHO'S ALMOST 14, HAVE A AND I, JUST AT TIMES, I'D GO TO THE POST OFFICE HOUSE KEY. OR GROCERY STORE, OR MAYBE PICK UP A PART, AND I WOULDN'T GET HOME RIGHT AT 3 O'CLOCK. AND THIS PARTICULAR TIME, I KNEW I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL. BUT I GOT HOME AT 10 AFTER 3. WASN'T, I DIDN'T, HE WASN'T THERE. HE WASN'T IN THE YARD. HOLLERED, I DIDN'T SEE HIM. I WAITED, RYAN GOT HOME AT LIKE, 3:30, 3:35. HE HAD TO BE AT COURT DOWN HERE AT 4 O'CLOCK. AND WE WAITED TIL LIKE, 10 TIL 4. AND I SAID WELD COME ON. WE'RE, I GOT TO TAKE YOU TO COURS I I MEMANS, YOU KNOW, THE DOOR UNLOCKED AND CHRISTOPHER CAN GET IN MEN TIES GETS HOME. I TOOK RYAN TO COURT AND THEN AT LIKE COMMINDES CHICK I SAID, I GOT TO GO PICK YOUR MOCOPY CHO BEFORDS GET BACK, WAS THERE. I SAID IF YOU GET OUT OF COURT BEFORDS GET BACK, LET CHADD BELL AND HIS MOM GIVE YOUR RIDE HOME. I SAID, WHEN I GET HOME. IF YOU'RE NOW WILLEAM WHEN I GET HOME, IF YOU'RE NOT THERE, I SAID, IF YOU GET OUT OF COURT BEFORE, YOU KNOW, 1 GET HOME, DON'T GO OFF PLAYING SOMEWHERE, CAUSE I'LL BE COMING DOWN TO THE COURTHOUSE TO GET STAY HOME IF YOU GET OUT OF COURT BEFORE I GET THERE. WELL WE CAME HOME. WE HAD NOTICED THAT CHRISTOPHER HAD BEEN BACK TO THE HOUSE, BECAUSE I'D THOUGHT I'D LEFT THE DOOR UNLOCKED. AND I HADN'T LEFT, I DIDN'T LEAVE THE DOOR UNLOCKED, IT WAS LOCKED. BUT THE CARPORT WINDOW RIGHT THERE, HE KNEW YOU COULD PUSH IT UP, CAUSE IT DOESN'T LOCK GOOD. SO HE HAD GOTTEN ONE OF THE LAWN CHAIRS, PUSHED IT OVER IN FRONT OF THE WINDOW, AND HE HAD TRIED TO PUSH THE WINDOW IN, BUT WE GOT A MICROWAVE CART RIGHT INSIDE THE WINDOW THERE, AND THERE'S FLOWERS AND STUFF SITTING ON IT. AND HE REALIZED THAT HE COULDN'T GET THE WINDOW UP ENOUGH BY HIMSELF TO CRAWL IN THE WINDOW, SO HE TOOK OFF. WELL THIS IS LIKE 5:20, CAUSE I THOUGHT, WELL, I'M GOING TO I JUST GOT HOME WITH MY WIFE. GO GET RYAN. WELL I BACKED OUT OF THE DRIVEWAY, HEADED UP 14TH TOWARDS BROADWAY, AND I HAD GOT MAYBE 4 OR 5 HOUSES YOU

KNOW DOWN 14TH HEADED TO BROADWAY. AND MAYBE, MAYBE FROM HERE TO THE CURB, THIS IS THE STREET AND THAT'S THE CURB-RIGHT ABOUT HERE, OUT IN THE STREET, IS CHRISTOPHER LAYING ON HIS STOMACH DOING HIS HANDS LIKE THIS ON THE SKATEBOARD HEADING TO BROADWAY. I PULLED UP BEHIND HIM IN THE CAR. HE DIDN'T EVEN HEAR ME. I HONKED THE HORN. HE TURNED AROUND. HE WAS IT WAS DADDY. AND I'VE TOOK BACK A MILLION TIMES FOR

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... AND I'VE TOOK BACK A MILLION TIMES FOR SPANKING HIM. YOU KNOW, WHEN I TOOK HIM BACK HOME, BUT I TOOK HIM BACK HOME, AND IN THE CAR I SAID, SON, WHAT'S THE RULE WHEN YOU GET OUT OF SCHOOL- COME HOME. I SAID, IF I'M NOT HERE, WHAT ARE YOU SUFPOSED TO DO? - WAIT ON RYAN. I SAID, WHEN RYAN COMES IN AND LETS YOU IN, WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO DO? - WALT RIGHT HERE IN THE YARD. I SAID, WELL WHAT WERE YOU DOING ON YOUR SKATEBOARD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, LAYING DOWN. WELL, I WAS JUST SKATING, DAD. I SAID, WELL SON, YOU KNOW YOU GOT A SPANKING COMING. YES SIR. SO, THERE AT OUR BAR, HE HELD ON TO THE BAR, I GAVE HIM 2 OR 3 LICKS, AND I SAID, NOW I'M GOING TO GET RYAN. YOU KNOW, HIS MOM WAS SITTING RIGHT THERE IN THE KITCHEN. I SAID, NOW I'M GOING TO GET RYAN. YOU CLEAN UP THE PAPER UNDER THE CARPORT HERE. THAT'S THE REST OF YOUR PUNISHMENT, AS SOON AS I GET BACK WITH RYAN. WE'RE GOING TO GO EAT SUPPER. AND I HAVE, YOU KNOW, IF I COULD HAVE TOOK WHIPPING HIM BACK, I'D A DONE IT A MILLION TIMES, BUT I WAS JUST TRYING TO KEEP HIM SAFE. I WAS JUST TRYING, YOU KNOW, TO KEEP FROM SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENING.

RIDGE- I UNDERSTAND.

MARK- YOU KNOW, I JUST, A MILLION TIMES, SON, IF YOU'D OF JUST MINDED ME, THIS ONE TIME. IF YOU'D A JUST MINDED ME, THIS ONE TIME...

SUDBURY- ARE YOU TAKING ANY KIND OF MEDICATION RIGHT NOW? I MEAN, I KNOW YOU SAID YOU, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR MEDICAL HISTORY. YOU SAID YOU HAD BEEN TO THE CLINIC IN MEMPHIS FOR...

MARK- UH, I'VE GOT A BRAIN TUMOR, AND WHAT THEY'RE TRIPMSTO

DO, IS THEY'RE, I'VE BEEN HAVING BLACK OUTS AND EVANT IT SIZE

COOL IN HERE AT TIMES, I JUST POP OUT IN NEWEAT. COMIDENT OF SECUTOR

WHEN I BREAK OUT IN A SWEAT, A BAD MIGRAINE HEADACHE STAPPOSECUTOR

I START GETTING LIKE, TUNNEL VISION, AND THEN I'S LYKE 1993

SOMEBODY FLASHES A CAMERA IN FRONT OF YOU, CAR IT'S JUST LIKE

SPOTS IN FRONT OF ME. SO THEY THOUGHT THE BRAIN ONMOR WAS

GROWING. TWO YEARS AGO THE MRI FOUND IT. SO NOT HAVING, YOU

KNOW, ANY INSURANCE OR ANYTHING, I WAS REFERRED BY THE DOCTOR

TO GO TO THE MONROE CLINIC, AND HE HELPED ME GET IN THERE.

AND THEN THEY DID ANOTHER MRI. AND SAID THE BRAIN TUMOR

DOESN'T SHOW THAT IT'S GROWN VERY LITTLE AND IT HASN'T MOVED

VERY LITTLE, SO IT'S POSSIBLY SOMETHING MEDICAL. SO WE WANT

YOU TO COME BACK ON THE 5TH, AND WE'RE GOING TO RUN SOME

MEDICAL TESTS, THEY SAID, BUT, WE WANT YOU TO START TAKING

TEGRATAL, WHICH IS AN ANTI-SEIZURE MEDICINE TO KEEP,

RIDGE- SO THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE TAKING NOW.

MARK- DILANTANT, I TRIED TO TAKE IT, BUT IT CAUSES YOUR GUMS TO BLEED, AND IT'S REAL BAD ON YOUR TEETH, SO I COULDN'T TAKE IT. SO I TOOK TEGRITAL IS WHAT HE PRESCRIBED FOR ME.

MARK- I HAVE, I'VE PROBABLY TAKEN 7 OR 8 OF THEM SINCE THEN BECAUSE THE SIDE EFFECTS ALL THEY MAKE YOU SLEEPY. SO I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE THEM DURING THE DAY, SO WHENEVER I'D TAKE ONE, IT WOULD JUST BE AT NIGHT WHEN I'D GO TO BED.

SUDBURY- ARE YOU TAKING ANYTHING ELSE?

MARK- TODAY, LIKE I TOLD THE OTHER INSPECTOR, I TOOK A 10 MILLIGRAM VALIUM ABOUT 2 O'CLOCK. MY HEAD WAS JUST POUNDING. AND I TOOK A 10 MILLIGRAM VALIUM, I LAID DOWN IN THE BED, THEN GARY CALLED ME AND SAID YA'LL WANTED TO TALK TO ME AND I SAID, FINE, YOU KNOW. TO COME GET ME, WHATEVER.

SUDBURY- YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY HEALTH INSURANCE. DO YOU HAVE ANY LIFE INSURANCE? DO YOU HAVE ANY LIFE INSURANCE ON EITHER ONE OF YOUR KIDS, OR YOUR WIFE OR,... NONE AT ALL.

MARK- I HAD, WHEN WE HAD OUR STORE. AND IT WAS GOING GOOD, BUT THEN ONE YEAR I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL 5 TIMES WITH THE BRAIN TUMOR. THEY THOUGHT I HAD EPILEPSY AND THEN THEY THOUGHT MAYBE I HAD A BRAIN ANURISM. YOU KNOW, AND THEY WERE JUST KIND OF, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D CALL IT, JUST LOOKING TO TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS WRONG WITH ME. THEY FOUND OUT AT ONE TIME THAT I HAD BIOMENINGITIS, AND THEY THOUGHT MAYBE THAT'S WHAT CAUSED IT. UH, AND IN THE COURSE OF CLOSING MY STORE I LOST MY LIFE INSURANCE, AND THEN I LOST MY MEDICAL INSURANCE AND I HAD TO FILE BANKRUPTCY BECAUSE OF THE MEDICAL BILLS THAT I INCURRED. AND CHRISTOPHER HAD TO HAVE A HIS, LET'S SEE, HIS TONSILS, AND HE HAD A LITTLE HERNIA, (INAUDIBLE) WHEN HE WAS BORN, AND HIS BELLY BUTTON DIDN'T GROW IN, IT GREW OUT. AND HE HADN'T BEEN CIRCUMCISED. SO WE HAD HIM CIRCUMCISED AND THAT HERNIA AND HIS TONSILS ALL DONE AT ONE TIME. AND I HAD INSURANCE AT THE TIME, BUT THEY SAID THE TONSILS WERE PRE-EXISTING, SO THEY WOULDN'T PAY IT. SO I HAD ALL THAT MEDICAL EXPENSE. AND UH, THAT WAS IN POLICE BANKRUPTCY, AND JAN THOMAS, ONCE AGAIN, MANDLED THE confidential BANKRUPTCY.

RIDGE- WHEN WAS THAT?

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MARK- UH, THE BANKRUPTCY...SEEMED LIKE IT WAS FINAL, I WANT TO SAY, FEBRUARY 25TH OF 91, I THINK. JAN'S GOT IT ON RECORD, I KNOW.

RIDGE- OKAY, UH, DO YOU BELIEVE IN WHITE OR BLACK MAGIC?

MARK- DO I BELIEVE IN THE OCCULT OR DEVIL WORSHIPERS?

RIDGE- YEAH.

MARK- IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING ME?

RIDGE- YEAH.

MARK- I BELIEVE THERE ARE DEMONS AND DEVILS, JUST LIKE I BELIEVE THERE ARE ANGELS, AND I BELIEVE THAT SOME PEOPLE CAN BE DEMONICALLY POSSESSED.

RIDGE- DO YOU KNOW ANYBODY AROUND THAT IS REALLY INTO THAT TYPE ...

MARK- NO SIR, I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY. IF I WERE TO SEE SOMEBODY THAT I THOUGHT, I'D RUN AS FAR AS I COULD.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- THE ONLY PERSON IN TOWN HERE THAT I'VE SEEN THAT SEEMED REAL WEIRD TO ME, THERE'S ANOTHER GUY THAT WILL VERIFY THIS. UP AT WALGREENS, YOU KNOW, THE OLDER BLACK GUY THAT SWEEPS UP IN THERE, AND HE WORKS AROUND MCDONALD'S AND ALL, HIM AND I SINCE I HAD MY MOM'S STORE, TALKED, YOU KNOW, WE'RE JUST FRIENDS. AND THERE'S AN OLDER GUY, SEEMED LIKE HE DROVE, SEEMED LIKE I SAW HIM GETTING IN HIS CAR ONE DAY, AND IT SEEMED LIKE IT WAS A DARK BROWN AND WHITE, MAYBE AN 80 MODEL MERCURY MARQUIS. KIND OF AN OLDER GUY, I'M GOING TO SAY, LATE 40'S, EARLY 50'S, MAYBE 6 FOOT, AND I'M GOING TO SAY MAYBE WEIGHED MAYBE 200 POUNDS. AND HE HAD A CROSS TATTOOED RIGHT THERE WITH LITTLE MARKS OUT IN FRONT OF IT.

RIDGE- ON HIS FOREHEAD.

MARK- ON HIS FORE ... RIGHT THERE.

RIDGE- BLACK GUY OR WHITE GUY?

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MARK- WHITE GUY, OLDER WHITE GUY, RIGHT THERE. AND THE OLDER BLACK GUY THAT I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT AND I, I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WAS ABOUT, I MET THIS GUY COMING DOWN THE AISLE, AND I THINK HE WAS SWEEPING AND HE MET HIM AND THEN THE BLACK GUY AND I TURNED AROUND AND STARTED TALKING- WE SAID, DID YOU SEE THAT GUY, TATTOO ON HIS HEAD AND ALL, AND WE COMMENTED ABOUT, MAN HE LOOKED WEIRD, DIDN'T HE. YOU KNOW, SO RIGHT NOW, THAT'S THE ONLY REALLY WEIRD PERSON THAT I CAN THINK OF.

RIDGE- HAVE YOU EVER BEEN SEXUALLY OR MENTALLY ABUSED AT ALL?

MARK- NO SIR.

RIDGE- NEITHER ONE.

MARK- YOU KNOW, MENTALLY, NO SIR. MY PARENTS, YOU KNOW, WERE GOOD PARENTS.

RIDGE- ALL RIGHT. DO YOU KNOW OF ANY...

MARK- NO RELATIVES OR ANYTHING, NO.

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RIDGE- DO YOU KNOW ANY FRIENDS OF THESE BOYS THAT MAY HAVE PLAYED REGULARLY DOWN THERE IN ROBINHOOD?

MARK- PERIODICALLY, JUST ALMOST EVERY KID IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD, HAS SEEMED LIKE IT'S HARD FOR THEIR PARENTS TO KEEP THEM OUT OF THERE. I MEAN, ALL THEM TRAILS THAT YA'LL SEE OUT THERE WERE MADE BY A LOT OF KIDS GOING IN AND OUT THROUGH THERE FOR YEARS. I'VE TALKED TO GUYS THAT ARE NOW LIKE, 25, SAID I WAS PLAYING OUT THERE WHEN I WAS 10 YEARS OLD.

RIDGE- OKAY. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING HERE TODAY? YOU THINK WE'RE DOING A GOOD JOB? YOU THINK WE'RE WASTING TIME? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

MARK- JUST FROM WHAT I HAVE READ IN MY 36 YEARS OF LIFE, AND WHAT I'VE SEEN ON T.V. IN MY 36 YEARS, AS YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE SEEN PROBABLY MANY MORE TERRIBLE CRIMES THAN I HAVE. I'VE ONLY SEEN IT ON T.V. BUT I HAVE SEEN ON T.V., AND OF COURSE, THE NEWS MEDIA, WHERE AT TIMES, THINGS LIKE THIS, LIKE THE WARD BOY, A FEW YEARS AGO. I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT, WHAT, 15, 16-YEAR-OLD BOY DID THAT, BUT HE DID. SO I KNOW THAT AT TIMES IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SOME FAMILY MEMBER COULD HAVE DONE THIS. UH, ...

RIDGE- DO YOU FEEL GOOD ABOUT US COVERING ALL THE BASES?

MARK- YES.

RIDGE- DO YOU FEEL GOOD ABOUT US ASKING YOU QUESTIONS WEST MEMPHIS POLIC

MARK- I DRAW NO OFFENSE FROM YOU ASKING ME A QUESTION ARCUSECUTOR THIS, BECAUSE I KNOW IN MY HEART, AND I 100P HERETO. PROSECUTOR

RIDGE- OKAY. WELL WHAT I WANT TO SAY RIGHT NOW, AND WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY IS THAT, I MAY HAVE INFORMATION, THIS INFORMATION SUGGESTS STRONGLY THAT YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE BOYS. AND ULTIMATELY OF THE MURDER. OKAY. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO THAT?

MARK- MY FIRST RESPONSE IS I CAN'T FANTON WHERE YOU WOULD GET THAT...

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- AND IT MAKES ME SO MAD INSIDE THAT I JUST KIND OF GOT TO HOLD MYSELF HERE IN THIS CHAIR...

RIDGE- OKAY. WHO, OF ALL THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW, MIGHT MAKE THAT KIND OF SUGGESTION?

MARK- I WOULDN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA.

Oujoi2

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- IF I DID, IT WOULD MAKE ME WANT TO HIT 'EM. YOU KNOW, IT WOULD MAKE ME MAD TO THINK THAT SOMEONE MAYBE HAS SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT ABOUT ME. IT MAKES ME MAD.

RIDGE- LET'S GO A LITTLE FURTHER WITH IT THEN.

MARK- OKAY.

RIDGE- IF WE FIND THE PERSON THAT DID THIS, AND YOU KNOW THERE'S ALWAYS A GOOD CHANCE OF THAT. IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.

MARK- I HOPE YOU DO FIND THE PERSON. I PRAY EVERY NIGHT YOU FIND THE PERSON.

RIDGE- IF THIS PERSON IS FOUND TO BE MENTALLY SICK, JUST CRAZY, DO YOU THINK HE'S GOING TO BE REHABILITED EVER TO GO BACK ON THE STREET AGAIN? DO YOU THINK HE SHOULD BE GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE?

MARK- NO, BECAUSE FROM WHAT JOHN FOGLEMAN TOLD ME THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS, HE COULDN'T SEE HOW THEY COULD PLEAD INSANITY CAUSE THEY TRIED TO COVER UP THEIR CRIME. AND HE PROMISED ME IN GARY GITCHELL'S OFFICE WITH THE OTHER FATHER'S IN THERE THAT IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT AGE THEY WERE, THAT HE WAS GOING TO PROSECUTE 'EM AS AN ADULT AND HE WOULD TRY FOR THE DEATH PENALTY, AND THEN IN THE PAPER, IT SAID IN THE PAPER THAT THEY COULD NOT GET OFF ON SAYING THEY WERE MENTALLY SICK BECAUSE THEY TRIED TO COVER IT UP. AND IN A WARLING MEROLIC TO SUBJECT OF THE PAPER THAT JUST CAN'T FANTON, IT'S ALMOST MORNIES OF CONFIDENCE.

RIDGE- YOU DON'T BELIEVE ANYBODY COCOPYCOLO YOU. 1993
MARK- I CAN'T..NO, I CAN'T SEE ANYBODY MCUSING ME.

RIDGE- FOR THE SAKE OF THIS INTERVIEW, IT WAS TO GET A RESPONSE. WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOUR RESPONSE IS. AND I'M NOT SAYING ANYBODY MADE THAT ACCUSATION. OKAY. BUT, I HAD TO EVOKE THAT RESPONSE FROM YOU. I HAD TO KNOW WHAT YOUR RESPONSE WAS. YOU UNDERSTAND THAT? DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

MARK- I PROBABLY WILL. I DON'T RIGHT NOW. IT HURTS.

RIDGE- IT HURTS ME TO HAVE TO ASK IT, AS MUCH AS I KNOW IT HURTS YOU WHEN I SAW YOUR RESPONSE.

SUDBURY- MR. BRANCH, WE'RE GOING TO TALK TO THE OTHER FATHERS TO....

MARK- BYERS, MR. BYERS.

000013

SUDBURY- I'M SORRY, MR. BYERS. WE'RE BEEN TALKING SO LONG UP HERE. WE ARE GOING TO ASK, WE'RE GOING TO INTERVIEW THE OTHER TWO FATHERS.

RIDGE- AND WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO GET THE SAME RESPONSE.

SUDBURY- AND WE'RE GOING TO ASK THEM THE SAME QUESTIONS. AND I THINK WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT EVERYTHING WE'VE TALKED ABOUT, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHY WE'RE DOING THIS.

RIDGE- IT'S NOT TO HURT YOU. IT'S TO GET TO THE TRUTH.

SUDBURY- BUT I DO WANT TO ASK YOU...

MARK- JUST TELL ME ONE THING.

RIDGE- OKAY.

MARK- MAN TO MAN, YOU TELL MAN TO MAN, I DON'T CARE ON THE RECORD OR OFF THE RECORD...

RIDGE- UH HUH.

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RIDGE- MAN TO MAN, I KNOW THAT.

MARK- AND I COULD LITERALLY SQUEEZECORY ANIMAL THAT DID IT.

I'M GOING TO CONCLUDE THIS INTERVIEW. RIDGE- OKAY.

SUDBURY- MR. BYERS, IS THERE SOMEONE THAT YOU THINK WE NEED

MARK- IF I COULD THINK OF 'EM, I'D SURELY TELL YOU. I'VE THOUGHT OF WHO.

RIDGE- I'M GOING TO CONCLUDE THIS INTERVIEW.

MARK- YOU KNOW, MIKE, (INAUDIBLE) THOSE ARE THE NAMES THAT I TRIED TO TELL YOU.

RIDGE- IT'S 6:38.

PAGE 32



POLICE DEPARTMENT
100 Court Street - West Memphis, Arkansas 72301 - (501) 735-1210

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION REQUEST FOR FINGERPRIAT CHECK

CRIME: Homical	SQUAD: CID
VICTIM: Byen More-Branch	ADDRESS:
SUSPECTS NAME:	Tad Set
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RESULTS OF THE EXAMINATION WERE: PO	SITIVE NEGATIVE
LETTER WILL BE SENT: YES	NO 001330



CITY OF WEST MEMPHIS

POLICE DEPARTMENT
100 Court Street - West Memphis, Arkansas 72301 - (501) 735-1210

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION REQUEST FOR FINGERPRINT CHECK

CRIME: Hornicul	SQUAD: CID
VICTIM: Sugar Mone-Branch	ADDRESS:
SUSPECTS NAME:	Just Set
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LETTER WILL BE SENT: YES	 001379
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CITY OF WEST MEMPHIS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

100 Court Street - West Memphis, Arkansas 72301 - (501) 735-1210

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION REQUEST FOR FINGERPRINT CHECK

crime: Homicicle	SQUAD: CID
VICTIM: Baw-Mone-Branch	ADDRESS:
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A LETTER WILL BE SENT: YES	



CITY OF WEST MEMPHIS

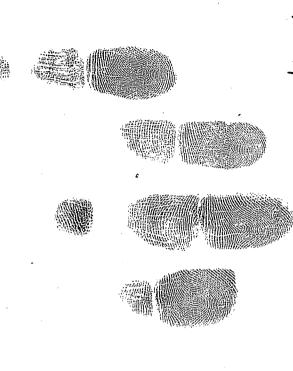
POLICE DEPARTMENT
100 Court Street - West Memphis, Arkansas 72301 - (501) 735-1210

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West Memphis Police Department

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