

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMIE CLARK BALLARD

State of Arkansas)
) ss.
County of Pope)

Before the undersigned Notary Public, duly qualified and acting in and for said county and state, appeared Jamie Clark Ballard, to me well known to be the affiant herein, who stated the following under oath:

- "1. My name is Jamie Clark Ballard. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
- 2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
- 3. In 1993, I was a neighbor of Terry Hobbs and Pam Hobbs in West Memphis, Arkansas. Specifically on May 5, 1993, I lived three doors down the street from Terry and Pam Hobbs and their children, Stevie Branch and Amanda Hobbs. I lived at 1609 S. McAuley Street. If you were to walk out of my house, the Hobbs' house would be 3 doors down to the left.
- 4. Stevie Branch was murdered in the Robin Hood Hills area of West Memphis, Arkansas, on or about May 5, 1993 along with two of his little friends, Christopher Byers and Michael Moore. The little boys were 8 years old. I was 13 years old at the time of the murders and I was friends with Ryan Clark, who was the brother of Christopher Byers. I knew Stevie because he was a neighborhood kid that I saw and spoke to. Stevie had real blond hair that was spiked up, and he was always easy to spot. I also knew Christopher Byers because I was good

friends with Ryan, his brother. I knew Michael Moore because he lived across the street from Ryan Clark and Christopher Byers and he was a good friend of Christopher Byers.

5. I often saw Terry Hobbs on McAuley Street, as well as Stevie Branch, Amanda Hobbs and Pam Hobbs. Terry and Pam were frequently outside watching their kids and neighborhood kids playing. As a kid in the neighborhood, I would see Terry Hobbs as I was coming and going from school, and as I was playing in the neighborhood. Stevie and other kids played regularly in the neighborhood yards and streets. I knew Terry Hobbs as the step-father of Stevie Branch and could recognize him when I saw him outside in the neighborhood.
6. As I said, I was good friends with Ryan Clark, the son of Mark Byers and the brother of Christopher Byers. On May 5, 1993, I walked home from school with Ryan Clark, like I did most days. On my way home, I passed the Byers' house. Mark Byers was in the driveway yelling to Ryan, telling him to find his brother, Christopher, and to tell him to come home. This happened at approximately 3:15 – 3:30 PM on May 5, 1993.
7. I got home to my house at approximately 3:45 PM on May 5, 1993.
8. Later in the evening, approximately between 5:30 and 6:30 PM, I saw Stevie Branch, Michael Moore and Christopher Byers playing in my backyard. My backyard is very large. There were not any privacy fences behind the two houses between my house and the Hobbs' house, or behind my house. So Stevie, Michael and Christopher had come down and were playing in my backyard. It was easy to see the boys in my backyard because my house had a big picture window that

looks out on the backyard. The boys were just playing and screwing around.

Stevie was riding a bike. There was also a bayou and a ditch in the backyard. I remember my mother did not like kids playing in the backyard because she was scared somebody could get hurt in the bayou and the ditch. Stevie, Michael and Christopher were playing around the ditch.

9. I was active in my church and attended Wednesday night church youth group meetings with my sister, Brandy. Some people from church would pick us up to take us to the meetings. At 6:30 PM on May 5, 1993, which was a Wednesday, my sister and I went out the front door of my house to go out to the car to meet the people who were picking us up to take us to Wednesday night youth group.
10. As I came out into the front yard, I saw Stevie Branch, Michael Moore, and Christopher Byers come racing between my house and the house next door that was in the direction of the Hobbs' house. As Stevie, Michael and Christopher came zooming by, I yelled to Christopher, "Christopher, Ryan says for you to get home!" because I remembered that Mark Byers had told Ryan to find Christopher and get him home. Christopher smarted off to me and said, "I don't have to do what you say!" I shrugged and said, "Okay, don't go home."
11. While I was out in the front yard in the evening of May 5, 1993, Terry Hobbs hollered at Stevie, Michael and Christopher to get back down to the Hobbs' house. I recall that Stevie was on a bike. I could see that Stevie's much younger sibling, a little girl, was playing down at the Hobbs' house in their driveway. It looked like Terry was telling the boys to get back down to the Hobbs' house because

Terry Hobbs was watching Stevie's sister play and wanted all the kids together. Then, I got in the car and went to church.

12. On the night of May 5, 1993, I came back from church at approximately 8 PM. I did not see any kids out on the street at that time. I did not see Terry Hobbs at that time. I also did not see any police on the street. I had no idea that that kids were missing. There was no evidence that there was a search going on for the little boys.
13. The next day, I saw Ryan at school and he was very upset. Ryan told me that the boys had never come home and that the police had found the bodies of the Stevie, Michael and Christopher. Ryan was so upset. When he told me that the boys had been killed, I said something like, "What, I just saw your brother last night playing in my backyard!" Ryan was crying and said to me, "Why didn't you tell my brother to come home?" That really upset me and I told Ryan, "I did tell him to come home!" They let out school and everyone went home soon after that.
14. Following the murders, the police never came to interview me or my family. In fact, after the murders, I do not recall ever seeing any police vehicles on my street or seeing any police interviewing any of the people in my neighborhood.
15. If Terry Hobbs said he did not see Stevie Branch, Michael Moore, or Christopher Byers on May 5, 1993, he is not telling the truth. I know for a fact that Terry Hobbs saw, was with, and spoke to Stevie, Michael, or Christopher on May 5, 1993. I am absolutely, completely and totally positive that I saw Stevie, Michael and Christopher in my backyard and headed back to Terry Hobbs' house on the evening of May 5, 1993. I am also absolutely, completely and totally positive that

I saw Terry Hobbs hollering at Stevie, Michael and Christopher to get back down to the Hobbs' house on May 5, 1993 at approximately 6:30 PM. I cannot imagine why Terry Hobbs would claim that he did not see Stevie, Michael or Christopher at all on May 5, 1993.

16. Following the murders, I was aware that there was a search in West Memphis for the killer or killers. I also knew that the West Memphis Three were convicted of the murders. However, I was not aware until very recently that Terry Hobbs has repeatedly stated that he did not see Stevie, Michael, or Christopher at all on the evening of May 5, 1993. In fact, it is my understanding that Terry Hobbs has stated that he did not see Stevie or the boys at all the whole day of May 5, 1993. Terry Hobbs' claim that he did not see the boys on May 5, 1993 simply was not made public in the news reports or papers that I read. Had I know that Terry Hobbs had claimed that he did not see Stevie Branch, Christopher Byers, or Michael Moore at all on May 5, 1993, I would have stepped forward immediately to provide the above information.

17. I am now 29 years old. I remember these events very clearly because it was all very upsetting, because it has all stood out in my mind through the years, and because Ryan was such a close friend. Everything I have said above is the total truth. When something touches your heart like this horrible crime did, and touches people you know and care about, you just remember it very clearly, like I have these events."

Further the affiant sayeth naught.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this ___ day of _____,
2009.

JAMIE CLARK BALLARD

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ___ day of _____, 2009.

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____