

# ARKANSAS STATE CRIME LABORATORY



Mike Beebe  
Governor

May 30, 2008



Kermit B. Channel II  
Executive Director

Mr. Brent Davis  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Second Judicial District  
P.O. Box 491  
Jonesboro, AR 72403



Re: ME-329-93 James Michael Moore  
ME-330-93 Steve Edward Branch  
ME-331-93 Christopher Mark Byers

Dear Mr. Davis:

In discussions with various privately retained forensic pathologists regarding the autopsy reports referenced above, the following information should be noted:

First, Dr. William Q. Sturner, (the Chief Medical Examiner at the time of the autopsies) and I personally examined the bodies of the three boys along with Dr. Kevin Dugan, a forensic dentist. Dr. Dugan's finding that none of the wounds appeared to be human bite marks was subsequently corroborated by Dr. Harry Mincer.

Second, as part of the autopsy process, tissue samples were taken from some of the superficial and penetrating wounds. When examined grossly and microscopically these samples demonstrated presence of hemorrhage, clearly indicative of antemortem injury and not postmortem animal activity.

Third, physical examination of the penetrating wounds showed a lack of soft tissue bridging typical of wounds caused by tearing or biting. These wounds did show clearly incised edges, indicating they were caused by a sharp instrument.

Finally, I have consulted with Dr. Charles Kokes (the current Chief Medical Examiner) regarding the autopsies and he concurs in the findings made and the conclusions drawn from them.

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