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STATE'S EXHIBIT #9
File containing letters

Sim Morgan Correspondence

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LAW OFFICES

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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 4-19-96

SENT TO: Jim Morgan

COMPANY NAME: _____

FAX NUMBER: 501-666-1247

2 PAGES TO FOLLOW

PLEASE CONFIRM _____ NO CONFIRMATION NECESSARY _____

MESSAGE: _____

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005782

ADD 4231

Friday, January 28th, 1994

The Mistelley trial has been hearing testimony for 3 days now. Danny will start calling witnesses Monday. Danny seems to be holding up okay. Wes just having a hard time sleeping. I feel like the boys may be showing a little stress. They are pretty clingy to me & Daniel is acting up @ times. I try to keep them from hearing the graphic details, but they pretty much know it all.

005783

Friday February 4th, 1994

Jessie Misskelley was found guilty of one count 1st degree murder, and two counts 2nd degree. Danny's glad he didn't get capital murder, but feels bad that he's in jail at all. Will appeal. I wonder what the real killer thinks about this mess - or did he (?) just go on & not look back? It seemed weird hearing Danny come home & stay home this afternoon & night. We actually went to Walmart after dinner. As I was checking out, 3 employees stopped to tell me they'd been watching the trial on tv. & felt that Danny had done a good job. One lady said she "felt" for us - especially Danny, "having to go through all of that." I thought that was really nice of her - most people wouldn't think about that. During this, Danny is in the aisle behind the checkouts watching Nicole run around - he seemed a little out of place. (After so much to do & so much pressure - all of sudden he was just passing time.) I wonder if things go back to "normal" this quickly? We'll see.

Friday, January 28th, 1994

The Mistelley trial has been hearing testimony for 3 days now. Danny will start calling witnesses Monday. Danny seems to be holding up okay. We're just having a hard time sleeping. I feel like the boys may be showing a little stress. They are pretty clingy to me & Daniel is acting up @ times. I try to keep them from hearing the graphic details, but they pretty much know it all.

005786

Friday, February 4th, 1994

Jessie Whiskelley was found guilty of one count 1st degree murder, and two counts 2nd degree. Danny's glad he didn't get capital murder, but feels bad that he's in jail at all. Will appeal. I wonder what the real killer thinks about this mess - or did he (?) just go on & not look back? It seemed weird hearing Danny come home & stay home this afternoon & night. I'll actually went to Wal-Mart after dinner. As I was checking out, 3 employees stopped to tell me they'd been watching the trial on tv & felt that Danny had done a good job. One lady said she "felt" for us - especially Danny, "having to go through all of that" I thought that was really nice of her - most people wouldn't think about that. During this, Danny is in the aisle behind the checkouts watching Nicole run around - he seemed a little out of place. (After so much to do & so much pressure - all of sudden he was just passing time.) I wonder if things go back to "normal" this quickly? We'll see.

005735

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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 5-9-96

SENT TO: Jim Morgan

COMPANY NAME: _____

FAX NUMBER: 501-666-1247

3 PAGES TO FOLLOW

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005777

May 8, 1996

Via Fax 501-666-1247

Dear Jim:

In reviewing my file, I discovered phone messages the first week of my representation from the following national media outlets:

1. NBC NEWS DATELINE
2. ABC NEWS 20/20
3. ABC NEWS (Peter Jennings)
4. Current Affair
5. Time Magazine
6. New York Times
7. Inside Edition; and
8. Independent film maker (HBO documentary)

I don't know if I told you or not but I have turned down appearances on "Geraldo", "Rolanda," and "Maury Povich." I have been contacted by "Donahue" and "Sally Jessie Rafael" but was not invited to appear.

The interrogation of Misskelley on June 3, 1993, lasted from 9:00 a.m. until approximately 9:00 p.m. The taped part of the interrogation began at 2:44 p.m. and lasted until 3:18 p.m., 24 minutes. The second part of the taped interrogation, which was done to "clarify" the obvious and incorrect parts of Jessie's ridiculous story wasn't even documented time wise. But it lasted approximately 12 minutes.

I called Brad Broadway, the quotes which I have attributed to him are correct.

005778

In addition, I called Judge Goodson and candidly asked him about the day I was appointed. He indicated that he had no problem with me stating that he had given me the option to refuse. Thus, it would be fine to say that when he called, my first reaction was one of absolute horror, and that's why I asked him for time to consider the endeavor and talk to Greg. When I was unable to reach Crow, I had to make a decision. I talked to my wife and suprisingly she encouraged me to get involved in the case.

I didn't go out and volunteer for the job, and I could have walked away from it. Something inside told me not too. As we discussed, I take my responsibility as an attorney very seriously, and I vehemently believe that everyone is entitled to a defense no matter how heinous the crime. I am glad that I did not try to shun my responsibility to my profession. I have taken on several unpopular causes and clients in my career as a criminal defense attorney. Each experience has been a learning one both professionally and personally.

The Misskelley case changed my life forever. Although the case has taken a considerable toll on both me and my family, I would not trade the experience for anything. Because of it I am a better father, a better husband, and a better lawyer.

After the Arkansas Supreme Court affirmed Jessie's convictions, I was compelled to reexamine my choice of professions. After sorting through the bitter disappointment, my reexamination led me to an even stronger faith in our criminal justice system and an even greater determination to continue the fight. My father once told me that adversity builds character. I hope to turn this adversity into a new trial for Jessie Misskelley.

The other day after the Arkansas Supreme Court's decision, another lawyer here in Paragould said to me "why don't you just forget it and get on with your life." I told him that I just can't forget about this innocent kid. I sincerely have trouble sleeping at night considering the magnitude of this terrible injustice. Besides, it's the right thing to do, and I made a promise to this kid that I would never give up. It may sound corny, but I intend to keep that promise.

Sorry this simple letter turned into much more than I intended. If you need anything else let me know.

Dan Stidham

P.S.- Crow and I did have disagreements over certain issues that arose during the case. While the stress of the trial and subsequent appeal did cause considerable strain on our partnership, both interpersonally and financially, it was not a direct reason for the dissolution of our partnership. Our dissolution can best be described as basically our lives taking different paths. Greg is a very fine lawyer and he and I are still great friends. Although he and I are no longer partners, he has graciously agreed to help with Jessie's further appeals, help that I am most grateful for, and sincerely appreciate.

005780

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4.30.96

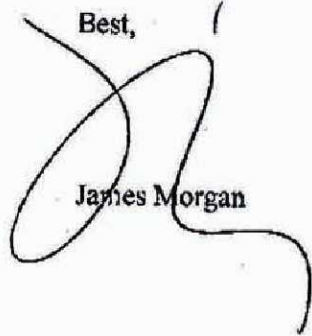
TO: DAN STIDHAM
FROM: JIM MORGAN

Dear Dan:

Hope you caught some fish. I'm out of town this week, but have sent the rough draft of the piece to Max Brantley at *Arkansas Times*. He may be calling you to set up photo of you and Kim.

But before the piece runs, I've still got lots to do on it. It's way too long, and I need about a half hour of your time to go over fact checking, etc. I'll call you first of the week to finish up on it.

Best,



James Morgan

005781