

**AFFIDAVIT OF SHARON FRENCH**

State of Arkansas    )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Craighead)

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

- “1. My name is Sharon French. I am 51 years old. I was born in 1952. I reside in Jonesboro, Arkansas. I was a juror in the criminal trial of Damien Echols and Jason Baldwin.
2. I made it clear prior to being seated as a juror that I knew about the Jessie Misskelley case through the newspaper and having seen stories about him and his case on television.
3. I was aware that Misskelley had confessed to the police. As noted, I believe I made my knowledge of these matters clear during the jury selection process.
4. During the course of the trial, all of the jurors got along well. It was my view that we did our jobs as jurors in a conscientious manner.
5. I recall that many days that testimony was presented during the trial, we jurors would talk to one another in the jury room using our notes to help us understand what was going on. We all read from our notes to each other at

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the end of the day, or in the mornings. We did this in the jury room where we gathered during breaks in the trial, and whenever we were excluded from the courtroom due to issues discussed outside of our hearing. This is also the room in which we had our deliberations.

6. My recollection of this process of daily reviewing our notes with one another is that it permitted us to assess whether we had missed something, or did not write down a matter of significance during the course of the testimony. I recall reading to other jurors from my notes, and it was clear to me that certain other jurors had missed matters that I had noted. I found that this process helped me to better understand the evidence at trial.
7. As a result of this daily process of observing witnesses and reviewing notes, and daily discussions with my fellow jurors, and based on my view of the evidence as I was hearing it in court, it was clear to me even before the deliberations that the defendants were guilty.
8. During the course of the jury deliberations, I believe that Kent Arnold, the jury foreman, wrote notes on large pieces of paper stating the pros and cons under the name of each defendant, and under the names of each witness that we considered to be a key witness. We did this by going over our notes, and discussing our views about the case.
9. My recollection is that during the course of the jury deliberations I reached a decision both on guilt and penalty based on the evidence that was

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presented during the guilt trial.

10. Based on the evidence I heard, Damien Echols was the leader and bore more responsibility. Jason Baldwin was more of a follower. I recall that the vote on penalty was clear, and only took one vote for each defendant. We voted on paper.
11. During the trial we learned that Damien Echols was a manic depressive. Investigator Tom Quinn has shown me copies of the large sheets of paper that we used to lay out our views of each defendant and each key witness. He has asked me what I remember of the notation of "manic depressant" under the column "pro" on the large piece of paper related to Damien Echols that was prepared during our deliberations. I specifically recall that Kent Arnold, the foreman of the jury, explained that his brother was manic depressive. He also explained to the jurors that when a manic depressive goes off his or her medication, that person will do things out of the ordinary. This explanation was of assistance to me because I did not know what manic depression was until Kent Arnold explained it. Because Kent Arnold had personal, family experience, with manic depression, I believed his explanation.
12. In my view attorney Paul Ford, who represented Jason Baldwin, was the best cross-examiner in the courtroom. Either Mr. Ford made a mistake by not putting on testimony on behalf of his client Jason Baldwin, or it may be

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ADD01356

that he had no defense to present. I had expected that the Baldwin defense would present testimony if it was available. We had no testimony about where Baldwin was either the day of the crime or the day after the crime that suggested anything other than Baldwin's involvement. Baldwin never testified in his own behalf.

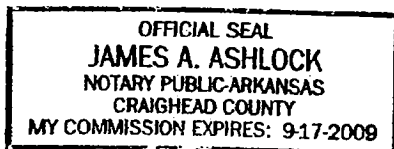
13. I recalled having retained my juror notes after the trial. I have been asked to look for the notes. I have not located them.
14. I have read the foregoing statements and state that they are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief."


Further the affiant sayeth naught.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 6<sup>th</sup> day of 2004,  
2004.

  
SHARON FRENCH

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8 day of June, 2004.



  
Notary Public

My commission expires: 9-17-09

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