

AFFIDAVIT OF AMY T. MATHIS

State of ARKANSAS)
) ss.
County of CRAIGHHEAD)

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

- “1. I, Amy Mathis, DOB [REDACTED] - 77, moved to Crittenden County, Arkansas when I was about 5 years old. My family and I then lived in Hardin Village, located in Marion, Arkansas.
- 2. I attended Marion High School beginning in 1990, and I graduated in ~~1993~~ ⁵⁻²²⁻⁰⁴
- 3. While I was attending school in Marion, I met all three of the young men who were charged in the killings of three boys in West Memphis, Arkansas in 1993, Jason Baldwin, Damien Echols, and Jessie Misskelley.
- 4. I believe I met Jason in the 7th grade. I remember being in an art class with him in the 9th grade. The art class was taught by Mrs. Ware, who was a good teacher. The introductory course was Art 1, which began with a semester of drawing, and then another semester of painting.
- 5. Mrs. Ware's art classes met every day, for at least one hour. I was also with Jason in Art 2, a more advanced class.
- 6. I had a biology class with Jason in the 10th grade. That class was taught by

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a teacher named Coach Kirby. I remember Jason brought a pet iguana named Ozzie to this biology class.

7. Jason Baldwin sat right behind me in biology class (a two semester course), and in art.
8. My impression of Jason was that he was quiet and gentle. I was aware that he was not in the same social group that I was in. All three of the persons who were charged in the murders, Jason, Damien, and Jessie, were, as far as I knew, from poor areas. Their appearance was typical of people who came from poorer neighborhoods.
9. By stating this, I mean no disrespect to them. I am describing the way people in our age group tended to categorize people by their appearance, the people they socialized with, the area of town they lived in, and the way they handled themselves.
10. Jason looked like someone who liked rock and roll. He would draw things that reflected his interest in heavy metal bands that were popular at the time.
11. In his behavior he was shy and sweet. I recall that I asked him to touch my hair while we were in class, which is something I found soothing. Some of my friends made comments about that, and made fun of it because Jason and I were from different social groups. I was comfortable, however, because of the way he handled himself.
12. I remember that art class was held early in the day. Biology was taught

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later in the day in the 6th or 7th period. My recollection is that Jason regularly attended class, and was not absent from school very often.

13. There was nothing about Jason's behavior, or about his art work, that made me think he was interested in violence or Satanism. If he was fixated on anything it was rock and roll. I recall that Mrs. Ware thought that Jason was a good artist, but that he should expand his art more because he liked to draw album covers.
14. I was very surprised when I heard that Jason Baldwin was arrested and charged with the murders of the three boys who were killed in West Memphis in 1993.
15. I also knew Damien Echols. I probably spent more time talking to Damien than to Jason, in part because Damien was more talkative. My recollection is that Damien was a guy who needed attention. He would act in weird ways to draw attention to himself.
16. I remember I had a physical science class with Damien. He would do things like lighting his pen on fire, or drawing on his desk. I believe he did these things so people would pay attention to him. He would also say things to provoke people.
17. I did not view Damien as scary. My sense is that he did things to call attention to himself.
18. I also knew Jessie Misskelley. I remember that he got into fights from time

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to time. He had a fairly simple sense of humor.

19. My sense is that Jason, Damien, and Jessie were not viewed as mainstream by most of the people we went to school with. Part of the reason for that, as I have said, is that they came from a poorer and more deprived background than many of us did."

Further the affiant sayeth naught.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of May,

2006.

Amy Mathis
AMY T. MATHIS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of May, 2006.

Kimberly Junyor
Notary Public

My commission expires: 11-10-09



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