

of mine named Dennis Dent was living in the trailer with my sons and me. Everybody used to call him Dink.

6. In May of 1993 my son Jason was attending Marion High School. I was working for a trucking company called Customized Transportation. It was located in Memphis. At times, I worked there between the hours of 2 to 10 p.m.. At other times I worked from 3 pm to 11 pm. I was working 3 to 11 pm at the time of the killings of the three boys. By the time I drove home, it would be around 11:30 p.m.
7. I did my best to make sure that my sons had rules to live by, and I tried to make sure that they followed those rules, even when I was working. I wanted Jason to be at home by a certain time during school nights. I would call home from my work place several times a day and talk to the boys.
8. Our home was next to the lake in the middle of the trailer park. I recall it being about 3 or 4 city blocks from the paved road that ran past the entrance to the Lakeshore Trailer Park. The trailer homes were not organized in city blocks, but it was about a 10 minute walk from the trailer out to the little store near the entrance where we used to purchase things. There were trailers on each side of the road that we lived on, and there were usually people out and about at all hours of the day or night, though it was quieter at night than during the day. Even though I had a car to go to and from work, my sons did not drive the car. Unless I gave him a ride, Jason usually walked places he wanted to go. It was a long walk to West Memphis from

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our home.

9. I called home every day from work to find out when my boys got home from school. I would usually call home several times every day that I was at work to check in on the boys.
10. Jason was going to school regularly until he was arrested. He had to be in school by 8 a.m. every day. He and Matt used to ride the same school bus together. I do not remember his missing school, particularly during the time those young boys were killed in West Memphis in May of 1993. Though Jason was a teenager at the time, he was a good boy, and a good son, and I could count on him to be at home when I told him to be. Also, most of the time after Jason turned 14 or 15, Jason would babysit the younger boys. Jason would always get breakfast for my other children in the morning, and he would get his two younger brothers off to school each morning because I was usually resting at that time. I counted on him to do that, and he did. I would look in on my boys to make sure they were in bed and asleep when I got home between 11 and midnight.
11. When I got home from work, I would usually make myself something to eat. It would take me several hours to relax from being at work. Some nights I would watch the television for a couple of hours before going to sleep. At other times I would relax on the couch. I would always stay at home during the work week when I got home.
12. I know that I checked on my sons, including Jason, on the night of May 5,

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1993 after I returned home from work, which I know was the night that the three young boys went missing. I know that the boys were found dead on May 6, 1993. I know that Jason was in school both of those days.

13. I was shocked when my son was arrested. I couldn't believe it because I had not seen any signs or evidence that would have led me to believe that he had anything to do with the killings of those three boys. Jason was always a pretty quiet boy. He was interested in the pets and wildlife we had around the area. He was not the kind of boy who liked to fight or do harm to living things. He never acted like somebody who had been involved in the killings of three boys. I know my son. He is not the kind of person who could have been involved in the killing of another person and simply shaken it off, not told anyone, and gone to school the next day, acting and looking perfectly normal.
14. After my son was arrested, I remember that I met with a Detective of the West Memphis Police Department. I wanted to show the police that my son was innocent. I remember calling the police and talking to Detective Gitchell right after Jason was arrested to tell him that Jason had nothing to do with the killings. Detective Gitchell told me that if I could show that Jason was in school that would help show that he was not involved in the crime. I showed him school records that I had gone to the high school in Marion to get. I had met with the Marion High School principal with my husband Terry Grinnell, and I had been given my son's school records.

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Those records showed that he was in school both on May 5 and on May 6, 1993. I explained to the Detective that I knew my son was innocent. I believe he tape-recorded that interview, and I believe it is clear that I provided him information about my son.

15. The West Memphis detectives told me that if my son would talk to the police and explain where he was, that would help him.
16. My son always denied that he had any involvement with the killings. After a while, his lawyers told my family and me not to talk to Jason about the case. But Jason would tell me that he didn't have anything to do with the killings.
17. The prosecutors and the police also asked me about my behavior from time to time. I had a very difficult time after my son was arrested. I have had some hardships and emotional breakdowns in my life. I was devastated when my son was arrested. I remember the police asked me why I had been angry at my former husband Terry, and had accused him of turning Jason in to the police. They seemed to be more interested in those sorts of things than in other information about where Jason really was at the time of the killings. I tried to explain that I didn't know why I behaved as I did sometimes. It was so upsetting and difficult for me then, and it is still hard to cope with the fact that my son Jason has been in prison for years.
18. I remember that at the time my son was arrested, I tried to help his lawyers by locating people that he had been with on May 5 and May 6, 1993. I

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learned that he had been playing a video game at a local Walmart store, or at some other location near Walmart, and that he might have been seen by a friend of his there. I had also found out that he had an arrangement to go cut his uncle Hubert Bartoush's grass after school on May 5, the day before the three dead boys were found. I also explained that he had to get up early to catch the school bus so that he could be at Marion High School by 8 a.m.

19. I was open with the lawyers who represented my son, Paul Ford and Robin Wadley. I answered their questions. I did my best to help them. I know that they thought I was upset and very emotional about my son's situation. But I told them the truth, and I also told the police and the prosecutors the truth.
20. If I had been called as a witness at Jason's trial, I would have given truthful testimony about what I knew about his schedule during the week of May 5 and 6, 1993. I would have provided truthful information about my efforts to find out where my son was on those two days, and would have provided the Court any and all information, including his school records, names of friends that he was in contact with at the time, and the like, so that they could have been called as witnesses to confirm that my son was engaged in normal activities on those two days, and could not have been in Robin Hood Woods.
21. I know that I was in the habit of checking on my sons when I returned home from work, and I would have known and been concerned if Jason had not

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been at home on a school night. That did not happen, he was always at home. He had to be at home so he could catch the school bus early the next morning.

22. Also, in early May, 1993, at the time the three boys were killed, I slept in the living room of our home on the couch. I would have known if my son had come and gone during the night or early morning, especially because I didn't go to sleep right away after returning home from work. I was usually up for several hours before I dozed off on the couch.. Our windows still had plastic coverings on them. You could only get into, and out of, our home through the door. I did not sleep very well, and I used to stay awake for hours. My son Jason did not sneak in and out of the trailer, and I could count on his sleeping through the night until the early morning hours when he would get ready to go to school.
23. As a mother who has done her best to take care of her sons, I would have told the jury, if asked, if I had seen any sign that my son had been involved in an act of violence, or a killing. I knew the condition of my son's clothing. He knew to care for his clothing because we had to watch our spending carefully. I never saw any signs (around the time of the killings) that he had come home with bloody clothing.
24. Jason was aware that I did not like violence of any kind, and I did not even like having weapons around my house. Though we had a pier near our trailer that the boys used for fishing, I did not want either of my boys to

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have knives, guns, or other things like that in our home.

25. Jason was not brought up to be interested in violence or fighting, and never engaged in either one.
26. It has been pointed out to me that in a transcript of an interview I had with the Detective on June 4, 1993, I was asked when I thought Jason got home on May 5, 1993, the day the three young boys went missing. I told the Detective that I thought it was around 7:30 p.m. My husband explained that I used to call home from my job in Memphis to check in with my boys, and that was the truth. If I had been called to testify about these habits with my boys, I would have done so.
27. The Detective told me during the interview of June 4, 1993 that if Jason had told the police where he was that day and what time he got to what places, and if the information checked out, my son would be a free person. The police wanted me to get my son to talk to them. I did not feel it was in Jason's best interests to talk to them because as I explained to the Detective, ^{Damon and I was} the police had been spreading rumors about ~~my son~~, and had been saying ~~worried because I was afraid of~~ ^{my son Jason} things in the community that were not true, and I was afraid that my son ^{was associated with him} would end up having his words turned against him.
28. I am convinced that if my son had testified in court, he would have told the truth. I believe that he would have been truthful about where he was and what he did on May 5 and May 6, 1993. I believe that between what he had to say, and what records I was able to get from his school, with the

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testimony of friends of his that he had seen on May 5, and information about where he had been and what he was doing on that day, it would have been clear that he could not have been involved in these killings.

29. I do not know why his lawyers chose not to present any evidence in his defense that came from his family members, friends, or school personnel who could have verified that he was in school both those days. I know that I was able to do that, and that I went to the police with that information.
30. My son knew Jessie Misskelley, as did I, at the time of my son's arrest in this case. But my son did not socialize with Jessie Misskelley at that time, for several different reasons, including the fact that I did not like my boys to be around him after Jessie became a teenager. I viewed him as a rowdy young man who used to drink alcohol. I did not approve of drinking, and I did not believe that my son Jason, or his two brothers, should be around Jessie.
31. If called to testify in court, I would provide truthful and accurate testimony about all the subjects that I have covered here."

Further the affiant sayeth naught.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 15th day of

May, 2008.


ANGELA GAIL GRINNELL

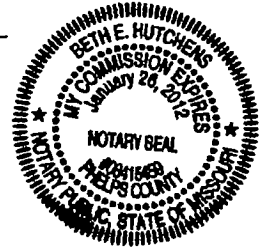
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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of May, 2008.

Beth E. Hutchens
Notary Public

My commission expires: January 26, 2012



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