

1 THE COURT: Exhibits 78 and 79, if it is verified
2 that is the way he looked immediately prior to or
3 after the event, then I'm going to allow them.

4 MR. CROW: Note our objection.

5 (RETURN TO OPEN COURT)

6 BRYN RIDGE

7 having been first duly sworn to speak the truth, the whole truth
8 and nothing but the truth, then testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

11 Q Will you please state your name and occupation?

12 A Bryn Ridge, detective for the West Memphis Police
13 Department.

14 Q How long have you been in law enforcement?

15 A Over ten years.

16 Q Detective Ridge, I want to direct your attention to May 6,
17 1993. What part, if any, did you play in the investigation of
18 the disappearance of Michael Moore, Steve Branch and Chris
19 Byers?

20 A I participated in the search for the missing juveniles and
21 also in the discovery of the bodies.

22 Q Approximately what time did you begin your search efforts?

23 A About 7:30 A.M.

24 Q What area were you assigned to search?

25 A I went first to Robin Hood Hills, this park on North

1 McCauley.

2 Q If you would, take the pointer and point to the area that
3 you went to.

4 A (POINTING) I went here into this area, Robin Hood Hills.

5 Q How far in did you go?

6 A There is a hill -- there is a pipe you cross right here
7 over this bayou ditch. There is a hill. You can see a path
8 coming across that hill. I went to just into the woods by that
9 path.

10 Q Was there anybody else in the woods?

11 A Yes, sir. There was one other person.

12 Q Who was that?

13 A It was a young man on a bike that was searching, hollering
14 for the kids also.

15 Q I want to show you what is marked for identification as
16 State's Exhibit 13 and ask if you can identify that.

17 A Yes, sir. That's a diagram of the area.

18 MR. FOGLEMAN: We offer State's Exhibit 13.

19 MR. CROW: No objection.

20 THE COURT: It may be received without objection.

21 (STATE'S EXHIBIT 13 IS RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

22 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

23 Q On the diagram -- and of course it is not three dimensional
24 so you can't show the hills -- but where is it that you went?

25 A Across this pipe. I parked my vehicle here. Crossed this

1 pipe, walked up this trail. There's another trail that's
2 somewhat dimmer than this trail. I went across the hill and
3 come to this point right in here. That is where I went to.

4 Q About what time of day was that?

5 A That would have been early, probably at about eight o'clock
6 in the morning.

7 Q Then where did you go?

8 A Then the search just scattered from there. I actually
9 searched the weeded area that is west of there to 7th Street.
10 Then from 7th Street back to my vehicle.

11 Q The jury is not going to know where 7th Street is. If you
12 can take down the crime scene photograph and if the aerial
13 photograph shows the area where you searched, then if you could
14 point that out to the jury.

15 A (POINTING) This is 7th Street and north would be downward
16 on this map. When I went to here, I yelled for the boys or
17 looked for the bikes or whatever I could find. I couldn't find
18 anything. So I made my way all the way through this weeded
19 patch. You've got hills, ditches, culverts all the way to 7th
20 Street and then I crossed the bayou and came all the way back to
21 this weeded area here, back to my vehicle and continued to
22 search from there.

23 Q Then where did you go search?

24 A I searched all into this area (POINTING) from this little
25 street here. You come into this path and you walk around this

1 way and these paths are all connected. I searched all of these
2 woods into this area. I searched this wooded area here. This
3 is just a big thicket. There are no paths that go through it.
4 You have to dig your way through the vines.

5 By the time I made my way back to the vehicle again, it was
6 determined that I went and got my three wheeler and did some
7 searching on three wheelers.

8 Q When you were out searching the area, were there other
9 people searching, too?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Approximately how many people did you see searching?

12 A I saw probably 15 people.

13 Q In that area?

14 A Yes.

15 Q After you got your three wheeler, where did you go?

16 A I got my three wheeler. I parked on the Wal-Mart parking
17 lot which is about another mile to the west. If you go down the
18 expressway and just a little bit to the south of the expressway.

19 I got on the three wheeler. I searched all the way around
20 this field to the back of this lot. Of course, this is a two
21 hundred acre field and came all the way through there. Took my
22 three wheeler and came back through this area again, came back
23 out on this street.

24 Then I went on the east side of this ditch and started
25 looking at the edges of all of these fields.

1 Q At some point later on, did you receive some kind of word
2 that you needed to go back to the area of Robin Hood?

3 A Yes.

4 Q What did you do after you got that word?

5 A I immediately left from Airport Road which is a good three
6 miles away from the scene. By the time I got there, it was
7 about 1:30, and the bodies were discovered shortly after I
8 arrived.

9 Q After you arrived, what did you do?

10 A I talked to Mike Allen who explained how he had been in the
11 ditch attempting to retrieve some of the clothing items, those
12 items being floating in the water. I think they were shoes and
13 a hat. And he explained to me upon searching for those clothes
14 -- going to those clothes he had found a body.

15 Q After receiving that information, what did you do?

16 A I actually went into the ditch.

17 Q Was anything done to secure the scene?

18 A Yes. We started having people -- anybody that was there --
19 of course, when I got there, there was Mike Allen and Lieutenant
20 Hester and Inspector Gitchell was there somewhere, but I'm not
21 sure where he was. I was focusing on what was going on in the
22 ditch, and myself and Mike Allen actually went into the ditch.

23 Q What did you do to secure the scene at that point?

24 A Crime scene tape was put out. A path was secured coming
25 from outside the woods into the crime scene so we could come in

1 in unique ways in order that there -- if there was evidence
2 there that we missed, then we would not have destroyed that on
3 the original paths.

4 Q You made a new path?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q You mentioned that you -- first, let me show you State's
7 14, 15 and 16 and ask if you can identify these.

8 MR. STIDHAM: Your Honor, may counsel approach
9 the bench?

10 (THE FOLLOWING CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE AT THE BENCH
11 OUT OF THE HEARING OF THE JURY)

12 MR. STIDHAM: I just want to note our objections
13 that we had in chambers. As these are coming in, I
14 don't want to stand up and object every time and
15 repeat --

16 THE COURT: These are some that weren't objected
17 to.

18 MR. STIDHAM: I understand, but I mean when we
19 get to the ones -- if we can just -- I don't want to
20 waive our arguments.

21 THE COURT: You're not waiving your argument at
22 at all.

23 (RETURN TO OPEN COURT)

24 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

25 Q Can you identify those?

1 A Yes. These are aerial photographs of the scene.

2 Q Do they fairly and accurately portray the scene as it
3 appeared to you that day?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
6 Exhibits 14, 15 and 16.

7 THE COURT: They may be received subject to the
8 previous ruling of the Court.

9 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 14, 15 AND 16 ARE RECEIVED IN
10 EVIDENCE)

11 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

12 Q If you would step down and explain these to the jury,
13 please.

14 A Ladies and gentlemen, this is an aerial photograph of the
15 area known as Robin Hood Woods. This is Mayfair Apartments.
16 That would be these apartments here. This end of this street is
17 West McCauley and here is the pipe.

18 Q Which exhibit number are you referring to?

19 A Exhibit 14. Also on this picture, here's the pipe and this
20 is the bayou -- Ten Mile Bayou. You can see the path coming
21 through the woods. This comes into the back of the Blue Beacon
22 which is this establishment here. You can see the path also
23 here in this picture.

24 There is a path here that breaks off and comes across a
25 hill that you can barely see in this picture also. The bodies

1 of the victims were found in this area. This area here is the
2 waste water from the Blue Beacon where it has to be treated
3 before it can be put into the sewer systems and that is this
4 pond that you can see here.

5 The next picture which is Exhibit 15 is just a higher
6 picture. This is if you are in the west looking down at the
7 scene, Memphis would be here to the east from this area so we
8 are looking sort of in a southeasterly direction. These are
9 Mayfair Apartments. This is McCauley. The pipe goes across
10 right here and this is the area where the bodies were found,
11 Blue Beacon, 76 Truck Stop, 7th Street, 14th Street would be the
12 row of houses behind the green grassy area. It would be East
13 Junior High School and Weaver Elementary.

14 This is another higher picture. This is 7th Street. 7th
15 Street runs almost due north and south so we are looking just a
16 little bit north and east. Memphis would be here to the right.
17 Again here is East Junior High School, Weaver Elementary. This
18 is 14th Street. This is Goodwin. This is West McCauley. This
19 area here is the patch of woods known as Robin Hood Hills. This
20 establishment here is the Blue Beacon, 76 Truck Stop and Mayfair
21 Apartments.

22 Q Detective Ridge, after you got there, I believe you said
23 you had gotten in the water?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q After you got in the water, what did you do?

1 A I got into the water north of the bodies, north of the
2 victim that had been located, who we discovered was Michael
3 Moore. I proceeded to work my way through the water, through
4 the ditch and being careful not to destroy any evidence I was
5 searching the bottom of the ditch as I made my way to the body.

6 Q When you say you were, "searching the bottom of the ditch,"
7 what do you mean?

8 A Okay, obviously you can't see into this muddy water so the
9 best way to describe it is as I actually do it. From the water
10 level -- I was raking my hands from one bank of the water to
11 where it came out on the other side along the bottom all the
12 way. That's what I did until I made my way to that body.

13 Q After you made your way to Michael Moore, what did you do?

14 A We took the body of Michael Moore from the water.

15 Q Then what did you do?

16 A I continued the search.

17 Q In the same manner?

18 A Yes. I did. I'm the one that stayed in the ditch the
19 entire time from start to finish until all the bodies were found
20 to as far as I could go in that ditch and reach the bottom.
21 That's the way I searched it.

22 Q About how many feet would you say that you went in that
23 manner?

24 A Probably about 45 feet.

25 Q In doing that did you find anything besides Michael Moore,

1 Steve Branch and Chris Byers?

2 A The clothing of the victims.

3 Q I mean was -- was the clothing floating in the water or how
4 did you find them?

5 A No, sir, the best description is they were actually pushed
6 into the mud in the bottom of the creek. Some of the tennis
7 shoes and a hat were actually floating in the water, but there
8 were some pants and a shirt that were actually stuck in the mud
9 in the bottom of the ditch.

10 Q I want to show you State's Exhibit 8 and ask if you can
11 identify that?

12 A This is a blue and yellow Cub Scout cap --

13 Q First, can you identify it?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q How can you identify it?

16 A It has my initials, and number and date I recovered it.

17 Q Where did you recover that item?

18 A It was floating in the water.

19 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
20 Exhibit 8.

21 MR. STIDHAM: No objection, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: It may be received without objection.

23 (STATE'S EXHIBIT 8 IS RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

24 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

25 Q Would you open the bag?

1 A (COMPLIES)

2 Q Is State's Exhibit 8 the Cub Scout cap that you recovered
3 from the water there?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q You can return it to the sack.

6 A (COMPLIES)

7 Q I want to show you State's Exhibits 43, 44 and 45 and ask
8 if you can identify those?

9 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

10 Q How can you identify those?

11 A They have my initials, the number and the date.

12 Q Each one of them?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Where did you recover those items?

15 A They were in the ditch.

16 Q In relation to where Michael, Steve and Chris were, where
17 did you find them?

18 A Near Michael.

19 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
20 Exhibits 43, 44 and 45.

21 MR. STIDHAM: We have no objection.

22 THE COURT: They may be received.

23 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 43, 44 AND 45 ARE RECEIVED IN
24 EVIDENCE)

25 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

1 Q State's Exhibit 45, what is in the sack?

2 A A pair of blue pants.

3 Q And in 44?

4 A White polka-dot shirt.

5 Q And in State's Exhibit 43?

6 A A blue Boy Scout shirt.

7 Q I show you what I've marked for identification as State's
8 Exhibits 46A and 46B and ask if you can identify those?

9 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

10 Q And how can you identify them?

11 A They have my initials and date on them.

12 Q Where did you recover those items?

13 A In the water.

14 Q In the water where?

15 A Floating in the water in the ditch where Michael Moore was
16 found.

17 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we offer State's
18 Exhibits 46A and 46B.

19 MR. STIDHAM: Your Honor, I just don't know what
20 they are.

21 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

22 Q What are they?

23 A Each one is one white tennis shoe.

24 MR. STIDHAM: No objection, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right, they may be received

1 without objection.

2 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 46A AND 46B ARE RECEIVED IN
3 EVIDENCE)

4 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

5 Q At this time I want to show you what is marked for
6 identification as State's Exhibits 47A and 47B and ask if you
7 can identify those?

8 A (EXAMINING) Yes, I can.

9 Q How can you identify those?

10 A They have my initials and the date on them.

11 Q Where did you recover those items?

12 A In the water near Michael Moore.

13 Q And what are they?

14 A One is a black tennis shoe and the other one is a black
15 tennis shoe.

16 Q Is it just black or --

17 A With purple interior, both of these.

18 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
19 47A and 47B.

20 MR. STIDHAM: No objection.

21 THE COURT: They may be received without
22 objection.

23 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 47A AND 47B ARE RECEIVED IN
24 EVIDENCE)

25 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

1 Q I want to show you what is marked for identification as
2 State's Exhibits 48, 49 and 50 and ask if you can identify
3 those?

4 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

5 Q How can you identify those?

6 A Each sack has my initial and number and the date.

7 Q Where did you recover those items?

8 A In the water near the body of Michael Moore.

9 THE COURT: What are they?

10 THE WITNESS: Pair of blue jeans with a blue
11 wallet, a striped shirt and one pair of child's
12 underwear.

13 MR. FOGLEMAN: We would offer 48, 49 and 50.

14 MR. STIDHAM: No objection.

15 THE COURT: They may be received.

16 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 48, 49 AND 50 ARE RECEIVED IN
17 EVIDENCE)

18 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

19 Q I want to show you what I've marked for identification as
20 State's Exhibits 51A and 51B and 52 and ask if you can identify
21 those?

22 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

23 Q How can you identify those?

24 A They have my initials and the date.

25 Q Where did you recover those?

1 A In the water near the body of the victims.

2 Q What are they?

3 A Black tennis shoe, a black tennis shoe with a sock and a
4 pair of blue jeans.

5 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
6 Exhibits 51A, 51B and 52.

7 MR. STIDHAM: No objection.

8 THE COURT: They may be received.

9 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 51A, 51B AND 52 ARE RECEIVED IN
10 EVIDENCE)

11 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

12 Q When you found the pants, how were they?

13 A Best memory I have, two of the pair of pants were turned
14 inside out, still buttoned. I believe they were still zipped.
15 And one of the pair was right side out.

16 Q Did you leave them in that condition when you bagged them?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q I want to show you three photographs marked for
19 identification as State's Exhibits 25, 29 and 30 and ask if you
20 can identify those.

21 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

22 Q Do those photographs fairly and accurately portray the
23 scene as it appeared to you that day on May 6th?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 MR. FOGLEMAN: We offer State's Exhibits 25, 29

1 and 30.

2 THE COURT: They may be received subject to the
3 previous orders of the Court.

4 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 25, 29 AND 30 ARE RECEIVED IN
5 EVIDENCE)

6 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

7 Q Officer, would you step down and exhibit these to the
8 jury and explain the photographs.

9 A This is an enlarged photograph of the crime scene --

10 Q Which exhibit number is that?

11 A Exhibit 25. We are in the north looking in a southerly
12 direction even a little bit to the southeast. This is the ditch
13 where the bodies were found. Michael Moore was found in this
14 area. Steve Branch was found just behind where these trees are
15 in the stream and Chris Byers was found just below that body.

16 Q Let me interrupt you a minute. Michael Moore, which way
17 was his head and which way were his feet?

18 A Michael Moore's head was in a northerly direction. His
19 feet were to the south in the stream.

20 Q His head would have been upstream or downstream?

21 A Upstream.

22 Q And on Steve and Chris, how were they?

23 A Their feet were northbound, or upstream, and their head was
24 downstream.

25 Q Go ahead.

1 A This mark on the tree -- when we say it is an accurate
2 description of where I found it -- this mark was put there as a
3 marker for measurements being taken on the crime scene. There's
4 also a mark on one of these trees, but the rest of the crime
5 scene would be similar to that except this black plastic was not
6 there when we first got there. The black plastic was used to
7 recover the bodies after we removed them from the water.

8 Exhibit 29 -- this is the ditch where the bodies were
9 found. We are looking again toward the south and the body of
10 Steve Branch was found in this area. The body of Chris Byers
11 was found right here. And this is me here in the background
12 after we had removed the bodies. We were searching for anything
13 that may have been missed during the initial search, and we
14 pumped all of the water out. This is a suction hose where we
15 were pumping the water out of the stream.

16 Q You say you pumped all the water out?

17 A All we could get out of it.

18 Q After you pumped all the water out, what did you do looking
19 for evidence?

20 A We again visually searched everything. We got a metal
21 detector, searched everything that was there, trying to find
22 anything that might have been a piece of evidence.

23 Q Anything of significance found?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Were efforts also made to search in Ten Mile Bayou?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q What was that done with?

3 A It was quite a bit deeper area. I walked through this
4 ditch all the way into Ten Mile Bayou. When it got up to my
5 neck, I had to turn and come back out. It was up to my neck in
6 the bayou and we took a boat and got into the bayou itself and
7 drug a large magnet to pick up any metal items that might have
8 been in the bayou.

9 Also, the bayou was searched with a grappling hook and the
10 bikes of the victims were found in the bayou.

11 This is another photograph of preparing -- attempting to
12 pump the water out of the ditch. This is a ditch. We are
13 looking in a southerly direction. The body of Michael Moore was
14 found here. The body of Steve Branch behind the trees in the
15 ditch here. The body of Chris Byers was found in the ditch
16 below that. This is Exhibit 30.

17 Q Let me put Exhibit 13 back up here and if you could take my
18 red pen and put -- if you've got a better marker, that will be
19 better. Put a mark on there where Michael was found and where
20 Steve and Chris were found.

21 A Michael Moore was found in this area, Steve Branch was
22 found here and Chris Byers just below him here.

23 Q I want to show you what is marked for identification as
24 State's Exhibit 18 and 19 and ask if you can identify those
25 photographs?

1 A (EXAMINING) Yes, I can.

2 Q Do they fairly and accurately portray the scene as it
3 appeared to you that day?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer 18 and
6 19.

7 THE COURT: They may be received subject to the
8 previous rulings of the Court.

9 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 18 AND 19 ARE RECEIVED IN
10 EVIDENCE)

11 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

12 Q Then I want to show you what I've marked for identification
13 as State's Exhibits 32, 38 and 42 and ask if you can identify
14 those photographs?

15 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

16 Q Do those photographs fairly and accurately portray the
17 scene as it appeared to you?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
20 Exhibits 32, 38 and 42.

21 THE COURT: They may be received.

22 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 32, 38 AND 42 ARE RECEIVED IN
23 EVIDENCE)

24 MR. FOGLEMAN: May Detective Ridge exhibit to the
25 jury?

1 THE COURT: Yes.

2 BY THE WITNESS:

3 A This is me removing one of the shoes from the water. In
4 the background here you can see there's trash floating in the
5 stream here and particularly there is a stick right here that
6 whether it be carved or whatever, I don't know. It is just a
7 stick that we found floating in the water near the crime scene.
8 This particular picture is taken in this area here from the
9 north looking to the south and that is Exhibit 19.

10 Exhibit 18 is some of the items floating in the water that
11 were found. There are a couple of sticks here. We've got a
12 white tennis shoe, black tennis shoe, Boy Scout cap, pair of
13 child's underwear and there's another shoe here, and this is the
14 way these items were found in the water.

15 That is the portion of the bayou. Just below -- there's
16 some limbs that came out into the ditch just below Michael
17 Moore's body.

18 This is a picture of the two sticks here and on the end of
19 one of those sticks is -- turned out to be a white shirt. As I
20 approached the body of Michael Moore, this stick became
21 dislodged and up came with it the shirt that looked like it had
22 been jabbed down into the mud.

23 Q What do you mean when you said it "became dislodged?" What
24 did you see when you first walked past it?

25 A When I first walked the stream, the stick was sticking up

1 in the mud.

2 Q You could see it?

3 A Yes.

4 Q All right.

5 A As I'm going to the body, it became dislodged and when it
6 came floating up, the shirt was wrapped around the end of the
7 stick. This is Exhibit 42.

8 Exhibit 38 is me removing that shirt from that stick that
9 came floating up. The stream in this area there is little or no
10 trash as far as leaves or limbs. It's just those items that
11 were disturbed when I went into the creek, and the stick was one
12 of those items that was disturbed.

13 Q How about further downstream?

14 A As in this picture, this stick with the carvings on it,
15 which is Exhibit 32, you can see there's trash all in the stream
16 at this particular area.

17 This is upstream which is near the body of Michael Moore.
18 That is Exhibit 38.

19 Exhibit 32 is downstream from that area about in this area.

20 Q What movement, if any, of the water was there?

21 A Very little movement. Very slow flow.

22 Q I want to show you what I've got marked for identification
23 as State's Exhibit 53 and ask if you can identify that?

24 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

25 Q How can you identify it?

1 A It was packaged and labeled by me as evidence number E-17
2 and it was the stick that was found floating in the water below
3 Michael Moore.

4 Q Is that the stick that is in your hand in State's Exhibit
5 32?

6 A Yes, it is.

7 MR. FOGLEMAN: We would offer State's Exhibit 53.

8 MR. STIDHAM: No objection.

9 THE COURT: It may be received without objection.

10 (STATE'S EXHIBIT 53 IS RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

11 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

12 Q I want to show you what I've marked for identification as
13 State's Exhibits 54 and 55 and ask if you can identify it?

14 A (EXAMINING) Yes, I can.

15 Q How can you identify it?

16 A It was packaged in a package labeled by me and dated by me.

17 Q Where did you recover that item?

18 A It was originally in the ditch near Michael Moore.

19 Q If you would, open the other one.

20 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can identify this one also.

21 Q How can you identify it?

22 A It's one of the sticks that was floating in the water near
23 Michael Moore.

24 Q Was one of these sticks the one that had the clothes?

25 A Yes, sir, I believe it was this one --

1 Q When you say, "this one," which exhibit number are you
2 referring to?

3 A This would have been Exhibit 54.

4 MR. FOGLEMAN: We offer State's 54 and 55.

5 MR. STIDHAM: No objection.

6 THE COURT: They may be received without
7 objection.

8 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 54 AND 55 ARE RECEIVED IN
9 EVIDENCE)

10 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

11 Q I want to hand you what I've marked for identification as
12 State's Exhibits 33, 34, 37A, 40 and 41 and ask if you can
13 identify those?

14 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

15 Q How can you identify those?

16 A These are photographs of the crime scene, removing of the
17 clothing items and the body of Michael Moore.

18 Q Do those photographs fairly and accurately portray the
19 scene as it appeared to you that day?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
22 Exhibits 33, 34, 37A, 40 and 41.

23 THE COURT: They may be received.

24 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 33, 34, 37A, 40 AND 41 ARE
25 RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

1 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, may Detective Ridge
2 step down again and exhibit to the jury?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 BY THE WITNESS:

5 A This is a Polaroid photograph of Sergeant Allen. This is
6 Exhibit 33. This is Sergeant Allen and this is me. As I have
7 searched, I came across this pair of pants that was being
8 removed from the water by me prior to taking the body from the
9 water, and that is the body of Michael Moore that we are
10 removing from the water at that point.

11 This is me -- these are clothing items including shoes that
12 were being taken from the water which was just below the body of
13 Michael Moore. This is Exhibit 34. This is a picture of me,
14 and it is me removing the Cub Scout cap from the water which was
15 located below the body of Michael Moore. This is Exhibit 37A.

16 Q When you say "below the body," what do you mean?

17 A Downstream.

18 This is Exhibit 40, which is me removing a pair of pants
19 from the water which again were found below the body --
20 downstream from Michael Moore.

21 This is also a picture of me, Exhibit 41. It is removing a
22 shoe from the water which again is downstream from the body of
23 Michael Moore. Again in this picture you can see a lot of trash
24 here in the water.

25 Q I want to show you what has been marked for identification

1 as State's Exhibits 26, 27, 37B and 23 and ask if you can
2 identify these?

3 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

4 Q I also want to show you what have been marked for
5 identification as State's 35, 36 and 39 and ask if you can
6 identify those photographs?

7 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

8 Q Do those photographs fairly and accurately portray the
9 scene as it appeared to you?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 MR. FOGLEMAN: We offer State's Exhibits 27, 26,
12 37B, 35, 23, 36 and 39.

13 THE COURT: Are all those exhibits we reviewed in
14 the back?

15 MR. FOGLEMAN: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: They may be received subject to my
17 previous rulings.

18 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 23, 26, 27, 35, 36, 37B AND 39
19 ARE RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

20 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

21 Q Starting with Exhibits 39, 36 and 35 if you could explain
22 to the jury those.

23 A Exhibit 39 which is myself and Detective Sergeant Allen
24 removing the body of Michael Moore from the water.

25 Q Which exhibit is that?

1 A Exhibit 39.

2 Exhibit 36 is myself removing the body of Steve Branch from
3 the water.

4 Exhibit 35 is myself removing the body of Chris Byers from
5 the ditch.

6 Q I want to show you State's Exhibits 27 and 37B and ask you
7 to describe those photographs?

8 A Exhibit 27 is the bank on the east side from where the body
9 of Michael Moore was located. This area right here between the
10 slanted line and this tree is like a shelf -- an area that is
11 not as extremely sloped as the rest of it. You can see where it
12 appears to be slicked off where something has scooted across the
13 bank or cleaned of debris or whatever. That is Exhibit 27.

14 Q In relation to the surrounding area how did it compare in
15 the amount of leaves?

16 A It looked as though it had been cleaned of leaves and
17 debris.

18 This is that same shelf. It is on the east bank. This is
19 the area where it looks like it had been slicked off or cleaned
20 off. The grass is embedded in the mud. I don't know what the
21 reason would be other than if you raked your hand across that
22 portion, the grass would be embedded in the mud at that
23 location.

24 Q I want to -- on Exhibit 23.

25 A Yes, sir. Again this is where -- this is the body of

1 Michael Moore. This portion of the bank is that shelf on the
2 east side of where his body was located. I'm pointing out the
3 injuries as those injuries are being documented by other
4 officers. He had injuries to his head. Again, you can see this
5 muddy bank where it appears something has raked across it.

6 Q And 26.

7 A This again is the body of Michael Moore and this bank, and
8 it shows in more detail. You can see mud over the top of this
9 grass where it has been raked through the mud. This is Exhibit
10 26.

11 Q I want to show you what has been marked for identification
12 as State's Exhibit 17, 20, 22 and 24 and ask if you can identify
13 these photographs.

14 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir.

15 Q Do those photographs fairly and accurately portray the
16 scene as you saw it?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 MR. FOGLEMAN: Your Honor, we would offer State's
19 Exhibits 24, 20, 22 and 17.

20 THE COURT: They may be received subject to the
21 previous rulings of the Court.

22 (STATE'S EXHIBITS 17, 20, 22 AND 24 ARE RECEIVED
23 IN EVIDENCE)

24 BY THE WITNESS:

25 A This is Exhibit 22 which is the body of Michael Moore after

1 removing him from the water the way he was found.

2 Q Does this also show the bank that you have talked about?

3 A Yes, sir, this is the bank where he was placed.

4 This is the body of Steve Branch and it is where he has
5 been removed from the water by me. Steve Branch is the young
6 man that had the injuries to his face.

7 Q Was it a particular part of his face?

8 A To the left side of the chin area.

9 This is State's Exhibit 20. Exhibit 17 was the number of
10 the picture of Steve Branch. This is Exhibit 20. This is Steve
11 Branch being removed from the ditch by me.

12 State's Exhibit 24 is the body of Chris Byers.

13 Q What kind of injuries did Chris Byers have?

14 A Looked as though his penis had been removed and there were
15 stab marks all over the area around his penis.

16 Q I want to show you State's Exhibit 28 and ask if you can
17 identify that?

18 A (EXAMINING) Yes, sir, I can.

19 Q Does that photograph accurately portray that area as it
20 appeared to you that day?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 MR. FOGLEMAN: We offer State's Exhibit 28.

23 MR. CROW: No objection.

24 THE COURT: It may be received without objection.

25 (STATE'S EXHIBIT 28 IS RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE)

1 BY THE WITNESS:

2 A This is Exhibit 28. It is a picture of the creek, the
3 crime scene, from the south to the north and just a little bit
4 east. This is the bottom of the ditch.

5 Q Is that after it has been pumped out?

6 A Yes.

7 Q About what was the level of the water before it was pumped
8 out?

9 A Just above my knee.

10 Q How far would it have gone up on that picture?

11 A On this picture it would be about this line. (MARKING) I
12 marked the picture right here.

13 Q Is that flattened area -- was there anything on that area?

14 A Yes, sir, there was some stuff there but it wasn't as the
15 rest of the surrounding woods. There wasn't as much stuff
16 there.

17 Q Where was that flattened area in relation to where Steve
18 and Chris were found?

19 A It was just to the west and a little bit to the north of
20 where their bodies were found.

21 Q From that flattened area, what is the terrain up to the top
22 of the bank?

23 A From that flattened area, it goes steep up to the top of
24 the bank.

25 Q If you could show the jury where Exhibit 28 is on the

1 diagram.

2 A (INDICATING) This is denoting a tree. That is this tree.
3 This shelf area here is what is being denoted behind this tree
4 here. Here is the creek as the second bank or the line that I
5 marked here. That is what we call the second bank. That is
6 where the water level normally runs.

7 Q Does the diagram reflect a certain elevation?

8 A Yes, sir, they do.

9 Q If you could point out the area shown on there and the
10 elevation?

11 A The top of the bank which would have been level with the
12 surrounding terrain at the crime scene is an elevation of 215
13 point zero feet above the mean sea level which is average sea
14 level for a particular day. The shelf elevation is 210 foot.
15 That means that approximately five foot below the elevation of
16 the top bank is this shelf area.

17 Q Is this the area we have talked about about being slicked
18 off?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Go ahead.

21 A The actual bottom of the ditch is 207 point 5 feet which is
22 7 and a half feet below the top of the bank or the mean
23 elevation of 215 feet.

24 Q The low bank elevation, which this is basically a ditch
25 within a ditch. This whole white area that you see would be a

1 ditch if there were a large amount of water coming through the
2 ditch. Under normal flow conditions this is a ditch within that
3 ditch, and that is the bank that actually does a sharp cut down
4 to the bottom of the ditch.

5 Q When you were in the creek or ditch where Michael and Steve
6 and Chris were found, what can you see up on the top?

7 A You can't hardly see anything. The bank is up here -- it
8 is so steep that you're going to have to have somebody within
9 six foot of that edge before you would even know somebody is
10 there.

11 Q Detective Ridge, when Michael and Steve and Chris were
12 found, what were their positions in the water?

13 A Michael Moore was laying on his left side facing Memphis.
14 Steve Branch was laying face down, his face, chest and knees
15 actually touching the ground on the bottom of the ditch. And
16 Chris Byers was in the same position, face down.

17 CROSS EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. STIDHAM:

19 Q How many folks were out there the day the bodies were
20 recovered? Can you name the folks that were out there?

21 A Name each and every person? No, sir.

22 Q How many people would you estimate were there?

23 A During the search or during the period of time when the
24 bodies were found?

25 Q I assume there were folks out there searching and then the

1 bodies were discovered. How many were there at the actual site
2 where the bodies were recovered?

3 A When I got there, I remember seeing Detective Allen,
4 Detective Lieutenant Hester and Detective Burch.

5 Q Were there also members of the Crittenden County Search and
6 Rescue team present?

7 A I didn't see any.

8 Q Did they come up later after the bodies were recovered?

9 A I don't think anybody came up after that.

10 Q Isn't it true that the city sent some employees to help you
11 pump some water from the stream?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q So they were present?

14 A After the bodies had been removed. Yes, sir.

15 Q Officer Ridge, could you point to the service road just off
16 the interstate?

17 A This is the south service road, interstate 40 and 55.

18 Q That service road is how the patrons of the Blue Beacon
19 truck wash get in and out?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q How far would you estimate -- I know you can't give me an
22 exact figure -- how far would you estimate it is from where the
23 bodies were recovered here to the service road?

24 A If one inch is 40 foot, if I had a ruler, I could tell you.

25 Q Give me your best estimate.

1 A Probably some four hundred fifty feet.

2 Q Four hundred fifty feet or yards?

3 A I would say feet. Yes, sir.

4 Q Could you hear the traffic on the interstate 40 and 55 as
5 you were at the crime scene?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Could you see the traffic going by?

8 A If you were up on the high bank.

9 Q So if you were down in the creek bottom, you wouldn't have
10 been able to see the interstate?

11 A You may have gotten glimpses if you were at just the right
12 point looking up through the ditch, but probably it would have
13 been very difficult to see any traffic on the expressway.

14 Q How dense was the forest?

15 A It is May. That is a good growing time in our region. The
16 new leaves are really beginning to come out at that point.

17 Q Could you see the truck wash from where the bodies were
18 recovered?

19 A It would have been difficult to make it out if it is not
20 moving but because of the color of the Blue Beacon, you could
21 probably make out there was something there.

22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

24 Q Did y'all conduct a little experiment where somebody got
25 down in the ditch and yelled?

1 A I understand it took place.

2 Q You didn't participate in that?

3 A No, sir.

4 RE CROSS EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. STIDHAM:

6 Q Looking at the elevations, Officer Ridge, this side of the
7 creek or stream -- what direction is that?

8 A This would be north. That direction would be east.

9 Q And so the side of the stream where the truck wash is and
10 the pond would be the west side?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q It is also west --

13 A And north.

14 Q Northwest?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Which bank -- if you're standing at the reference tree
17 where the three trees are grown together -- which bank on the
18 stream is higher, the east bank or the west bank?

19 A You pointed at this tree as being the three trees. That is
20 the single tree at the top of the high bank. This is where the
21 three trees are. So which position would you rather --

22 Q Let's go from this reference tree here.

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q If you're standing there beside that tree and you look
25 across to the east side of the stream, is the bank on the east

1 side higher or where you're standing higher?

2 A I don't understand exactly what you're saying. The high
3 bank would be the level -- the normal level of the ground, and
4 it is going to be the same on both sides. There is a shelf on
5 the east bank, and you would be looking at -- this high bank on
6 the west side you're looking to the east. You're looking at a
7 shelf that's low.

8 Q I understand there's several different levels. The diagram
9 shows the flow elevation 207 point 5 and the shelf elevation is
10 210, and the high bank elevation -- I assume would be -- the
11 highest point on this side of the stream is 215?

12 A No, sir. It is not the highest point. That is what the
13 engineer calls the high bank is the level of the ground on both
14 sides of that point. It's the level ground. It is not the
15 heaps of dirt that were used in order to dredge that ditch out.

16 (WITNESS EXCUSED)

17 SHANE GRIFFIN

18 having been first duly sworn to speak the truth, the whole truth
19 and nothing but the truth, then testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. FOGLEMAN:

22 Q Will you please state your name and occupation?

23 A Shane Griffin, narcotics detective, West Memphis Police
24 Department.

25 Q I want to direct your attention to May 6, 1993. On that