

1 (Witness sworn.)

2
3 F R A N K L I N P E R R Y R O B E R T S

4 called as a witness on behalf of the defendant, being first
5 duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

6
7 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Picl.

8 MR. PICL: Thank you, Judge.

9
10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PICL:

11
12 Q Tell us your name, please, and spell your last name.

13 A Franklin Perry Roberts, R O B E R T S.

14 Q Are you also known as Garren Bradford?

15 A Yes, I am.

16 Q How old are you, sir?

17 A 29.

18 Q Where do you live?

19 A 1005 Eugene Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

20 Q Have you been a lifetime resident, lifelong resident
21 of Bloomington?

22 A Yeah.

23 Q Did you live in Bloomington on Easter, 1991?

24 A Yes, I did.

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Q Where did you live?

A On Market Street, in between Market Street and my mother's house.

Q With whom did you live at that address?

A My mom and her boyfriend Stony, at her address when I stayed there, and most of the time I stayed with Denny Hendricks and Frank Turner.

Q They lived in the same place with you?

A Yeah, on Market street.

Q All right. Was that at Market and Lee Streets?

A Yeah, I believe so.

Q Are you related to William Gaddis?

A Yes, I am.

Q How?

A We have the same mom, different dads.

Q So your stepbrothers?

A Yes.

Q How long have you known William Gaddis?

A All my life.

Q He's older than you, isn't he?

A Yes, he is.

Q What is his present age, if you know?

A I don't know.

Q He's a few years older than you, would that be

1 your --

2 A He's more than a few, yeah. I'm the youngest.

3 Q All right. Were you at your residence at Market and
4 Lee Street on Easter night, 1991?

5 A I don't believe so. I don't -- I don't think so. I
6 couldn't tell you where I was. It was so long ago.

7 Q Okay. Now, do you know people who know William
8 Gaddis?

9 A Oh, yeah.

10 Q And that would include your family members?

11 A Oh, yeah.

12 Q All right. Have you heard them within the recent
13 past discuss his reputation for truth and honesty? Just yes
14 or no at this point.

15 A Yeah.

16 Q When would that have been?

17 A Last week, me and my sister was playing darts with
18 my girlfriend, and we was talking about it a little bit
19 then.

20 Q Do those people know William Gaddis?

21 A Oh, yeah.

22 Q And did they say he had a good or bad reputation for
23 being truthful and honest?

24 A A bad reputation.

1 Q During the past year have you had or been present
2 when others have discussed, other than your sister and
3 friend, others have discussed his reputation for truth and
4 honesty?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q When would that have been and who would it have
7 involved?

8 A A couple weeks ago I was talking to Darrell Black
9 and he was asking me about it, and said that he had read --

10 MS. GRIFFIN: Objection.

11 THE WITNESS: -- that he was going to testify.

12 THE COURT: Hold it. Hold it. What's the
13 objection?

14 MS. GRIFFIN: This is not in response to the
15 question.

16 THE COURT: Sustained.

17 MR. PICL:

18 Q Other than the conversation you've already testified
19 to involving your sister and another, have you been around
20 others who have known William Gaddis and discussed his
21 reputation for truth and honesty during the past year other
22 than what you just started to tell us?

23 A Yeah.

24 Q When would that have been and who would have been

1 involved?

2 A Basically since I've lived at 1005 Eugene, I mean,
3 seems like everybody I run into, you know, knows that knows
4 Billy.

5 Q Within your family, family members during the past
6 year, and specifically have there been any discussions or
7 conversations that you have witnessed concerning William
8 Gaddis's reputation for truth and honesty?

9 MS. GRIFFIN: Objection, Your Honor, this has
10 already been asked and answered. That was the very first
11 question.

12 MR. PICL: Other than that.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. PICL: Let me rephrase the question.

15 Q Other than the first conversation of a couple of
16 weeks ago involving your sister or last week, excuse me,
17 involving your sister, have there been any other family
18 member conversations or discussions that you witnessed --

19 A Yes.

20 Q -- during the past year involving which the topic of
21 Gaddis's reputation came up?

22 A Yes, yes.

23 Q There have been, okay. When would those have been?

24 A A while back I was fighting for my kids with DCFS.

1 I was going to --

2 MS. GRIFFIN: Objection.

3 THE COURT: Sustained.

4 MR. PICL:

5 Q Without giving us that sort of background, when
6 would the conversation that you're referring to have taken
7 place?

8 A About a year ago.

9 Q And who would have been involved?

10 A My mom, my brother, my sister, court reporter.

11 Q Well, are these people who know William Gaddis?

12 A My family, yes.

13 Q And were they discussing his reputation for truth
14 and honesty?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And did they say he had a good or bad reputation for
17 truth and honesty?

18 A Bad reputation.

19 MR. PICL: Okay. I have nothing else. Thank you.

20

21 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MS. GRIFFIN:

22

23 Q Is it Mr. Bradford or Mr. Roberts?

24 A It's whatever you like, ma'am.

1 Q What's your legal name?

2 A Frank Roberts.

3 Q Mr. Roberts, it's true that you've been convicted of
4 several offenses here in McLean County, is that correct?

5 A Oh, yeah.

6 Q And one of those would be the offense of aggravated
7 battery in McLean County case 89 CF 400. Is that correct?

8 A I object, Your Honor. I'm not on trial, right?

9 THE COURT: Well, unfortunately you don't get to
10 do that. So you'll need to answer the question.

11 THE WITNESS: Yeah, oh, yeah, I've been to prison
12 three times. Does that answer your question?

13 MS. GRIFFIN:

14 Q My question was were you convicted of aggravated
15 battery in 89 CF 400.

16 A On a police officer, yes.

17 Q And were you convicted of two counts of aggravated
18 battery in McLean County case 96 CF 1205?

19 A I -- that might have been on a police officer. One
20 of them was. One of them wasn't.

21 Q And were you convicted in McLean County case
22 96 CF 200, a burglary and criminal damage to property over
23 three hundred dollars?

24 A Yes, I was.

1 Q And were you convicted in McLean County case
2 91 CF 130 of offenses related to possession of registration
3 and title?

4 A Open title, yeah, I didn't sign my name to title. I
5 was. I got four and half years for it.

6 Q You got sentenced to the Department of Corrections?

7 A Four and a half years for not signing my name, yeah.

8 MS. GRIFFIN: I don't have any other questions.
9 Thank you.

10 THE COURT: Anything further, Mr. Picl?

11 MR. PICL: No, I have no other questions. Thank
12 you, Judge.

13 THE COURT: All right. Then you may step down.
14 Thank you.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

16
17 (Witness excused.)

18
19 (Witness sworn.)

20
21 C A R R O L L W H I T M E R
22 called as a witness on behalf of the defendant, being first
23 duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

24 (Next page please.)