



EDWARD PALUMBO

having been first duly sworn, was examined upon oral interrogatories and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION BY MS. GRIFFIN:

Q Could you tell the Ladies and Gentlemen what your name is please?

A Edward Palumbo.

Q You're currently in the custody of the Department of Corrections, is that correct?

A That's correct.

Q Could you tell the Ladies and Gentlemen what you're serving time for at this point?

A Residential burglary.

Q Are you originally from the Bloomington area?

A Yes.

Q Before you went to the Department of Corrections this time, were you living in Bloomington?

A Yes.

Q You know how long you've lived in Bloomington?

A A number of years, 15, 16, 17 years.

Q In the time that you lived in Bloomington,

did you come to know an individual by the name of Jamie Snow?

A Yes.

Q How do you know Jamie Snow?

A I've just known him for a number of years. I used to run with him.

Q So you met him here in Bloomington?

A Yes.

Q Did you also know a Mark McCown?

A Yes.

Q How do you know Mark McCown?

A Same circumstances. I knew Jamie better because his dad used to fence some stuff.

Q Do you know Jamie's wife, Tammy Snow?

A Yeah.

Q Did you know her any from her association with Jamie or anything else?

A Yeah, just from the association with Jamie.

Q Did you ever know an individual named Susan Powell?

A I know of her.

Q Did you ever know--I'm taking that to mean you don't know her very well?

A I met her a few times. I don't really

associate with her that much.

Q Were you living in Bloomington at the time of the armed robbery, shooting at the Clark gas station that occurred on March 31st, 1991, and I'm talking about the Clark station at the corner of Linden and Empire Streets in Bloomington?

A Yeah.

Q Were you running with Jamie Snow and some of the other people in his group about that same time period?

A Yeah.

Q Did you ever have any conversations with Jamie or anyone else regarding the Clark gas station shooting of William Little?

A Yes.

Q Can you tell me who you talked to?

A Jamie.

Q Do you know when that was?

A Approximately little while after it happened.

Q When you're saying a little while, you're talking about days or weeks or months?

A Days.

Q And at the time you talked to Jamie, were

you already aware that that had occurred, that William Little had been shot and killed?

A Yeah. I drove past it that night.

Q Where were you at when you had this conversation with Jamie?

A On Olive Street.

Q That's in Bloomington, is that right?

A Uh-huh.

Q Where was it on Olive Street in terms of were you guys outside, were you inside houses or in vehicles?

A We were in a car.

Q In the same car?

A No. I was in a car and he was in a car.

Q Was anybody else in the car with him?

A Yeah, his wife and the other girl.

Q You say the other girl?

A The one you mentioned. I don't remember, you know.

Q The one you said you didn't know very well.

A She was sitting in the back seat, yeah.

Q Susan Powell?

A Right.

Q Did you say Jamie was driving the car?

A Yeah.

Q What kind of car was that?

A I don't remember. I think it was a brown car his dad fixed up for him.

Q And you were in your own car?

A Yeah. I think we were driving in my girl's car which was a Dodge Shadow.

Q Your girlfriend at that time was?

A Shannon Schmidt.

Q So how is it that you and Jamie came to be talking then?

A He just waved me down and asked me if I read about him in the paper.

Q What did you say at the time?

A I asked him what are you talking about and he just basically said something about Clark and then he said did you read about me in the paper. Boom, boom, kid dies. Gun goes off. I asked him if that's what he was talking about again and he basically just laughed it off. Said he was just messing around out there.

Q When you said he said something about Clark station, did he make a statement to the effect did you hear about the kid I shot at the Clark station?

A No, but we both knew what he was talking about because I happened to mention something about having dinner that night and driving past there and saying, telling him I could have got caught up in that stuff. He was arguing with me because he thought that--he was talking about that in front of--he was talking about, he said that in front of his wife and you know, the other broad, and my girl. I didn't think that that was very smart.

Q So you guys argued about it. You didn't think that as smart.

A I didn't want, you know, he was--at first, you know, when he said something about Clark, I just thought that basically he was--I just, you know thought okay, something happened out there. I knew that it happened. We drove past it that night, me and my girl did, and I knew that the kid had been killed and stuff like that. And I was kind of, I said to my girl, you know, I said a lot of violence, you know, right here on this night. And we drove past there and I was just like, I just thought that it was sad. And Jamie, when Jamie brought it up, I just thought that he was just talking about it. I didn't think, you know, for that brief second I didn't think that he was going to say

what he said.

Q And exactly what was it that he said then?

A Well he just said--I asked him, read about it in the paper and I said what are talking about. He said something about Clark, and then he said boom, boom, gun goes off, kid dies. And then I told him--that's when I said to him why are you saying this in front of, you know, everybody, and he was saying that Tammy was cool. I really didn't know the other girl that good, you know, so I didn't really--and then my girl was in the car too so I didn't want to hear nothing like that. I mean I didn't want my girl being involved in nothing like that. And for him to say it right there out in the open in front of everybody basically like I'm saying it now. But now that he's dragged me into this.

Q So after he said that about boom, boom, gun goes off, kid dies, did you say anything else or he say anything else or did you kind of leave it or what happened?

A Well I was basically kind of freaking out that he said something like that and I just, we were both in cars in the middle of the street, you know. It was a lot longer conversation than I thought it would be but no one came along so we just basically sat there

for a few minutes and probably said something about meeting up later on and stuff. I know Jamie's involved in, you know, different stuff now and again so he gets a hold of me.

Q So that was all that was really said about Clark at that time then?

A Yeah. Then, you know, I met him after that and basically what it come down to was he was, I was just telling him again why are you trusting Tammy with knowing that stuff. Are you telling her everything that happened, and stuff like that. I don't remember. He said--I asked him if he got rid of the gun and stuff like that. Basically, you know that kind of stuff.

Q So did he tell you if he got rid of the gun?

A Yeah. He said he got rid of it.

Q Did he say where he got rid of it or how he got rid of it?

A I don't remember. I don't remember because he usually got rid of stuff out there at Funk's Grove and stuff.

Q Did he talk to you about who else was with him when he did the Clark station?

A No. He didn't say nothing about nobody else.



He was just talking--you know, I'm just assuming, I was assuming the whole time that he did it himself because that's the way he is. He's just arrogant like that. That's basically, you know, he's above any kind of repercussions of anything. I couldn't believe that he did that at first, you know. You know, even when he was telling me I thought that he was just being a real bragger, but you know the more I thought about it the more I have to say that when I looked at him, I'd have to say that he was pretty serious. He just knew too much, you know, about what happened that he couldn't have known. I thought the composite, I argued with him about the little pictures that they came out with back then that didn't really look like him very much. He said that was a lucky break.

Q So you were arguing with him that the composite didn't look like him and he was saying it was lucky that it didn't look more like him?

A Right.

Q When you said he said things that made you think he knew too much about it, what kind of things did he tell you that showed that he knew too much?

A Well he said that the kid was young and they really didn't put a lot of stuff in the paper that

I can remember about it and I just thought that--I just thought that it was kind of, you know, he couldn't have been--like someone would boost themselves up like if they did something like that, you know, like--he just convinced me by everything he was saying like he knew what time of night it happened, you know. And I remember it was late that night. That's when we came from eating dinner. And I mean, how would he know that, you know. And just from what I've heard, you know, since then, it just struck me as more than just, you know, coincidental.

Q What kind of things?

A White kid, young, real young. He's smart mouth kid, you know. I'm vaguely remembering that stuff because you know a little embarrassed and a little shocked, you know, coming here today. I'm getting older, you know. I thought, I remember thinking it was a shame that he'd do something like that, but I just always used to think he was just a punk. But I knew he was capable of doing stuff because I know that he was involved in a lot of things with guns back then, armed robberies, that kind of baloney. He was always slipping by. When his buddy got convicted of stuff, I knew that they were heading to Peoria and doing all that stuff out

there, buying crack out there and messing around. He was always wanting to go out there to Florida because his dad was always arguing about him doing that. But his dad loved him so he fixed his car for him and they went out there and he took his kids out there. I just thought that he was just a piece of shit for doing what he did, you know. It wasn't coincidental, you know. He knew too much about it to be just bragging on himself, you know.

Q As you sit here today, and I realize you haven't had a chance to sit there and think back on this a whole lot, do you remember any other specifics that he might have told you about the case or about what happened or anything that you haven't really told us about?

A Well I know he didn't get very much money out of there. He was pissed off about that. Basically he just said after he got a small amount of money or something like that, after the kid was smarting off, he just, you know, popped him.

Q So he was telling you that Billy Little, the kid at the gas station--

A Right.

Q Was smarting off to him?

A Right. He was acting real--he wasn't acting like afraid or nothing. He was acting like a smart ass. You know, he was acting cocky. And I guess he just didn't--I don't know. Jamie said it felt funny to do it, you know. He says it didn't bother him as much as he thought it would.

Q So he's telling you that after he shot him, shooting him, Billy Little didn't bother him as much as he thought it would?

A Shooting Billy Little didn't bother him. He said he'd been watching the place for a long time, you know. I mean just stuff like that, you know. I've always known about Jamie being involved in different stuff but you know, it's a final result of you know living a life like that.

EXAMINATION BY MR. REYNARD:

Q You indicated what the conversation was when you were in your car and he was in his car. Then I think you indicated that you saw him at a later time and among other things you asked him if he got rid of the gun, and he said yeah. You asked him where. You don't recall whether there was a location discussed. Having said that, can you tell us where you were when you had this later conversation with him? What can you tell us about that?

A I thought we were at his place. We were all pretty, you know, smoking a lot back then, you know, drinking all the time. But I'm not sure if it was at--I'm pretty sure it was at Jamie's house, but I can't be sure the exact place. We might have been--see I might have been pulled up and we might have been just riding around. I don't think we were--when we got together, I never really wanted to stick around that long because, you know, I always thought Jamie had a big mouth.

Q Was another conversation, still another conversation where you argued with him about the composite or is that one of these?

A No, that's the next time I seen him because I remember when I read that in the paper, I seen it in the paper, that's when I felt like I needed to go and ask about it.

Q That's when you talked to him about the gun?

A Right.

Q And you talked to him about the composite?

A Yeah. I don't think the composite was out then so it might have been another time. I think it was another time that I had just seen him and saying, pulled him aside and just said you're lucky that the composite wasn't as accurate as it should be. I said it was kind of a thin face you know, but I really--it's been a long time ago you know now. The composite didn't look very much like him and I just remember telling him that, you know.

Q He said it was a lucky break?

A Yeah, he said it was lucky there.

Q Would it be fair to say that you had several conversations with him in which this came up?

A I'd just say a few conversations. Not, you know, we don't--I didn't talk about that forever because after that, I just, you know--at first, it was kind of out of curiosity I asked you know because I just wanted

to see you know, what actually happened, you know. For my curiosity, you know, not to--I wasn't in trouble back then so it wasn't really something that I was trying to gain information out of him. I didn't care about that. Just for my own satisfaction, I just wanted to see the plot of the crime more or less.

Q When you asked him about that for your own curiosity, was that when he said it felt kind of funny to him and he didn't feel as much about it as he thought he might?

A What did you say again?

Q If I understood what you said earlier--

A Right. Well he said something like that.

Q Tell me about what he said again.

A He just says it didn't feel as--it didn't feel as bad as he thought it would. You know, it didn't freak him out for a long time after that. It didn't bother him, you know. After a while, it just, you know, he could--he never had no problems eating or nothing like that.

BY MR. REYNARD: Fair enough. I don't have any other questions. Ladies and Gentlemen?

EXAMINATION BY GRAND JURY:

Q You said your girlfriend was with you when you had that conversation in the car?

A Yeah.

Q What was her name?

A Shannon.

Q Was anybody else with you when you had the second conversation when you're talking about?

A No, not that I recall.

Q You mentioned that he was upset about the amount of money that he got. Did he mention how much, did he say?

A He did. He did but it wasn't nothing--I think it was less than a hundred bucks. I don't remember exactly but it wasn't very much. It wasn't worth the while. I mean I remember that part, but I don't remember--I remember him saying it wasn't very much. He was pissed off about that. I know they were going to Peoria and messing around out there.

Q Did he ever mention whether he knew William Little at all?

A I don't recall whether he mentioned anything about that or not. I think that he was just a



kid so he wouldn't have had nothing to do with us, with Jamie and any of the other people.

Q He shot him because of his attitude about being held up?

A Well he was robbing him. I mean but he was such a smart ass that he was giving him problems, you know, so he popped him. He shot him. I think he said he only shot him one time. I don't remember exactly but I know that he just got out of there real quick, you know, didn't say nothing. You know, go into great detail about where he was parking the car or anything like that.

Q You said this was late at night. Are we talking about 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning or?

A No.

Q Or like 10:00 or 11:00 in the evening?

A It was evening. It wasn't like after dinner. It was, I can't remember exactly the time because we drove past it later that night so any time inbetween then. I really can't recall exactly what time. I didn't go into, you know, were you there at 6:00 o'clock or 10:00 o'clock. If I did, I really can't recall. I mean I wasn't so, you know, I didn't want to seem like I was questioning him to the point where he

might be paranoid of what I might be thinking. I didn't want to get so involved at that, but he's, you know, he always looked up, hung around with us. He's a bragger, you know, so he thinks that kind of stuff is big time, you know. Not burglaries no more. Now it's armed robberies. Now it's murder like that was the next step, you know.

Q Have you ever heard of the Northsiders?

A Yeah.

Q Are you a member of the Northsiders?

A No.

Q You mentioned that you drove by the Clark station later that night. How did you know--did you already know that something happened?

A I knew something serious had happened. I really didn't know what exactly had happened. I'd seen--I'm assuming there was a robbery there because they had it taped off and looked like something serious had happened. I was with my girl, you know. I didn't want to get out of the car. I just got through eating. I was at some friend's house but I wasn't concerned--I was more concerned about getting home and getting away from that area because it looked like trouble to me. Looked like big trouble, you know. Then out of the

blue, you know, he pops up. I'm still with my girl, you know, and he says what he said.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: Okay, thank you.

(Witness excused.)