

MARK McCOWN

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

EXAMINATION BY MS. GRIFFIN:

Q Would you state your name please?

A Mark McCown.

Q How do you spell that?

A M-A-R-K M-C-C-O-W-N.

Q Mr. McCown, you're currently in the Department of Corrections, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q What's your original hometown?

A Bloomington, Illinois.

Q Did you grow up here?

A Yes.

Q When's the last time you lived here in Bloomington?

A December of '97.

Q And in the spring of 1991, let's say end of March, April, June of 1991, where were you living at that time?

A In Bloomington.

Q Do you know where at in Bloomington?

A Either in Greenwood Trailer Court or on

Bell Street.

Q You know who you were living with at that time?

A Yes.

Q Who was that?

A Karen Ballinger.

Q At both those locations?

A Yes.

Q Do you know an individual named Jamie Snow?

A Yes I do.

Q How do you know Jamie?

A We grew up together.

Q From childhood on?

A Yes.

Q You're still friends with him?

A Yeah.

Q Do you know where he lives now?

A St. Petersburg, Florida.

Q When's the last time you would have seen him?

A Last time I seen Jamie? '96, probably November of '96.

Q When would have been the last time you talked to him?

A December of '97.

Q I want to direct your attention to Easter Sunday, March 31st, 1991. Are you familiar with an armed robbery that occurred at the Clark gas station on Empire Street in Bloomington and a shooting that occurred there in which William Little was killed?

A Yes.

Q And that's something that's been talked about amongst people you're familiar with for awhile?

A Yeah. The conversation has come up.

Q And were you anywhere at or near the Clark gas station on March 31st, 1991?

A No.

Q Were you with Jamie Snow on March 31st, 1991?

A No.

Q At any time during that day?

A No, not that I can remember, no.

Q Do you know a Susan Powell?

A Yes.

Q How do you know Susan Powell?

A She is my ex-wife's cousin.

Q How long have you known her?

A Since childhood.

Q And is she someone that you know to be friends with Jamie and Tammy Snow?

A Yes.

Q Is she someone that hung around with your group of friends for a period of time?

A Yeah.

Q And on March 31st, 1991, the day of the William Little shooting, were you with Susan Powell at all?

A No.

Q Not any time during that day?

A No. I don't believe so.

Q And do you know where you were on March 31, 1991?

A No I don't.

Q Don't know that Easter Sunday who you would have been with or done things with that day? *

A I would have been with my girlfriend, Karen Ballinger.

Q But you don't have any specific recollection of that?

A No I do not.

Q Have you ever had any conversations with anyone where you told them that Jamie Snow was the

person who shot William Little?

A No, I don't believe I've ever been in a conversation that it was stated, no.

Q And when you say I don't believe I was, is there some question that maybe it happened and you don't recall it?

A No, I don't ever remember that, no.

Q Did you ever have any conversations with anyone amongst friends or acquaintances where you indicated that you were in the garage area back behind Clark gas station at the time Jamie Snow went into the Clark station, that you heard the gunshots and that he came running out and you fled with him on foot to a car that was waiting?

A No, I've never been in no conversation like that.

Q Did you ever tell anyone that you got rid of the gun for Jamie Snow after he shot William Little?

A No.

Q Ever told him that you took it any place, whether it be Lake Bloomington--

A No. I never had no gun that belonged to Jamie Snow.

Q Did you ever ask anyone to hide Jamie Snow out because he was wanted for this murder and because he had done the murder and that Susan Powell was the driver of the car?

A No.

Q And do you have any reason to know why anybody would say that you've made statements like the ones I've just said?

A No, I do not.

Q Have you ever discussed the Clark station and the William Little homicide with Jamie Snow?

A Yes. Jamie--yes.

Q What have those conversations consisted of?

A When he got out of jail after I believe he was being held for that or something, he just told me that he'd got lined up for it, you know a lineup, and had been questioned about it.

Q What did he say about it?

A I really don't remember what he said. He said he didn't do it. I don't believe it was a lengthy conversation.

Q Between you and Jamie?

A Right.

Q Would it be fair to say that you and him

are pretty much best friends?

A I would say we're friends.

Q Pretty close friends?

A We used to be real close friends, yes.

Q Did things together?

A Sure.

Q Including other crimes in the past?

A Sure.

Q Was there another occasion when you heard Jamie being talked to about the Clark station murder or shooting William Little?

A Pardon me?

Q Was there another time where you were present when Jamie was being talked to about shooting William Little or someone was asking him about shooting William Little?

A I was at a gas station with Jamie one day and he was confronted by one of Mr. Little's friends.

Q Who was that?

A It was Danny Hartley.

Q Tell me about that, what happened?

A They just pulled up when we was getting gas and told me to stop back because they was gonna whip his ass because he shot his friend, and Jamie pulled

out a car jack out of the back of the car and chased them around the car a couple times. They jumped in the car and left.

Q Did Jamie then talk to you about the Little case then?

A No, I don't recall a conversation going on after that.

Q So your testimony is that you've never had any conversations with Jamie Snow about the William Little homicide, the Clark station robbery except the two times that you're just telling us about today, the lineup and the confrontation with Danny Hartley?

A These are two that stand out that I remember, yeah.

Q Are you saying there might have been other times but you don't remember?

A I don't recall any other conversations that were being going on about it.

Q Do you know what kind of a car Jamie Snow owned in March of 1991, what kind of car he was driving?

A If I'm not mistaken, I think it was a Cordoba.

Q What color?

A Either white or silver, faded silver maybe.

Q Did you have any cars yourself back in March of '91 that you were driving?

A Yeah.

Q What kind of car?

A I had a gold Trans Am and a white Trans Am.

Q What about your girlfriend, Karen Ballinger, what kind of car?

A She drove my cars.

Q Did she have any relatives or anything that had any cars that she drove?

A No.

Q Do you know what Susan Powell was driving back then?

A No. I never really knew Susan like--we were acquaintances. I didn't know her on a real friendship basis or anything so I really didn't know what she has ever owned.

Q Have there ever been any times when you've been at gatherings where Jamie Snow and yourself and other friends of yours were present where you would do toasts and toast to William Little?

A I don't ever remember, not to William

Little.

Q And have you ever been present when Jamie's been discussing the composite drawing of the suspect in the William Little case?

A Yeah.

Q Tell us about that. What's been talked to about that?

A I don't really remember the conversation but it was--I remembered it being brought up.

Q You ever remember Jamie telling you not to worry about the drawings because it was him in the drawings, not you?

A No, I don't remember that statement ever being made.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: I don't believe I have any other questions. Does anybody else?

EXAMINATION BY MR. REYNARD:

Q Mr. McCown, what felony have you been convicted of?

A Have I been convicted of?

Q Yes.

A Residential burglary, aggravated battery, driving on a revoked license and sales of marijuana.

Q What is the crime that you've been convicted of that has you in the Department of Corrections currently?

A Driving on a revoked license and delivery of marijuana.

Q When were you sentenced?

A December of '97.

Q What was your sentence?

A Six years.

Q When is your release date?

A December of 2000.

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

EXAMINATION BY GRAND JURY:

Q I thought that the guy, the boy said that you were friends through Mark--no, I mean--I thought Troy said that you guys just met each other, you and Jamie.

A No. I've known Jamie since we were like probably eight or nine years old.

Q Maybe I'm mistaken then. I thought that Troy said that Mark had just met you--Jamie had just met you and then Troy had just met you.

A Probably Troy.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: You're speaking of Troy Moews?

Q Troy Moews.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: How long have you known Troy Moews?

A Probably since '90 or '91.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: Do you know if Troy Moews knows Jamie Snow?

A Yeah he does.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: Do you know how he met Jamie Snow?

A He might have met him through me.

BY MS. GRIFFIN: Anything else?

(No response.)

BY MS. GRIFFIN: Okay.

(Witness excused.)