

# Episode 19, Part 2



Season 1 : E19, Part 2 - Jamie Takes the Stand

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Speakers: Bruce Fischer, Jamie Snow, Tammy Alexander, Lesley Pires

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**Episode Description:** In 2001, Jamie Snow took the stand in his own defense against the charge of murder. Jamie's legal team was extremely underprepared, and explained to him that if he did not testify, he wouldn't win his case. He had one night's notice that we would take the stand. But Jamie was hopeful. He figured if he told the truth, he didn't have to prepare, he would be good. Jamie was on the stand for a very long time. He rebutted every witness presented in previous episodes of Snow Files, and in great detail, recounted his prior conviction, his participation in the lineup, his alibi, and the cast on his arm, all while maintaining eye contact with his jury. But Jamie Snow was still convicted. Part two of this nineteenth episode of Snow Files, presented by Jamie Snow himself, foreshadows the importance of the closing arguments to come.

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**Jamie Snow:** And I think about this all the time. If I have to spend the rest of my life in prison for a crime I didn't commit, I need the world to know what happened and how it happened.

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**Music Intro:** Injustice Anywhere presents Snow Files: The wrongful conviction of Jamie Snow and how they got away with it.

The mission of the Snow Files Podcast is to expose the misconduct of the State's Attorney's office under Charles Reynard. It is not our intention in any way to

disparage the current State's Attorney's Office or the Bloomington Police Department.

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**Tammy Alexander:** Hey, everyone. This is Tam. I just wanted to thank you for your patience with the recent delays in putting Snow Files out. As we said before, my family got COVID and we were very sick, but my son got the brunt of it. We both returned to work, thinking that we had put it all behind us. But then he fell ill again, landed up in the hospital with some serious heart problems, which is really weird because he's only 26 years old. He's better and is being monitored, but COVID has really taken a toll on us. And we just wanted to thank you for your continued support in getting Jamie's story out there and listening to Jamie's story. I also wanted to thank Bruce and Lesley for all their support. And Lesley, thank you so much for sending the pulse oximeter. That was so kind. And between me and Bo, we put it to great use. Also Jamie wanted to do a really quick shout out before we get started.

**Jamie Snow:** I want to give a quick shout out to Kathleen Buchanan for joining us in this fight and struggle, and becoming a patron partner. We really appreciate you. And we are so grateful to have you as a part of this. And I want to say one last thing to my friend Ellen. Tammy says she was gonna send me some pictures of your new Free Jamie Snow gear. I can't wait to see it. I miss you guys, and I really appreciate everything that all of you do to support me and keep me going in this struggle.

**Bruce Fischer:** In this next segment, we will begin to dive into the questions and witnesses from Jamie's perspective.

**Tammy Alexander:** In Episode 19 Part 2, we're focusing on Jamie's rebuttal to the witnesses who testified against him, starting with Ed Palumbo.

*Ed Palumbo testified that Jamie confessed to him when they were passing in cars, each traveling in the opposite direction, and briefly stopped at an intersection on Olive Street. Palumbo testified that Jamie said, "Did you read about me in the paper?" then said, "Boom boom. Gun goes off. Kid dies." Palumbo has since recanted his testimony. You can listen to Episode Seven for the full story of Ed Palumbo.*

When asked if you bragged to Ed Palumbo in the car by saying "Boom boom. Gun goes off. Kid dies." you said it never happened. He kept asking you that. The objection was asked and answered. And then you said, "I did not brag to Ed

Palumbo. Ed Palumbo was real good friends with Rick Barkes. He would have been the last person in the world." And my question was, did you know Ed Palumbo had a relationship with Barkes at the time of the crime?

**Jamie Snow:** Yeah. I mean, his relationship--if you want to call it that--wasn't with Barkes as much as it was with Barkes' wife. And everybody knew that. I mean, I knew it. The people that knew Ed knew that he had this relationship going on with Barkes' wife.

**Tammy Alexander:** So in regards to Palumbo, Tammy testified that they did do the drive by with the car, and that you asked if he was going to read about Palumbo in the paper. And she said that really was all that there was to it. I can't imagine having this long conversation at that intersection in the first place.

**Jamie Snow:** It was during the middle of the day. There were cars going in both directions. So it was just maybe 15 seconds. That was it. And really, you know, I mean, I had asked him... I had said something along the lines of, "I read about you in the paper" because I knew that him and somebody else was out doing some stuff. And so, what I said to him was, "I read about you in the paper," talking about him. When he decided to make up his story, I mean that's what he said. But it was actually me telling him, "I read about you in the paper."

*The Reverend Bill Gaddis testified that either on the night of the crime or the next night, he went over to Denny Hendrix' apartment to see his brother Garren Bradford. And that Denny Hendrix, Frank Turner, David Shepperson, Jamie Snow, Bobby Hendrix, and a guy named Mike were all in the back bedroom crying. And Gaddis asked, "Who died?" To which Frankie Turner responded, "Jamie shot the boy at the gas station." And that Jamie just bowed his head and didn't say anything. They called it a confession of omission. Several friends and family members of Gaddis state that he is a known liar. And his story is disputed by everyone that was allegedly in attendance at this event, and it was never corroborated by anyone. You can listen to Episode 16 to the full story of Bill Gaddis.*

**Tammy Alexander:** You testified that you went to Denny's house on Lee and Markets Street quite a few times. And when Reynard asked you if you knew the people who were supposedly at the house, you stated you knew Bobby and Todd Hendrix, Garren Bradford, and Frankie Turner. But never had met David Shepperson or the

Reverend Bill Gaddis in your life. Is there anything that you could have done to contradict that assertion?

**Jamie Snow:** No. I mean, I don't know how I prove that I didn't know somebody. I mean, I never knew him. If I knew Dave Shepperson, I would say that I knew Dave Shepperson. But I didn't know Dave Shepperson, and I didn't know Bill Gaddis. And I'm sure that there were lots of people that went over to Denny's house, that apartment, that I didn't know. I mean, I went over there a few times, but it wasn't like it was a regular hangout place for me. I'm sure there were many, many, many people that went through there that I didn't know or had no acquaintance with. It wasn't just Bill Gaddis and Dave Shepperson. I imagine there were a bunch of people.

*Randy Howard testified that Jamie called him to pick him up at the bus station the day after the crime and stated, "Man, bro. I fucked up. I shot the kid." even though Jamie didn't even have a car or a phone at the time. Howard testified that he had known Jamie for years, but Jamie refuted that assertion. Howard has since recanted his testimony. You can listen to episode nine for the full story of Randy Howard.*

**Tammy Alexander:** So is there anything in particular you recall about the testimony regarding Randy Howard? It seems to be kind of the same scenario.

**Jamie Snow:** No. The thing about Randy was, the way they characterized him like he grew up with me, and he was my lifelong friend and all this stuff. I mean, that's not how it was. Randy was a little kid back at the time that he lived in the same neighborhood that I did. He was a little kid, so we didn't hang out. They were trying to portray him like he was this lifelong friend of mine. And I had tried to get Pat Frank to dig up the evidence that showed that he lived with his grandma, I think. I don't think he lived with his mom. I think he lived with his grandma. She had gotten to the point where she was unable to take care of him. And DCFS came in and took him, and he left the neighborhood. And I didn't see Randy again for probably 1,000 years.

And I also knew prior to trial that he was saying that he had called me on the phone, and that I had went and picked him up at the bus station and all this stuff. And again, I had told Pat Frank that... Look, we didn't have a phone. He could never have called me on the phone to come and pick him up at the bus station because we did not have a phone. So at the very beginning of the story that he was telling, had they

had just done some minor investigative work, they could have started chipping away at the believability of his story in the first place. And that was one of the reasons I had to testify/ Was they had botched it so bad that at that point, it was my word against Randy's. But had they done their job, they would have been able to impeach Randy when they had him on the stand with the fact... How did you call him on the phone if he didn't have a phone?

And I'll say this now and I'll probably say it a dozen more times. For every single one of these witnesses, there was either other witnesses or other information and records that would have impeached their testimony. That's the problem with someone making up a story. You don't realize... I'm sure Randy was telling his story. "Oh. I called him and he came and picked me up at the bus station." This story was coming in at, what 1999? So at that point, everybody's got cell phones or whatever. And so he probably never even imagined 10 years earlier, we didn't have a phone. So I mean, his story began to fall apart from the very beginning. That was just one of the things that stuck out to me. And I mean, there was really nothing I could say about it. It was my word against his.

*Dawn Roberts testified that she was living in a trailer park, and Jamie poured out a beer at a party and gave a toast to Bill, and also that Jamie asked her to take down all of the composites around town and bring them to him. We did not do an episode on Dawn Roberts, but she has since recanted her testimony.*

**Tammy Alexander:** Dawn Roberts. And this is where we go into the composites. It says, "And do you recall him asking if there were ever, during that timeframe, a number of those composites sitting on your kitchen table?" And you answered no. Is that also a correct statement? You said, that's correct. And do you recall him asking did Dawn Roberts ever bring you a copy of the composites? And you said, I don't believe so. Was that your testimony on direct examination?

Then they go on to talk about the kitchen table. And you said, "Dawn Roberts never brought me a composite drawing. No one ever brought me a composite drawing. They were up all over town. If I really wanted one, I could have gotten one myself."

We didn't do an episode on Dawn Roberts. But just to quickly review, she testified that she met you towards the end of 1992, which is interesting because you didn't live in Bloomington at that time. And she stated you were living in South Gate Estates at that time. Roberts testified about having a conversation in the kitchen of your trailer with Bill Morris, Mark McGowan and Tammy Snow present, where you

asked her to take composites down. She stated that she did and brought them back to you, and there were other flyers of the composite on the kitchen table.

The other significant testimony from Roberts was that you, Mark McCowan, and a neighbor from across the street, and several other people in the yard... were in the yard and you had poured out a beer and made a toast to Billy Little. Now she would have been about 16 years old at the time. And in Tammy's testimony, Tammy Snow, your wife, also testified that there were no composites on the kitchen table at the time. So do you want to speak to that testimony?

**Jamie Snow:** Dawn was pretty much in the same vein as everybody else. Her original statement should have been used to impeach her. When she first came up with her story, she was saying that the crime happened in the fall, and this was the spring, so it had been very long at all. So she was implying that it was 1992. Right? And like you said, we didn't even live in Illinois in 1992. So that couldn't have happened. When she was testifying that we were pouring beer out, toasting Bill Little, and she was coming to the house, and we were having these parties at the house and all these people were over there... That was why I had put Tina McWhorter and Scott Rose was the guy that lived across the street, and Billy Morris and Mark McCowan... And all these people that she said were present when all these things were going on... I put them on the witness list specifically so that they could come in and testify that those things never happened. I put my father and my mother in law down on the witness list because when she testified that all these things were going on, my wife and my kids, we all live with my in-laws. My mother and my father in law. And if you knew my father in law, these parties and all these people that she was talking about being at the house, just... That wasn't happening. And as you now know, and what people listening probably don't know, is Dawn has given us an affidavit recanting all of that.

And just real quick, we heard through the grapevine... Which I really don't like to listen too much to the grapevine in Bloomington... But people were talking to Dawn had testified in an effort to get her brother, who was imprisoned at the time, out on house arrest. So I had somebody look it up. His name was Kelly Roberts. And right after she testified, he was actually released from IDMC on house arrest. So in this case when it comes to deals, and wheeling and dealing, and people getting things.... Where there's smoke, there's probably fire.

**Tammy Alexander:** So she did specifically say in her testimony that she met you towards the end of 1992, and stated that you were living in South Gates. So none of this could have happened during that time because you weren't there.

**Jamie Snow:** No. We weren't even in the state of Illinois at the end of 1992.

*Convicted rapist Bill Moffit testified that Jamie confessed to him while they spent one night in a cell together while being transferred from McClean County Jail to Joliet. Moffit's story grew over time until it matched the state's theory. You can listen to Episode 10 for the full story of Bill Moffit.*

**Tammy Alexander:** Bill Moffitt. You testified that you did not offer him to go stay with your sister in Missouri if he ever needed a place to hide out, and that you never bragged him off about the crime, and didn't make any references to him about smoking crack, smoking a pipe, or needing money. Is there anything particular about his testimony that you wanted to share?

**Jamie Snow:** First off, if you knew my sister, I wouldn't be sending a total stranger down to her house. I mean, it's just asinine to believe that. And one of the things that Moffit said in his testimony or in his statements was that we actually were out, and we needed some money, and we had pulled into that gas station to get gas. As we were getting gas, that's when we decided to rob the gas station. That's a complete contradiction to everybody else that testified. But I mean again, Moffit's statements should have been used because his statement, his original statement... Everything that he said in his original statement to the police, none of the details that he ended up testifying to years later, he didn't say any of it.

And he was just another person who... You know, I was telling Frank Picl, ask this dude to give us some names. Since he'd known me for all these years, and he'd seen me around town. Give us some names of some people that we could go out and get them to come in and testify that he'd ever seen me anywhere on the face of the earth. And I think Steve Skelton did a really good job at cross-examining him. Because he got him to say that he couldn't write the letter or tell anybody this story cuz he didn't have money for write outs. And he couldn't make a phone call. And he never saw a guard. And he was in Joliet at the time for like 60 or 80 days.

So, that's why I put a correctional officer that I knew, that was in Joliet at the time, named Michael Buczkowski. I put him down as a witness because he could have

came in and testified that everybody was able to send out three free letters every week. Didn't have any money, you got to send out three free letters. Everybody had access to the phones. And the only way you could go a day without seeing a guard was if you were blind. They'd come around and they'd do count three times a day. And that's why Buczkowski was on the list, was to come in and testify to those things.

Had they used Buczkowski... And believe it or not, Frank Picl told me that they checked with IDOC and Buczkowski no longer worked for IDOC. Fast forward. I'm convicted. I get here to Stateville. They put me in a cell house and orientation. One of the first guards I see is Buczkowski. I call him over to my cell and I'm like, "Did you quit and come back? What's going on?" He's like, "What are you talking about? I've been working for IDOC all this time." And so they didn't even try to reach out to Buczkowski. Had they had reached out to Buczkowski, they could have put him on the stand. He could have testified to these things. And it wouldn't have just been my word against Moffit.

**Tammy Alexander:** What's interesting to me about Bill Moffit's testimony is when the state was cross examining him, they didn't bring up any of that. They only brought up sister in Missouri so they could bring up, in my opinion, hiding out. And they brought up references to smoking crack and bragging. Those are the three themes, it seems to me, that just run through his testimony. They're always bringing that up.

**Jamie Snow:** But let me point out one thing though. They never did put one person on the stand that ever testified that I had smoked crack with them. Not one. They could get these people to testify to all this other stuff, you would think they would have been able to get one person to testify that I was this drug user. And they weren't able to do it. Because it was a lie.

*Ronnie Wright testified that Jamie confessed to him while Jamie was awaiting trial in county jail. He has since recanted, stating that he and Jamie got into a fight over a game of dominoes, and that he was kicked out of the pod. Wright stated in his affidavit that he was just trying to get back at Jamie for getting him kicked out of the pod. We did not do a full episode on Ronnie Wright, but he contacted Tammy Snow stating he was riddled with guilt over falsely testifying, and wanted to make things right. That's when he recanted. His affidavit stated that everything he said on the stand was a lie.*



So you never told Ronnie Wright to avoid talking about smoking crack in Florida because the police might think that it has something to do with the robbery and murder of Bill Little. What was that like? The question was weird.

**Jamie Snow:** No. No, I never told Ronnie that. And as we all know now, Ronnie has also given an affidavit and recanted his testimony. That was clearly just the coaching by the state to get their witnesses to talk about me and drugs so they could, I guess, make me look bad. But like I said, Ronnie has now recanted.

*Ed Hammond testified that Jamie confessed to him when they were together in Centralia prison. He has since recanted, and evidence not revealed to the defense before Jamie's trial proved that he was seeking appeal in exchange for his testimony. You can listen to Episode 11 for the full story of Ed Hammond.*

You testified that you never said to Ed Hammond that you had been in need of money for drugs the night of the murder. In fact, you stated, "I deny that. That is a rumor that has been circulating around this town since the crime happened. And everybody has known that." They spent a lot of time questioning you about when you are on the road crew in Centralia as well. It's obvious that they were trying to create this window of time, much like they did with Tammy Snow. From the grand jury. "Well, I wasn't... It's not like I was watching him every single second of the day. But no, he didn't go anywhere."

I think that they were trying to create this window where you may have had access to Hammond. You stated you were at work, so you weren't able to go to the morning and afternoon yards. And they went on to ask you if you worked seven days a week and so on. Like, did you ever go to the yard? Was there any opportunity? And there was some interesting testimony here, where they questioned you. "Isn't it also true that the residents of the East house, even if they didn't live in one of the units that wasn't supposed to go to the south yard, could have nonetheless gone to the south yard?" And you said. "I really... I really don't know. They had to get by a couple of guard towers and some buildings and maybe some fences. I would have to say it's unlikely." And they go into asking you if there were fence barriers. And you're like, I don't know, I didn't live in the East house. They're asking you questions that are kind of impossible for you to answer. You end up saying, "I'm saying me and Ed Hammond didn't have contact in Centralia when on the yard, in the chow hall, in the commissary, in the gym. I was never aware that Ed Hammond was in Centralia until I

read his statements in the discovery." Is there anything about that testimony that you...?

**Jamie Snow:** No. I think that's pretty spot on. I mean, I was on the road crew. So I went to work Monday through Friday. So I wasn't (illegible) the yard Monday through Friday, either the morning or the afternoon. The Weekend yards, yes. I could have went to the weekend yards. But this is one of the reasons that I had told my attorneys prior to trial, we need to get the movement records. We could have tracked Hammond's movements and my movements. He was only in Centralia for six weeks. So we could have tracked his movements and my movements for that six week period. And it would have shown that we were never together anywhere in the Centralia Correctional Center. I never saw him. And now we know that Ed has given us an affidavit, and he's admitted that everything that I was testifying to on the stand was true. And what's really disgusting about that is the state's attorney knew that she was hiding evidence about the deal that Hammond got to testify. So yeah, there's really nothing to add to it other than now we have an affidavit that absolutely corroborates what I was saying.

*Bruce Roland testified that Jamie confessed to him when he was in prison when Jamie was on a court writ. They were in the same prison for less than two weeks. Roland said Jamie told him he was at a party at the Whitmer's near the gas station, went to buy cigarettes, and decided he didn't want to pay for them. Roland went on to testify that Jamie left the gas station, but went back later, shot the kid because he had a smart mouth, and took the money and cigarettes. We know now that Roland was in serious trouble and was facing an extended sentence in prison for felony DUIs. Roland was sentenced to less than five years for multiple felony DUI charges. You can listen to Episode 12 for the full story of Bruce Roland.*

**Tammy Alexander:** So you were also adamant that you never spoke to Bruce Roland. They kept trying to nail you down in the testimony that you were in segregation unit in reference to Roland. You countered by saying you didn't know what the unit was called, but you did say you were free to roam the building you were in. Did you think that gave them an opening to say Roland had access to you? I was always under the impression that you were locked in your cell and didn't have access.

**Jamie Snow:** The cell block in Logan was an open cell block. You had at a day room, you had an area where they had a pool table and a ping pong table, and some chairs

and a TV. And then down this long hallway were the cells on both sides. We were locked in that cell block. So when I'm saying I have the ability to move around, I could move around within that cell block. I was there on a court writ. I wasn't in population with the population guys, which is what Bruce Roland was. He was a population guy. We weren't with the population, we were separate from the population. So we didn't go to yard. We didn't go to the chow hall. We didn't leave that unit for anything, other than maybe to go to the healthcare unit. But we were by ourselves and we were separated. And that building that I was in also housed people that were in seg. Segregation was like a multipurpose... Like F house here. F house, the floor gallery cell house -- they have seg on one floor and they have guys that are on writs on another floor, then they have population on another floor. So you're separated. That's how it was. And I never saw Bruce. I never left the cell house. I was in that pod in that cell block the whole time.

**Tammy Alexander:** So he said though that he had access as a trustee to clean or something in that, to mop floors in that cell block.

**Jamie Snow:** No. He never came into that cell block. He was a population guy. We were not in population. We were guys that were in that pod that I was in were on writs or whatever other designation they had. They were not population.

**Tammy Alexander:** So you're saying that he did not have access to come and clean as a trustee? He was not given access to that cell block?

**Jamie Snow:** Not to that cell block that I was in. No. He did not have access to that cell block. And had my lawyers have done a little bit of investigation and some research, they would have been able to show that we were not Logan population. I was coming from Centralia. So I was kept in a cell block apart from the Logan population. Because if you come there and you're not from that institution, if something was to happen to you, then they're liable for that.

*Dan Tannaz, a Vietnam veteran, was an acquaintance of Jamie's when he lived in Florida. They worked together. He testified that Jamie had told him he was involved in a robbery or something like that in Illinois, and that Jamie had asked him what it was like to kill somebody. Tannaz has since given an affidavit clarifying this testimony, stating that Jamie had stated that someone was accusing him of a robbery, and that he never said anything about being involved in a murder. Tannaz also stated that the detectives told him that Jamie Snow had*

*shot his father and had killed a young kid that worked at a gas station for a small amount of money, beer and cigarettes. He stated he had no knowledge of any murder, and that while he was waiting to testify, the police detective gave him a newspaper with the trial in the headlines. We did not do an episode on Tannaz.*

**Tammy Alexander:** The next person they talked about was Dan Tannaz. So he had testified, and again we did not review his testimony as well. But he testified that you told him you were involved in a robbery in Illinois. You did agree that you told Tannaz that you were a suspect in a shooting when you were sitting around drinking, but it's really muddy. It's kind of like, maybe I did. I don't know. But then stated that he may have been mistaken. The state kept trying to say that you told him you were involved in a murder in Illinois. But actually that's not what he testified to at all. There really wasn't much else to his testimony, except critically Tannaz stated these conversations happened in the summer of 1995. But you were still in prison at that time. Is that correct?

**Jamie Snow:** Yeah. (Illegible) He was giving statements that these conversations or these things took place at a time when I wasn't even in Florida.

**Tammy Alexander:** Do you feel like he lied or that he was mistaken? Because it seems like a little bit earlier in the testimony, he was talking about '97. And then he says '95. And he just seems... He doesn't seem like he's trying to...

**Jamie Snow:** I don't know. I really honestly don't know. I do know that Dan has now given us an affidavit and recanted his testimony. I don't know why or how they were able to get Dan to testify. I have no clue. But he has since given us an affidavit and recanted. And that's what matters.

**Tammy Alexander:** Do you remember having a discussion with him about a robbery or murder or shooting somebody?

**Jamie Snow:** No. No.

**Tammy Alexander:** What was interesting to me about this testimony that he stated that you had asked him what was it like to kill somebody. And had you killed somebody, it seems like you would have known and not asked that question.

**Jamie Snow:** True. That's a good point. I mean, did I ever tell Dan that I was a suspect in a homicide case in Illinois? It's possible. I might have. I mean, I knew it. I knew that I was a suspect. I mean, they forced me to stand in a lineup. So I knew it. I never said I did it. You know, I never said hey, I committed this homicide. I never said that. So did we ever have that sort of a conversation? I don't remember that specifically. But is it possible? Sure, it's possible. But I'm glad you pointed that out. That's a great point. I mean, had I have actually killed somebody before, I wouldn't have asked Dan what it was like to kill somebody. So that's a great point. I'm glad you caught that.

*Jody Winkler testified that Jamie confessed to him at the beach when work was shut down due to rain. You can listen to Episode 15 for the full story of Jody Winkler.*

**Tammy Alexander:** Your testimony was that you never went to the beach with Jody Winkler and had a conversation with him about the Clark murder. And you said you felt sorry for him. What was behind that statement?

**Jamie Snow:** Jody was a drug addict. He was a drug addict. And I was introduced to him by somebody else that said he needed a job. I had my own little tree service thing going on and I needed help. And I started working Jody. And he was a good worker. I'd come out in the morning and he'd be there waiting on me. And it took me about a week before I realized that this dude had a drug problem. I came out one morning and he wasn't there. He was there every morning for like a week, and he wasn't there. Like damn, I'm gonna have to go pick him up. And I went to take my garbage out, and I walked in the alley and he was laying in the alley asleep. So I woke him up, and he came clean and told me what was going on. He was really, really bad into drugs. So I felt sorry for him. And I told him, I said, "Look. This is what I'm going to do for you, man. I'm going to give you \$20 a day. And I'm going to keep the rest of your pay. And I'm going to let you stay here. I'm going to feed you. I'm gonna do all this. And then after 30 days, I'm gonna give you all your money and you're gonna have to figure something out. Because I can't have that shit around me." I had my kids around, and I couldn't have it. And I felt sorry for him. And let me be very clear about something. I lived in Florida for quite a few years, and never did I say, hey it's raining, let's go to the beach. It never happened.

*Kevin Schaal was a former cellmate of Jamie's who came to live with him in Florida after he was released from prison. He testified that Jamie confessed to him, but now we know he received a federal downward departure in exchange for*

*testifying against Jamie. You can listen to episode 15 for the full story of Kevin Schaal.*

**Tammy Alexander:** They seem to go in depth about investigator Cassagnoli's report about the interview with Kevin Scheel. And I know we're going back to this, but it wasn't focused on Scheel. It was focused on Trees Unlimited and your business relationship with Dave Kohler. What was that about? Because they went on and on about your relationship. And did you own the place, and did you not own the place, and something about the chipper. And it just seemed to kind of go off the rails. Do you know what they were getting at?

**Jamie Snow:** I have no idea. I really don't. I never understood that myself. I believe that, if that's the detective that we sent to talk to Kevin... I mean, we just wanted to get Kevin on record before anybody with the ability to cut him some sort of a deal or give him something got to him. And it happened exactly the way that I hoped it would. I mean, before the state's attorneys showed up to interview Kevin, he knew nothing about the case. And he's emphatic. Jamie never told me nothing about any murders. He wouldn't do anything like that. Give him a polygraph. So on and so forth. And soon as Charles Reynard and Dan Katz "the witness whisperer" showed up, then all of a sudden Kevin got a 50-page statement to give them. Which as we all know now, he got a minimum of eight years knocked off of a federal prison sentence in return for his testimony.

*Mary Burns was a correctional officer from McLean County and testified that Jamie told her when he was in county jail awaiting trial that he and Susan had committed the crime. You can listen to Episode 17 for the full story of Mary Burns.*

**Tammy Alexander:** You testified that you got along well with Mary Burns, the correctional officer in McLean County, when you were awaiting your trial. And that you may have talked about your flight. And you said later on on cross examination that you never talked about the case. But earlier in the beginning of your testimony, they asked what you said to her... And this was Breiley or Picl or whoever. You said, "I was talking about a couple of different things. And the conversation was flowing between one thing and the Clark. And I was trying to, I guess explain to her why I thought I was a suspect. And I was relating to her something that, something else that had happened totally different than this case. And the only thing I can figure out is that she misunderstood exactly what I was talking about. I was not. I have never said that Susan was driving me anywhere. Susan Claycomb Powell has never

driven me anywhere and I do not know who committed this murder. And I would not tell her that." So there seems to be a little bit of discrepancy there.

**Jamie Snow:** Here's what I think. And this is what I think. I don't think there was a misunderstanding at all with Mary Burns. I don't think she misunderstood what I was talking about at all. I guess what I meant when I said we didn't talk about this case, was me denying. It's me saying that we did not talk about this case in the manner that she said we did. That never happened. And I guess that's what I meant. You know, look. When you're on the stand being cross examined in a first degree murder case, and it's a very intense situation. I mean, I wasn't being deceitful. I just may have been a little distracted by the questions. But the truth is, I mean, we never had the conversation that she said we had. It never happened.

And I guess that's what I would say about it. It never happened. And had my attorneys done their job, and went and talked to Demetrice Crite, and Lindsey Caldwell and Darren Smart... People that she claimed were present when I was making these statements, they would have been able to put them on the stand. And they would have all testified that it never happened. Had they have talked to her immediate supervisor Chris Salmon, who she claimed that she told him about this conversation, he would have testified that it didn't happen. It wouldn't just be me, my word, against Mary Burns. There would have been some corroboration to it.

**Tammy Alexander:** The question came, and it was one of Lesley's questions... Because I think that we had said during the Mary Burns that you never said anything about it. And she said, you know, we need to clarify that. So I'm looking at your second statement, and actually it corroborates what you said. When they were asking you on cross, you said it is my firm recollection that we didn't discuss a case which I'm on trial for in the context that she has said.

**Jamie Snow:** Listen, this was the problem with me having to take the stand. Because they had dangled the other case out there. And had I have never been a suspect in that case, and had I never been arrested for that case, I would have never been a suspect in the William Little homicide. That's where all the confusion... Because we probably should have. In hindsight, I wish I would have... I should have just told the jury, you know what, I'm putting it all out on the table. This is why I'm a suspect in this case. And this is what happened with the Freedom robbery. And this is what these people were talking about. They've got the two cases mixed up. They think... As a matter of fact, one of the people that testified at the grand jury realized

that when she was testifying in the grand jury that she had it wrong. She was thinking of the Freedom robbery, and not the Clark case. So it was confusing. And the state used that to their advantage. Because they knew that we probably didn't want to bring it out. But in hindsight, we absolutely should have. We absolutely should have. We should have cleared up all the discrepancies for the jury to consider.

**Tammy Alexander:** I think earlier on, very early on during the podcast, that Lesley brought that out very well when she was talking about on the Q&A when they consistently, they replaced the word robbery with murder.

**Jamie Snow:** And you know what? I'm glad she caught that, because that's absolutely what was going on. And I look back on it now in hindsight. Now hindsight is always 20/20. I wonder if the jury would not have found me more credible had I have not just said... You know what? I don't have to tell you about this. I don't have to tell you about this. But you know what, I'm going to tell you about it because I think it's the only way that you're going to come to the right decision. You need all the information, not just what the lawyers have decided to argue. You can have... I think you need it all. So I'm going to give you even if it's to my detriment. I'm gonna give it to you, because I think you need to know in order to come to the right decision. I mean, that's probably what we should have done. But Lesley was absolutely right. That's what they did.

**Tammy Alexander:** Because if we were bringing it out in trial, and then it was just out there, we could have produced the grand jury testimony for Freedom. And said, see this is what they're saying. This is what they're doing.

**Jamie Snow:** Absolutely, yeah.

**Tammy Alexander:** And it would have been very easy to produce documentation to show that they were replacing what they said about Freedom with the Clark Station.

**Jamie Snow:** Absolutely. No doubt about it. You're 100% correct.

*Tim Powell testified that his sister Susan Powell, Jamie, and Tammy Snow stopped at Freedom gas station about three or four weeks before the Clark Station crime. And that Jamie got out and bought some beer and said he was going to rob the place. He said that they rode around by the Whitmer's and that*



*Jamie got out and talked to Brian Whitmer. We did not do an episode on Tim Powell.*

The last question I wanted to ask you about is Tim Powell. That was your codefendant's brother. Now we didn't go over him either. Tim Powell testified that a few weeks prior to Easter 1991 that you, Tim, Susan, and Tammy were riding around and stopped at several gas stations. And Tim Powell made it out like you were casing them. He also stated that you stopped by Brian Whitmer's and spoke with Brian Whitmer. So both Tammy Snow and Susan Powell vehemently disputed this in their testimonies. What is your insight on Tim Powell?

**Jamie Snow:** You know, I don't know. You've just recently told me, I didn't even know this until just recently, like within the last month that he had pending criminal charges. I did not know that. We did not know that at the time of trial. They did not turn that over. That's another one of the things that they hid from us, was the fact that Tim Powell had criminal charges pending. He said that we went to Brian Whitmer's house. That's why I put Brian Whitmer on the stand. And trust me, me and Brian Whitmer are not friends, and we've never been friends. And when I read that in his statement, I kind of laughed because I'm like, that's just laughable. I would never go to Brian Whitmer's house. You know what, Brian came in and he testified no. It never happened.

So I mean, I deny it ever happened. And Tammy denies it ever happened. And Susan denies that ever happened. And Brian Whitmer denies it ever happened. I mean, I don't know who else I can get to come in and testify that these things didn't happen. I'm going to assume, and I don't have any evidence to back this up. But I'm going to assume that perhaps the witness whisperer went to Tim and was like, we don't want Susan. We want Snow. So if you can help us get him... You know, we're not worried about her. And maybe that's why he did it. I don't know. It could just be that it was an open season on deals in McLean County. He had a pending criminal case... And I don't know. Maybe I forget what you said. But did they dismiss his charges after trial?

**Tammy Alexander:** He had a police sentencing hearing on October 29, 1999. And he pled guilty to resisting obstructing peace officer correction employee. He had two counts of that. And then possession of drug paraphernalia, which that isn't too bad. But he got 12 months probation.

**Jamie Snow:** Okay. That's a relative slap on the wrist. So, it could be that's what it was. I don't know. I mean, like I said, everybody that supposedly was involved in this ride and going to the Whitmer house and all that, everybody said it didn't happen. And trust me, Brian Whitmer was no friend of mine. So he wasn't testifying for me. He was just telling the truth. So.

**Tammy Alexander:** And you know, it's interesting that he popped up, again, all of these people, popped up in 1999, 1998.

**Jamie Snow:** After my arrest.

**Tammy Alexander:** So nobody, not one person on this witness list was like in 1991, "Hey, Jamie Snow was casing this place. He said he was gonna rob a place." Where was he then?

**Jamie Snow:** Yeah exactly. It didn't happen. So like I said, I'm surprised they didn't take an ad out on the paper and say if you'll testify against Snow, we'll let you go. I think that's all it was. I mean, it was open season. And everybody knew that if you needed a deal, if you were in trouble, now's the time to come up with a story. And that's what happened.

Had Frank and Pat done their job and properly put forward the witness list, and properly laid the foundation for these people, I may not have had to testify. I mean, we couldn't call Billy Hendrix, and we couldn't call Mark Foster, and we couldn't call Buczkowski, and all the people that would have rebutted Dawn Roberts. And one of the things about Dan Tannaz was he named all these people who were supposedly there when we were having these conversations in Florida. All of those people have said it didn't happen the way that he said it happened. That's, I think, defense 101. I mean, you interview these people, and if they deny that these things took place, then you call them and you put them on the stand. They didn't do that. And I had no choice but to get up on the stand. And like I said, by that point in time, it was my word against everybody. And that's a horrible, terrible strategy.

**Lesley Pires:** In part two of Episode 19, we heard Jamie reflect on just how the state got away with his wrongful conviction. Jamie tried to single handedly combat the prosecution. But the defense's last minute show of force was not enough for the jury, especially after the closing arguments that came next.

If you have any information that may help Jamie, please call the tip line at 888-710-SNOW. There is a \$10,000 reward for any information leading to a new trial or the exoneration of Jamie Snow. The tip line is free and confidential. Want to join the Jamie Snow support team? Become a patron for as little as \$1 a month. Just go to SnowFiles.net and click on Be My Patreon on Podbean. All donors will have our undying appreciation and acknowledgement on the show. The highest tier donors will be invited to host a Q&A segment. Funds are used to cover our administrative costs and to keep Jamie in the media.

After Jamie took the stand and the defense rested, the prosecution of one more stab with their closing arguments. Prosecutor Teena Griffin recounted witness testimony with her own words and implications with her own twist to build a web of lies. Her convoluted narrative was so weak that if one witness was pulled, they'd all crash like a house of cards. We're going to show you that domino effect. That's next time on Snow Files.

*Transcribed by: Caywood Yamnik*

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