

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

Appeal from Lexington County  
Honorable Debra R. McCaslin, Circuit Court Judge

---

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

JEREMY SAVOY CORNISH,

APPELLANT.

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2022-001536

---

RECORD ON APPEAL

---

WANDA H. CARTER  
Deputy Chief Appellate Defender

ALAN WILSON  
Attorney General

South Carolina Commission on Indigent  
Defense  
Division of Appellate Defense  
PO Box 11589  
Columbia, SC 29211-1589  
(803) 734-1330

DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

TOMMY EVANS, JR.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211  
(803) 734-6305

S.R. HUBBARD, III  
Solicitor, Eleventh Judicial Circuit  
205 E. Main St. 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl.  
Lexington, SC 29072

ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

**INDEX**

INDEX .....	i
JURY SELECTION TRANSCRIPT DATED OCTOBER 10, 2022 .....	1
TRIAL TRANSCRIPT DATED OCTOBER 11-14, 17-21, 2022 .....	2
PRE-TRIAL MOTIONS .....	17
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	19
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	81
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	98
Recross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	114
COLLOQUY DNA EVIDENCE .....	117
COLLOQUY REGARDING EXCITED UTTERANCE AND DYING DECLARATION .....	133
COLLOQUY REGARDING PHOTOS AND BODY CAM .....	144
RULING BY THE COURT.....	149
MOTION IN LIMINE FOR IMPROPER CHARACTER EVIDENCE .....	152
MOTION REGARDING STATEMENTS .....	159
MOTION TO REVEAL CONSIDERATION .....	170
COLLOQUY.....	172
<u>JACKSON V. DENNO HEARING</u> .....	178
JESSE LAINTZ (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	178
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	209
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	235
JAMES PRATT (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	241
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	271
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	286



COLLOQUY.....	288
TESTIMONY	
ARCADEUS DUBARD (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	291
Cross-Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	300
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	304
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	324
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	331
COLLOQUY.....	332
RULING BY THE COURT.....	347
COLLOQUY REGARDING MOTION IN LIMINE.....	351
COLLOQUY REGARDING CHARACTER EVIDENCE.....	367
RULING BY THE COURT.....	370
COLLOQUY REGARDING DNA EVIDENCE .....	371
OPENING REMARKS BY THE COURT.....	397
RULING BY THE COURT REGARDING DNA EVIDENCE .....	407
COLLOQUY.....	412
OPENING STATEMENT BY MS. MAYES.....	415
OPENING STATEMENT BY MR. LEVENTIS .....	427
TESTIMONY	
MELISSA PATRICK	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	437
SCOTT PURDY	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	446
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	484
NICHOLAS IKE BATALIS	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	485



BRANNON MARTHERS	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	515
JOHN DONNELLY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	526
Cross-Examination by Mr. Leventis .....	542
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	544
Recross-Examination by Mr. Leventis .....	545
COLLOQUY.....	547
RULING BY THE COURT.....	550
TESTIMONY	
DONNOVIN HAYNES	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	552
Cross-Examination by Ms. Leventis.....	589
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	604
Recross-Examination by Mr. Leventis .....	609
Re-Redirect Examination by Mr. Hubbard.....	613
COLLOQUY.....	615
PATRICK WARD	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	627
RULING BY THE COURT REGARDING DYING DECLARATION .....	674
TESTIMONY	
PATRICK WARD (CONT'D)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	676
COLLOQUY.....	714
TESTIMONY	
PATRICK WARD (CONT'D)	
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	719
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	736
CHRISTY MENESES	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	742
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson.....	757



Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	761
SABAH KADHIM	
Direct Examination by Mr. Norton.....	762
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson.....	769
THOMAS ALVIN SMITH	
Direct Examination by Mr. Norton.....	772
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson.....	781
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Norton.....	784
JAMES PRATT	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	787
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	822
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	844
ARCADEUS DUBARD	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	850
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	865
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	879
JONATHAN BROCK	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard.....	881
NICK BURT	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard.....	899
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	925
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard.....	935
JESSE LAINTZ	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	936
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	987
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1005
Recross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	1009
COLLOQUY.....	1010
CODY WEYANDT	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1013
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	1027
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1028
MELINDA WORLEY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1030
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson.....	1043



JAMES GREEN	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1045
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	1079
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1085
KIM KERLONG	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1087
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	1093
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1094
COURTNEY THOMPSON	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1104
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	1123
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1123
SAMUEL STEWART	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1124
Cross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	1162
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1177
Recross-Examination by Ms. Wilson .....	1179
COLLOQUY.....	1180
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1183
COLLOQUY.....	1228
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1231
BRANNON MARTHERS (IN-CAMERA)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1233
RULING BY THE COURT.....	1240
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1242



MATTER OF LAW .....	1290
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1295
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes (IN-CAMERA) .....	1302
COLLOQUY.....	1304
TESTIMONY	
ANTHONY ADAM CREECH (CONT'D)	
Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes .....	1309
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	1317
Re-Direct Examination by Ms. Mayes.....	1385
Recross-Examination by Mr. Swerling.....	1388
BRIAN ZWOLAK	
Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1388
Cross-Examination by Mr. Swerling .....	1392
Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Hubbard .....	1394
STATE RESTS .....	1395
MOTION FOR DIRECTED VERDICT.....	1396
RULING BY THE COURT.....	1397
CHARGE CONFERENCE.....	1399
RENEWAL OF ALL MOTIONS.....	1413
CHARGE CONFERENCE (CONT'D) .....	1414
DEFENSE RESTS .....	1423
CLOSING ARGUMENT BY MR. HUBBARD .....	1425
CLOSING ARGUMENT BY MR. SWERLING .....	1448
JURY CHARGE ON THE LAW .....	1499
VERDICT .....	1522
MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL .....	1523



RULING BY THE COURT.....1523

SENTENCING .....1543

COURT’S EXHIBIT NO 1 (SEARCH WARRANT).....1546

MOTION TO SUPPRESS DNA EVIDENCE FILED OCTOBER 4, 2022 .....1551

COURT’S EXHIBIT NO. 36 (ORDER ADMITTING DNA EVIDENCE AND  
SUPPRESSING STATEMENTS .....1557

COURT’S EXHIBIT NO. 37 (TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED INTERVIEWS OF  
JEREMY CORNISH .....1569

STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 61 (DIAGRAM) .....1700

INDICTMENTS AND SENTENCE SHEETS.....1701

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL .....1717

**THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITS ARE ON FILE WITH THE COURT:**

**STATE’S EXHIBIT NOS. 206, 209 (AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS)**



1 throughout the trial unless you reach a verdict of guilt  
2 based on evidence satisfying you of that guilt beyond a  
3 reasonable doubt. The presumption of innocence is like  
4 a robe of righteousness placed about the shoulders of the  
5 defendant which remains with the defendant unless it has  
6 been stripped from the defendant by evidence satisfying  
7 you of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.  
8 The presumption of innocence is not a mere legal theory,  
9 it is not just a legal phrase, it is a substantial right  
10 to which every defendant is entitled to unless you, the  
11 jury, are satisfied from the evidence of the defendant's  
12 guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

13 The State has the burden of proving the defendant  
14 guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Some of you may have  
15 served as jurors in civil cases where you were told that  
16 it is only necessary to prove a fact is more likely true  
17 than not true, such as by the greater weight or what we  
18 call preponderance of the evidence. In criminal cases,  
19 the State's proof must be more powerful than that. It  
20 must be beyond a reasonable doubt.

21 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is proof that leaves  
22 you firmly convinced of the defendant's guilt. There are  
23 very few things in this world that we know with absolute  
24 certainty and in criminal law the case does not require  
25 that proof overcomes every possible doubt. If, based on

1 your consideration of the evidence, you are firmly  
2 convinced that the defendant is guilty of the crime  
3 charged, you must find him guilty. If on the other hand,  
4 you think there is a real possibility that the defendant  
5 is not guilty, you must give the defendant the benefit of  
6 the doubt and find him not guilty.

7 I remind you that during this trial you and I have  
8 certain due duties to perform. As the trial judge, it is  
9 my responsibility to preside over the trial of this case  
10 and I also have the duty to rule on the admissibility of  
11 evidence offered during the trial. You are to consider  
12 only the competent evidence before you. If there was  
13 any testimony ordered stricken from the record in this  
14 case, you must disregard that testimony. And I remember  
15 I think I had struck a couple of things in this case and  
16 instructed the jury to disregard that testimony.

17 You are to consider only the testimony which has  
18 been presented from the witness stand, any exhibits which  
19 have been made part of the record in this case, and any  
20 stipulations of counsel, and I believe I we also had a  
21 stipulation that I informed the jury you are to treat  
22 that as a true fact.

23 I have the additional duty to charge you the law  
24 applicable to this case. As the presiding judge, I am  
25 the sole judge of the law of this case and it is your

1 duty as jurors to accept and apply the law as I now  
2 state it to you. If you already have an idea of what  
3 the law is or what the law ought to be and it does not  
4 agree with what I tell you now the law is, you must  
5 abandon this idea because you are sworn to accept the  
6 law and apply the law exactly as I state it to you.

7 In every case tried in this court before a jury,  
8 the jury becomes the sole and exclusive judge of the  
9 facts in a case. A trial judge cannot state, comment on  
10 or make any statement to a trial jury about the facts  
11 in a case. Since you, the jury, are the sole judge of  
12 the a facts in the case, you are not to infer from what  
13 I have said during the progress of this trial in ruling  
14 upon the admissibility of evidence or otherwise or  
15 anything that I say now during the course of this  
16 instruction to you that I have any opinion about the  
17 facts in this case. The law does not allow me to have  
18 an opinion about the facts in this case. This is a  
19 matter solely for you, the jury, to determine. As jurors,  
20 it is your duty to determine the effect, value and weight  
21 of the evidence presented during this trial.

22 Now there are two types of evidence which are  
23 generally presented during a trial; direct evidence and  
24 circumstantial evidence. Direct evidence proves the  
25 existence of a fact and does not require deduction.

1 Circumstantial evidence is a proof -- is proof of a  
2 chain of facts and circumstances indicating the existence  
3 of a fact. Crimes may be proven by circumstantial  
4 evidence. The law makes no distinction between the  
5 weight or value to be given to either direct or  
6 circumstantial evidence. However, to the extent it the  
7 State relies on circumstantial evidence, the circumstances  
8 must be consistent with each other and when taken together  
9 point conclusively to the guilt of the accused beyond a  
10 reasonable doubt. If the circumstances merely portray  
11 the defendant's behavior as suspicious, the proof has  
12 failed. The State has the burden of proving the defendant  
13 guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden rests with  
14 the State regardless of whether the State relies on direct  
15 evidence, circumstantial evidence or some combination of  
16 the two.

17 Criminal intent is a state of mind which operates  
18 jointly with an act or omission in the commission of a  
19 crime. Criminal intent is a mental state of conscious  
20 wrongdoing. Criminal intent is includes those consequences  
21 which represent the very purpose for which an act is done  
22 or are known to be substantially certain to the result  
23 regardless of one's desires. Intent may be shown by acts  
24 and conduct of the defendant and other circumstances from  
25 which you may naturally and reasonably infer intent.

1 Criminal intent must be proven by the State beyond a  
2 reasonable doubt.

3       You must also determine the credibility of witnesses  
4 who have testified in this case and the evidence presented.  
5 Credibility simply means believability. It becomes your  
6 duty as jurors to analyze and to evaluate the witnesses  
7 and the evidence and determine the credibility of the  
8 witnesses and the evidence.

9       In determining the credibility of witnesses who have  
10 testified in this case, you may believe one witness over  
11 several witnesses or several witnesses over one witness.  
12 You may believe a part of the testimony of a witness and  
13 reject the remaining part of the testimony of that same  
14 witness. You may believe the testimony of a witness in  
15 its entirety or reject the testimony of a witness in its  
16 entirety. You may consider whether any witness has  
17 exhibited to you any interest, bias, prejudice or other  
18 motive in this case. You may also consider the appearance  
19 and manner of a witness while on the witness stand.

20       There has been evidence presented that witnesses  
21 have made prior statements which are not consistent with  
22 the witnesses' present testimony. You may use this  
23 evidence to decide whether to believe the witness. You  
24 may also use this witness of the earlier contradictory  
25 statements to determine the truth of those statements.

1 It is up to you to decide whether to believe the earlier  
2 statements or the testimony given at trial. If a witness  
3 is shown to have knowingly testified untruthfully  
4 concerning any material matter, you may consider this in  
5 determining whether to trust the witness's testimony as  
6 to other matters. You may reject all of the testimony of  
7 that witness or give all or part of the testimony the  
8 weight you think it deserves.

9 The rules of evidence ordinarily do not permit  
10 witnesses to testify to opinions or conclusions. An  
11 exception to this rule exists for witnesses we call  
12 expert witnesses. We had several expert witnesses in  
13 this case. A witness, who by education and experience,  
14 has become an expert in some art, science, profession or  
15 calling, may state an opinion as to relevant and material  
16 matter in which the witness claims to be an expert and  
17 may also state the reasons for the opinion. You should  
18 consider any expert opinion received in evidence in this  
19 case and like any other evidence give it the weight you  
20 think it deserves. If you decide that the opinion of an  
21 expert witness is not based on sufficient education and  
22 experience or if you conclude that the reasons given in  
23 support of the opinion are not sound or that the opinion  
24 is outweighed by other evidence, you may disregard the  
25 opinion entirely. An expert witness's testimony is to

1 be given no greater weight than that of any other witness  
2 simply because the witness is an expert. Further, you  
3 are not required to accept an expert's opinion even though  
4 it is not contradicted.

5 A statement alleged to have been made by the  
6 defendant has been admitted into evidence in this case.  
7 While the Court has determined that the statement is  
8 admissible, I instruct you that you make the ultimate  
9 decision of whether or not the defendant made the  
10 statement. If the defendant did make the statement, you  
11 must determine whether the statement was made by the  
12 defendant voluntarily and of his own free will. This  
13 means that the statement was not caused by pressure,  
14 force, fear, threats, coercion or intimidation or by hope  
15 or a promise of leniency or a reward of any kind.

16 In determining whether the statement was voluntary,  
17 you should consider both the characteristics of the  
18 defendant and the details of the questioning. Some  
19 factors that you must consider are the age of the  
20 defendant, the defendant's education or lack thereof, the  
21 defendant's mental ability or capacity, the defendant's  
22 IQ or intelligence, the defendant's background and  
23 environment, the place and length of the detention, the  
24 nature of the questioning, the advice or lack thereof  
25 to the defendant of his constitutional rights, including

1 but not limited to, the right to remain silent, that any  
2 statement could be used against him in a court of law,  
3 the right to have a lawyer present, that if he could not  
4 afford a lawyer one would be appointed to represent him  
5 without any cost, and that he could stop making a statement  
6 at any time. You must carefully consider all of the  
7 surrounding circumstances before you give any weight to  
8 an alleged statement.

9         The State has the burden of proving beyond a  
10 reasonable doubt that the alleged statement was voluntary.  
11 If you determine it was, you may give the statement any  
12 further consideration that you deem proper. You must  
13 decide what weight, if any, should be given to the alleged  
14 statement. If you determine the alleged statement was not  
15 free and voluntarily made, you should not consider the  
16 statement at all.

17         The defendant is charged with first degree burglary.  
18 A person is guilty of burglary in the first degree if  
19 the person enters a dwelling without consent and with  
20 intent to commit a crime in the dwelling and either  
21 when effecting the entry or while in the dwelling or in  
22 immediate flight he or another participation in the crime  
23 is armed with a deadly weapon or explosive or causes  
24 physical injury to a person who is not a participant in  
25 the crime or uses and threatens the use of a dangerous

1 instrument or displays what is or appears to be a knife,  
2 pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, machine gun or other  
3 firearm.

4 Under the statute, the State must prove the  
5 following four elements in order to establish burglary  
6 in the first degree. The State must prove each element  
7 beyond a reasonable doubt. If the State fails to prove  
8 any single element, you cannot find the defendant guilty  
9 of first degree burglary.

10 First, the State must show that there was an  
11 entering; that is, the defendant actually went inside  
12 the dwelling or some part of it. However, entry is not  
13 confined to intrusions of the whole body. The slightest  
14 entry is sufficient and it may consist of the insertion  
15 of any part of the body or any instrument under the  
16 defendant's control.

17 An entry may be accomplished, for example, by the  
18 insertion of a hand, finger, foot or an implement, such  
19 as a hook or a pole. No force need be used to gain  
20 entry. Literally, entry is the act of going into the  
21 place, but the word has a broader significance in the law  
22 of burglary, for an entry may be accomplished by merely  
23 putting through a portion of the body into the dwelling.

24 The place entered must be a dwelling. The South  
25 Carolina Code of Laws defines dwelling house as any house,

1 outhouse, apartment, building, erection, shed or box in  
2 which there sleeps a proprietor, a tenant, a watchman,  
3 clerk, laborer or person who lodges there with a view to  
4 the protection of property.

5       The entry must also have been without consent.  
6 Enters a dwelling without consent means to enter without  
7 the consent of the person in lawful possession. There  
8 also must -- you also -- there must have been an intent  
9 also to commit a crime. I'm sorry. Any crime, a felony  
10 or misdemeanor, whether or not that crime was actually  
11 completed. The mere entry into a dwelling without  
12 consent is sufficient to constitute first degree burglary.  
13 There must have been an intent to commit a crime once  
14 inside.

15       Further, it is not sufficient that the intent to  
16 commit a crime was formulated after the entry. To  
17 convict the defendant of first degree burglary, you  
18 must find that at the time he entered the dwelling the  
19 defendant intended to commit a crime once therein. The  
20 defendant's actions after he entered the dwelling can be  
21 evidence used to entering. It is no defense that the  
22 intent was abandoned after the entry because the entering  
23 with intent to commit a crime completes the offense of  
24 burglary.

25       Presence of an aggravating circumstance. If you

1 find that the defendant entered a dwelling without  
2 consent and with the intent to commit a crime therein,  
3 you must then find the presence of at least one of the  
4 following aggravating circumstances in order to convict  
5 of first degree burglary. Only one of these circumstances  
6 needs to be present.

7 The aggravating circumstances are when entering or  
8 while in the dwelling or fleeing the scene the defendant  
9 or a co-participant either was armed with a deadly weapon  
10 or explosive, causes physical injury to any person who  
11 is not a participant in the crime or uses or threatens  
12 the use of a dangerous instrument or displays what  
13 appears to be a knife, a pistol, a revolver, a shotgun,  
14 machine gun or other firearm.

15 The defendant is also charged with three counts of  
16 murder. The first is against Branton Booker, the second  
17 Sheldon Livingston and the third, Duwan Williams. Each  
18 of these is a separate count and you must return a verdict  
19 on each individually. As to each charge, the State must  
20 prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant killed  
21 each person with malice aforethought.

22 Malice is hatred, ill will or hostility towards  
23 another person. It is the intentional wrong -- excuse  
24 me. It is the intentional doing of a wrongful act without  
25 just cause or excuse and with an intent to inflict an

1 injury or under circumstances that the law will infer an  
2 evil intent.

3 Malice aforethought does not require that malice  
4 exist for any particular time before the act is committed,  
5 but malice must exist in the mind of the defendant just  
6 before and at the time the act is committed. Therefore,  
7 there must be a combination of the previous evil intent  
8 and the act.

9 Malice aforethought may be expressed or inferred.  
10 These terms "express" and "inferred" do not mean  
11 different kinds of malice, but merely the manner in  
12 which the malice may be shown to exist; that is, either  
13 by direct evidence or by inference from the facts and  
14 circumstances which are proved.

15 Express malice is shown when a person speaks words  
16 which express hatred or ill will for another or when the  
17 person prepared beforehand to do the act which was later  
18 accomplished. Malice may be inferred from the conduct  
19 showing a total disregard for human life. If facts are  
20 proved beyond a reasonable doubt sufficient to raise an  
21 inference of malice to your satisfaction, this inference  
22 would be simply an evidentiary fact to be considered by  
23 you along with the other evidence in the case and you may  
24 give it the weight you decide it should receive.

25 If one intentionally kills another during the

1 commission of a felony, the inference of malice may arise.  
2 If facts are proved beyond a reasonable doubt sufficient  
3 to raise an inference of malice to your satisfaction,  
4 this inference would simply be an evidentiary fact to be  
5 taken into consideration by you along with all the other  
6 evidence in the case and you may give it the weight that  
7 you decide it should receive.

8         If a crime is committed by two or more people who  
9 are acting together in committing a crime, the act of one  
10 is the act of all. A person who joins with another to  
11 commit an unlawful act is criminally responsible for  
12 everything done by the other person which happens as a  
13 probable or natural consequence of the acts done in  
14 carrying out the common plan and purpose.

15         For example, two people can be guilty of killing  
16 another person when one of the two had a gun and there  
17 was only one bullet and only one of the two fired the  
18 shot that caused the death. If two or more people are  
19 together, acting together, assisting each other in  
20 committing the offense, the act of one is the act of all,  
21 or as it is sometimes said, the hand of one is the hand  
22 of all.

23         Prior knowledge that a crime is going to be committed  
24 without more is not sufficient to make a person guilty of  
25 that crime. Mere knowledge that another person is going

1 to commit a crime even if the defendant is present when  
2 the crime is committed is not sufficient to convict the  
3 defendant as a principal. Guilt as a principal is shown  
4 by actual or constructive presence at the scene as a  
5 result of the prior arrangement. Therefore, a finding  
6 of a prior arranged plan or common scheme is necessary  
7 for finding -- for a finding of guilt as a principal. The  
8 State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt by competent  
9 evidence the theory of the hand of one is the hand of all.

10 A principal in a crime is one who either actually  
11 commits the crime or who is present aiding, abetting or  
12 assisting in committing the crime. When a person does  
13 an act in the presence of and with the assistance of  
14 another, the act is done by both. When two or more  
15 acting with a common plan or intent are present at the  
16 commission of a crime, it does not matter who actually  
17 commits the crime. All are guilty. The hand of one is  
18 the hand of all.

19 Present at the commission of a crime means to be  
20 sufficiently near to aid and abet and assist in the  
21 commission of the crime; however, mere presence at the  
22 scene of a crime is not sufficient to convict one as a  
23 principal on the theory of aiding and abetting. Intent  
24 is also a necessary element for there must have been a  
25 common design or intent to commit the crime and the crime

1 must have been committed pursuant thereto with the person  
2 aiding and abetting by some overt act.

3 Intent means intending the result which actually  
4 occurs, not accidentally or involuntary. Intent may be  
5 shown by acts and conduct of the defendant and other  
6 circumstances from which you may naturally and reasonably  
7 infer intent.

8 The State must prove these elements beyond a  
9 reasonable doubt. Mere presence at the scene is not  
10 sufficient to prove someone guilty of a crime. A  
11 defendant's presence when a -- where a crime is being  
12 committed or mere association with a person who commits  
13 a crime, does not make a defendant an accomplice or an  
14 aider and abetter of the person committing the crime.

15 The burden is on the State to prove every element  
16 of the crime charged. If you find after reviewing all  
17 of the evidence the State has proved that the defendant  
18 was only present at the scene of the crime and that  
19 they have not proved beyond a reasonable doubt any other  
20 participation in the crime, then you must find the  
21 defendant not guilty. The law is that proof at the scene  
22 of the crime is not sufficient to find someone guilty.

23 I remind you that the fact the defendant elected not  
24 to testify is not a factor to be considered by you in  
25 any way in your deliberations and in your consideration

1 on the question of whether the defendant is guilty or  
2 not guilty. It must not be considered in any manner  
3 whatsoever against him. An accused has the right to  
4 remain silent and the assertion of that right cannot be  
5 considered by you in your deliberations. Under your  
6 oath, you are to reach no inference or draw no conclusion  
7 whatsoever from the fact that the defendant elected not  
8 to testify. His decision not to testify should not even  
9 be discussed in the jury room. It is not to enter your  
10 minds in making your decisions. The State has the entire  
11 burden of proof and the accused has no burden to prove  
12 anything at all.

13 A verdict in this case cannot be based upon sympathy  
14 passion prejudice or emotion or some other consideration  
15 not found in the evidence.

16 Let me say something about your deliberations.  
17 Deliberations is defined as a careful consideration,  
18 weighing up with a view to decision. The genius of our  
19 jury system is that it allows twelve good men and women  
20 from twelve different backgrounds life experiences and  
21 perspectives to consider the evidence, talk about it, and  
22 ultimately reach a verdict.

23 We call them deliberations for a reason. You are  
24 to consider the evidence in this case carefully and  
25 deliberately and discuss it in a calm, thorough and

1 courteous manner. Listen to the views of your fellow  
2 jurors, consider other people's points and points of view,  
3 and talk through and discuss the evidence and, remember,  
4 if you are doing something deliberately, you are not in  
5 a big hurry and you should not be in a hurry here. This  
6 case is very important to both sides and this is their  
7 only day in court.

8       When you retire to the jury room, you should discuss  
9 the case with your fellow jurors to reach an agreement  
10 if you can do so. Your verdict must be unanimous. Each  
11 of you must decide the case for yourself but you should  
12 do so only after you have impartially considered all the  
13 evidence, discussed it fully with the other jurors and  
14 listened to the views of your fellow jurors. Do not be  
15 afraid to change your opinion if the discussions persuade  
16 you that you should, but do not come to a decision simply  
17 because other jurors thinks it is right. It is important  
18 that you attempt to reach a unanimous verdict, but, of  
19 course, only if each of you can do so after having made  
20 your own decision. Do not change an honest belief about  
21 the weight and effect of the evidence simply to reach a  
22 verdict. In other words, do not change your opinion  
23 solely for the sake of reaching a unanimous verdict.

24       There are two possible verdicts for each charge  
25 which you may find in this case. There is absolutely

1 no significance whatsoever in the order in which I state  
2 these possible verdicts. It is simply that one must be  
3 stated first. Your verdict must be a unanimous one as  
4 to each charge.

5 Mr. Foreman, when the jury agrees on the verdict,  
6 you will initial on the line next to the verdict on  
7 the verdict form for the charge and sign your name as  
8 foreperson, then inform the bailiff that you have reached  
9 a verdict. At that time we will receive you back into  
10 the courtroom.

11 I'm gonna ask you now to return to your jury room,  
12 but do not begin deliberations until you are told by the  
13 clerk or the bailiff to do so. There's some matters that  
14 I need to discuss with the lawyers before you begin your  
15 deliberations.

16 Once you do begin, Mr. Foreman, in the event that  
17 there is a split in the vote, the Court does not want  
18 to know at any time the actual split by number if that  
19 exists. If you have any questions, I would ask that you  
20 write me a note and sign it.

21 At this time let me ask the State and the defense  
22 anything pertaining to the --

23 MR. HUBBARD: The charge?

24 THE COURT: -- the charge.

25 MR. HUBBARD: The State's fine with the charge,

1 Your Honor.

2 MR. SWERLING: We're fine, too, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 All right. I'm gonna let you go back to your jury  
5 room. I'm gonna tell you, I have one alternate. To the  
6 alternate, I'm gonna have to set you aside. I'll see you  
7 out in the hall where I can excuse you.

8 Thank you.

9 Remember, do not start your deliberations. We've  
10 got to gather all this evidence and bring it back to you  
11 and probably a computer, but we'll get it all back to you  
12 and let you know when to begin.

13 If at any time, Mr. Foreman, somebody has to go to  
14 the restroom, you're not -- you have to stop deliberations.  
15 All twelve people must be in the room when you deliberate.  
16 There are no cell phones during deliberations, okay?

17 Thank you.

18 (Whereupon, the jury retires to the jury room at  
19 1:21 PM.)

20 THE COURT: I'm not used to reading that burglary  
21 charge.

22 Okay. All right. Anything else from the State?

23 MR. HUBBARD: Not from the State.

24 THE COURT: Defense?

25 MR. SWERLING: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. Then let's get this evidence  
2 back to them.

3 Ms. Mayes, I guess we're gonna need the computer.

4 MS. MAYES: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: We've got that one computer we send back.

6 MS. MAYES: Yes, Your Honor. It should be this one  
7 here, but we will verify that. We'll have Mr. Burnett  
8 come up and confirm that we do have the clean computer.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Because I know we've got the  
10 9-1-1 call and I want to make sure those full CD's, they  
11 don't go back.

12 MS. MAYES: We had two that were for ID, Your Honor.  
13 One was the phone extraction, one was the Google records.  
14 Those are for ID only and should not go back and -- and  
15 the Facebook CD. Pardon me.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Are you gonna be up here to make  
17 sure these are pulled out, Ms. Mayes or Kaitlyn?

18 MS. MAYES: Or Kaitlyn.

19 (Recess taken at 1:22 PM.)

20 (Whereupon, the evidence and the verdict form were  
21 submitted to the jury at 1:36 PM.)

22 (Back on the record at 1:36 PM.)

23 BAILIFF: All rise. Court now in session.

24 THE COURT: All right. They tell me the jury has  
25 a verdict, so.

1 MR. HUBBARD: Suzanne's en route, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: We'll wait on her.

3 MR. HUBBARD: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. Let me tell everyone in the  
5 gallery the jury has a verdict. Under no circumstances,  
6 none, is there to be any yelling, any kind of emotion  
7 period. If you cannot control yourself, you need to  
8 leave this courtroom now. If not, then I'm gonna have  
9 to have you put out, and I don't want to do that, but I  
10 will not put up with any type of emotional reaction at  
11 all.

12 All right. Are you-all ready for me to bring the  
13 jury in?

14 MR. HUBBARD: Yes, sir. Thank you.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Then let me ask, are you-all gonna  
16 be ready to proceed and I'll give you a quick break?

17 MR. HUBBARD: Yes, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Because I'd like to go back and release  
19 the jury and if it is -- we've got to do sentencing,  
20 you-all will be prepared to go forward?

21 MR. HUBBARD: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right. Let's bring them in.

23 (Whereupon, the jury return to the courtroom at  
24 2:43 PM.)

25 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Foreman, ladies and

1 gentlemen of the jury, they tell me you have a verdict.

2 FOREPERSON: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: If you could hand the verdict to the  
4 bailiff, please, and then you can be seated.

5 Do you want to publish the verdict, please? And  
6 I'll ask that the defendant please stand.

7 THE CLERK: Indictment 2022-GS-32-262,  
8 2022-GS-32-263, 2022-GS-32-264, 2022-GS-32-267, the  
9 State versus Jeremy Savoy Cornish, as to the charge of  
10 burglary in the first degree, we, the jury, unanimously  
11 find the defendant guilty.

12 As to the charge of murder against Branton Booker,  
13 we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant guilty.

14 As to the charge of murder against Sheldon  
15 Livingston, we, the jury, find the defendant guilty.

16 As to the charge of murder against Duwan Williams,  
17 we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant guilty.

18 It is so signed by the Foreperson, dated October 21,  
19 2022.

20 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, if these were your  
21 verdicts, please indicate by raising your right hands.

22 Thank you.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Would you like the jury polled?

24 MR. SWERLING: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: And by juror number only.

1 of the jury, thank you so much. I know it's been a  
2 long trial. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for  
3 paying attention. Again, without you our jury system  
4 just doesn't work.

5 I'm gonna let you go back to your jury room and  
6 I'll be back to excuse you in just a moment.

7 (Whereupon, the jury was excused at 2:47 PM.)

8 THE COURT: All right. We'll be in recess about  
9 ten minutes.

10 (Recess taken at 2:47 PM.)

11 (Back on the record at 3:02 PM.)

12 BAILIFF: All rise. Court is now in session.

13 THE COURT: Please be seated.

14 All right. Are we ready for sentencing?

15 MR. SWERLING: Judge, I do have a motion I need to  
16 make. We renew the motion for new trial -- or not to  
17 renew it, but make a motion for a new trial based on  
18 the motions that have been made during the course of the  
19 trial, renew those motions and incorporate them herein.

20 I'd also make a motion to go ahead -- on a new trial  
21 for the reason that I don't think the jury had sufficient  
22 time to deliberate and go through all of the evidence in  
23 the case. I think that would be grounds for the new trial  
24 as well.

25 THE COURT: Okay. And I'm gonna deny those motions,

1 but your objections are noted for the record.

2 Are we waiting on Ms. Mayes?

3 I'm sorry.

4 MR. HUBBARD: Your Honor, she's on her way. She was  
5 getting one item for the Court.

6 (Pause in proceedings.)

7 MR. HUBBARD: All right. We're ready, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. Does the State want to go  
9 first?

10 MR. HUBBARD: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

11 Your Honor, I want to inform the court of  
12 Mr. Cornish's prior record. He's got a domestic  
13 violence second offense from 2007. He's got a second  
14 one, domestic violence first, from 2007 as well. He's  
15 got a conviction for burglary third and pointing and  
16 presenting a firearm from 2001. He's prohibited from  
17 carrying or holding a firearm. I wanted to just put  
18 that on the record because obviously that's what he used  
19 in this case.

20 I've been practicing and prosecuting for a long time,  
21 Your Honor. This was one of the most horrendous set of  
22 fact I've ever come across. A triple homicide, shooting  
23 people while they're shooting. Cold and calculated in  
24 planning to do this. Putting the family through just  
25 absolute turmoil, putting jurors through so much having

1 to listen to this.

2 Your Honor, I ask for the maximum sentence, which  
3 is life. I ask it for each and every victim in this  
4 case on these murder charges. I think it merits it in  
5 this case and, Your Honor, if life is a sentence that is  
6 necessary in this system, this is the case where it's  
7 necessary.

8 We do have family members that would like to speak  
9 at the appropriate time.

10 THE COURT: Okay. If you don't mind, Mr. Swerling,  
11 I'm gonna go ahead and hear from the family.

12 MR. SWERLING: Yes. Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Let me go ahead and here from the family  
14 members, please.

15 MR. HUBBARD: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 MS. MAYES: First we have -- first we have, Your  
17 Honor, Bridgette Jackson. She is the mother of Duwan  
18 Williams.

19 MS. JACKSON: Mr. Cornish, as of December 17, 2019,  
20 I want you to know that the actions that you took upon  
21 my child has affected my life. My son has a grand baby  
22 {sic} that I have to take care of now because you took  
23 his life. My baby used to call me every morning at  
24 10:00 to wake me up. It's hard for me to get to sleep.  
25 When he got off from work, he would call me to let me

1 know he was home and I could go to sleep. I cannot go  
2 to sleep now unless I have medicine. I now have to take  
3 care of my grand baby because my son was taking care of  
4 him. He did not reside at that residence that he passed  
5 at. He was only giving his friends rides to work and  
6 everything and it was late, so he would stay over.

7 Since all of this, my health is bad. I take a lot  
8 of medicine now. I have to take care of my grand baby.  
9 It's hard for me to wake up in the morning to get him  
10 situated. Some mornings when I drop him off at school,  
11 he will ask me what would his daddy think about certain  
12 things. I cannot tell him that because you took my baby.  
13 I look for a phone call at 10:00 in the morning and I  
14 can't -- don't get a phone call. I can't go to sleep  
15 normally at night anymore. It's hard for me to go to  
16 sleep. I have a grand baby. He can't go to sleep  
17 because I can't go to sleep. My son took care of his  
18 baby, now I have to do it.

19 My life is so -- it's just all over the place now.  
20 I don't have Dewan here. Dewan would always purchase  
21 me nice gifts. He was so caregiving. He would always  
22 purchase me things sentimental to a mother. I don't have  
23 things here now. When people tell me nice things, it  
24 doesn't matter anymore. Nothing matters anymore when  
25 people tell me nice things.

1           My baby is not here. That's what I want to be. I  
2 don't want to go to the cemetery and visit him, I want  
3 him to call me. I want somebody to wake me up in the  
4 morning, somebody to tell me to have a good night,  
5 somebody to tell me to go to work the next day. I can't  
6 answer my grand baby. I can't do half of the stuff that  
7 I used to do, to take them shopping.

8           This is my daughter. Without my daughter being  
9 here today, I don't know where I would be to help me take  
10 care of my grandson. From 2019 until now my life is just  
11 messed up because I need -- nobody in here knows --  
12 everybody here needs something. Nobody knows how it  
13 feels feel to lose a child and not be able to have them  
14 to come back. That's the worst thing in the world to  
15 lose. Nothing is gonna make me happy. It doesn't make  
16 a difference what anybody in here say today. When I  
17 walk out this door, that's not gonna make me happy.  
18 Even though I got my grand baby, nothing makes me happy  
19 and nothing in this world besides my baby being here.  
20 That's the only thing that makes me happy.

21           I'm on medications that helps me every day. If I  
22 don't take it, I get sick, so I have to take it and I  
23 forget to take it sometimes. This is so hard on me and  
24 I'm really sorry, but this has really, really, really  
25 taken a toll on me and what's ever the harshest penalty

1 you can give to him, please give it to him.

2 THE COURT: Thank you Ms. Jackson.

3 MS. JACKSON: This is my baby.

4 MS. MAYES: Your Honor, this is Logan Williams.  
5 She's Duwan's sister.

6 MS. WILLIAMS: Is it with great desolation that I  
7 stand before you today. These past three years have  
8 been just the start of a lifetime of heartache. Three  
9 years ago my brother, my only sibling, was taken from  
10 this Earth prematurely by two very disgusting, very sick,  
11 very vile individuals. I won't take much of your time,  
12 but I would like to address a few things that really  
13 matter.

14 What matters is that you-all the type of person  
15 Duwan was. My brother was a king. He was a very  
16 kindhearted person. He was a father, he was a hard  
17 worker. He worked to provide a good life for his child.  
18 He worked to live a good life. He spent his time thinking  
19 of ways to be a better man and provide for his loved ones,  
20 not how to take something from someone else, not how to  
21 rob the next man, not how to resort to the lowest to get  
22 by.

23 What matters is my mother. What matters is that she  
24 raised my brother to be a good man, a loving man, a great  
25 big brother. What matters is although her son was taken

1 from her, he is still that man, and that's something to  
2 be proud of. What matters is my six-year-old nephew who  
3 was only three at the time this happened. What matters  
4 is that he knows and always will know his dad loved him.  
5 What matters is that he knows and always -- excuse me --  
6 he knows that his dad was the a great dad. What matters  
7 is that although he will grow up without his dad, which  
8 is very important, especially as a black man in America.  
9 He is love by many, protected forever, and will never  
10 forget the kind of man his father was.

11 What matters is me. What matters is that although  
12 he may not be here to protect me physically, he will  
13 always protect me spiritually. What matters is I know  
14 God is real and although I may not understand why, I  
15 keep my faith in him.

16 What matters is the other young men whose lives  
17 were taken from them. What matters is their family and  
18 loved ones. And, lastly, what matters is that the  
19 defendant knows that he deserves everything he has coming  
20 to him. What matters is that he deserves to never see  
21 his kids again. He deserves to have his freedom taken  
22 away from him forever. He deserves the max sentence. He  
23 deserves more than what any of us could ever do to him  
24 because at the end of the day God has the final say-so.

25 To my brother, I love and miss you so much.

1 Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Thank you. I appreciate you coming  
3 and I know you-all have been here throughout the trial.

4 MS. MAYES: And, Your Honor, Duwan Williams, as you  
5 heard, he had been working at the UBar as well, which  
6 is a local grill, and he had been working there as a cook  
7 and as a chef and had worked late that night before and  
8 was asleep when he was killed.

9 Next, Your Honor, is Samuel Boyd. He is the father  
10 of Branton Booker.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Boyd.

12 MR. BOYD: My name is Samuel Boyd. I'm retired  
13 Marine Corps, a former City of Columbia office. I'm a  
14 father of a slain son. I've been in war zones, I've been  
15 in crime scenes, and this is the worst thing I've ever  
16 had to do in my life. I'm trying to be strong for my son  
17 and stand up and represent him. I'm mad. I've cried a  
18 long time. This situation here has brought nothing but  
19 pain to me and my family. My son had three children that  
20 he loved. They loved him dearly.

21 Branton was a good kid. When he grew up, he loved  
22 to tinker with things. He'd take things apart and put  
23 them back together and we always said he was gonna be an  
24 engineer or something. He played football, ran track  
25 for Dutch Fork High School. He was an athlete. But,

1 Branton, people gravitated to him. That's why he was  
2 there. They were was all his friends. They'd been  
3 knowing each other since sixth grade. And he always had  
4 friends.

5 It is hard for me to look down my street and not  
6 see him walking up the street with tall, bowlegs. I  
7 loved him with all my heart and this situation here has  
8 torn me. I'm broken. I used to be a fun-loving guy. I  
9 can't even smile anymore. These people took something  
10 from me. He should have buried me. I should not buy  
11 my son.

12 I've had three years to think about what I want  
13 to say. Obviously one thing I want to say is I want to  
14 address the defendant, but I know I can't do that, so  
15 I'm here to say to you, Your Honor, whatever you can do.  
16 I even asked them why didn't they seek the death penalty.  
17 Three individuals dead, different crimes, why not seek  
18 the death penalty? I got my reasons. But if that was  
19 available, I wanted the defendant to have that because  
20 they were less than -- they treated my son -- they put  
21 clothes on him like he was trash. They left him laying  
22 and stepped all over him like he was trash. He was a man  
23 and I know my son fought because I taught him to fight  
24 and they treated him like trash.'

25 And I'm mad and I'm hurt, but I'm not the only one.

1 I've got his three kids to think about. He's got two  
2 sons and a daughter and all they was less than ten years  
3 old when this happened and every day they hurt.

4 Please don't ever let these people get out of jail  
5 again, Your Honor.

6 Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Boyd.

8 MS. MAYES: Your Honor, this is Kimberly Booker.  
9 She's Branton's mom.

10 MS. BOOKER: Good afternoon, Your Honor. I am  
11 Kimberly Booker. Branton was my son. And just like  
12 Ms. Williams, Branton and I were actually each other's  
13 best friend. He was my son, but we were each other's  
14 best friends. Wherever I was, my son was there. When  
15 I left him and moved to North Carolina, he was my only  
16 child that left and moved with me. Wherever I lived, he  
17 made sure he was there. I had just seen my son that  
18 weekend. Because we had spent so much time together just  
19 the two of us and our relationship, the bond that we had,  
20 I used to do everything for him, so that weekend before  
21 December 17th was the first time that my son ever washed  
22 his own clothes, and he was happy about that. I was  
23 there because I had to pick up my grand kids. He decided  
24 he wanted to go out with his friends that weekend and he  
25 was so excited about it. He told me come here, momma,

1 look, let me show you, let me show you how good I did  
2 because that was his first time washing his own clothes.  
3 That's just how close me and my son was.

4 My son has left behind three children and he loved  
5 his kids. He had the first one when he was nineteen  
6 years old and he never turned his back. The only reason  
7 why my son is not here being a father to his children  
8 is because of them. He had just seen them the weekend  
9 before the 17th. He was out throwing football with his  
10 two boys while we stood out in front of that building  
11 and had a conversation. I instrumentally stayed in my  
12 son's life. I don't care what nobody else said about  
13 that boy. I knew him, I knew my child, and he was loved  
14 by a lot of people, a lot, but none of this is gonna bring  
15 him back. None of it.

16 My grand kids don't even like going to the graveyard,  
17 but where are we gonna go? That's where he is at now.  
18 It's hard getting up every day knowing I'll never hear  
19 his voice again and when he didn't call me that Tuesday  
20 morning, I'm own the phone trying to call him and find  
21 out where you at because I talked to my son every single  
22 day. Now I can't even do that.

23 And for me, this dress, although I have it on, it's  
24 not what I wanted, but it's very fitting for the day and  
25 when this is all said and done I will never put it on

1 again. Not one day.

2 THE COURT: Understood. Thank you, Ms. Booker.

3 MS. MAYES: Your Honor, here for Sheldon Livingston,  
4 his uncle Donald Felder, his aunt Felicia Livingston, his  
5 cousin Janie Jackson, his brother Kaiden Livingston, and  
6 his step mom Selina is going to speak to the Court now.

7 THE COURT: This is his step mom?

8 MS. MAYES: It is, Your Honor. This is Selina  
9 Livingston.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Livingston.

11 MS. LIVINGSTON: Hello, Your Honor. My name is  
12 Selina Livingston and this is my son Kaiden Livingston.  
13 I'm here to speak on behalf of Sheldon Livingston. You  
14 know, the Good Book says the devil comes to steal, kill  
15 and destroy, and that's what will the defendant did to  
16 my family. Kaiden is Sheldon's only brother. Sheldon  
17 changed Pampers since this boy was a little baby and when  
18 Sheldon's parents passed away -- I met Sheldon when he  
19 was like eight years old when I married his father. His  
20 father died in 2011. Before his father passed away, he  
21 talked to Sheldon and he told Sheldon to look after his  
22 three-year-old brother. Now Sheldon will never be able  
23 to do that again. Sheldon used to -- when he lived in  
24 Charleston with me, he used to take him to school. He  
25 worked with me on my job. He -- he would look after his

1 brother when I wasn't home.

2       You know, I think back to the things that we used  
3 to do at the house. Sheldon was a fun-loving person. He  
4 had a smile that would light up this room. He would do  
5 anything that you would ask him to do. He worked hard,  
6 he would not steal from anybody, and when I listened to  
7 the defendant talk like as if he was a saint, he should  
8 have been a mentor to the other guy in this tragic -- I  
9 can't even call it an accident, in this tragic scene  
10 because that boy was twenty-three years old and he was  
11 thirty-eight and I think to myself you could have been a  
12 mentor to him and you could have stopped this whole thing  
13 and to think that you got the drop on them whenever you  
14 went to their house. They were asleep and you shot my  
15 stepson twelve times. That is beyond me. If that's not  
16 malice, I don't know what it is, and I'm still trying to  
17 understand it, but I don't have to accept it. I know the  
18 Good Book also say I'm supposed to forgive you, but I need  
19 time to do that because I can't. Not right now. That's  
20 just not in me right now.

21       So when I think of you, and you're sitting over  
22 there acting like you were a saint and you didn't do  
23 anything, I think of Lucifer being in Heaven and he even  
24 fell from Heaven, so from me and my family, you know, I  
25 need time for forgiveness. I have to ask the Lord to

1 forgive -- to forgive me for feeling like this and later  
2 on forgive you. And I pray that you have -- whoever is  
3 in your children's life, they have a mentor that can  
4 teach them right from wrong and not to do stuff like  
5 this because you took -- you took someone from us that  
6 we loved very, very much, and I just don't understand why.

7 So on behalf of the family, I would like to read this  
8 letter.

9 THE COURT: Go ahead.

10 MS. LIVINGSTON: A malicious person means a desire  
11 to cause harm to someone. This is a tragedy. No one  
12 wins here. All losses. A black man threw away his  
13 life. Three families lost their loved ones. Two  
14 families will lose their loved ones to prison; however,  
15 they will be still here -- they will still be able to  
16 see, speak and touch up. My family and I cannot touch,  
17 speak or hug Devon. That's what we called him. We  
18 cannot visit -- we cannot visit his mother and father's  
19 grave with him. We must visit all the graves separately  
20 as he's lost to us. His mother and father died within  
21 two weeks of each other.

22 Devon was the grandson of Ms. Agnes. She's  
23 ninety-nine years old. She asks about him every day  
24 wondering when -- what's -- she just wonders what's  
25 going on, so she still asks about him every day. She

1 had a hand in raising him. She cooked for him and she  
2 taught him how to cook and clean.

3 Devon was an exuberant kid with much laughter who  
4 loved to visit his family and spend summers with his  
5 uncle Donald and his children in New Jersey for the  
6 summers. He loved his family. He was loved by many.

7 These young men with were victims of a heinous  
8 crime. This defendant went on with his life as if  
9 nothing occurred. That was malicious and callus. If  
10 the -- if the lives of not one -- not the lives of one,  
11 not two, but three human beings meaning less than a tiny  
12 amount of heroin and marijuana, Your Honor, this man has  
13 no regard for human beings. This man must be sentenced  
14 to life behind bars. I'm in agreement with Booker's  
15 family. If the death penalty was suited in this trial,  
16 I'm in agreement with that. He lacks no decency to walk  
17 among civil society. I remember in a bond hearing I said  
18 that he was a menace to society and I stand by that.  
19 This man is far too dangerous to society to walk the  
20 streets of America without a cane or a walker or rollator,  
21 the tools to stand upright. Those tools will not be clean  
22 -- will not need to be cleaned.

23 That's all I have to say, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Livingston.

25 MR. HUBBARD: Your Honor, I believe Adam Creech would

1 like to speak on behalf of law enforcement.

2 THE COURT: And I'd like to hear from him.

3 Sergeant Creech.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: I'll be brief, Your Honor, because  
5 I'm not sure what law enforcement can convey that the  
6 victims' families have not. As you've heard today, the  
7 victims were all sons and fathers and brothers and it's  
8 hard to put a value on one life, and in this case we have  
9 three, and I don't know that there's any sentence this  
10 Court could issue that would give any true comfort or  
11 peace to the families in this case, but it would certainly  
12 be the State's position that life at the very least would  
13 be the most appropriate sentence that could come from this  
14 courtroom today, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Let me ask you, Sergeant Creech, before  
16 you go.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Yes, ma'am.

18 THE COURT: All three of these men, if I remember  
19 correctly, they're young men -- they were young men --

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Yes, ma'am.

21 THE COURT: -- in their early, maybe middle twenties;  
22 is that right?

23 MS. MAYES: Your Honor, Branton Booker was  
24 twenty-eight years of age, Sheldon Livingston -- Sheldon  
25 Devon Livingston was twenty-six years of age, Dewan

1 Williams was twenty-seven years of age. And about  
2 Sheldon, he also worked as a cook at a local restaurant.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 MR. HUBBARD: Your Honor, one -- one final thing.

5 We had contemplated actually playing a 12-second  
6 clip of what paramedics had to deal with with first  
7 responders in that apartment complex.

8 THE COURT: You can play it.

9 MR. HUBBARD: Your Honor, it was so horrific one of  
10 the paramedics has PTSD from that incident. I didn't  
11 realize it when I started playing it, but if Your Honor  
12 would like to see that I would probably ask the family  
13 to step out if they would, but just so Your Honor can just  
14 see twelve seconds.

15 THE COURT: And this is Mr. Williams --

16 MS. MAYES: Duwan Williams, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: -- who was sleeping on the couch?

18 MS. MAYES: Yes, Your Honor. And he was met on  
19 the couch by John Donnelly. You heard from him. He was  
20 one of the first responding officers. I think one of  
21 the things that impacted all of us the most was the  
22 professionalism of Detective Donnelly because when he met  
23 him on the couch he knew that he was dying, he knew that  
24 he was not gonna survive, and as -- as the victim is  
25 stating to him his concerns that he is dying, Donnelly

1 says help is on the way, help is on the way. He did  
2 everything he could to reassure him and I think that  
3 impacted all of us.

4 MR. SWERLING: Judge, I think I have an obligation  
5 to object to the tape being played or the video being  
6 played. Apparently the State decided not to try and  
7 play it during the course of trial because it was so  
8 prejudicial and I just think it's not -- would not be  
9 appropriate in this hearing for the court to have to  
10 consider that.

11 MS. MAYES: And, Your Honor, the State's position,  
12 this is victim impact, and the entire purpose of victim  
13 impact is to hear directly from the victim. Obviously  
14 as Mr. Livingston and Mr. Booker are concerned, we'll  
15 never have that opportunity, but there can be no greater  
16 evidence impact than to hear directly from Duwan Williams.

17 THE COURT: You can go ahead and play it.

18 (Whereupon, a video clip was played.)

19 MR. HUBBARD: Your Honor, that's all the State has.

20 THE COURT: Thank you.

21 Will you let the Williams family back in, please.

22 INVESTIGATOR BISHOP: They're coming back in.

23 THE COURT: Ms. Mayes, this burglary first is  
24 fifteen to life; is that correct?

25 MS. MAYES: That is correct, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Swerling, I'll be --  
2 or, Mr. Leventis.

3 MR. SWERLING: Your Honor, do you want us up at the  
4 podium?

5 THE COURT: Wherever you're comfortable.

6 MR. SWERLING: Mr. Leventis is gonna go ahead and  
7 make the presentation to you. He's known him a bit  
8 longer than have and I ask that he go ahead and tell the  
9 Court little bit about him.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. LEVENTIS: Your Honor, may it please the Court?

12 First, I want to address the family members of the  
13 victims. I can honestly say I can feel your pain. I've  
14 been there and it's not a pleasant journey. It will never  
15 get pleasant. I'm so sorry for you-all are feeling.

16 Judge, this -- this incident is so -- so far out of  
17 the realm of my comprehension of Jeremy Cornish. I got  
18 to know him. I've known him for the past thirty-three  
19 months. It's -- it's unfathomable for me to think that  
20 he could be involved in something like this.

21 He's forty-one years of age. He's -- as you heard  
22 Rick mention his criminal history, is -- he's had no  
23 criminal history since 2007. He has been an employee,  
24 and a good employee, a very good supervisor, for his  
25 uncle's construction business. His obligations were to

1 go pick up people and take them to work. He was a good  
2 employee and very appreciative of the job he had and  
3 very appreciative of his family. I mean, his family,  
4 they are like the families -- the families of the victims  
5 here. They're just nice, genuine people. They've been  
6 supportive of Jeremy.

7           What I'm asking the Court is I know that the minimum  
8 sentence that can be imposed is thirty years and it's an  
9 actual thirty years of service. What I'm telling the  
10 Court is in thirty years Jeremy will be seventy-one years  
11 of age. I'm asking the Court to consider giving him  
12 some -- some light of that extremely dark long tunnel  
13 that he is getting ready to travel and give him some  
14 kind of hope that at some point in time he'll see the  
15 light of day at the end of that tunnel and he'll get to  
16 spend a little bit of time with his three -- he's got  
17 three surviving children. He had four kids. One was  
18 killed. The child was accidentally run over when the  
19 child was twelve years old. It will give him some  
20 chance to see his kids, so I'm asking the Court to  
21 consider a long sentence, but some sentence that he may  
22 survive from.

23           Thank you very much, Judge.

24           THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Leventis.

25           Let me can you, does Mr. Cornish wish to say

1 anything? This would be your time.

2 THE DEFENDANT: No, ma'am.

3 MR. LEVENTIS: He doesn't, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: You know, I've tried a lot of cases in  
5 this courtroom in the last two and half years, and this  
6 has probably been one of the more disturbing cases I've  
7 heard. Such a blatant disregard for life. Just totally.  
8 I've got three young men in the prime of their life.  
9 They are in their apartment. They are sleeping. I can't  
10 find anything more troublesome than that. Or horrendous.  
11 I can't even think of the words that I even want to say  
12 about how bad I think this is. This is 11:00 in the  
13 morning. This is when -- this is daytime.

14 Let me thank the Lexington County Sheriff's  
15 Department for all your hard work and all the other law  
16 enforcement agencies that participated putting this case  
17 together. You-all did a really good job doing so. I  
18 know have some of the jury members here. I want to  
19 thank them for their time and their patience and their  
20 dedication to this case. It was a long two weeks.

21 And, you know, I'm charged with the responsibility  
22 of imposing a sentence that is sufficient, but not  
23 greater than necessary to reflect the seriousness of the  
24 offense charged and now that he's been found guilty of.  
25 I can't think of a more serious charge. I can't. I've

1    tried many, many of a homicide case, not three in the  
2    matter of minutes that this happened.

3            To the family of Mr. Williams and Mr. Livingston and  
4    Mr. Booker, please accept my condolences for the loss of  
5    your sons. I'd like to think that this trial's brought  
6    you some closure, but I think more importantly this --  
7    this Court brings you accountability, the accountability  
8    of Mr. Cornish.

9            I know, as I think Mr. Boyd said, that's not gonna  
10   do him any good, but at least I hope it will bring you  
11   some kind of peace.

12           I'm just telling all of you-all, this gun violence  
13   has got to stop. The citizens of Lexington County  
14   deserve better. They don't -- they shouldn't have to  
15   live in fear, they shouldn't have to worry about their  
16   homes being robbed in broad daylight and their loved  
17   ones being shot and killed, and in this case I'd go as  
18   far as to say execution style. It's just unbelievable.  
19   Every day I read something about it. I mean, our youth  
20   is -- our youth is killing each other. It's every day I  
21   read something.

22           I tell you, Mr. Cornish, this was horrendous.  
23   Horrendous.

24           You can stand because I'm fixing to sentence you.

25           All right. All of these will run concurrent. On

1 the burglary first degree, the sentence of the Court is  
2 eighteen years.

3 On the three charges of murder, all those will also  
4 run concurrent with this burglary charge. The sentence  
5 of the Court is life.

6 Good luck to you, Mr. Cornish.

7 Court's adjourned.

8 MS. MAYES: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 MR. HUBBARD: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 MR. NORTON: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded for  
12 October 21, 2022, at 3:42 PM.)

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

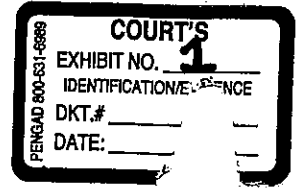
21

22

23

24

25



*9/23/22*  
*[Signature]*  
*1505*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County of Lexington

\_\_\_\_\_

SEARCH WARRANT

\_\_\_\_\_

Date 9/23/22

Officer Sgt. A. Creech

Certified True Copy of Original Court Document

*[Signature]*

COURT REPRESENTATIVE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Lexington

SEARCH WARRANT

1547  
Form Approved by  
S.C. Attorney General  
Section 17-4-160  
March 16, 2016

TO ANY BONDED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR COUNTY OR OF THE MUNICIPALITY  
OF Lexington

It appearing from the attached affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that certain property subject to seizure under provisions of Section 17-13-140, 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended, is located on the following premises:

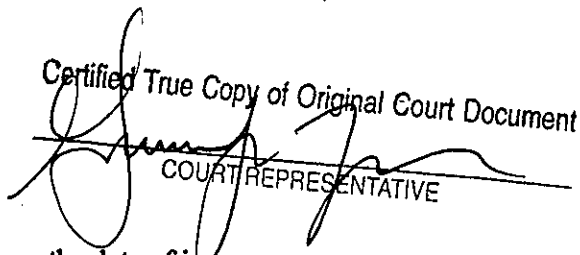
DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES (PERSON, PLACE OR THING)  
TO BE SEARCHED

The person to be searched is the person of Jeremy Savoy Cornish (DOB [redacted]/81), currently present at the Lexington County Detention Center, located at 521 Gibson Rd, Lexington, SC, for the purpose of oral buccal swab collection.

Now, therefore, you are hereby authorized to search the subject premises for the property described below, and to seize such property if found:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Property sought are oral buccal swab standards for DNA comparison analysis from Jeremy Savoy Cornish (DOB [redacted]/81). The method used to collect this standard is known to be medically safe and reliable, and not overly intrusive, pursuant to the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The method involves orally collected cheek swabs, which are collected without injury, or further invasion of the person.

Certified True Copy of Original Court Document  
  
COURT REPRESENTATIVE

This Search Warrant shall not be valid for more than ten days from the date of issuance.

A written inventory of all property seized pursuant to this Search Warrant shall be made to

Judge Buck

within ten days from the date of this warrant, such inventory to be signed by the officer executing this warrant, and a copy of such inventory shall be furnished to the person whose premises are searched if demand for such copy is made.

A copy of this Search Warrant shall be delivered to the person in charge of the premises searched at the time of such search if practicable, and, if not, to such person as soon thereafter as is practicable; in the event the identity of the person in charge is not known or if such person cannot be found after reasonable diligence in attempting to locate the person, a copy shall be attached to a prominent place on such premises.

LEXINGTON, S. C.  
9/13, 2022

  
Signature of Judge (L.S.)

COUNTY OF Lexington

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, one Sgt. A. Creech  
who, being duly sworn, says that there is probable cause to believe that certain property subject to seizure under provisions  
of Section 17-13-140, 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended, is located on the following premises in this County:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY SOUGHT

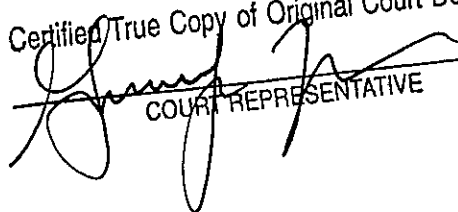
Property sought are oral buccal swab standards for DNA comparison analysis from Jeremy Savoy Cornish (DOB [redacted]/81). The method used to collect this standard is known to be medically safe and reliable, and not overly intrusive, pursuant to the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The method involves orally collected cheek swabs, which are collected without injury, or further invasion of the person.

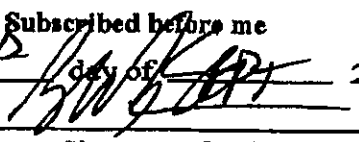
DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES (PERSON, PLACE OR THING)  
TO BE SEARCHED

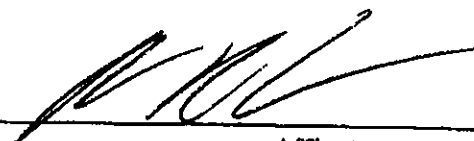
The person to be searched is the person of Jeremy Savoy Cornish (DOB [redacted]/81), currently present at the Lexington County Detention Center, located at 521 Gibson Rd, Lexington, SC, for the purpose of oral buccal swab collection.

REASON FOR AFFIANT'S BELIEF THAT THE  
PROPERTY SOUGHT IS ON THE SUBJECT PREMISES

See Page 5 Affidavit

Certified True Copy of Original Court Document  
  
COURT REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn to and Subscribed before me  
this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of APR 2022  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Judge (L. S.)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant  
Address 521 Gibson Rd.  
Lexington, SC 29072  
Phone 803-785-2493

**Page 5 Affidavit:**

On 12/17/2019, deputies responded to [REDACTED] Butternut Ln, located in the Columbia area of Lexington County, South Carolina, in reference to a possible home invasion. Upon arrival deputies found 3 individuals with apparent gunshot wounds. Two victims (Branton Booker and Sheldon Livingston) were pronounced deceased at the incident location and another victim (Duwan Williams) was pronounced deceased at the hospital. A fourth individual (Donnovin Haynes) was able to escape the location after hearing gunfire.

Based on multiple caliber projectiles located during the investigation, and statements from Donnovin, it was believed that at least two suspects were present inside the victims' residence during the crime. During the subsequent investigation, a person with information, Taquiem Ketter, came forward with information that helped lead investigators to the identification of Justin Hopkins as a possible suspect in this case; Hopkins was alleged to have committed the offense with someone referred to as his "uncle," based upon information received by Taquiem Ketter from another person familiar with Hopkins, Jamel Patrick (a former roommate of Hopkins). Jamel Patrick reported that another mutual acquaintance heard information directly from Hopkins that he (Hopkins) committed the triple homicide.


Justin Hopkins was identified by a witness, Dale Galloway, via photo lineup, as appearing to be the same man seen fleeing [REDACTED] Butternut Ln after the shooting. Two witnesses, Christy and Hansen Meneses, described seeing a heavy set black male with a bandage on his face, believed by law enforcement to be Justin Hopkins, leaving the area near the crime scene, after getting into the passenger side of a white Dually pickup truck, immediately following the timeframe of the crime.

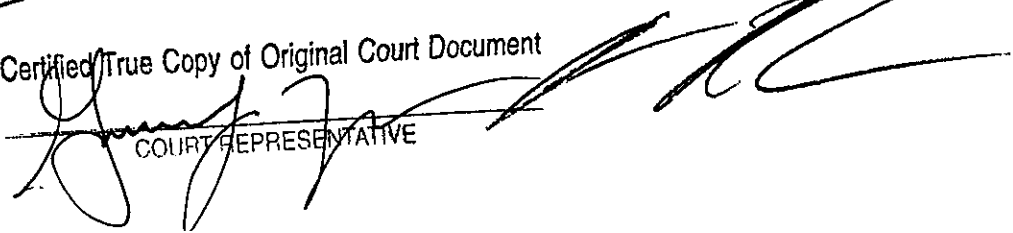
On 12/21/19, Justin Hopkins was detained during a traffic stop leaving his apartment at Landmark Apartments, after being dropped off at his apartment by a white work truck, similar to the one also described by witnesses who observed a vehicle at the scene following the shooting. The white work truck was stopped, and the driver was identified as Jeremy Cornish. Deputies spoke with Jeremy, who was originally believed to be a potential witness, regarding the events of 12/17/19. Based on conflicting statements from Jeremy Cornish and Justin Hopkins regarding their alleged mutual whereabouts on the morning of 12/17/19, and findings at Justin Hopkins' apartment, Justin was placed under arrest for the incident on 12/17/19.

During his initial contact with law enforcement, Jeremy told law enforcement he went alone to the SCDMV in Columbia, SC. Jeremy told law enforcement this was after he dropped Justin off that morning in Columbia, after their job site got rained out, after which time he stayed in the Two Notch Rd area, and did not see Justin again that day. SCDMV video was later obtained, which showed Jeremy and Justin at the SCDMV together that morning, a short time before the incident on 12/17/19, as well as together that afternoon at the same SCDMV, after the incident. Phone records were also obtained for Jeremy and Justin. Location data associated with Jeremy's phone number placed him in the area of [REDACTED] Butternut Ln during the time frame of the incident, and text messages obtained from Verizon Wireless for Justin's phone number, documented an exchange between the two individuals, on 12/17/19. In this exchange, following the crime, Jeremy sends Justin a SMS text message stating, "Make sure u clean those tools off," followed by, "Erase these messages," all believed by law enforcement to be statements directly attributable to the crime. Surveillance video obtained from the KJ's Supermarket, located near the incident location, also depicted a person believed by law enforcement to be Jeremy (a heavy set black male in a white t-shirt) dropping off Justin, who matches the description provided the Meneses, off at that location, in a white Dually pickup truck, approximately 15 minutes after the incident. The black male driving the white Dually pickup truck appears consistent in clothing and appearance to Jeremy's depiction on SCDMV video just prior to the incident. This truck also appeared to be consistent with the vehicle driven by Jeremy on 12/21/19, when stopped by law enforcement, which contained SCDMV paperwork for Justin from 12/17/19. The individual dropped off at KJ's (a heavy set black male with a bandage on his face) is believed to be Justin, who matches the description of the subject described by the Meneses getting into the white Dually truck. Jeremy was determined to be a potential suspect, as opposed to a potential witness, and he was arrested as a codefendant in this case on 12/31/19.

Facebook records obtained for Justin also depicted him in possession of two handguns, consistent with the two suspected calibers identified at the crime scene. When arrested on 12/21/19, Justin was also in possession of ammunition matching both of these calibers.

Touch DNA swabs from areas in the apartment that suspects may have had contact with were among the trace evidence collected by Crime Scene Investigators at the original scene of [REDACTED] Butternut Ln, and other physical evidence items obtained in this case. It is reasonably believed that DNA standards obtainable from the defendants are relevant to compare against these samples, as they could establish their presence at the incident location, or associations with other physical or trace evidence located outside of the initial scene. The method used to collect such standards is known to be medically safe and reliable, and not overly intrusive, pursuant to the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The method involves orally collected cheek swabs, and may be collected without injury, or further invasion of the person.

 Certified True Copy of Original Court Document

  
COURT REPRESENTATIVE



**ORIGINAL**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**FILED**IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS  
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF LEXINGTON 2022 OCT -4 AM 8:27

Case Nos. 2019A32102025505—5508

LISA M. COMER  
CLERK OF COURT  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
LEXINGTON SC

vs.

**MOTION TO SUPPRESS DNA  
EVIDENCE**

JEREMY SAVOY CORNISH,

Defendant.

COMES NOW, the Defendant, by and through counsel, and respectfully requests this Court to suppress the DNA sample taken from the Defendant, Jeremy Cornish, on December 23, 2019, as he did not voluntarily consent to the search. If the sample is suppressed, any evidence derived from the sample must also be suppressed as fruit of the poisonous tree under *Wong Sun v. United States*. 371 U.S. 471 (1963).

Defendant was asked to come speak to Sgt. Creech and Det. Hendrix at the Lexington County Sheriff's Office on December 23, 2019, to which he obliged. This was Defendant's second interrogation with the officers without an attorney present.

During the interview, the investigators told Cornish that they believed he was involved in the crime and that several witnesses saw a man resembling Justin Hopkins get into an older white dually truck similar to the one Defendant drives. They questioned him about things that he stated in the first interview which were not true. At one point when the officers accused Cornish of lying, he said it slipped his mind and stated "...not when you – when you're being pressured." Trans. p106 ll 18-19.

Sgt. Creech told Cornish that they have accused Hopkins of killing three people, to

which Cornish replied "I'm saying right now I'm in pressure." Trans. p 106, l 23. Sgt. Creech goes on to show Jeremy pictures of the victims, which appear to be pictures of the victims deceased from the video footage.

Det. Hendrix and Sgt. Creech kept pressuring Cornish to tell them what he knew, threatening him with the various forms of evidence they were waiting on - phone records, surveillance videos, search warrants. The investigators kept pushing that if he did not talk to them, they were going to charge him with three counts of murder.

Shortly before asking Cornish to consent to a DNA swab, Sgt. Creech told him that if they thought he did it, they would have the U.S. Marshals pick him up, but before they would do that they have some things they needed Defendant to address. The very first thing Sgt. Creech asked for is a DNA swab. Trans. p 137, ll 7-25, p 138 ll 1-6.

The Defendant initially agreed to the swab, and then asked "[w]hy- why would you need a DNA from me?" Trans. p138 ll 14-15. Sgt. Creech told him that they are checking DNA at the crime scene and started to tell him "[a]nd if your DNA doesn't come back to the crime scene anywhere, then - then that's one more thing you've got -" when Cornish cut him off and said "[l]isten, I - I'd rather be getting a lawyer involved in this here because I don't, you know, need nothing fishy going on." Trans. P138, ll 22-24.

At this point, the conversation should have stopped and the investigators should have given the Defendant an opportunity to hire counsel. However, that is not what happened. Sgt. Creech went on to tell Cornish that he was not trying to trick him, and if his DNA was not at the crime scene, then he had nothing to worry about.

The investigators continue to talk to the Defendant. Cornish finally asked "[w]hat does it take for me to clear my name from this here, sir? Tell me what do (sic) - -all I need

to do with it?" Trans. p 142 I 25, p 143 II 1-2. Sgt. Creech said if he will agree to a buccal swab and if his DNA was already in the system due to a prior arrest he had nothing to worry about. Trans. p 143 II 3-22. The Defendant agreed to the swab but again asked the officers "...[S]o you guarantee me that I don't need a lawyer present right now for this giving up my DNA?" Trans. p 144 II 21-23. To which Sgt. Creech responded that he cannot give legal advice, but if his DNA was already in CODIS they would have to jump through legal hoops to get it. The Defendant told Sgt. Creech he would prefer they just get it that way, because he did not want "no funny stuff." Sgt. Creech persisted in asking for a sample and after almost an hour of interrogation the Defendant was pressured into giving the DNA sample. Trans. p 145 II 1-25.

While Sgt. Creech was out of the room getting the buccal swab kit, the Defendant told Det. Hendrix that prior to the interrogation, he asked another officer if he needed to bring a lawyer and was told no. Defendant states to Det. Hendrix "but now you can't give me legal advice though." Trans. p 146 II 11-12. This is the third time he had brought up having an attorney present to the officers.

After the sample is taken, Defendant asked about the DNA clearing his name. Sgt. Creech explained to him it will "go towards" clearing his name, but they were waiting on other "stuff" as well. Trans. P 148, II 18-23, p 149 II 1-7.

Defendant then stated "[s]o this was for nothing then?" and "I'm trying to clear my name. You said this was going to help clear my name." p 149, II 10-13.

Defendant was not given his *Miranda* rights, before or after the alleged consent to search, yet he asked for an attorney anyway. He was not under arrest at the time, but he was clearly considered a suspect by the officers interrogating him. He was not read a

consent form for the DNA swab, nor asked to sign one. The Defendant was also not told that he had a right to refuse the swab.

Whether consent is voluntary or the product of duress or coercion, express or implied, is a question of fact to be determined from the totality of the circumstances. The totality of the circumstances test is applied in both custodial and non-custodial settings. The State bears the burden of establishing the voluntariness of the consent. *State v. Mattison*, 352 S.C. 577, 584 (Ct. App. 2003).

As a general rule, a statement is not voluntary if it is the result of "coercive police activity;" that is if it is obtained "by any sort of threats or violence, ... by any direct or implied promises, however slight, [or] by the exertion of improper influence." *U.S. v. Braxton*, 112 F.3d 777, 780 (quoting *Hutto v. Ross*, 429 U.S. 28, 30, 50 L. Ed. 2d 194, 97 S. Ct. 202 (1976)). "Proper inquiry is whether the defendant's will has been overborne or his capacity for self-determination critically impaired." *United States v. Pelton*, 835 F.2d 1067, 1071 (4th Cir. 1987).

Here, the Defendant was in a non-custodial setting. He was not under arrest, and he was not in handcuffs. He was however, at the police station, in an interrogation room, being questioned by two seasoned investigators. The Defendant is not a highly educated individual. He is a mason by trade. In fact, during the interview, he says to the officers "I'm a simple man." Trans. p101 | 4.

Defendant asked officers at least three times for an attorney and/or if he needed one. While Sgt. Creech and Det. Hendrix could not give him legal advice, the Defendant claims prior to the interview, another officer unequivocally told him that he did not need an attorney present. He also told the officers he would prefer they jump through the hoops to

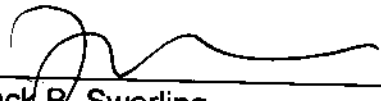
use his DNA in CODIS instead of doing the swab. Earlier in the interrogation, he also stated he felt "pressure" and just prior to "consenting" to the DNA swab he is visibly frustrated with the officers.

Immediately after the swab, he is confused by what just happened as he was under the belief the DNA swab alone would clear his name, and in fact the Defendant had asked Sgt. Creech and Det. Hendrix what he needed to do to clear his name and was told by Sgt. Creech "let us do our job" and "[b]ut, if you'll agree to a buccal swab..." Trans. P 143 | 3-7. The Defendant has a right to be confused as he is getting conflicting information from the officers.


Looking at the totality of the circumstances - that the Defendant is not highly educated, in the police station being interrogated by two seasoned investigators, being threatened to be charged with three counts of murder, asking repeatedly for an attorney, offering other ways for them to obtain his DNA since his attorney is not present, not being read a consent form, not signing a consent form, feeling "pressure", being confused, receiving conflicting information, not being told he had a right to refuse the swab, and being interrogated for almost an hour - it is clear that the consent provided by the Defendant is not voluntary.

In conclusion, Defendant respectfully requests this Court to suppress the DNA sample taken from him on December 23, 2019, as he did not voluntarily consent to the search. If the sample is suppressed, any evidence derived from the sample must also be suppressed as fruit of the poisonous tree under *Wong Sun v. United States*. 371 U.S. 471 (1963).

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack B. Swerling  
Law Offices of Jack B. Swerling  
1720 Main Street, Suite 301  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
(803) 765-2626  
Email: [jackswerling@gmail.com](mailto:jackswerling@gmail.com)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leigh J. Leventis  
Leventis Law Firm, LLC  
1913 Bull Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
(803) 256-0113  
Email: [leighleventis@aol.com](mailto:leighleventis@aol.com)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alissa L. Wilson  
Law Offices of Jack B. Swerling  
1720 Main Street, Suite 301  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
(803) 765-2626  
Email: [awilson@jbswerling.com](mailto:awilson@jbswerling.com)

*Attorneys for Defendant*

Columbia, South Carolina  
September 27, 2022

Judge's Copy

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

Case Nos. 2019A32102025505-5508

The State,

vs.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

Defendant.

ORDER ADMITTING DNA EVIDENCE AND  
SUPPRESSING STATEMENTS

THIS MATTER comes before the Court on Defendant’s Motion to Suppress DNA Evidence and Motion for a Hearing Pursuant to *Jackson v. Denno*<sup>1</sup>. Hearings were held on these matters on October 11, 2022, and October 12, 2022. Jack Swerling, Leigh Leventis, and Alissa Wilson, Esquires, were present at the hearing with and on behalf of the Defendant. Solicitor Rick Hubbard, Deputy Solicitor Suzanne Mayes, and Assistant Solicitor Bruce Norton were present on behalf of the State. For the reasons set forth below, Defendant’s Motion to Suppress is DENIED, and Defendant’s Motion to Suppress Statements Pursuant to *Jackson v. Denno* is GRANTED.

**FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

On December 17, 2019, 3 individuals at [REDACTED] Butternut Lane, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 were shot and killed during a burglary. Within 48 hours, law enforcement officers (“LEO”) developed Justin Hopkins as a suspect in the triple murder. Additionally, LEO had received eyewitness statements that a man fitting Justin Hopkins physical description was seen fleeing the scene of the crime and getting into a white dually pickup truck with large equipment in the bed. Because the truck appeared to be a work truck which might be shared by multiple drivers, LEO were interested in the truck as being connected to the offense but had not yet developed any opinions as to the potential culpability of a hypothetical driver. On December 21, 2019, while surveilling Justin Hopkins’ residence, LEO observed a white dually pickup truck matching the

<sup>1</sup> 378 U.S. 368 (1964).



description provided by eyewitnesses dropping off an individual matching Justin Hopkins' description who then went into Hopkins' apartment. After the truck left the complex, police initiated a lawful stop and questioned the driver, Jeremy Cornish. Based on this questioning, LEO believed that Cornish might have more information regarding this triple homicide and requested to question him again.

On December 23, 2019, Jeremy Cornish voluntarily arrived at the Lexington County Sheriff's Department for further questioning. Before coming in, Cornish asked the officer if he needed an attorney for this interview. He was told he did not need one. (Transcript of Recorded Interview of Jeremy Cornish, December 23, 2019, 146:8-9).<sup>2</sup> The interview lasted roughly an hour and a half. Sergeant Creech and Detective Hendrix conducted the interview.

Approximately halfway through the interview, Sgt. Creech asks the Defendant for a DNA swab.<sup>3</sup> (*Id.* at 137:23-138:3). Defendant responds "Yeah. I mean --." (*Id.* at 138:4). Sgt. Creech again asks "Are you cool with that?" (*Id.* at 138:5). Defendant initially responds "Of course, yeah," but later follows up with "Well, hold on, hold on, hold on. Hold on, hold on, hold on. Why -- why would you need a DNA from me?" (*Id.* at 138:11-15). Sgt. Creech indicates that it is because they are checking DNA at the crime scene and implies that a lack of his DNA at the crime scene would go towards clearing his name. (*Id.* at 138:16-21).

Defendant then responds "Listen, I -- I'd rather be getting a lawyer involved in this here because I don't, you know, need nothing fishy going on." (*Id.* at 138:22-24). Sgt. Creech responds

---

<sup>2</sup> These transcripts were paid for and provided by the Defendant and produced by a court reporter based on audio recordings generated by the Lexington County Sheriff's Department. The Court understands that the State has some concerns about the accuracy of the transcripts, especially in light of the suboptimal audio quality. However, for the purposes of this Motion, the relevant statements are sufficiently established as accurate. This Court will rarely slightly alter the transcript for the purposes of clarity. Nothing materially impacting any statement will be altered or omitted. Unfortunately, large portions of the transcript must be provided as the full context is necessary to understanding the following analysis.

<sup>3</sup> Sometimes referred to as a "cheek swab" or a "buccal swab."

“All right.” (*Id.* at 138:25). Defendant continues “You know what I mean?” (*Id.* at 139:1). Sgt. Creech starts to respond “Nobody’s trying to do anything --” before the Defendant continues “Because I feel like -- I feel like this is being targeted towards me, and I promise to God that -- I go to church, sir. I went to church Sunday praying for this young man and these families in church.” (*Id.* at 139:2-9). Sgt. Creech responds “I’d love -- I’d love to prove you didn’t do this. I -- I’m not trying to trick you.” (*Id.* at 139:10-13). Defendant responds “Right. Well, will this DNA swab prove this here? That -- that I didn’t do this?” (*Id.* at 139:14-15). Sgt. Creech responds “If your -- if your DNA is not at the scene, it would certainly go toward that, yes. And if your DNA’s not [at] the crime scene, then you got nothing to worry about.” (*Id.* at 139:16-23). Defendant then asks “And it’s over with for me?” (*Id.* at 139:24). Sgt. Creech responds “Well, I mean, as far as there’s not going to be any physical DNA tying you to the scene, yeah. I’m not -- no, look. I can’t -- I can’t speak for your phone records because I haven’t seen them. You say that they’re going to clear you. We’ll get the phone records. If they clear you, they clear you. They’re pretty straightforward.” (*Id.* at 139:25-140:7).

That manner of back and forth between Defendant, Sgt. Creech, and Detective Hendrix continues for some time before Sgt. Creech eventually summarizes some of the case against Defendant and then says “I’m just saying, hypothetically speaking, you see why we would [be] suspicious and why we would be grilling you on that, right?” (*Id.* at 141:25-142:13). Sgt. Creech continues “And we’re just trying to get this bottled up. And if you didn’t do it, forgive us for pressing you. We’ll clear you.” (*Id.* at 142:20-24). Defendant then asks “What does it take for me to clear my name from this here, sir? Tell me what do -- all I need to do with it?” (*Id.* at 142:25-143:2). Sgt. Creech responds “Just let us -- let us do our job.” (*Id.* at 143:3). Defendant says “Well -- because I -- because I need [to be] cleared from this because I know I didn’t do nothing.” Sgt.

Creech says “But if you’ll agree to a buccal swab -- that’s what it’s called. It’s just a little Q-tip inside the cheek. And that’ll give us the standard for you, so that way if --” (*Id.* at 143:7-10). Defendant then informs the officers that his DNA is already in CODIS and restates that he doesn’t “want no funny stuff.” (*Id.* at 143:11-15).

After a little more back and forth, the Defendant states “I will give my DNA up now but I swear this here seem like some fishy stuff going on here, man.” (*Id.* at 144:16-19). Sgt. Creech tells Defendant “There’s nothing fishy.” (*Id.* at 144:20). Defendant then asks “You know? So you guarantee me that I don’t need a lawyer present right now for this giving up my DNA?” (*Id.* at 144:21-23). Sgt. Creech tells the Defendant that he cannot give legal advice but that they’d have to jump through hoops to use the CODIS DNA. (*Id.* at 144:24-145:9). Defendant responds “I’d rather you go through that, man, because I don’t -- I don’t want no funny stuff -- business coming up, you know what I’m saying? You know, all of a sudden you got my DNA, ‘Oh, well, look at who was at the crime.’ You know, come on, man? Y’all don’t know what happened, you know?” (*Id.* at 145:12-17). Sgt. Creech then says “It’s -- it’s -- this is recorded right here.” (*Id.* at 145:18-19). Defendant again asks “You know?” (*Id.* at 145:20). Sgt. Creech continues “It’s going to be a Q-tip in your mouth, and that’s not (inaudible).” (*Id.* at 145:21-22). Defendant then responds “Come on, man. Go get it. I -- (inaudible) now anyway. So let’s go get it. Let’s go get it, man.” (*Id.* at 145:23-25). While Sgt. Creech is out of the room, Defendant brings up the fact that he was told he did not need a lawyer<sup>4</sup> and questions why he would have been told that. (*Id.* at 146:8-16). Upon Sgt. Creech’s return, a buccal swab was taken, and the sample was sent to the labs for analysis. The State received a report from that analysis sometime later.

---

<sup>4</sup> This being the same statement referenced earlier.

At some point in September 2022, the State became concerned about the voluntariness of the DNA sample obtained December 23, 2019. In an attempt to cure any potential defects, LEO prepared a new search warrant which was provided to Judge Brian Buck. Attached to that warrant was an affidavit laying out probable cause for the search. That affidavit contains evidence from the Defendant's phone records and text messages, SCDMV surveillance video, KJ's Market surveillance video, and the Defendant's statements provided to law enforcement during a traffic stop on December 17, 2019. The evidence in this case reflects that law enforcement had either already obtained or was in the active process of obtaining all of those items prior to the interrogation on December 23, 2019. The search warrant did not contain any reference to the prior buccal swab or even acknowledge that a prior swab had been done. Judge Buck signed the search warrant, and a new swab was collected and analyzed. The State did not ask Defendant's counsel for consent to search or request a *Schmerber*<sup>5</sup> hearing.

Defendant now moves to suppress all DNA evidence asserting that the December 23, 2019, sample was obtained involuntarily and in violation of Defendant's right to counsel and that the most recent sample is either fruit of the poisonous tree or, in the alternative, based on a defective warrant since LEO intentionally concealed the prior sample collection from Judge Buck.

#### APPLICABLE LAW

Analytically, the Court should consider a wide variety of paths to either admission or suppression of the DNA evidence. These include the Fourth Amendment and Fifth Amendment considerations, the fruit of the poisonous tree, and the independent source doctrine.

The Fourth Amendment protects individuals "against unreasonable searches and seizures." U.S. Const. amend. IV. Generally, for a search to be reasonable, it must be authorized by a warrant,

---

<sup>5</sup> *Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757 (1966).

but there are certain exceptions since the touchstone of any Fourth Amendment analysis is “reasonableness” *State v. Herring*, 387 S.C. 201, 210, 692 S.E.2d 490, 494 (2009) (citing *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 357 (1967)). One such exception is voluntary consent. *Schneckloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 219 (1973). To determine when consent was given voluntarily,

courts must consider all of the factual circumstances surrounding the consent, which include: (1) the characteristics of the defendant, such as his youth, his level of education, and his intelligence; (2) details of the interrogation, including whether the Defendant was advised of his constitutional rights, the length of the encounter, the nature of questioning, *i.e.*, whether it was repeated and prolonged, and the use of physical punishment, which includes the deprivation of food or sleep; (3) the psychological impact of the circumstances on the accused; (4) the context in which consent was obtained; and, (5) any verbal or nonverbal actions by the accused and the police officers. No single criterion is dispositive; all the surrounding circumstances must be considered.

*United States v. Smith*, 575 F. Supp. 3d 542, 554–55 (E.D. Pa. 2021) (cleaned up).

In cases of a violation of one’s Fourth, Fifth, or Sixth Amendment rights, courts will sometimes apply the exclusionary rule to suppress unlawfully obtained evidence and fruit of the poisonous tree—evidence which was obtained lawfully but in reliance on unlawfully obtained information. *State v. Brown*, 401 S.C. 82, 88, 736 S.E.2d 263 (2012); *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966); *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963). There are, however, exceptions to the exclusionary rule including the independent source doctrine. *U.S. v. Hill*, 776 F.3d 243, 251 (4th Cir. 2015). These exceptions are especially important because

exclusion exacts a heavy toll on both the judicial system and society at large. It almost always requires courts to ignore reliable, trustworthy evidence bearing on guilt or innocence. And its bottom-line effect, in many cases, is to suppress the truth and set the criminal loose in the community without punishment. Our cases hold that society must swallow this bitter pill when necessary, but only as a last resort. For exclusion to be appropriate, the deterrence benefits of suppression must outweigh its heavy costs.

*Davis v. U.S.*, 564 U.S. 229 (2011) (internal citations omitted).

In a case where a prior search was potentially unlawful and LEO seek a curative warrant to conduct a lawful search under the independent source doctrine, the State must show the subsequent warrant was “genuinely independent.” *Hill*, 776 F.3d at 251. This means that “the unlawful search must not have affected (1) the officer’s decision to seek the warrant or (2) the magistrate’s decision to issue it.” *Id.* (cleaned up). In cases where the curative warrant seeks nontestimonial identification evidence, the warrant must be supported by probable cause that (1) the Defendant committed the offense; (2) the sample was necessary, material, and relevant; and (3) the method used to procure the sample was safe, reliable, and the least intrusive means of obtaining the evidence. *State v. Simmons*, 384 S.C. 145, 176, 682 S.E.2d 19, 35 (Ct. App. 2009).

While the Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches applies to all citizens at all times, the same cannot be said of the Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights to counsel. *See Edwards v. Arizona*, 451 U.S. 477, 486 (1981); *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387, 398 (1977). Barring custodial interrogation or some formal proceeding or “critical stage” facing an individual, the right to counsel will not attach. *Edwards*, 451 U.S. at 486; *Brewer*, 430 U.S. at 398. In fact, the *Edwards* rule requiring suppression of statements given in violation of the right to counsel will not apply unless the violation occurs in custodial interrogation. *Bobby v. Dixon*, 565 U.S. 23, 29 (2011) (“This Court has never held that a person can invoke his *Miranda* rights anticipatorily, in a context other than custodial interrogation.”) (cleaned up); *Montejo v. Louisiana*, 556 U.S. 778, 795 (2009) (“The *Miranda-Edwards* regime is narrower than *Jackson* in one respect: The former only applies in the context of custodial interrogation. If the defendant is not in custody then those decisions do not apply.”) When there is custodial interrogation and a defendant invokes his or her right to counsel, all communication which may lead to further interrogation must cease. *United States v. Maza*, 73 M.J. 507, 520 (N.M.C.C.A. 2014).

In South Carolina, whether a subject is in “custody” or not is a totality of circumstances analysis focusing on the following factors:

(1) whether the contact with law enforcement was initiated by the police or the person interrogated, and if by the police, whether the person voluntarily agreed to interview; (2) whether the express purpose of the interview was to question the person as a witness or suspect; (3) where the interview took place; (4) whether the police informed the person he or she was under arrest or in custody; (5) whether they informed the person he or she could terminate the interview and leave at any time or whether the person's conduct indicated an awareness of such freedom; (6) whether there were restrictions on the person's freedom of movement during the interview; (7) how long the interrogation lasted; (8) how many police officers participated; (9) whether they dominated and controlled the course of the interrogation; (10) whether they manifested a belief that the person was culpable and they had the evidence to prove it; (11) whether the police were aggressive, confrontational, or accusatory; (12) whether the police used interrogation techniques to pressure the suspect; and (13) whether the person was arrested at the end of the interrogation.

*State v. Lowery*, 436 S.C. 349, 358, 872 S.E.2d 197, 201–02 (Ct. App. 2022) (quoting *State v. Williams*, 405 S.C. 263, 276-77, 747 S.E.2d 194, 201 (Ct. App. 2013)). However, “the fact a defendant voluntarily agreed to accompany investigators to their office and answer questions without being placed under arrest indicates a non-custodial situation.” *Williams*, 405 S.C. at 275, 747 S.E.2d at 200.

## DISCUSSION

It appears to this Court that the DNA evidence could be admissible pursuant to *State v. Simmons*. However, due to the factors surrounding the December 23, 2019, interrogation, the accompanying statements should be suppressed.

### A. **The 2019 Sample & Statements**

#### a. **Custodial Interrogation**

It is readily apparent from the record that the Defendant was being interrogated, so the Court must only resolve whether he was in custody at the time. The *Williams* factors listed above

*we went through the Williams factors  
as outlined in my order and find*

weigh in favor of a determination that he was in custody, as a whole. (1) Though Defendant came in voluntarily, contact was initiated by police, notably after a prior traffic stop.<sup>6</sup> (2) The line of questioning clearly indicates that the Defendant was a suspect, especially all the comments regarding clearing his name. (3) The interview took place at the Sheriff's Department. (4) The officers did not inform Defendant that he was under arrest or in custody. (5) The officers also did not inform Defendant that he could terminate the interview and leave at any time. It is unclear if Defendant was aware of such freedom. (6) There were no physical restrictions on Defendant's freedom of movement during the interview. (7) The interrogation lasted for an hour and a half. (8) Two officers participated. (9) The officers did, generally, dominate and control the course of the interrogation. (10) The officers stated some facts creating suspicion. (11) The officers were not aggressive, confrontational, or accusatory. (12) The officers did use interrogation techniques to pressure the Defendant. And (13) the Defendant was not arrested at the end of the interrogation.

Therefore, factors 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, and 12 all weigh in favor of a finding that Defendant was in custody. Factors 4, 6, 11, and 13 weigh against. Factor 8 does not weigh strongly either way. Accordingly, the Defendant was in a custodial interrogation at the time. This means that as soon as the Defendant requested an attorney,<sup>7</sup> all interrogations and communications which might reasonably lead to interrogation should have ceased. The fact that the interrogation continued violated Defendant's right to counsel, and any statements or evidence obtained as a result should be suppressed. There is no method for the State to cure the defects in the statements obtained, so that evidence is accordingly suppressed and Defendant's *Jackson v. Denno* motion is GRANTED.

---

<sup>6</sup> Which established in Defendant's mind that LEO may seize him when he's out anyways.

<sup>7</sup> "I'd rather be getting a lawyer involved in this." *Supra*.

~~it also applied the~~

### b. Voluntariness Under the Fourth Amendment

Moreover, even if Defendant's right to counsel was not violated, it appears that his Fourth Amendment rights were. Applying the *Schneekloth* factors, though it is a close call, it appears Defendant's consent was not given voluntarily. The Defendant was in his late-30s or early-40s at the time of this interrogation and had a prior record. He should not be as susceptible to police coercion as others. The Defendant was not deprived of food or sleep or placed under any psychological stresses that would strain his cognitive abilities. However, since the Defendant was not advised of his constitutional rights, the consent was obtained in a sheriff's department, and considering the length of the interrogation, it is likely that the Defendant's ability to make a voluntary decision was materially affected. Moreover, similar to *United States v. Smith*, the fact that the swab was taken "mere minutes after he invoked his [right] . . . to an attorney" concerns the Court deeply. 575 F.Supp. 3d at 555. Therefore, the <sup>that</sup> "consent" obtained on December 23, 2019, was not voluntary, and the sample was therefore obtained in violation of Defendant's Fourth Amendment rights and should be suppressed barring an exception to the exclusionary rule.

Factors  
in my  
brief  
and  
rule

### B. The 2022 Sample & the Independent Source Doctrine

Even though the 2019 sample was unlawfully obtained, the State cured such a defect by utilizing the independent source exception to the exclusionary rule. As to *Hill*'s two-pronged genuinely independent analysis, the officer's decision to seek the warrant was not affected by the unlawful search.<sup>8</sup> It was sought merely as a safety valve curative measure. The affidavit attached to the warrant does not include any information which was obtained as a result of the search, so

<sup>8</sup> It appears from *Murray v. U.S.*, 487 U.S. 533, 542 (1988), the case which *Hill* relies on heavily, that in this context "affected by the unlawful search" means utilizing information obtained in the search. "This would not have been the case if the agents' decision to seek the warrant was prompted by what they had seen during the initial entry, or if information obtained during that entry was presented to the Magistrate and affected his decision to issue the warrant." *Id.* To hold that this consideration expands to the meta-knowledge regarding the circumstances of the search would be to render unlawful searches permanently unlawful and deprive the State of the opportunity to cure any issues.

Judge Buck could not have been affected by the unlawful search either. Therefore, the search warrant provides an independent source for the DNA's admission free and clear of any potential defects.

The State argues that *State v. Simmons* controls the present case. I agree. In *Simmons*, a defendant was convicted of kidnapping, armed robbery, and grand larceny of a motor vehicle. 384 S.C. at 154, 682 S.E.2d at 23. In part, the evidence against the defendant in that case included a palm print. *Id.* at 155, 682 S.E.2d at 24. The defense argued that the first palm print was obtained involuntarily in violation of the defendant's Fourth Amendment rights. *Id.* at 162, 682 S.E.2d at 28. In response to the exclusion of that palm print, the State had a *Schmerber* hearing which led to a court order compelling a second, curative palm print. *Id.* at 176, 682 S.E.2d at 35. The court held that "regardless of the admissibility of the first palm print, the court's order requiring Simmons to submit to the second palm print was proper as the State established probable cause for the acquisition of the palm print evidence by satisfying the three-prong test for acquiring nontestimonial identification evidence." *Id.* It is apparent, then, that the law in South Carolina regarding the independent source doctrine explicitly allows the State to seek curative measures regarding defective searches. This is the case even when the curative search occurs well after the initial search, when the State already knows the result of the search, and when the State is aware that a prior search may have been unlawful.<sup>9</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> That said, this Court is concerned about the circumstances of this case and the policy implications of the *Simmons* rule. As stated in the analysis regarding the 2019 sample, it is apparent that Defendant's constitutional rights were violated. It is *only* because *Simmons* controls this case that such evidence is nonetheless admissible in this trial, but it is a very close call. The 2019 interrogation is troublesome on many levels, but what is troublesome does not control. The precedent does. On that point, the Court is also aware of *United States v. Smith*, cited throughout this opinion. Though the reasoning in that case may be persuasive in some respects, it simply is not controlling. The appeal of the *Smith* reasoning is that it would prevent officers from being able to constantly search first and obtain curative warrants later. Although their apparent ability to do that under *Simmons* seems unwise, such determinations are to be left to the legislature of this State. Alternatively, the South Carolina Supreme Court can provide further guidance and clarification.

The September 2022 search warrant obtained in this case was based on independent information as previously established. The fact that it was obtained mere weeks before trial, that the State knew the results of the DNA analysis, or that the State thought there might be an issue with the initial search is of no consequence. Therefore, the independent source doctrine applies, and the DNA evidence could be admitted.

### CONCLUSION

The record establishes that the factors surrounding Defendant's interrogation on December 23, 2019, violated both his Fourth and Fifth Amendment rights. There was no way for the State to cure the unlawfully obtained statements, and as such, they must be suppressed. However, the State has obtained the Defendant's DNA from a genuinely independent, lawful source. This sample cures the defect with the 2019 sample and will not be suppressed under the independent source exception to the exclusionary rule.

Therefore, Defendant's *Jackson v. Denno* Motion is GRANTED, and the Motion regarding the DNA is DENIED.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

---

Debra R. McCaslin  
Circuit Court Judge

Transcript of  
Recorded Interviews  
of  
Jeremy Cornish

-----  
Recording 1 Labeled:  
"Jeremy\_Cornish traffic stop part 1"

Recording 2 Labeled:  
"Jeremy\_Cornish traffic stop part 2"

Recording 3 Labeled:  
"Jeremy Cornish interview - Axon\_Interview\_-  
\_Interview\_Room\_3\_-\_Camera1-3"  
Dated December 23, 2019

Recording 4 Labeled:  
"Jeremy Cornish interview - Axon\_Interview\_-  
\_Interview\_Room\_3\_-\_Camera1"  
Dated December 31, 2019

Transcribed by: Audrey Beebe,  
Southern Reporting, Inc.

<b>COURT'S</b>
EXHIBIT NO. <u>37</u>
IDENTIFICATION/EVIDENCE
DKT. # _____
DATE: _____

1 Recording 3 Labeled: "Jeremy Cornish interview -  
2 Axon\_Interview\_-\_Interview\_Room\_3\_-\_Camera1-3"

3 Dated December 23, 2019

4 SERGEANT CREECH: I said he's the lead investigator.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: So it's important for him to talk to  
7 everybody.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right, right, right.

9 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Just to know what's --

10 SERGEANT CREECH: That way he's not basing what he does  
11 on hearsay from, you know, I say, "Jeremy Cornish  
12 told me this" --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: -- and it gets butchered in  
15 translation.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm ready to tell you whatever I know,  
17 sir.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Awesome. Well, we're going to start  
19 off: What do you know?

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Now, I do know more now since I got  
21 home after the situation and read the report and  
22 everything.

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: All right. What do you know?

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Three guys was killed by Justin. I  
25 mean, I seen it -- I read that it said it had

1 physical evidence leading him -- placing him on the  
2 scene.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I definitely know that much, I mean.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, I guess start at the beginning  
6 from that day. I -- I don't know. Do --

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Start at the beginning of your day  
8 Tuesday --

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: -- morning (inaudible).

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Tuesday morning.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Start to finish. Tell me when you  
13 woke up, and let's walk through the whole day.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Woke up.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Till you went to bed.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: I always warm my truck up.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I go to Blythewood, and I pick up two  
19 other workers, young guys.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Keep my program with Justin -- my  
22 apprentice program.

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. I call Justin, call Justin.

25 Glanced --

1 SERGEANT CREECH: What -- what time did you wake up?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Probably about --

3 SERGEANT CREECH: (Inaudible.)

4 JEREMY CORNISH: -- five.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: About five.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Five in the morning. Because I knew

7 they were calling for rain that day, so we was kind

8 of, you know, iffy about going out, but I ended up

9 going out anyway.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So sorry. I -- I'm going

11 to interrupt occasionally just to make sure we

12 don't (inaudible).

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha. Picked the two guys up out of

14 Blythewood, was heading to work. Justin called.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: What did you pick them up out of

16 Blythewood, do you think?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Had to been about exactly at six. I

18 probably picked the first one up at six. And right

19 down the street, probably about 6:25 I picked the

20 second one up.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: What are their names?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not really sure. One of them name

23 is Quinton.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: And Dante?

1 SERGEANT CREECH: Willy would have -- kind of have that  
2 information for me?

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Absolutely. Absolutely.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: So you picked them up where?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: From their residence.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. From their houses.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't -- I don't know where their  
8 residence -- I did. I have that on the phone, but,  
9 you know, I don't --

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And then what happened?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: We were headed to work.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

13 JEREMY CORNISH: I get a call from Justin.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: At what time?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: It was before I got to work. We got to  
16 work at seven, so it had to been about 6:50.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: And said he was in Richland Village.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Picked him up from Richland Village,  
21 went to work. So we got there. It started pouring  
22 down rain, and we didn't really do anything.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: And I'm going to interrupt you again  
24 real fast. Just -- just for my ignorance, you  
25 know, when you say Richland Village, what -- I mean

1 I'm guessing a shopping complex?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: It's a apartment complex.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: Apartment complex. Okay.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Where is it by?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: It's on Garners Ferry Road. It's --  
6 you turn between a Hardee's and a BP gas station.

7 I don't -- I'm not familiar with the address. I  
8 think it's like Universal.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh. Okay. So you -- you pick him  
10 up about what time from --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Six-fifty.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Six-fifty?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: And that's not normally where you pick  
15 him up and drop him off at, is it?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Where do you normally pick him up and  
18 drop him off at?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Now, he's kind of a little bit all  
20 over --

21 SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: -- actually. So little bit all over.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: But he's -- but he's been in Landmark  
24 pretty heavily?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: I've never picked him up from Landmark.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Never picked him up there.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. I'm sorry. I'm -- I'm

4 interrupting. I'm getting ahead of ourselves.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: We're good.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: So you pick --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: No, we're good.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: You pick him up about 6:50 from --

9 JEREMY CORNISH: -- Richland Village.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: -- Richland Village, and then what

11 happens.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: We go to work.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: Work being?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, we went to the job site.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Which is?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: McEntire Air Force Base.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: McEntire Air Force Base. You guys

18 actually get on the base?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: What time did y'all get there?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Right at seven. Because it was not

22 far. I mean --

23 SERGEANT CREECH: McEntire --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: -- maybe it was -- maybe 7:05/7:10.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: They check IDs for everybody coming in

1 the gate?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes. Yes.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: You and him?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, yes, yes.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Do they have any kind of logs of that?

6 Do you have to swipe in or --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty it's a scanner that they

8 use.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Scanner? Okay. So you guys get on  
10 the job site about what time?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Probably about 7:10.

12 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Seven.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. All right. Let's keep  
14 going.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: It then started pouring down rain. We  
16 said, "Let's pack it up. Let's go." That's what  
17 we do: pack it up and leave.

18 Left there and went back to the -- the meet  
19 spot. I forgot to tell you about the meet spot.  
20 I'm sorry.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: All right.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: The meet spot is at Lower Richland --  
23 at the Food Lion right across from Lower Richland  
24 High School. That's where the rest of the guys be  
25 at.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: But not any of the guys you picked up  
2 that day?

3 JEREMY CORNISH: No, no. Not any I picked up because  
4 it's --

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: All together -- it's like five guys all  
7 together.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. You didn't pick up five guys?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. So you guys meet so several --  
11 so I'm guessing there's multiple crews that are  
12 meeting that the Food Lion over at Lower Richland.  
13 Is that what you're saying?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes. That's --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: -- exactly what I'm saying.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. And so then what happens  
18 at the Food Lion?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: We drop two guys back off.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Which two guys?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Not the two that was riding with me. I  
22 really don't know these guys that well. They --  
23 they just started with us.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So you dropped two off.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: We call -- I call them nicknames. We

1           got them like Jay. Willy Willoughby, pretty much.  
2           We call him Jay.  
3       SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. That's fine.  
4       JEREMY CORNISH: I don't really know.  
5       SERGEANT CREECH: So Jay and who else?  
6       JEREMY CORNISH: Both of them names was Jay. Josh.  
7           That's right. Josh and --  
8       SERGEANT CREECH: Another guy named Jay? That's fine.  
9       JEREMY CORNISH: Jordan? Jacob?  
10      SERGEANT CREECH: And it wasn't -- it wasn't Dante or  
11           Quinton?  
12      JEREMY CORNISH: No. It wasn't Dante or Quinton. They  
13           were riding with me.  
14      SERGEANT CREECH: And Justin's still riding with you at  
15           this point?  
16      JEREMY CORNISH: He's still riding with me at this  
17           point.  
18      SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So you drop Josh and the  
19           other guy off. Do you drop Justin off at this  
20           point?  
21      JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.  
22      SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So tell us what happened  
23           next.  
24      JEREMY CORNISH: I'm going to get my oil changed.  
25      SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So Justin's with you when

1           you get your oil changed?

2           JEREMY CORNISH: Everybody's still with me when I get  
3           the oil changed.

4           SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So even those two guys are  
5           with you still?

6           JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right. Now let me explain  
7           something to you now.

8           SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

9           JEREMY CORNISH: The previous week, Justin was getting  
10          picked -- I was picking Justin up off of Farrow  
11          Road --

12          SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

13          JEREMY CORNISH: -- from the motel where he was staying  
14          with his mother. Now -- now, that's what -- since  
15          this job started, that's what happened: picking  
16          him up from a motel on Farrow Road. Not even a  
17          motel; it's a nice hotel.

18          SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. Real quick.

19          JEREMY CORNISH: It ain't a motel.

20          SERGEANT CREECH: Backing up: Where'd you guys get your  
21          oil changed at?

22          JEREMY CORNISH: Express -- Express Oil on Garners  
23          Ferry.

24          SERGEANT CREECH: And all three of them were with you  
25          when you did that?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: So this was something -- you were  
3 getting it on the work truck, so this was something  
4 -- this was work? This was on the clock,  
5 basically?

6 JEREMY CORNISH: No.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: No?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: No.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Oh, okay.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: No. No. I just -- it was just quick  
11 to do before I jumped back on the interstate.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: I gotcha. So --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Willy stays on this side of town, so  
14 Willy pays for all this stuff.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. Well, that's what I'm saying:  
16 So you're servicing the work truck?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And this is about what time?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: I had a receipt saying like --

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Roughly is fine.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: -- 8:30.

22 SERGEANT CREECH: Eight-thirty?

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. All right. And then what  
25 happens after the oil change? You leave -- you

1 leave the oil change about what time?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Probably about 8:35/8:40.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: So it's pretty quick. One of those

4 like --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, yeah. It's --

6 SERGEANT CREECH: -- five-minute deals?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah, yeah. One of those express --

8 you don't even get out the vehicle.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. Cool. So where do you guys go

10 after that?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: I go start dropping the guys -- the

12 workers off.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Who do you drop off first?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Dante was dropped off first.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: So you've got Dante and Quinton back

16 at this point?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: They -- they was still with me.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Oh, okay. So you had Dante,

19 Quinton --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: -- and Justin.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- Josh, the other guy, and Justin?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Josh -- Josh and the other guy gets

23 dropped off at the drop point.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Oh, okay. I'm following you. And

25 then you take Quinton and Dante back --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: And Justin.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: -- where you picked them up from?

3 JEREMY CORNISH: And Justin.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And where do you drop Justin  
5 off at?

6 JEREMY CORNISH: I took Justin to Farrow -- I didn't  
7 take him to Farrow -- Farrow Road to the motel?  
8 Well, no. I'm sorry. No. Because we got into it.  
9 That's where I thought I was going to take him  
10 back. He -- I went through and dropped Dante and  
11 Quinton off. Justin was still with me.

12 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You dropped them off. Where do you  
13 drop them off?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: To their residence.

15 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Same residence. All right.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: So the same places you picked them up?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Same place I picked them up because I  
18 -- I do a circle.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: And -- and I come back out on Hard  
21 Scrabble, jump on Farrow Road, drop Justin off.  
22 That's -- that's what -- that's what I usually do:  
23 drop Justin off. And I'm -- I'm home. Okay? This  
24 particular day, Justin said he's not going there.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: So I end up taking Justin back to  
2 Richland Village because I -- we end up getting  
3 into a little argument about like, "Man, you  
4 should've told me that earlier. You know, you got  
5 me driving way across town, and I could've been  
6 dropped off."

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Right. So you dropped him off at  
8 Richland Village?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Then what did you do next  
11 with your day?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: I go by the DMV.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Do you know about what  
14 time this is?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: I want to say I went there the first  
16 time had to been about 9:30/about 9:40 maybe.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And you go there by yourself, right?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: And when's the next time -- or what  
20 happened -- what do you do after that? So go first  
21 -- first -- you said you first go to the DMV about  
22 9:30/9:40?

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: You're there about how long?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: About 20 minutes. Maybe 15. It was

1 kind of quick because there hardly wasn't nobody in  
2 there.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I went to go see what it took to get my  
5 license back.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: They told me what I needed: \$425.

8 Called Willy, asked him could I borrow that to get  
9 my license straightened out. He said sure.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. And then what happens next  
11 for the day?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: He said give him about -- give him  
13 about a hour and go by the office. Went home, and  
14 I went to the office. Had to been about --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: So you went home, which is where?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: ■ Angel Garden Way.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What time was this you got home?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Soon as I leave the DMV.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, I'm -- it's -- it's a little  
21 bit hard for me to give you specific times.

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Right.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: I understand.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not watching time.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: Just a -- yeah -- approximation.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: So --

2 SERGEANT CREECH: It takes you about how long to get  
3 home from the DMV?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: About five minutes, if that, you know.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Five minutes? And you stay there for  
6 a little while?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Stay there for a little while. Drop --

8 SERGEANT CREECH: Then where do you go?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: I dropped -- I took my girlfriend to  
10 her mother's house.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And she's the young lady that  
12 was riding with you the other night?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: That's right. That had to been -- I  
14 don't know. I want to say around 11, maybe 10:30.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. Then what did you do next with  
16 your --

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Go by the office.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Which is where?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: 1313 Elmwood -- no. 1333 Elmwood.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Where's that at?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: It's like almost -- it's off like of  
22 Bull Street in Columbia.

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Oh, okay.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Near the baseball field.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: And about what time is that at?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: That's after I drop my girlfriend off.

3 Maybe I'm there probably like at 11:30.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. What did you do after that?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Sit around for a while. I went --

6 waiting on her to write me up a check. Waiting

7 till Pam get there to sign it. Once they sign it,

8 I went to the -- not the DMV -- the BB&T in Five

9 Points. Cashed the check.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: You said BB&T in Five Points?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Then what happens?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: I go back -- I stop by Dollar General.

14 I pick up a umbrella for Myra.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: What Dollar General did you stop at?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: It's the one on Taylor Street.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Then what happens?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Head back to the office, drop the

19 umbrella off. Then went back to the DMV where I

20 could -- where I got my license at.

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Now, are you doing this all by

22 yourself?

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay. So back to your --

25 SERGEANT CREECH: Dollar General. How long -- how long

1 are you at the DMV?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: This time I'm there for a pretty good

3 while, so I -- I want to say maybe till a hour.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. Then what happens after the

5 DMV?

6 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I head home. I head home.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: So straight home?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: End of my day. Yes, sir. End of my

9 day.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Well, what'd you do at

11 home for the rest of the day? You got home about

12 what time?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: After the DMV.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. So --

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Maybe two/two-thirty.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. What'd you do at home the

17 rest of the day?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I relaxed.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: Were you --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Did nothing.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- home by yourself?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Home by myself. Until -- until it's

23 time for me to pick my girlfriend up.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. How long you known Justin?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: A long time.

1       SERGEANT CREECH:  So --

2       JEREMY CORNISH:  Ten years maybe?

3       SERGEANT CREECH:  Ten years?  How do you know Justin?

4       JEREMY CORNISH:  I didn't know he was related to me

5               until Willy told me, but Justin is related to us.

6       SERGEANT CREECH:  How's he related to you?

7       JEREMY CORNISH:  A cousin.

8       SERGEANT CREECH:  Cousin?

9       JEREMY CORNISH:  Yes.

10      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  He's related to you and Willy?

11      JEREMY CORNISH:  Yes.

12      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  How is it you and Willy are related?

13               Just curious.

14      JEREMY CORNISH:  My uncle.

15      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  Uncle?

16      JEREMY CORNISH:  Yeah.  My mother's brother.

17      SERGEANT CREECH:  What does Justin refer to you as?

18               Does he refer to you as his cousin or his uncle

19               or --

20      JEREMY CORNISH:  Sometimes he say "Unc."

21      SERGEANT CREECH:  Okay.  To refer to you?

22      JEREMY CORNISH:  Right.

23      SERGEANT CREECH:  Okay.

24      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  How did you know him for ten years?

25               Like what was the relationship like?  Just --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: It wasn't really a relationship, you  
2 know.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Justin was in school. You know, I had  
5 a little promising career in football. We never  
6 like was around each other, so I just knew -- knew  
7 that he was -- you know, of him.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You just knew of him?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah, yeah.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay. Did you know the mom or dad?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I  
12 knew his mom, Sherry Lee.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay. You know his mom Sherry.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: How long you guys work together?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Justin probably with the company about  
17 three months now. But he was on this job here for  
18 like three weeks. That's when I got reconnected  
19 back with him. He probably actually was working  
20 for the company a little bit longer. I really  
21 don't --

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not sure.

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Don't -- you don't always work  
25 together or anything?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. No, sir. I usually work out  
2 of town in Aberdeen, North Carolina.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: So when was the last time you saw or  
4 spoke to Justin on the 17th?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Right before I dropped him off in  
6 Richland Village.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: So you think that was about what time?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, it was --

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Roughly.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: -- after I dropped everybody else off.  
11 It had to be about nine -- well, almost ten o'clock  
12 probably. Pretty -- pretty much probably like ten.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, you're saying you didn't see or  
14 speak to him until the next day?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: And you picked him up for work where?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Exact same spot: Richland Village.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Exact same spot.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Now, Wednesday -- I didn't take Justin  
20 home Wednesday. He didn't roll with me Wednesday.  
21 He jumped in the car with another worker Wednesday.

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Did people usually pick Justin up  
23 when they're driving, or is it --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, we usually meet in a meet spot.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: And that's usually at the Food Lion  
2 across there.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: But he usually gets there lots of  
5 times.

6 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He does? How -- what does he drive?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: He doesn't. He gets dropped off.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He gets dropped off.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You don't know how he gets there?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: No. No. He be there before me.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Were you at the same DMV both times?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: At the same DMV?

14 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. Earlier in the day and then  
15 later when you go back, did you go to the same DMV  
16 both times or did you go to different ones?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: I didn't -- I didn't recall seeing  
18 Justin at no DMV. He didn't go with me.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: No, no. I'm saying, when you -- when  
21 you -- when you --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, I see.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: -- you went twice to the DMV.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Same DMV. Oneil Court.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Oneil Court.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: DMV on Oneil Court.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Oneil Court. Just -- you know, could I  
3 ask you something though?

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: It seem like this is being reflected  
6 towards me?

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Look, like I said, that night of the  
8 incident, everyone -- I -- I didn't speak to you  
9 and I'm the case officer. So I kind of wanted to  
10 come in here to -- to make sure that I had the  
11 story right, you know, just because I don't want --  
12 you know, I -- I wanted to make sure we were on the  
13 same page. That's it.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: So this DMV paperwork of Justin's was  
16 in the car the other night when they stopped you?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Absolutely.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: And you're saying you don't know what  
19 it was in there from, right?

20 JEREMY CORNISH: No. That's not what I said.

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, he -- well, I mean, you knew  
22 he had been to the DMV, but you said that --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: I didn't know until -- I actually  
24 thought the paper was mine.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: So you thought the --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: He said the paper wasn't mine.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: You thought the paper was yours, yeah.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Officer said, but I'm pretty sure it  
4 was because he said he didn't see know paper from  
5 the DMV and I'm sure --

6 SERGEANT CREECH: So just so we're talking about the  
7 same paper, this is it, right?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: This is the paper.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: But that's not the paper I gave him.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. That's not the paper you gave  
12 the officers the other night?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. No, sir.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, where did this come from?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: That came out of the truck.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Out the truck. Okay.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. So you see the date on that?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir. That shows him at night.

20 I --

21 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm no stupid.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: That's you at the DMV, right?

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: That's you and Justin?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: That's definitely me. Is that Justin?

2 SERGEANT CREECH: That's Justin.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's Justin.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: We got some other views where he's  
5 carrying the bags that we arrested him with the  
6 other night. We can see him walk over --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: At what time? Because I mean we didn't  
8 walk in there together.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: About 1:50 that afternoon.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, no. He didn't -- he didn't ride in  
11 there with me.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: But he was there. You said you didn't  
13 see him again that day.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: You guys interacted right there.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Well, what's the next picture  
17 show? Because I mean --

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, it's video. I didn't --

19 JEREMY CORNISH: -- I don't -- I don't --

20 SERGEANT CREECH: -- screenshot the whole video.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: I really don't remember that but, you  
22 know --

23 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, you kind of have some  
24 interaction there, and he -- actually, I think he's  
25 there first. You come in.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: He's there first and I come in.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: You guys interact.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't remember that part but --

4 SERGEANT CREECH: So here's the --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: -- I'm not saying that we didn't.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Here's the issue: Why are -- why are  
7 we lying about not seeing him again that day?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't -- I didn't remember that part,  
9 sir.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: You don't remember seeing him at DMV.

11 We've got DMV paperwork in his car. It looks like  
12 he's filling this paperwork at the DMV.

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: They process yours. He clearly didn't  
15 get his actually filed and turned in.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: So why lie about that?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- look, this --

19 SERGEANT CREECH: You realize that makes you look  
20 terrible, right?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: This looks -- yeah, this looks real bad  
22 here.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. So tell me -- just be straight  
24 with us.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm -- I'm hundred percent straight.

1 I'm a hundred percent straight.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Then why not tell us the truth and  
3 lie?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I was not trying to lie about anything.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Well, tell us -- tell us  
6 about the DMV.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I came to the DMV. I guess I spoke to  
8 Justin. I don't recall seeing Justin. Well, it  
9 could be -- you know what? Yes, I did.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, I did. Because we had the same  
13 jacket on.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

15 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So y'all go to the DMV?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: No, no.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You just meet up at the DMV?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: He was not with me. I did not come  
19 with Justin to the DMV. And the camera will show  
20 -- it got to show Justin in there first, then me  
21 coming in. Because he doesn't ride with me. And  
22 when I'm sitting down waiting, Justin's not there  
23 with me.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: That's a pretty glaring omission, you  
25 agree? You said you didn't see or speak to him

1           again, and now you guys are at the DMV together.

2           Why do we -- why is this something we're having to  
3           pull out of you?

4           JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I'm a simple man. I -- I just  
5           don't really recall that. I mean, he said -- I  
6           mean, I can't -- I mean, now I recall it, you know,  
7           since I seen it. And this is at what time?

8           SERGEANT CREECH: I think it's around 1:50/two o'clock  
9           in the afternoon, roughly.

10                  So here's the deal. I want to -- I'm going --  
11           I'm going to be pretty straight about this. So  
12           Justin -- Justin's charged three counts of murder.

13           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

14           SERGEANT CREECH: We know he went into this apartment  
15           Tuesday morning and killed those three boys. We  
16           have no doubts about that.

17           JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

18           SERGEANT CREECH: We know there was somebody else  
19           involved, and we know it's just a matter of time  
20           before Justin decides his skin's more valuable than  
21           that person's because he's already trying to lay  
22           this foundation that -- that he was involved, that  
23           he wasn't the shooter.

24           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

25           SERGEANT CREECH: So he's about -- he's about to start

1 pointing some fingers.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: So I think you had some level of  
4 involvement in this. Listen -- listen to me.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, gosh.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: I don't think you went over there, and  
7 I don't think you shot those boys. I don't think  
8 you necessarily knew Justin was going to go over  
9 there to hoot those boys, but we got witnesses that  
10 have him jumping in your truck right after the  
11 shooting.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: Jumping in my truck?

13 SERGEANT CREECH: That white dually.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Couldn't have been, sir.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: We're going to be getting -- we're  
16 going to be getting your phone records.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: We'll see if those match up.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right, right. That's  
20 fine.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: We've got you lying about not being at  
22 the DMV with him. That's -- that makes -- that's  
23 suspicious. This is your chance to tell us the  
24 truth before we end up getting what we're  
25 ultimately going to need and we make a decision and

1           we make it without having spoken to you and you  
2           telling us what -- what really happened.

3           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

4           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We know Justin was in that  
5           apartment. No doubt. We know. We just want to  
6           know what your involvement is.

7           JEREMY CORNISH: None. None. They could not have seen  
8           Justin --

9           SERGEANT CREECH: And I -- and I get he just --

10          JEREMY CORNISH: -- get in my vehicle.

11          SERGEANT CREECH: He just killed three people.

12          JEREMY CORNISH: They couldn't have seen that. It's  
13          impossible. It is impossible. It's impossible.

14          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You already said you looked at the  
15          -- you -- you read about the case?

16          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

17          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You -- you know there's witnesses.

18          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

19          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I mean, it happened at eleven  
20          o'clock on a Tuesday.

21          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

22          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And people saw.

23          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

24          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know, and that -- we're just not  
25          making this up, you know?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We're not.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Right.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: But nobody -- no people -- people

6 could've seen me. That's what I'm trying to tell

7 you.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: What are the odds, though, that he'd

9 be getting picked up by somebody else in an older

10 white dually pickup truck that looks like a work

11 truck with stuff in the back, minutes after the

12 shooting? And here's the thing, if you were

13 picking him up and you don't know what he'd gotten

14 into and you find out later, I can see why you

15 wouldn't come forward.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: I'd be scared of him too if he'd just

18 killed three people in cold blood.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: For real.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: But --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: For real.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: -- if that's your role --

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: If --

25 SERGEANT CREECH: -- in this, we need to hear it now

1           because it's --

2       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Right.

3       SERGEANT CREECH: -- if we find out through our own  
4           means, you're going to catch charges, and you don't  
5           want to catch principal to murder times three.

6       JEREMY CORNISH: No, no, no.

7       SERGEANT CREECH: I can tell you, you don't.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: I don't, man.

9       SERGEANT CREECH: So what you know --

10      JEREMY CORNISH: (Inaudible.)

11      SERGEANT CREECH: This is -- this is your opportunity --

12      JEREMY CORNISH: Justin --

13      SERGEANT CREECH: -- to tell us what you know.

14      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We -- we can prove you were with him  
15           beforehand, and we can prove you were there after.

16      SERGEANT CREECH: And now it's just a matter of what you  
17           did.

18      JEREMY CORNISH: Well, this is -- this is 1:50.

19      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So? It's after the incident. It's  
20           like two hours after it.

21      JEREMY CORNISH: I don't know.

22      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: This is your opportunity.

23      SERGEANT CREECH: And that's not to mention all -- all  
24           the other places we're waiting on video from.

25      JEREMY CORNISH: Right. I mean, we can get video from

1           -- may not be until --

2           SERGEANT CREECH: I have to get parking lot video, I  
3           mean, phone records. Phone records are going to be  
4           crucial.

5           JEREMY CORNISH: Well, like I said, let's get -- I know  
6           I been to the bank.

7           SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

8           JEREMY CORNISH: We can get records of that.

9           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

10          JEREMY CORNISH: By myself. I know I came to this DMV  
11          by myself.

12          SERGEANT CREECH: But you also lied to us about not  
13          seeing Justin that day.

14          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, that slipped my mind. I mean,  
15          like I said --

16          SERGEANT CREECH: That's a pretty big thing to slip your  
17          mind, dude.

18          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, not -- not when you -- when  
19          you're being pressured.

20          SERGEANT CREECH: We have -- we have accused him of --

21          JEREMY CORNISH: You see what I'm saying?

22          SERGEANT CREECH: -- of killing three people.

23          JEREMY CORNISH: I'm saying right now I'm in pressure.

24          SERGEANT CREECH: We've accused him of killing three  
25          people, and you just conveniently forget that you

1 saw him at DMV until we show you pictures.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, also I forgot that I been to get  
3 my oil changed until -- until the guy brought me  
4 the receipt too.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, that receipt in the car I think  
6 was actually from September.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay? There was a more recent one? I  
9 took a picture of one that was from September. So  
10 -- so you're going to let -- when Justin decides  
11 he's going to get -- get his lawyer, and he's going  
12 to talk, which he's talked about doing -- I mean,  
13 here's the thing: We got the murder weapon. We  
14 know it was him because he still had it.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Lord (inaudible).

16 SERGEANT CREECH: So we're not -- we're not trying to  
17 say somebody else shot these boys.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We're not saying that at all.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: But we're trying to figure out why  
21 this happened, and this is the chance if anybody  
22 had -- had a little involvement, they've got a  
23 chance to help us give this -- these families some  
24 level of closure. I mean, these -- they're three  
25 -- those are somebody's children, somebody's

1 brother, somebody's fathers.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: And they got gunned down --

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: -- in cold blood right before

6 Christmas.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I totally understand. But I -- I

8 -- I was not involved in that. I did not pick

9 Justin up.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Branton Booker.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh. Man, I don't --

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Duwan Williams

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, why you showing me this stuff?

14 You know --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Because you need to see what's at

16 stake here.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: But it's not nothing I did.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Sheldon Livingston.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: While they were sleeping.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: We're not saying you did it --

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- at all.

22 SERGEANT CREECH: But you -- you've gotten brought --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: But that's how I feel like.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: You've gotten brought --

25 JEREMY CORNISH: I feel that you --

1 SERGEANT CREECH: But you've gotten brought into this,  
2 and you know more than what you're telling us.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And we know Justin was in that  
4 apartment. So we know he was --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not -- I'm not justifying Justin.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Justin brought --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't care about -- about Justin.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: No.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not -- I'm talking about me.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Justin -- Justin's going to go down  
11 for this, but I can tell you he's not going down  
12 without trying to cast the blame on somebody else.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Guarantee it.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, I mean -- well, it ain't going to  
15 ever come to that point because I know he can't  
16 cast it on me. That's what I'm trying to say.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Because he's riding with you  
18 afterwards; you guys are meeting later in the day.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: No, no, no. He's not riding with me  
20 afterwards.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: That morning. That morning. I'm  
22 saying beforehand. You're the last person with him  
23 in the same kind of truck.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Ho, ho, ho, ho, ho --

25 SERGEANT CREECH: No, no. Listen. That we can account

1           for.  You're with him dropping him off nine/nine-  
2           thirty in that -- in a white dually pickup truck.  
3           This happens about 10:55.  Minutes later he's  
4           getting back in a white dually pickup truck from  
5           near the incident location.  So what happened?

6   JEREMY CORNISH:  Sir.

7   SERGEANT CREECH:  And your -- when you're phone records  
8           put you there, we're not going to be asking  
9           questions.

10   JEREMY CORNISH:  Well, phone records going to have --  
11           the phone records ain't going to put me there, sir.  
12           I'm trying to tell y'all, no, this ain't got  
13           nothing to do with me.  Nothing.

14   SERGEANT CREECH:  Help us understand this.  Then who  
15           else could it be?

16   JEREMY CORNISH:  I -- I don't know.

17   SERGEANT CREECH:  We've also got a source where Justin  
18           tried to sell that gun, and Justin said he and his  
19           Unc were responsible for this shooting at Woodland  
20           Village and that gun had three bodies on it.

21   DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  That's -- that's how we found out  
22           about it.

23   SERGEANT CREECH:  We -- we got --

24   JEREMY CORNISH:  Justin cannot tell that his Unc -- no.

25   SERGEANT CREECH:  That's coming --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Justin --

2 SERGEANT CREECH: That's from -- from a confidential  
3 source and all their information has checked out.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: That said him and his Unc?

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Somebody --

6 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Him and his uncle were responsible  
7 for it.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: Somebody he -- somebody he referred to  
9 as his Unc.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Hmm.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: You told us a few minutes ago he calls  
12 you Unc.

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Look, all the guys on there call me  
14 Unc.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: But they call -- they call my uncle  
17 "Unc."

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. So Justin and Unc --

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Nah, nah, nah, nah, nah.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: -- were responsible for this shooting  
21 at Woodland Village, and there's a gun that has  
22 three bodies on it.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: No.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Every other thing that he's said  
25 checks out. But here's the thing, I believe Justin

1           was that shooter. I know he was that shooter.

2           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

3           SERGEANT CREECH: So if you were just -- and here's the  
4           thing: We know these boys were dealing dope. We  
5           know that they had some issue --

6           JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure y'all know all --  
7           everything, you know what I mean? I -- I know --

8           SERGEANT CREECH: Well, we've got some questions. But  
9           we -- we know -- we know that this guy was a bit of  
10          an asshole, and he was the one that primarily was  
11          dealing the dope. We got somebody putting him over  
12          hanging out at Landmark at some point, possibly  
13          with Justin. So we know they've had dealings.  
14          We've heard some rumor about what this -- what  
15          could've instigated all this. I'm not going to  
16          throw rumor and conjecture out there. But if you  
17          can help us understand this, it would go a long way  
18          to --

19          JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I can't help you understand it.

20          SERGEANT CREECH: And I can -- I can see if -- if --  
21          going over there with Justin not knowing what's  
22          about to go down.

23          JEREMY CORNISH: I'm blind to this.

24          SERGEANT CREECH: And if it happens, like I said, I  
25          could see -- if I was there with him, I'd be scared

1           shitless to say anything to anybody afterwards,  
2           too, because he just killed three people sleeping,  
3           in cold blood in front of me.

4       DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  It's scary.

5       JEREMY CORNISH:  Very.

6       SERGEANT CREECH:  I mean, I wouldn't say anything.

7       JEREMY CORNISH:  Very.  Very.  And I'm saying --

8       SERGEANT CREECH:  But, hell, he's done did this to three  
9           people that -- that night.  What's he going to do  
10          to me if I say something, right?  Well, he's not  
11          going anywhere now.  He's back there in jail, and  
12          he's going to get buried under it.  But that  
13          doesn't mean he's not going to try to drag somebody  
14          else down with him if he thinks he might catch a  
15          break or just a reasonable doubt that he wasn't the  
16          one that did it.

17      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  If --

18      JEREMY CORNISH:  I'm -- I'm a hundred percent sure

19          Justin cannot put me with this here because I  
20          wasn't with this here.

21      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  We -- we're listening to jail calls  
22          right now, and he's -- there are already people  
23          he's talking to, that say, "Hey, this is serious.  
24          If someone else is involved, you need to start  
25          telling them."

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, I don't know. I don't know.

2 These pictures at this DMV -- I mean, if we look at  
3 the camera, ain't no way they're going to show that  
4 me and Justin were at that DMV together because  
5 Justin had to been there first, and I -- and he was  
6 walking out, and I might have spoke -- I spoke to  
7 him. That's the only way that went down. And I  
8 continue to state that.

9 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So you were walking out and he was  
10 walking in?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes. No, no, no, no. I'm walking  
12 in --

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: -- he's walking out.

15 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: This is -- do you have the other  
16 picture? This is y'all standing at the -- the --

17 JEREMY CORNISH: That's when you first walk in there.  
18 That's the --

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: -- doors when you first walk in. I  
21 mean, you don't have to show that because that's  
22 what happened.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: When did that paperwork end up in your  
24 truck? What reason would he have to bring that  
25 paperwork back in the truck with him -- with him?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Justin --

2 SERGEANT CREECH: Because it's from this visit.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Justin --

4 SERGEANT CREECH: If he didn't file it with them, it's  
5 worthless. There's no reason for him to be  
6 carrying it around, so how's it going to end up in  
7 your truck?

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He didn't ride with you that day  
9 after.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: The day after. Yes, he did.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You said he didn't.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: You said he didn't.

13 JEREMY CORNISH: He -- I -- I picked him --

14 SERGEANT CREECH: You said he rode with somebody else.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: I picked him up.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Not the day after.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: He rode off the job site with somebody  
18 else. Listen to what I said now.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: Either way, what reason --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Can we go back to what I said? Let's  
21 listen to the (inaudible). Now, y'all trying to  
22 mix me up.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, no.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Whoa, whoa. Let's go back. Let's slow  
25 down. Let's slow down.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. We'll slow it right on down.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. Because I ain't got nothing to  
3 do with this, sir. I -- I don't know how y'all --  
4 how it evolved --

5 SERGEANT CREECH: How did his DMV paperwork from the  
6 17th --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Because Justin rides with me.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: But what reason --

9 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, I mean -- you know, he --  
10 he --

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: He kept the paperwork. I don't know.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: When he gets that paperwork on the  
14 17th, he doesn't file it. So it's -- it's pretty  
15 much worthless as far as the DMV's concerned.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Is there a reason he'd be carrying  
18 that around after the 17th to have -- let's say you  
19 picked him up Wednesday, you picked him up  
20 Thursday, you picked him up Friday. He's got no  
21 reason to have that DMV paperwork with him.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Why not?

23 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I mean --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Because he carries all his stuff with  
25 him.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: But that paperwork doesn't mean  
2 anything until he files it.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: But he carries all his stuff in a bag  
4 with him. Why -- why not have the paperwork? And  
5 I -- and, listen, you didn't find the paperwork.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Let's -- let's --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I gave you the paperwork.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: But I'm not saying we found it.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: You see what I'm saying? You didn't  
10 find it.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: The paperwork was in the -- in the  
12 truck.

13 He's texting you a couple weeks before. We  
14 talked about this the other night.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: That's right.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: He's showing you a picture of that  
17 Glock.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: And he's talking about committing a  
20 crime? We -- we talked about this. I don't -- I  
21 don't remember what the exact words were.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Give exact -- give exact words because  
23 I -- I can't say he -- that he was talking about,  
24 you know. I mean, I understand what you was -- how  
25 y'all take it. But he -- he's asking me about

1 work.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: He says, "Still out there trying to  
3 make some shit -- shit shake." And he posts a  
4 pictures of that Glock. And you say, "Oh, yeah."

5 JEREMY CORNISH: I said, "Oh, yeah"?

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Or I say (inaudible)?

8 SERGEANT CREECH: You say, "Oh, yeah."

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, yeah. Okay. I did say that.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: So I know what --

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's probably not work.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: -- "trying to make some shit shake,"  
13 that's not work related?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. That's December the 1st.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, yeah. But clearly you know he's  
16 about this life, and you know --

17 JEREMY CORNISH: And I do.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: -- he's getting into some shit.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: And I was scared. I mean, it's no --  
20 it's no secret he's about this life.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: So what do you know about this that  
22 makes --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Nothing.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: -- you a potential good witness --

25 JEREMY CORNISH: Nothing.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: -- rather than a principal murder?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Nothing. Nothing. Nothing. Nothing.

3 Nobody seen me in the area. Nobody can pinpoint me  
4 in the area. And my cell phone records -- you can  
5 get all that in there. And Justin can't tell you  
6 that I -- he was riding with me in -- when that  
7 happened or whenever. You know, he can't -- they  
8 cannot do that. It's impossible.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: And what -- what other white truck --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I -- I have trailed everywhere  
11 I've been that morning.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. And we're going to check that  
13 trail.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Everywhere.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: But here's --

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Please do.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Here's what I'm concerned about,  
18 though: The DMV trail already isn't like you said  
19 it was because you said you were in there by  
20 yourself.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: But that's 1:50, though. That's way  
22 after the -- that situation had happened.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: You told us -- you were very distinct.  
24 You told five officers that you didn't see him or  
25 speak to him again that day.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I did. I did.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: You did what?

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Said that.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: To five different officers?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Four of us the other night. Him

7 today.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. But --

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Repeated it to me. That's a pretty

10 big --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Didn't I --

12 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What --

13 SERGEANT CREECH: -- admission for somebody --

14 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What would you think of us?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Like, listen, my proud moment at this

16 time was getting my license back. That's the only

17 thing that was on my mind.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: That's a proud moment for me. You know

20 what I'm saying? Now, like you said, I -- let's --

21 SERGEANT CREECH: He -- he's --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Look at the video. The video shows us

23 -- me coming in, him leaving out, and that was it.

24 He kept on about his business.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, it's a cold motherfucker to

1           gun down three people in their sleep and then  
2           several hours later be at the DMV working on  
3           getting a license.

4       JEREMY CORNISH: That's -- that's --

5       SERGEANT CREECH: So that's what I'm saying: I get it  
6           if you're scared to say something, but he's not  
7           going anywhere. The only position he's in is he's  
8           going to start trying to throw other people under  
9           the bus to try to --

10       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- minimize his role.

11       SERGEANT CREECH: -- (inaudible).

12       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He's going to say, "Someone else did  
13           it. I was just there." He can't deny he wasn't  
14           there.

15       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. But he's going to try to say  
16           somebody else did it.

17       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And that we know. Based on his jail  
18           calls, he's going to.

19       JEREMY CORNISH: If I sit there and tell you I know  
20           something, I'd be lying. Honestly. I mean, I know  
21           now from the other night and then, like I said, I  
22           read about it. Yeah. I know about it now. But  
23           Tuesday, no --

24       SERGEANT CREECH: But you get --

25       JEREMY CORNISH: -- I did not know about that day.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: You get our skepticism, right? The  
2 white truck? I mean, we -- we had that early on  
3 before we knew who you was.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Well, let -- let me ask you  
5 something, though.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: The officer who called my uncle's house  
8 that night.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: He said that he heard it was a white  
11 truck with a older guy in it around 60.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: I --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: That's what the officer told him.

14 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. I don't know where that's  
15 coming from. Not from us (inaudible).

16 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, but -- but -- but he's with  
17 y'all, though.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That -- that's why we came to speak  
19 to you because no --

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Nobody saw the driver of the truck, to  
21 our knowledge. Or not that's been described to us.  
22 So this is the lead investigator, and I'm his  
23 supervisor --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir --

25 SERGEANT CREECH: -- so that was --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: -- I ain't had nothing to do with this.

2 I got kids, man.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And here's --

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I ain't got time for that.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We're still working on videos, too.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So we're getting all that. Is there

8 going to be any reason to see your car pull into

9 Landmark?

10 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We've got videos -- cameras at the

12 entrances of both of them.

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

14 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Is there any way your car's going to

15 pull into Landmark at all?

16 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That day?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. Landmark?

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: The apartments.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: No.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: Where Justin's been keeping all his

22 stuff at.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. No, sir.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Where you dropped him off Saturday

25 night?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. No, sir. And it was strange  
2 he even asked me to take him home because I -- I  
3 don't take him home.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Where do you take him?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Lots of times he was staying with his  
6 mother on Farrow Road to the Marriott.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Did somebody get your girl's name and  
8 number the other night when -- while she was riding  
9 with you? I'm assuming they got all her contact  
10 information?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure they did.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. So she can vouch for you in the  
13 middle of the day not being with him?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: No. She was at -- she was at work at  
15 twelve.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I'm not saying right now. But  
17 I'm saying she can vouch for you --

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm talking about that day.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: -- that day.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. My secretary at the office  
21 could vouch for me because I was there with her for  
22 a little bit of the day. My Uncle Willy could  
23 vouch for me because he knew I was there.

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: How did he know where you were at?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I was calling -- he told me --

1 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You -- you called him on the phone?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Because I was trying to get my  
3 license back. That's what we were conversating  
4 about.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: How we -- how do we prove that,  
6 though? If -- if he -- if we were going to prove  
7 your innocence, how would we know?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Look at his phone records the time he  
9 called me, my phone records.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: So how far is Richland Village from  
11 Landmark Apartments?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't know. I don't know. That's  
13 the completely opposite side of town.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: So how's Justin, with no  
15 transportation --

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Listen here, you asking me about  
17 Justin.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, yeah, but --

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Can I leave that -- I don't -- I don't  
20 know nothing about that.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: Understand. But I'm just letting you  
22 hear my train --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: -- train of thought here. So you're  
25 dropping him off. It's -- what time is it? Around

1           nine/nine-thirty you're dropping him off at Farrow  
2           Road at the motel he's been staying at over at --  
3           or, no, you say you took him back to Richland  
4           Village. I'm sorry. Because you had been picking  
5           him up at the motel. What? An hour and a half  
6           later he's made his way back to the other side of  
7           town with no transportation and he's --

8           JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. It wasn't --

9           SERGEANT CREECH: -- he's at this boy's apartment, and  
10          he's killing these three people?

11          JEREMY CORNISH: It wasn't me, sir. It wasn't me. It  
12          ain't no way I could forget about nothing like  
13          that.

14          SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I'd -- I'd like to think nobody  
15          could forget about that, but clearly he didn't seem  
16          to give two shits about it.

17          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, me and Justin two different  
18          people, sir. That's --

19          SERGEANT CREECH: Well, no. I know.

20          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And we know that.

21          SERGEANT CREECH: I don't know you. I don't know him.  
22          I -- I mean, I'm just saying people -- people can  
23          surprise me.

24          JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Well, then I hear, you know,  
25          from word on the street that this is gang-related

1 (inaudible).

2 SERGEANT CREECH: It could be.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: You know?

4 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, everybody involved is gang  
5 members.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: You told me previously that Justin got  
7 into it with those guys the day before.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: We suspect he may have. We don't --  
9 maybe not the day before, but leading up to it.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Listen, sir. Me and Justin --

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Because the day before he was working.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: -- is just working together.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: It is far more than that. You've  
14 known his mom. I mean, it's not just work. For  
15 ten years.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: But we don't -- we don't conversate.  
17 We don't talk on the phone.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I know. I know.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: We don't --

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: But -- but just based on here, you  
21 said you've known him for many years --

22 SERGEANT CREECH: He sent you pictures of a gun and  
23 talking about stirring some shit up.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure he sent that picture  
25 out to a lot of people he thought he had -- thought

1           -- thought they had money. I'm pretty sure he did.  
2           See Justin thinks I have money that I can buy stuff  
3           from him where he --

4       SERGEANT CREECH: But it didn't look like he was trying  
5           to sell the gun. It looked -- he said he was  
6           trying to shake some shit up. That doesn't imply  
7           buying a gun, does it?

8       JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. Well, that's why he had shown  
9           the gun. He was trying to sell the gun.

10       SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

11       JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, you're going to do something  
12           with a crime, you're not going to show the gun  
13           you're going to do a crime with. He's trying to  
14           get rid of the gun.

15       SERGEANT CREECH: Seen it before. I -- you know, I'm  
16           saying it makes a lot of sense.

17       JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I don't know the answer, man. I'm  
18           just saying --

19       SERGEANT CREECH: Right.

20       JEREMY CORNISH: -- he was trying to show the gun --

21       SERGEANT CREECH: But "shake some shit up" doesn't mean  
22           "I'm trying to sell a -- sell a Glock" either?

23       JEREMY CORNISH: Right. That's -- that's your  
24           interpretation of it.

25       SERGEANT CREECH: You -- you told me the other night

1           that that's the -- you know, that it was because he  
2           was getting into something.

3           JEREMY CORNISH: Listen, I didn't -- sir, I don't know,  
4           man. I mean, you're trying to make me tell you  
5           something that I can't tell you. For real.

6           SERGEANT CREECH: And the -- the problem we've got is  
7           you lied about the -- not seeing him again that  
8           day.

9           JEREMY CORNISH: I forgot, and it was a quick "Hey" at  
10          the DMV. It wasn't like we stood there and had a  
11          whole conversation.

12          SERGEANT CREECH: But still you had claimed to --

13          JEREMY CORNISH: I guarantee you that shows -- the video  
14          you see was showing Justin going out the door and  
15          by me still being there a good little while.  
16          Because I'm just -- this is my second time coming  
17          back.

18          SERGEANT CREECH: So what's going to happen when we get  
19          your Sprint records and they're -- we've got  
20          Justin's Verizon records and the two of you are  
21          shown travelling all over town together at the  
22          10:55 time frame?

23          JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, I guarantee you, you couldn't --  
24          that's not going to happen.

25          SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I guarantee you that's not going to  
2 happen.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Guarantee. Because I was not  
5 travelling with Justin. Myra can vouch for me:  
6 When I come to the office, I was there by myself.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, later that -- that day for sure.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: No. Earlier that morning.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Earlier that morning. So where are  
10 you saying you were at, at ten -- we'll say 10:55?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: No --

12 SERGEANT CREECH: Because if we can vouch for your  
13 whereabouts, then we'll -- I mean --

14 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not 100 percent sure. I'm not. I  
15 mean, let me ask you: Where were you at 10:55 on  
16 the 17th?

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I was up here.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: I was running practically lights and  
19 siren to Woodland Village Apartments --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- for a home invasion where three  
22 people had been shot and killed.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, you can remember a little bit  
24 better than -- I can't remember what -- what time  
25 it was. I have no reason to remember what time I

1           was at certain places when I'm just doing like  
2           everyday things.

3           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: My thing is we came up here to talk  
4           to you. We don't think -- we know Justin was  
5           involved, and we want to give you the  
6           opportunity --

7           JEREMY CORNISH: You say you don't think you know Justin  
8           was involved?

9           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We -- we know that Justin was  
10          involved, and we want to give you the opportunity  
11          to tell us everything you know now before we come  
12          up and find -- we've got search warrants and we're  
13          getting video for every place. When we found out  
14          something -- listen. Just listen. We want to get  
15          all --

16          SERGEANT CREECH: This is the only chance --

17          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Only chance --

18          SERGEANT CREECH: -- you get to share your side of this  
19          before you catch --

20          JEREMY CORNISH: I understand.

21          SERGEANT CREECH: -- accessory to murder, principal --

22          JEREMY CORNISH: I understand.

23          SERGEANT CREECH: -- murder or some variation thereof.

24          JEREMY CORNISH: I understand everything I -- you ain't  
25          got to say it no more. I understand everything you

1           said, sir. I know for a fact I wasn't involved in  
2           this here. I know for a fact I didn't take Justin  
3           nowhere around nothing.

4           SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

5           JEREMY CORNISH: Me and Justin seen each other at the  
6           DMV. Yeah. It slipped my mind because --

7           SERGEANT CREECH: What was he wearing that morning at  
8           work?

9           JEREMY CORNISH: Work clothes.

10          SERGEANT CREECH: Kind of like -- what -- what kind of  
11          work clothes did he wear?

12          JEREMY CORNISH: Jeans, gray hoodie -- gray sweatshirt.

13          SERGEANT CREECH: What kind of hoodie?

14          JEREMY CORNISH: No, no. I'm sorry. Orange. Because  
15          you've got to have -- that was his work clothes --  
16          reflectors.

17          SERGEANT CREECH: What kind of boots does he wear to  
18          work?

19          JEREMY CORNISH: Work boots.

20          SERGEANT CREECH: Do you know? Work boots?

21          JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

22          SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. I mean, you remember anything  
23          about what kind of style they are or what they --

24          JEREMY CORNISH: No. No.

25          SERGEANT CREECH: -- might have looked like? Color or

1 anything?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, they ain't -- I mean, brown.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: Was he wearing the work boots?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: You always see him in the same pair of  
6 work boots?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir. I mean, I guess. I mean --  
8 I mean, he had pants over them.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, but him not wearing white Nike  
10 Air Jordans?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: No, no, no, no, no. He can't wear that  
12 out there on a job site.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: Let me ask you this: Are you allowed  
14 to have visible tattoos at the job site --

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: -- when you're on McEntire?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You got a visible tattoo?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: You mentioned that you thought -- the  
21 other night you thought he might've been wearing a  
22 band-aid on his face that day?

23 JEREMY CORNISH: He was.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Do you remember what he was wearing a  
25 band-aid on his face for?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: Where was he wearing a band-aid on his  
3 face at?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: On -- on his face, on his cheek right  
5 here.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Covering up the tattoo he's got with  
7 the cross?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Could've been. The reason why I know  
9 that is because we talked about it at work.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What'd y'all talk about?

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Not with him. Me and another worker.

12 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What'd you and the worker talk  
13 about?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: "What happened to him?" That's what we  
15 said. I said, "I ain't going to ask him. You ask  
16 him."

17 SERGEANT CREECH: When we go back and get that truck and  
18 check it, are we going to find any blood in that  
19 truck --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir --

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- that transferred from Justin?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. I'm -- I'm -- I'm telling  
23 you, I don't -- that Justin ain't -- lifestyle  
24 ain't got nothing to do with me. Nothing.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: But you get why we're suspicious,

1 right?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Listen, but do you understand what I'm  
3 telling you?

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What would you think if -- if you  
5 were in our position?

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Witness just identifies Justin  
7 positively fleeing the apartment after the  
8 shooting.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Two other witnesses say somebody else  
11 with the exact same description with a band-aid on  
12 their face is riding a yellow -- a green and yellow  
13 bike, having trouble riding it, they stop. A white  
14 dually truck pulls up.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: And they get in that truck and they  
17 leave.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, that's pretty specific.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: To what?

21 SERGEANT CREECH: To Justin and -- and one of those --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: But it's not specific to me, though.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, what -- you --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: The company has three --

25 SERGEANT CREECH: He -- he's riding with you --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: -- three work trucks that are white.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. So which of the other crews may  
3 he have been associating with?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: None. He don't associate with me.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: What -- what are the odds that he  
6 rode --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Like I tell y'all, y'all -- y'all  
8 trying to pinpoint me with Justin, man. But, nah,  
9 sir. That's -- I'm not --

10 SERGEANT CREECH: What are the odds that he'd be --  
11 there would be someone in a white dually that he  
12 could hook up with? If it's -- if it's not you, it  
13 had to be --

14 JEREMY CORNISH: I do not know this young man like that  
15 and his lifestyle -- his personal lifestyle, sir.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know a little bit. We've got  
17 text messages that show that.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: That I know who he be affiliated with  
19 and riding with.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You -- you say you don't know --

21 JEREMY CORNISH: That's what you --

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- his lifestyle, but you do.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: But -- but you asked me about who --

24 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Let me ask you this --

25 JEREMY CORNISH: -- he was riding with and stuff like

1           that. I can't tell you who that man ride with.

2           SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. Well, let's say, if you didn't  
3           have anything to do with this, I'd love to be able  
4           to defend when you say you had nothing to do with  
5           this, okay?

6           JEREMY CORNISH: But you can't?

7           SERGEANT CREECH: Well, no. Let me finish. So we got  
8           -- we got, obviously, more work to do. We're not  
9           finished because, if we were done and we thought  
10          you did it, we wouldn't be having this conversation  
11          with you like this. We'd be sending somebody to  
12          -- US Marshalls to pick you up and --

13          JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, you don't got to do that.

14          SERGEANT CREECH: -- before we give you the opportunity.  
15          But -- but we're not -- we've got some things we  
16          needed addressed, which is why --

17          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, let's address them.

18          SERGEANT CREECH: -- we're addressing them.

19          JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir. Because I need to  
20          (inaudible).

21          SERGEANT CREECH: Well, that's okay.

22          JEREMY CORNISH: You know what I mean?

23          SERGEANT CREECH: One of the things -- one of the things  
24          that we want --

25          JEREMY CORNISH: This is entering my lifestyle now, you

1 know?

2 SERGEANT CREECH: -- is would you consent to us getting  
3 a check swab from you just so we got DNA standard?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. I mean --

5 SERGEANT CREECH: Are you cool with that?

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Of course, yeah.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. I'm going to go get one of  
8 those kits real quick.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: So -- because here's the thing --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, hold on, hold on, hold on. Hold  
12 on, hold on, hold on.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: There's going to be a Q-tip in --

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Why -- why would you need a DNA from  
15 me? *question*

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Because we're checking DNA at the  
17 crime scene.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: And if your DNA doesn't come back to  
20 the crime scene anywhere, then -- then that's one  
21 more thing you've got --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Listen, I -- I'd rather be getting a  
23 lawyer involved in this here because I don't, you *lawyer*  
24 know, need nothing fishy going on.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: All right.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: You know what I mean? *question*

2 SERGEANT CREECH: Nobody's trying to do anything --

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I feel like -- I feel like this

4 is being targeted towards me, and I promise to God

5 that -- I go to church, sir. I went to church

6 Sunday --

7 SERGEANT CREECH: I --

8 JEREMY CORNISH: -- praying for this young man and these

9 families in church.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: I'd love -- I'd love to prove you

11 didn't do this.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: You know --

13 SERGEANT CREECH: I -- I'm not trying to trick you.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Well, will this DNA swab prove

15 this here? That -- that I didn't do this? *question*

16 SERGEANT CREECH: If your -- if your DNA is not at the

17 scene, it would certainly go toward that, yes.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, I don't --

19 SERGEANT CREECH: And your -- and you -- and if your --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't -- I just know tricky stuff

21 going on.

22 SERGEANT CREECH: And if your DNA's not a the crime

23 scene, then you got nothing to worry about.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: And it's over with for me? *fill in*

25 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I mean, as far as there's not

1 going to be any physical DNA tying you to the  
2 scene, yeah. I'm not -- no, look. I can't -- I  
3 can't speak for your phone records because I  
4 haven't seen them. You say that they're going to  
5 clear you. We'll get the phone records. If they  
6 clear you, they clear you. They're pretty  
7 straightforward.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. That -- that -- that should  
9 be --

10 SERGEANT CREECH: I -- no -- nobody's looking to trump  
11 anything up against you. Just objectively  
12 speaking, if you were in our shoes and you --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Sound like y'all trying to put me in --

14 SERGEANT CREECH: No, no, no, no.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: -- the middle of something that I'm  
16 not --

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Just -- just -- just listen.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I didn't even know about it.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: I -- I know you're giving --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: (Inaudible.)

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- us a hard time, but listen, if you  
22 were -- you were sitting on our end of the table  
23 and you were investigating a shooting and you had a  
24 suspect that -- let's say that Justin's the  
25 suspect, he's been identified. You know he was

*question*

1 working with somebody who drives a white dually  
2 pickup truck that morning. He was described  
3 fleeing the scene of the shooting getting in a  
4 similar white dually pickup truck and then he's  
5 with that -- the same person later that day --  
6 JEREMY CORNISH: Did they say a dually truck?  
7 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.  
8 JEREMY CORNISH: That's not what the officers said they  
9 were seeing. They said a white truck.  
10 SERGEANT CREECH: It was a white dually truck.  
11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: It was a dually.  
12 SERGEANT CREECH: But just -- we're just -- listen --  
13 JEREMY CORNISH: So we don't have no cameras at -- at  
14 those apartments to show?  
15 SERGEANT CREECH: We're still --  
16 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I know --  
17 SERGEANT CREECH: We're still getting -- no, no.  
18 JEREMY CORNISH: -- it ain't mine.  
19 SERGEANT CREECH: And that's -- I'm just saying --  
20 JEREMY CORNISH: Shit, man. I just --  
21 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm just trying to let you see our  
22 perspective on this.  
23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We are still getting video.  
24 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Okay.  
25 SERGEANT CREECH: But you see why -- so if you were in

1           our shoes, you know he's with the person he works  
2           with driving in that same kind of truck that  
3           morning. He's in a shooting a couple hours after  
4           they were supposed to have knocked off work. He is  
5           seen by a witness getting in the same kind of truck  
6           and then he's with that same person he was with  
7           first thing in the morning at the DMV later  
8           interacting and then that person later has a  
9           contact with law enforcement and that person says,  
10          "I never saw him or spoke to him again that day."  
11          I'm just saying, hypothetically speaking, you see  
12          why we would suspicious and why we would be  
13          grilling you on that, right?

14        JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

15        SERGEANT CREECH: Because I'd like to think that you're  
16          a smart guy, and if you were in our shoes, you'd be  
17          doing the same thing. Because these three boys  
18          lost their life for no reason.

19        JEREMY CORNISH: Terrible damn thing.

20        SERGEANT CREECH: And we're just trying to get this  
21          bottled up.

22        JEREMY CORNISH: Terrible thing.

23        SERGEANT CREECH: And if you didn't do it, forgive us  
24          for pressing you. We'll clear you.

25        JEREMY CORNISH: What does it take for me to clear my

1 name from this here, sir? Tell me what do -- all I  
2 need to do with it?

3 SERGEANT CREECH: Just let us -- let us do our job.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Well -- because I -- because I need  
5 cleared from this because I know I didn't do  
6 nothing.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: But if you'll agree to a buccal swab  
8 -- that's what it's called. It's just a little Q-  
9 tip inside the cheek. And that'll give us the  
10 standard for you, so that way if --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, my DNA should be already in the  
12 system, though. I -- I have a prior record.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: We don't -- it's --

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I don't want no funny stuff,  
15 man.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: (Inaudible.)

17 JEREMY CORNISH: You know -- you know, I been -- I can't  
18 even get a --

19 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, and for that reason, you've got  
20 nothing to worry about if your DNA's --

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Why --

22 SERGEANT CREECH: -- already sitting in the system.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Why can I take your word and you can't  
24 take my word? You see what I'm saying?

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Because we've never lied to you.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Ho, your officer did.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We've never lied to you.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Your officers did, though.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Because your officer sit there and said

6 -- told my uncle -- and you can bring him in here

7 and ask that.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: I don't know what they told your

9 uncle, but I can tell you that neither of us have

10 lied to you.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Man, listen, I know I wasn't involved

12 in this, right?

13 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And I'd like to believe that.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: And let me finish, y'all.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: I'd like to believe that.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: I will give my DNA up now but --

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: -- I swear this here seem like some

19 fishy stuff going on here, man.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: There's nothing fishy.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: You know? So you guarantee me that I

22 don't need a lawyer present right now for this

23 giving up my DNA?

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I mean, I can't give you -- you

25 -- you're asking us to give you legal advice, and

1 we can't -- we're not allowed to do that.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: But I'm telling you, if your DNA's  
4 already on file because you've got a record, it's  
5 in CODIS --

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: -- we -- it's complicated legal  
8 explanation of why we can't necessarily use stuff  
9 on CODIS without jumping through hoops.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, I'd rather --

11 SERGEANT CREECH: So I mean --

12 JEREMY CORNISH: I'd rather you go through that, man,  
13 because I don't -- I don't want no funny stuff --  
14 business coming up, you know what I'm saying? You  
15 know, all of a sudden you got my DNA, "Oh, well,  
16 look at who was at the crime." You know, come on,  
17 man? Y'all don't know what happened, you know?

18 SERGEANT CREECH: It's -- it's -- this is recorded right  
19 here.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: You know?

21 SERGEANT CREECH: It's going to be a Q-tip in your  
22 mouth, and that's not (inaudible).

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Come on, man. Go get it. I --  
24 (inaudible) now anyway. So let's go get it. Let's  
25 go get it, man.

1 (Sergeant Creech exits the interview  
2 room.)

3 JEREMY CORNISH: This is crazy, man. This is like "The  
4 First 48," man. Like what in the world, man? I  
5 didn't do noting.

6 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, you see where we're coming  
7 from, right? Do you see why we're questioning you?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: I asked the officer earlier do I need  
9 to bring a lawyer. He told me no. So --

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: -- but now you can't give me legal  
12 advice though.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He didn't give you legal advice.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Well, so when I asked could I  
15 bring my lawyer, I mean, he could say -- why would  
16 he tell me no? This is crazy, man. I don't know  
17 what -- ain't nothing going to put me there. I  
18 just know that. Know that. Justin can't say I  
19 would be or nothing because he know I wasn't. He  
20 know I wasn't. I didn't pick him up, no. And the  
21 story has changed, man, because they said it was a  
22 white truck. Now it's a white dually work truck  
23 when I get here.

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: It's always been a -- I -- I -- I'm  
25 telling you: a white dually truck. That's what



1 JEREMY CORNISH: I have a question. What did -- you  
2 didn't -- you didn't say you found Justin's DNA at  
3 the apartment?

4 SERGEANT CREECH: No. We've got -- we've taken swabs of  
5 DNA and we've got a bunch of stuff sent to the  
6 state lab, but we wouldn't have any results back on  
7 that yet.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We don't have any of that stuff  
9 back.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: Because we don't doubt Justin was  
11 involved because we got enough evidence -- other  
12 evidence against him that's --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: That sucks.

14 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- pretty considerable.

15 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You need me to write something?

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. (Inaudible) hand me those  
17 envelopes too.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: So will this here free me up is all I'm  
19 saying?

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, this will hopefully go towards  
21 freeing you up.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: What do you mean go towards?

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well --

24 SERGEANT CREECH: We -- we still got to send this to the  
25 state lab. It's got to get analyzed.

1 (Inaudible) --

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. But -- but when it comes back  
3 and says my DNA is -- is nowhere around, that's  
4 what I'm trying to say.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: That can certainly help you, but if  
6 you're -- there's other stuff. We're still getting  
7 store video and phone records.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Ah, man.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: But hey --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: So this was for nothing then?

11 SERGEANT CREECH: No. But if you've got --

12 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm trying to clear my name. You said  
13 this was going to help clear my name.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: We're doing -- it's going to help if  
15 you've got nothing to hide. We're trying to  
16 complete a thorough investigation.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, yeah.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Now, I'm telling you, if you know  
19 anything --

20 JEREMY CORNISH: This is --

21 SERGEANT CREECH: -- about what Justin did --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: This is --

23 SERGEANT CREECH: -- or you had any involvement  
24 whatsoever --

25 JEREMY CORNISH: This is sounding kind of fishy to me,

1 sir. I -- you know, (inaudible).

2 SERGEANT CREECH: I -- the only thing fishy here is --

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Because the night you came there you  
4 told me you were the lead investigator. Now you're  
5 telling me he's the lead investigator.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm supervising the lead investigator.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: But you said you were the lead  
8 investigator.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, now it's --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Which is it?

11 SERGEANT CREECH: For all intents and purposes, we're  
12 interchangeable. But I supervise him directly. I  
13 supervise this investigation.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, y'all understand how it's not  
15 fair that y'all give me a direction on things and  
16 then -- you know what I'm saying? It's all --

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We haven't -- he's not lying.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: What -- what does it matter if I'm the  
19 lead investigator versus him? I supervise him.  
20 The hand of one is the hand of all in this. He  
21 doesn't do anything without --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, it's -- it's -- it's nothing,  
23 man.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: -- without me and vice versa.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: But I'm just saying -- it's just --

1 things is changing on me again, though, sir.

2 That's all I'm saying.

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Not on him.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Kind of like, "I didn't see the guy  
5 who gunned down three people at the DMV later that  
6 day when I said I didn't see him again that day"?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Like -- nothing like that, man.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's a hell of a lot fucking worse  
9 is what that is.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: It is. It is. It is. And I -- I  
11 don't mean to upset you in no kind of way, sir.  
12 You know what I mean? I mean, I'm just going --  
13 going on how I feel about the situation. I mean,  
14 you told me how you feel. I'm just telling you how  
15 I feel about the situation. I don't mean to upset  
16 you no kind of way, sir. It's -- it's definitely  
17 not like -- I don't mean no disrespect toward you,  
18 sir.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: No, no. I don't -- I'm not taking  
20 any. See, in this job, I'm used to 90 percent of  
21 the people we deal with lying to us about  
22 something.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: And I also know that the majority of  
25 the time with cases like this, we can get to the

1 bottom of everybody's involvements.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: And people have a chance on the front  
4 end typically to divulge what their involvements  
5 may or may not be, and it does help in the long  
6 run. But if a scene is figured out on our own  
7 without somebody being cooperative or telling the  
8 truth -- I'm not saying you're lying or not -- but  
9 I'm just saying, as these situations go,  
10 hypothetically speaking, you or any other witness,  
11 we catch you in lies and giving us a line of  
12 bullshit and we end up continuing this  
13 investigation, you know, we get to a point where we  
14 say, "Okay. Well, that person's still lying to us.  
15 We can prove they were involved because A, B, C,  
16 and D," which is going to happen if it's true, then  
17 we're going to move on you and charge you -- you or  
18 whoever hypothetically else.

19 The solicitor's office, on the back end, is  
20 going to be looking at that case then, and they're  
21 going to say, "Okay. Who do we offer deals to?  
22 Who do we work with? Who worked with this  
23 investigation? Who did the right thing? Who  
24 admitted that they fucked up and they did something  
25 wrong?" Or "Who is just a cold motherfucker that,

1           you know, gunned down three people and not -- not  
2           give a shit about it?" So people -- good, decent  
3           people find themselves sucked into some bad shit on  
4           a regular basis. It doesn't mean people are bad  
5           people. I don't think you're a bad dude.

6           JEREMY CORNISH: I'm glad to hear that, man.

7           SERGEANT CREECH: You -- you seem like a decent guy.

8           I'm not -- don't think I'm in here trying to  
9           railroad you because I think you're some piece of  
10          shit.

11          JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I -- actually, that's how I  
12          feel, you know.

13          SERGEANT CREECH: Well, that's not how it's intended,  
14          okay? One, understand it's my job to get to the  
15          bottom of why these three boys lost their lives,  
16          okay? It's nothing personal. It's just -- it is  
17          the job. I got three families out there we owe  
18          answers to, and we're going to --

19          JEREMY CORNISH: I totally understand that, man. I  
20          just --

21          SERGEANT CREECH: -- do our duty just like we --

22          JEREMY CORNISH: -- don't understand what --

23          SERGEANT CREECH: -- would if this was you or your kin  
24          or your partner.

25          JEREMY CORNISH: I'm glad y'all are so hard on

1 (inaudible). You know, so --

2 SERGEANT CREECH: But we're just saying that I'm just --  
3 just throwing it out there because, like I say, I  
4 don't know you at the end of the day, and I know  
5 plenty of people in your shoes in your seat having  
6 the same conversation, they end up being full of  
7 shit and end up getting charged and --

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And it's a whole --

9 SERGEANT CREECH: -- it's thrown in their face and it  
10 makes them look horrible --

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And it weren't that bad at the  
12 beginning.

13 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

14 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Which --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: Because right now we think somebody  
16 drove him away from that scene.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: (Inaudible.)

18 SERGEANT CREECH: They may not have known what was going  
19 on. They might've known he was up to some -- no  
20 good because this guy -- like I said, these boys  
21 sold dope. Everybody in the apartment complex  
22 bought dope from them. That's no secret. We don't  
23 give two shits about the dope dealing, but you  
24 could see why somebody would be amped up coming  
25 back from the dope man's house, especially if

1 something like -- they might've had an altercation  
2 with them.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Doesn't necessarily mean that you  
5 necessarily know that they shot and killed three  
6 people.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, fuck, you hear about it later  
9 in the news. Like I said earlier, if it was me --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: It was very shocking for me.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: -- I wouldn't fucking say anything  
12 about it because if --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: -- they had killed three people and  
15 then didn't bat an eye about it, I'm not going to  
16 rat him out because, shit, if they'll shoot and  
17 kill three people like that, what are they going to  
18 do to me if I say something?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh. But didn't you said when y'all  
20 picked him up he had all red on, that he has gang  
21 ties?

22 SERGEANT CREECH: I --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: That's what you told me last --

24 SERGEANT CREECH: My -- that's my suspicion, but he --  
25 he won't admit to it though. Because, see, there's

1           -- there's certain criteria.

2       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You can't just call someone a gang  
3       member.

4       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

5       JEREMY CORNISH: But that's what you did.

6       SERGEANT CREECH: I said it looks like he probably is  
7       affiliated.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: Really?

9       SERGEANT CREECH: And all these other people --

10      JEREMY CORNISH: Wow.

11      SERGEANT CREECH: All these other people are affiliated  
12      in this.

13      JEREMY CORNISH: When that gang member --

14      SERGEANT CREECH: And nobody --

15      JEREMY CORNISH: No, listen, I --

16      SERGEANT CREECH: None of the rest of you seem to be  
17      able to say if he's affiliated or not.

18      JEREMY CORNISH: Listen, I know how much you're trying  
19      to cover up what you said but you didn't tell me  
20      that. But you literally told me he was a gang  
21      member.

22      SERGEANT CREECH: Kind of like I didn't say that I went  
23      to DMV with a guy who shot and killed three people.

24      JEREMY CORNISH: Sir -- sir, I don't mean to upset you.

25      SERGEANT CREECH: After five people asked me about that.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I didn't remember walking past Justin  
2 in the DMV. I didn't -- at this time.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: You guys stop and interact.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. But, sir, I -- I work  
5 construction. I'm very busy. I take care of a lot  
6 of business.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: He's got the same duffle bag on his  
8 shoulder that he's got full of dope and a murder  
9 weapon mere days later.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: Like -- like, again, sir, it was kind  
11 of a spur of the moment. I don't really remember  
12 every single detail of my day. If I remembered  
13 that Justin was at the DMV --

14 SERGEANT CREECH: What did you think was going on when  
15 you picked him up on that street when he was on  
16 that bicycle? You didn't know he had just gunned  
17 down three people, did you?

18 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. I -- pick him up from what --  
19 what bike?

20 SERGEANT CREECH: And who else could that have been? Is  
21 that just the world's biggest coincidence that  
22 somebody else in a white dually when he had been in  
23 a white dually about an hour -- hour and a half  
24 before and that person being you? He's going to  
25 have some other -- other ride out on the street

1           that's going to be a white dually?

2           JEREMY CORNISH: No. No.

3           SERGEANT CREECH: I'm just trying to make sense of this.

4           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We -- we know you're not a bad guy.

5           JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, I'm --

6           SERGEANT CREECH: Whatever your level of involvement is,

7           though, now is the time. We need to hear it now

8           from you because, otherwise, we're just going to

9           start putting pieces together, and if it --

10          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, sir --

11          SERGEANT CREECH: If it doesn't go in your favor, it

12          doesn't go in your favor. And if -- hey, if you've

13          got nothing to hide and we're pressing you, I'm

14          sorry. You'll have to just bear with us, but, you

15          know, it's our job to be somewhat skeptical until

16          we get to the end of -- end of the road here, and I

17          think we've got a good bit of distance to cover

18          yet. But right now this is -- this is certainly an

19          issue.

20                 And like I said, all the other pieces are

21          clicking into place. That white dually is -- is

22          kind of one of the last pieces that we've got to

23          click into place. He's with you that morning in a

24          white dually. You admit that. You guys drove and

25          you picked him up and you took him to work. He's

1           the last person you drop off. But yet he's getting  
2           across town, he's doing a shooting, and then he's  
3           getting picked up by another -- by an identical  
4           white dually. So who is he going to start pointing  
5           fingers at when he decides he wants to -- he wants  
6           a deal and he wants to start talking?

7           JEREMY CORNISH: He might know the person who's in the  
8           white dually then because it wasn't mine.

9           SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And I'd like to think that.

10          JEREMY CORNISH: That's what I'm telling you.

11          SERGEANT CREECH: But like I said, I'm going to be  
12                 skeptical because I feel like you were a little  
13                 less than truthful with us about him -- you seeing  
14                 him again that day.

15          JEREMY CORNISH: It was a quick hi and bye. It slipped  
16                 my mind. I was real nervous that night. I told  
17                 the officers that. I mean, I -- I thought I was  
18                 getting stopped for a traffic stop, and instead I'm  
19                 being questioned about -- well, I didn't know until  
20                 you came. They wouldn't give me any details.

21          SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

22          JEREMY CORNISH: So I mean -- so like, "Was you two" --  
23                         "No, man. What you mean? No. No. What you  
24                         mean? Two" --

25          SERGEANT CREECH: And I can already tell you this.

1           Justin's try -- already tried to use you as his  
2           alibi.

3           JEREMY CORNISH: Of course he would. Of course he  
4           would. What did he say? He was with me all day?

5           SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. Said you guys were at work all  
6           day.

7           JEREMY CORNISH: Well, we know that's not true.

8           SERGEANT CREECH: Well, we know that's not true, but he  
9           -- he didn't seem to be able to explain --

10          JEREMY CORNISH: Seven.

11          SERGEANT CREECH: -- how you guys parted ways that  
12                morning and then he -- now here we are and it's  
13                just -- like I said, it's a matter of time before  
14                he decides he wants to save his own skin.

15          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

16          SERGEANT CREECH: Because if he's going to gun down  
17                three people, he doesn't give a shit about anybody  
18                else.

19          JEREMY CORNISH: I understand.

20          SERGEANT CREECH: So if you're that person he's going to  
21                sell up the river, now's your time to get ahead of  
22                that.

23          JEREMY CORNISH: Nah. I'm not that person he going to  
24                sell up --

25          SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: -- the river.

2 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. Have you got any idea who that  
3 person could be?

4 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We aren't going to see you and him  
6 together for the rest of that DMV --

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Any of that other video we're going to  
8 pull. Now's the time to think about it.

9 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We're not going to see any  
10 (inaudible) --

11 SERGEANT CREECH: You did not run into him anywhere  
12 else?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Sir --

14 SERGEANT CREECH: License plate readers, traffic  
15 cameras, all that stuff's being run.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: If it's going to come back, now's the  
18 time -- now is the time to come clean because --

19 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't have anything to come clean  
20 about.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Have you ever picked him up from the  
23 Landmark apartments?

24 JEREMY CORNISH: (Nods head up and down.) In the past.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Past? Nothing -- any recently?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Not -- not in the morning time.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Never in the morning?

3 JEREMY CORNISH: (Inaudible) morning time.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: When you dropped him off Saturday  
5 night, what did he say he was going to do with the  
6 rest of his night? Did he say anything?

7 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir. No, sir.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What was he wearing when you dropped  
9 him off? I'm assuming --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: He was still in work clothes.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Work clothes?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Do you remember what clothes he was  
14 wearing?

15 JEREMY CORNISH: I know he had on a orange sweatshirt.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Which he wears like a vest.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Where'd you pick him up on Saturday?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: He came to my house Saturday morning.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: How'd he get there?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't know. I don't know. I woke up  
22 -- and I can tell you how Saturday morning went  
23 because that's -- that was just -- just now.

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: When I woke up, I cranked the truck up.

1           He -- we talked that Friday night. He called from  
2           some girl's phone --

3           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

4           JEREMY CORNISH: -- and said, "Where do you want me to  
5           meet you at?"

6           I said, "You tell me."

7           He said, "Well, I'll get her to drop me off to  
8           the house -- to your house."

9           I said, "Cool. The truck will be running."

10          And that's how we left. He came to my house, got  
11          dropped off.

12          SERGEANT CREECH: And just so you know, if we wanted to  
13          be total dicks, what we could've done is we  
14          could've run off to some judge this afternoon, and  
15          we could've decided we were going to charge you,  
16          treated this like you were lying about to us about  
17          the DMV, we could've charged you with obstruction  
18          and this whole thing would've gone a whole lot  
19          different. So understand we didn't do that.

20          JEREMY CORNISH: I appreciate it, sir.

21          SERGEANT CREECH: We're giving you a chance to come in  
22          here the day before Christmas Eve and tell us about  
23          this.

24          JEREMY CORNISH: Well, I appreciate it, sir.

25          SERGEANT CREECH: This is your chance to -- like I said,

1 I'm -- I'm not -- just listen to me. If you had  
2 anything to do with this, this is your chance to  
3 get ahead of it.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I think you're trying to force me  
5 to say something.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: No, no. I'm --

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We're not.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm not.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Please.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: But --

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Please, please --

12 SERGEANT CREECH: If you've got nothing --

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Please don't try to force me to say it,  
14 sir. I mean --

15 SERGEANT CREECH: If you've got nothing to hide, you've  
16 got nothing to hide.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. I mean, it's -- I don't.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: I give -- I give this courtesy to  
19 everybody. I'm just saying, if we do end up having  
20 this conversation -- yes. If -- if -- big  
21 hypothetical "if" -- we end up having a different  
22 kind of conversation later, I just want it to be  
23 clear that we gave you the opportunity.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: I gave you my DNA.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm giving you my story. I have  
2 nothing to hide.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: And I'd love to say at the end of the  
4 day that you didn't. And if you didn't, you  
5 didn't. So --

6 JEREMY CORNISH: So --

7 SERGEANT CREECH: -- we'll get to the --

8 JEREMY CORNISH: What do I --

9 SERGEANT CREECH: We'll get to the bottom of it. Don't  
10 worry.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Another scenario jumps out at me and  
12 (inaudible) do they give you their DNA if they --  
13 if -- if they involved in something?

14 SERGEANT CREECH: Sometimes.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Somebody have actually gave you a DNA  
16 when they've actually been involved in something?

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Wow. I never heard that before.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Like I said, dude, nobody's going to  
21 get railroaded for no reason. If you've got  
22 nothing to hide, you've got nothing to hide.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: I got nothing to hide.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: But you -- but like I explained  
25 earlier, from our perspective, you see why we're in

1           the position that we need to --

2       JEREMY CORNISH:  Totally do.

3       SERGEANT CREECH:  -- to get answers.

4       JEREMY CORNISH:  Totally do.

5       SERGEANT CREECH:  Okay.

6       JEREMY CORNISH:  Because you need to get answers.

7       SERGEANT CREECH:  It's not anything personal, and it's

8           just what we got to do, okay?

9       JEREMY CORNISH:  I thank you for that.

10      SERGEANT CREECH:  I mean, can you respect that at the

11           end of the day?

12      JEREMY CORNISH:  Totally.  Totally, sir.

13      SERGEANT CREECH:  I know I got a little heated with you,

14           but --

15      JEREMY CORNISH:  You did now.

16      SERGEANT CREECH:  -- it's not anything personal.

17      JEREMY CORNISH:  You did.  That's why I say, sir --

18      SERGEANT CREECH:  Because like I said, if this was --

19      JEREMY CORNISH:  -- I respect you.

20                           (Cell phone sounds.)

21      SERGEANT CREECH:  -- you or your kin or somebody close

22           to you --

23      JEREMY CORNISH:  And I totally understand.

24      SERGEANT CREECH:  Let -- let me --

25      JEREMY CORNISH:  I totally understand.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: Let me step out for a second.

2 (Sergeant Creech exits the interview  
3 room.)

4 JEREMY CORNISH: But I didn't have anything to do with  
5 that. I know I had nothing to do with that.  
6 That's why I gave him my DNA with no problem.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We don't necessarily say, you know,  
8 you had anything to do with it. We were  
9 questioning why --

10 JEREMY CORNISH: -- someone said what they said.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, you know, based on what we  
12 think is he went in there and then he left and got  
13 in the truck. So that person in the truck wouldn't  
14 have any kind of knowledge of what's going on in  
15 the --

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- apartment. You know what I'm  
18 saying?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So it's not saying -- we're not  
21 saying you went in there and shot these three  
22 people and left. We know Justin was in the  
23 apartment.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So what we're saying is that person

1           got in the truck and -- Justin got in the truck and  
2           left the scene. And that's what we're saying this  
3           person who they were driving the truck is going to  
4           know more.

5           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

6           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And we're not saying they're  
7           heartless. We're saying that they probably know  
8           what -- what went down with Justin. They probably  
9           know. But he just killed three people just like  
10          that (snaps). I mean, you'd be scared, I'd be  
11          scared, everyone would be scared, you know?

12          JEREMY CORNISH: That's right.

13          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know?

14          JEREMY CORNISH: But I -- but I don't have anything to  
15          hide.

16          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I think we -- basically, we're just  
17          trying to get -- we're trying to get to the bottom  
18          of it. I -- I really would like to know why, you  
19          know? And I can't give them why. You know, that's  
20          the hardest question. You know, a family, when  
21          they ask you, "Well, what happened?" And all this  
22          stuff, and, you know, it -- it sucks when you look  
23          at them and say, "I don't know," you know, but --  
24          you know what? I don't -- what do you say to that?  
25          "Oh, I don't know. Sorry. We don't know why it

1           happened, just know that it did." It's hard to --  
2           it's hard to explain that. Hard to talk to someone  
3           on the phone and say, "Well, it just happened just  
4           because." You hear rumors, you hear this, but I  
5           can't give them rumors. That's not fair to them.  
6           That's not fair to the victims.

7           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

8           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We can't say they were doing this or  
9           doing that and that's the reason they got --

10          JEREMY CORNISH: I understand. Rumors are very, very  
11          dangerous (inaudible) stuff.

12          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. Well, what did you hear?

13          JEREMY CORNISH: That this is gang ties and they out for  
14          retaliation.

15          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So --

16          JEREMY CORNISH: It -- it was all over Facebook. I  
17          mean, they said that -- I don't know. Did one of  
18          the guys have a funeral Saturday?

19          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's a different guy.

20          JEREMY CORNISH: Different guy?

21          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. That's a different situation.  
22          That's not one of these three. I mean, one of  
23          those three might've had a funeral Saturday, but I  
24          know the funeral you're talking about on Saturday,  
25          and that was --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: The whole gang that was up there and  
2 stuff?

3 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. That was a gang definitely.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: But I know I ain't involved in no gang  
5 no kind of way.

6 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not saying --

7 JEREMY CORNISH: I got tattoos.

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not -- I'm not saying you are.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: But there's no gang tattoos, though,  
10 sir.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not --

12 JEREMY CORNISH: You know what I mean?

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not saying you are, you know.

14 The person driving the truck -- I mean, Justin was  
15 -- was responsible for this. And right now, we're  
16 just trying to tie in all the loose ends, you know?  
17 That's all.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: I gotcha.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We -- we -- we know other people

20 know about it. So we're seeing what everyone

21 knows. We're just trying to figure it out.

22 Honestly, the hardest question is: Why? I -- I've

23 watched a news article, and Duwan's mom yesterday

24 basically wanted to ask Justin why. Not till -- I

25 mean, and no one knows. I don't know. Justin

1 knows. I don't -- I don't for one second think  
2 that he came in there and killed these three people  
3 while they were sleeping cold-blooded murder  
4 because of some gang stuff.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, how did he get in there then?  
6 The door was open?

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Still trying to figure everything  
8 out.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Goodness.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I mean, you know, you think -- have  
11 you ever seen a home invasion plan where the guy  
12 just comes in there and kills everyone in the house  
13 because of a gang? I've never seen that. I mean,  
14 not around here.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I don't -- if this was --

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know what I'm saying?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't know none of that stuff, man.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, three -- people don't just  
19 break in houses and kill everyone -- or try to kill  
20 everyone in the house just for -- just for nothing.  
21 And it's not just because, "Oh, they're the gang --  
22 they're the rival gang." You know, "I'm just going  
23 to go kill the rival gang," you know. That doesn't  
24 make sense. You say you've seen "First 48," right?  
25 Kind of --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I haven't looked at it a while.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. I understand, but --

3 JEREMY CORNISH: You know, it just made me thought about

4 it when I got called out. You know, like, wow,

5 man, like this man worked with me. Man, I don't,

6 you know, deal with this man like that. He's -- he

7 younger than me. I'm 38. You know what I'm

8 saying? He's 20. We have nothing in common. You

9 know what I'm saying? On the job site we talk

10 about football. That's all of us talk about

11 football on the job site. All of us.

12 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Is that -- I mean, that's -- how did

13 you know his mom?

14 JEREMY CORNISH: From the -- from the same little town

15 of Eastover.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Did y'all -- like were y'all

17 together or --

18 JEREMY CORNISH: No. No.

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No?

20 JEREMY CORNISH: She's related to me some kind of way.

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Some kind of way?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. No.

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So --

24 JEREMY CORNISH: We weren't together.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. So y'all are related?

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Okay. Well, that's -- I just want  
3 to make sure I got everything right.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I don't want to say . . .

6 It's just -- it's torture for me, the why.

7 Three people while they were sleeping get murdered  
8 in their -- their residence, and we don't know --  
9 we don't know why. We do know who. We don't know  
10 who else. Because there's other people.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure it is. I mean, pretty  
12 sure it is.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Oh, yeah. It definitely is. And  
14 it's just we want to have answers, and we don't  
15 right now. And that's where we're coming from. I  
16 think -- I think it was over something extremely  
17 petty, nothing -- you know? I don't think whatever  
18 these victims did to Justin did not warrant getting  
19 murdered, and that's dangerous that he would do  
20 something like that. That's extremely dangerous.  
21 You know? How many people do you think would come  
22 clean saying something on Justin when he just  
23 killed three people, really?

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'd be -- I -- "I'm not going to go

1           tell on this guy when he just killed -- went into  
2           their house and killed them." Scary stuff.

3       JEREMY CORNISH: Sir, I understand. Like I say --

4       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: (Inaudible.)

5       JEREMY CORNISH: -- you ain't -- you ain't got to beat  
6           me up with this, man.

7       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not beating you up either.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: I'm a very intelligent person, and I'm  
9           taking in everything you say. And my heart goes  
10          out goes out to those -- those young men.

11      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I know it does. I know it does.

12      JEREMY CORNISH: As well, I feel sorry for Justin, you  
13          know?

14      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And why -- why do you feel sorry for  
15          Justin?

16      JEREMY CORNISH: To do something like this here? This  
17          is -- to me, that's a animal who did something like  
18          that, you know? I'm not saying Justin did that.

19      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

20      JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not saying he did it. I don't  
21          know. The only way I know if I had been there. So  
22          let's -- let's go ahead and get that -- I'm not  
23          telling nobody Justin did this here. You know what  
24          I'm saying?

25      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Right.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: But for somebody to do this here, man,  
2 you know, they need prayer, God, you know? That's  
3 all that I could look at it as. Somebody need God,  
4 man.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, I -- I definitely agree  
6 somebody needs God.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Something, ain't it?

8 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. I don't -- I don't know nothing,  
10 man. I don't know nothing.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, I think -- and (inaudible)  
12 don't think -- what he said is he and his -- his  
13 uncle.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Well, I --

15 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And --

16 JEREMY CORNISH: I done said all I could say, sir. How  
17 much longer do I got to do this here?

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I -- I was waiting for him to come  
19 back pretty much.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Y'all are beating me up, beating me  
21 up --

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm not -- I'm not beating --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: -- acting like --

24 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- you up. Am I raising my voice?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: No. But --

1       DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  Am I doing anything?

2       JEREMY CORNISH:  You -- you installing in my head, sir,

3               like I know what happened and stuff, man.  And, you

4               know, I don't -- you know, I'm not trying to, you

5               know, be disrespectful or anything, sir, but I

6               don't know what happened.  You --

7       DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  Well --

8       JEREMY CORNISH:  You beating a person up who don't know.

9               What can I get you out of "I don't know."  You know

10              what I'm saying?

11      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  I understand.

12      JEREMY CORNISH:  Don't know.  I don't.

13      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  I understand.  But what would you

14              want -- how would we go about proving your

15              innocence right now?

16      JEREMY CORNISH:  I'm -- I'm trying to do everything I

17              can to prove it.  I -- I --

18      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  Well, what -- what would you do if

19              you were -- if you were in my shoes, to prove your

20              innocence, what would you do?

21      JEREMY CORNISH:  Sir, I don't know.

22      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  You don't know?

23      JEREMY CORNISH:  No.

24      DETECTIVE HENDRIX:  Who would I talk to?

25      JEREMY CORNISH:  I'm not an investigator, man.

1 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Who would provide --

2 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I'm not knocking you for  
3 talking to me, sir. I'm not.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I know. I know.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: That's not what I'm saying. But, you  
6 know, I don't know how long I've been here, but I'm  
7 telling you the same thing from when I've been  
8 here. I gave you the story.

9 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I know. I know. But -- but say  
10 we're trying to prove you didn't do this, I -- I  
11 want to believe you. It's just going by -- that's  
12 all. You know what I'm saying? We can't just --  
13 in my line of work, I can't just say, "This person  
14 committed that crime because I know they did." I  
15 -- we've got to get proof. You know what I'm  
16 saying?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right, right, right.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We've got to get proof for anything  
19 we do. That's -- that's all it is.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: For anything. If we want to prove  
22 -- the best for this job we have is proof. That's  
23 all it is. Something that corroborates someone's  
24 story. All right. "He said this. I'm going to  
25 prove it with this."

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's it.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's all we're trying to do.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: I can pretty much prove my day, though.

6 That's what I'm trying to tell y'all. You know  
7 what I'm saying? I can prove my day that morning  
8 until I left the DMV the second time. I can prove  
9 that.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And I think the biggest question is  
11 why -- this goes back to the DMV is -- when -- and  
12 I know we've talked about this, I know, is -- well,  
13 Justin's like well -- you proved your day, but you  
14 left out a pretty big part about Justin's.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: But like I said, sir, the video shows  
16 that's a hi and bye. That video shows Justin  
17 walking out the door, and I'm still getting it --  
18 I'm -- that's my second time coming back, so I'm  
19 there.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Uh-huh.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: That video shows that.

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What -- just curious. What was --  
23 what did you have to get done at the DMV?

24 JEREMY CORNISH: My license was suspended.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Your license was suspended? And was

1 Justin's license suspended?

2 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't know. He didn't have no  
3 license, so it -- it could've, yeah, very well --

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He didn't have one?

5 JEREMY CORNISH: No. He didn't have no license. He had  
6 a ID.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: What was your -- just -- just  
8 curious: What was your license suspended for?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Lapse of insurance on a vehicle.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And it cost that much to get it  
11 reinstated?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: 425.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And so you've got to get more  
14 insurance and 425 to get it reinstated. That's --  
15 that's not fun.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. And I wouldn't have be -- the  
17 insurance lapse on me. I didn't turn the tags in.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Oh.

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

20 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So you -- you had it, you just  
21 didn't turn tags and I guess they suspended your --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: The -- the -- the car stopped working  
23 probably last year sometime, and it was a friend's  
24 house. He's supposed to fix it. Little shade tree  
25 mechanic. You know, it was sitting there the whole

1           time. Still sitting there.

2       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: And it just doesn't have insurance

3           on it, but you're --

4       JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

5       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: -- not driving it so it's --

6       JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Because it don't work right.

7       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No. I understand. Pretty -- pretty

8           messed up that they -- 425 to get it reinstated. I

9           think that's kind of surprising if not outrageous.

10      JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. They tell you driving is a

11           privilege in South Carolina so --

12      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: That's right. That ain't no joke.

13           There's no right to drive. That \$425 says that.

14           Said you -- you -- you like football?

15      JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

16      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Who -- do you like pro? College?

17      JEREMY CORNISH: Both.

18      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Who's your teams?

19      JEREMY CORNISH: I like Philadelphia Eagles.

20      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Eagles?

21      JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

22      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: They played pretty good against the

23           Cowboys.

24      JEREMY CORNISH: Last night, yeah.

25      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: It was awesome. That's -- that --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, yeah.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: They're going to make the playoffs  
3 because of that pretty much, I think.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, we got to win next week.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, we got to win next week.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: But they had a chance, man. The  
8 Cowboys just -- I'm not sold on Dak as a  
9 quarterback.

10 JEREMY CORNISH: I don't think Dak's the problem.

11 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You don't?

12 JEREMY CORNISH: Nah.

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, they had a lot of drops on --

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Had -- that wasn't on Dak. The drops  
15 are not on Dak.

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: But they give -- Jerry gave them  
18 (inaudible).

19 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, I think the problem is Jerry  
20 is the GM too. So, you know, you can't have an  
21 owner/GM. That's just --

22 JEREMY CORNISH: No, Jerry bring in good players.

23 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. But there's a difference  
24 between bringing in talent and bringing in a team.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

1 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm Cleveland Browns fan, and when  
2 we brought in --

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh.

4 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: We brought in talent, but we -- you  
5 know, that's not a team.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, yeah.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Right?

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Y'all got the diva  
9 up there.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Now, see, he's been -- Beckham has  
11 -- has been pretty good. Like, I -- he hasn't been  
12 causing none of the issues or anything. And he and  
13 -- he's been -- my thing is with Beckham is he's  
14 been getting the ball everywhere. Eli Manning's  
15 going to give him the ball but we can't -- I think  
16 that's what I'm saying, you know, like --

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: How is Eli Manning getting Beckham  
19 the ball, and we can't figure out a rhythm to get  
20 him the ball?

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right.

22 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So I think it's --

23 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. What -- what -- what time is it,  
24 sir? Just asking.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: It's 5:21. 5:21.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: Well, I mean --

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Who's your college team? I'm just  
3 curious.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm USC.

5 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: USC?

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

7 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'm a Gamecock fan, too.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. Yeah. We need -- we got -- got  
9 a big -- big recruit came in.

10 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah. I know -- I hope -- he hasn't  
11 signed yet though.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: He hasn't signed yet?

13 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No. Said he's got to wait  
14 (inaudible) and I'm worried, but --

15 JEREMY CORNISH: You ever seen him play?

16 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No. Have you?

17 JEREMY CORNISH: No.

18 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He -- he plays at a private --  
19 Hammond, I think.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Hammond.

21 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I follow a little recruiting. We  
22 got another five-star running back from like  
23 Maryland, Marshawn Lattimore.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

25 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: He's -- we need a -- a good running

1           back since all ours are graduating, too, so -- you  
2           remember that name. I think he's on the cover of  
3           (inaudible).

4           JEREMY CORNISH: Marshawn Lattimore?

5           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Marshawn -- I think it's -- it's not  
6           Lattimore. Marshawn Lloyd.

7           JEREMY CORNISH: Marshawn. Okay.

8           DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

9           JEREMY CORNISH: I was going to say that was mighty  
10          close to the other Lattimore.

11          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I -- I think this is (inaudible).

12          JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

13          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: But we need some -- some help with  
14          that.

15          JEREMY CORNISH: So am I free to go, sir?

16          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Yeah.

17          JEREMY CORNISH: I definitely have other things to do  
18          today.

19          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I -- and I totally understand. Let  
20          me -- let me call him to see if -- if he . . .

21                                 (Detective Hendrix makes a phone  
22                                 call.)

23          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: (Into phone) Hey. Are you -- are  
24          you done or? Just a second? Okay. All right.  
25          All right. (To Mr. Cornish) He said he'll be back

1           in just a second. I -- I appreciate you, you know  
2           -- you coming down and talking to us.

3       JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

4       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: You know --

5       JEREMY CORNISH: Y'all don't have a water or anything?

6       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: No. I can -- hold on. Let me see  
7           if I can get some water for you.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: I'm running pretty dry.

9       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'll get you something. (Sends  
10           text.)

11                               (Sergeant Creech returns to the  
12                               interview room.)

13       SERGEANT CREECH: Sorry about that. Real quick  
14           question: Are you kin to any of the Cornishes up  
15           near the stadium?

16       JEREMY CORNISH: The stadium?

17       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. Superior and Edisto Street  
18           downtown?

19       JEREMY CORNISH: No. I don't believe so.

20       SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. I got you.

21       JEREMY CORNISH: (Inaudible.) Now, I don't know -- I  
22           don't know --

23       SERGEANT CREECH: No. I mean, that's not a trick  
24           question.

25       JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, okay. I was saying I don't know

1           now.

2       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

3       JEREMY CORNISH: (Inaudible.)

4       SERGEANT CREECH: My last name is Creech and --

5       JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

6       SERGEANT CREECH: -- you have -- a lot people ask me,

7           "Hey, are you kin to the Christmas tree Creeches in

8           Lexington?" And I say, "Well, I don't know who

9           they are." I mean, I live in Lexington, but my kin

10          are --

11       JEREMY CORNISH: Well, my sister actually married a

12          Creech.

13       SERGEANT CREECH: Really?

14       JEREMY CORNISH: They're black though.

15       SERGEANT CREECH: Now, that's a first. I hadn't heard

16          that before.

17       JEREMY CORNISH: Really?

18       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

19       JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

20       SERGEANT CREECH: How about that? That's not a common

21          name at all, so --

22       JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Right.

23       SERGEANT CREECH: You know, and I think it's got

24          German/Scottish origin so --

25       JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

1       DETECTIVE HENDRIX: My grandpa's one of fourteen, so  
2           it's -- I have cousins I've never met before so I  
3           don't know (inaudible).

4       SERGEANT CREECH: All right. I know this has been kind  
5           of a back and forth, gotten heated at times. Like  
6           I said, it's nothing personal. We're just trying  
7           to get to the bottom of this.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

9       SERGEANT CREECH: You know, hopefully, at the end of the  
10           day out of all this you were just a really good  
11           witness because at the end of the day, I mean,  
12           murder's heavy so -- and even -- I'm not saying you  
13           -- you witnessed anything about the murder. I'm  
14           just saying just the fact that you even had Justin  
15           around you that morning, that makes you a witness  
16           in this.

17       JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

18       SERGEANT CREECH: Okay? Because this is where, you  
19           know, like every -- you know, every moment we can  
20           account for in his day now is relevant. Okay? We  
21           got it?

22       JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

23       SERGEANT CREECH: Because he's going to start coming up  
24           with either shifting the blame to other people, or  
25           he's going to come up with bullshit alibis and he's

1           going to be pointing fingers, you know, like I  
2           said. And it's possible whoever picked him up in  
3           that white truck may not even know what the hell he  
4           had just done. And if that's the case, whoever  
5           that is has got the potential to be a phenomenal  
6           witness for us hopefully, if not a codefendant.

7           JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

8           SERGEANT CREECH: But if we got to figure out who that  
9           is on our own and they don't come forward and they  
10          don't tell us what they might now, then they're  
11          going to become a codefendant.

12          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

13          SERGEANT CREECH: You tracking with me?

14          JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

15          SERGEANT CREECH: So, you know, I'm just saying that.

16                 And whether that's you or somebody you may hear  
17                 about, somebody you may talk to --

18          JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right.

19          SERGEANT CREECH: And -- and I'm going to go ahead and  
20                 put this out here today, too, if -- because you  
21                 know the DMV thing was something you said you  
22                 didn't remember later.

23          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

24          SERGEANT CREECH: When we walk out of this conversation  
25                 and you think about it and there is something you

1 know something about and something eats at your  
2 conscience -- just saying hypothetically, I'm not  
3 saying there is --

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: -- if you say, you know, "I need to  
6 finally do the right thing and I need to come  
7 forward and tell them what I know," that door is  
8 open, and don't think we're going to say, "Well,  
9 you came in here -- here today and you gave us a  
10 line of shit and now here we are." I -- under the  
11 circumstances, it's a gift. Tracking with me?  
12 Because it's -- we're talking about some heavy  
13 stuff.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Absolutely. Absolutely.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: So -- but if you happen -- like I  
16 said, the white dually is -- is something that's  
17 got a red flag on it.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: So if you happen to hear maybe it was  
20 somebody on one of the other work crews that  
21 might've been tight with him, maybe they had some  
22 shit going on -- if you didn't have anything to do  
23 with any of this, you certainly don't want to be  
24 working with somebody who did either, do you?

25 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right. No, I'm not

1           trying to justify anything but --

2       SERGEANT CREECH: No.

3       JEREMY CORNISH: -- everybody on the work crew that

4           drive these trucks are pretty much --

5       SERGEANT CREECH: No. I'm just saying --

6       JEREMY CORNISH: -- hardworking, church folks.

7       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: Not to say that's justifying anything.

9       SERGEANT CREECH: Well, Justin's clearly not because he  
10           shot and killed three people that night.

11       JEREMY CORNISH: But what I said was drive the white  
12           trucks.

13       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah. But I'm just saying you just --  
14           you never know who's next to you because you never  
15           -- you probably didn't know he was capable of  
16           something like this.

17       JEREMY CORNISH: Right. I totally understand, sir.

18       SERGEANT CREECH: But, I mean, like I said, I don't --

19       JEREMY CORNISH: I'm not -- I'm not trying to justify  
20           anything.

21       SERGEANT CREECH: -- know any of these people. I'm just  
22           throwing it out there because this is going to come  
23           down to the little details at this point.

24       JEREMY CORNISH: I gotcha, sir.

25       SERGEANT CREECH: Nobody's trying to give you up for

1 something you didn't do if you didn't do anything.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Please don't, sir.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm just saying --

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Because I didn't do nothing.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm just saying because I -- at the  
6 end of the day, we -- at the end of the day, you  
7 and I have -- have met twice. We don't know each  
8 other, right?

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: So like I said, I -- I got to be  
11 skeptical of everybody I deal with. And, you know,  
12 I don't deal with a lot of people in your shoes who  
13 haven't done anything wrong, but at the end of the  
14 day we don't say they did anything wrong -- they  
15 did anything wrong if they didn't do anything  
16 wrong. I know that that sounds kind of -- kind of  
17 convoluted.

18 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-huh.

19 SERGEANT CREECH: So if you're innocent of anything more  
20 than what you've told us, you will remain innocent.

21 JEREMY CORNISH: Thank you, sir.

22 SERGEANT CREECH: If you're lying to us about anything,  
23 we're going to find out.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I understand.  
25 Yeah. Definitely understand.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: And that's just -- that's my straight  
2 answer.

3 JEREMY CORNISH: Definitely understand that.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Black and white.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Definitely understand that.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

7 JEREMY CORNISH: Definitely understand that.

8 SERGEANT CREECH: So if there is -- that's why I said,  
9 once we walk out of here, don't think that that  
10 door's closed if -- if -- if you're hiding  
11 anything. And if you're not, you're not. And all  
12 I ask, if you hear anything out there about what  
13 this could be about, you got my number. Reach out.  
14 Let me know.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: I gotcha, sir.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Because -- because right now we -- we  
17 do know that there's somebody else involved in  
18 this, and we're not going to stop until we find out  
19 who it is.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: I'd like to think they're just a good  
22 witness and not involved in it, but if they're  
23 involved in it, they're involved in it.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: So -- because we know somebody picked

1           him up from there, and we'll be getting cameras  
2           from the apartments and we'll see what vehicles  
3           came and went that day --

4       JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

5       SERGEANT CREECH: -- all day long, and we're going to --  
6           we're getting tons of video from all kinds of  
7           places, basically, putting together everybody's day  
8           that day.

9       JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

10      SERGEANT CREECH: So -- because I don't want anymore  
11           slip-ups like "I didn't remember running into him  
12           at the DMV."

13      JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

14      SERGEANT CREECH: And you even said he was a little  
15           weird. Because earlier, when I was asking you if  
16           you went to the same DMV both times before we even  
17           brought him up, you got a little defensive early  
18           about -- you made a point to say you hadn't -- you  
19           weren't at the DMV with Justin. And that was kind  
20           of out of the blue. What was that about?

21      JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I don't remember saying that. I  
22           remember I said he didn't ride with me. That's  
23           what I said.

24      SERGEANT CREECH: Well, yeah, later when -- later when  
25           we talked about the pictures and stuff. But when I

1           was I asking you -- we were doing the timeline  
2           early in the conversation and I was saying, "Did  
3           you go to the same DMV both times?"

4                     And you responded, "I -- I -- I wasn't with  
5           Justin." And that was kind of out of the blue  
6           because I hadn't even brought Justin --

7   JEREMY CORNISH: Because I thought you were saying that  
8           -- that we --

9   SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

10   JEREMY CORNISH: I thought you was trying to put me with  
11           Justin.

12   SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. That's what I --

13   JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. That's why --

14   SERGEANT CREECH: Okay.

15   JEREMY CORNISH: And you -- you understood what -- what  
16           I thought it was. I mean, that's why you stepped  
17           in, right?

18   SERGEANT CREECH: It came across a little odd.

19   JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, okay.

20   SERGEANT CREECH: That's why I'm asking you to clarify.

21   JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

22   SERGEANT CREECH: And if you don't want to clarify,  
23           we'll take it at face value.

24   JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right, right, right.

25   SERGEANT CREECH: And I won't re-ask it.

1 JEREMY CORNISH: No. I thought you was -- now, how --  
2 say it again now so we can this situated -- get  
3 this point straightened out.

4 SERGEANT CREECH: I was asking you if, when you went to  
5 the DMV that morning and then later in the day, if  
6 it was the same DMV both times. And your initial  
7 response was "I wasn't with Justin at the DMV."  
8 Either time or one time, something --

9 JEREMY CORNISH: I -- I interpreted as you said  
10 something else.

11 SERGEANT CREECH: Okay. And that's fine -- that's fine.

12 JEREMY CORNISH: And I apologize for that, but I  
13 didn't --

14 SERGEANT CREECH: That's fine. I just -- just asked for  
15 the clarification.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. Yeah.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: Anything else you can think of that  
18 might be important for us to know about him or that  
19 day or anything whatsoever?

20 JEREMY CORNISH: No, sir.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Well, I appreciate you  
22 taking this time and to come up here and meeting  
23 with us.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm glad I could help, man.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: And like I said, I'm not -- I'm not

1           trying to trick you into anything.

2       JEREMY CORNISH: Please don't, sir.

3       SERGEANT CREECH: But -- but -- but right now we're in  
4           the stage --

5       JEREMY CORNISH: Might not believe me and I -- and I --

6       SERGEANT CREECH: Well --

7       JEREMY CORNISH: Like I said, I wasn't involved in this  
8           the other day --

9       SERGEANT CREECH: We're -- we're just -- you know, we  
10           just --

11      JEREMY CORNISH: -- in no kind of way.

12      SERGEANT CREECH: We're trying to do right by these  
13           three boys.

14      JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

15      SERGEANT CREECH: You know?

16      JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

17      SERGEANT CREECH: They were way too -- regardless of the  
18           lifestyles they were living, they didn't deserve  
19           that.

20      JEREMY CORNISH: I don't judge nobody because, hell,  
21           man, people judge.

22      SERGEANT CREECH: And they're -- you know, they've got  
23           children. They've got parents. They've got  
24           siblings.

25      JEREMY CORNISH: That's the terrible thing about that.

1 SERGEANT CREECH: You know, hell, we're lucky that  
2 neither of them were watching their kids that  
3 day --

4 JEREMY CORNISH: That's terrible.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: -- because there's baby bottles in  
6 that house, toys, kids' toys. We could have just  
7 easily had -- had a little dead kid on our hands as  
8 these three -- three/four grown-ups.

9 JEREMY CORNISH: Uh-uh-uh-uh.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: And I can tell you that, if that had  
11 happened, that would just be just an unfathomable  
12 tragedy. Because you got kids?

13 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

14 SERGEANT CREECH: That's right. Because you were --

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: -- Christmas shopping earlier.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: Boys? Girls?

19 JEREMY CORNISH: Boys. All boys.

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Boys. All boys. How many boys you  
21 got?

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Three boys -- well, actually -- well, I  
23 got three living boys.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

25 JEREMY CORNISH: My oldest son got killed a couple years

1           ago walking home from Dent Middle School.

2       SERGEANT CREECH: Accident?

3       JEREMY CORNISH: By a hit and run. Well, no, I

4           apologize. Got hit -- he got hit.

5       SERGEANT CREECH: Yeah.

6       JEREMY CORNISH: Wasn't a run. She didn't run.

7       SERGEANT CREECH: It was just an accident.

8       JEREMY CORNISH: Just an accident, yeah.

9       SERGEANT CREECH: That's unfortunate. I'm sorry.

10      JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. He crossed the street at the

11           wrong time.

12      SERGEANT CREECH: How old's your other boys?

13      JEREMY CORNISH: Seventeen, nine, and eleven.

14      DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Do they play football?

15      JEREMY CORNISH: Ten -- nine and ten. The little ones

16           want to. But the oldest one, oh, no, he ain't

17           going to do nothing.

18      SERGEANT CREECH: The nine and ten year old, are they

19           close or do they fight like cats and dogs?

20      JEREMY CORNISH: Ooh, do they.

21      SERGEANT CREECH: Or is it both?

22      JEREMY CORNISH: Fight like cats and dogs. Do they.

23           Yeah. Yeah. They're like animals. That's what I

24           call them.

25      SERGEANT CREECH: We appreciate you making time because

1           we -- we still need to hammer this stuff out.

2           JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

3           SERGEANT CREECH: Because otherwise, like I said, we  
4           could've just said, "Oh, this is what he said the  
5           other night. This is what we see now, and we're  
6           not going to ask him to explain any of this or come  
7           in and talk to us again." And like I said, I  
8           could've got pushed to say, "Hey, obstruction. Put  
9           him in jail."

10          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

11          SERGEANT CREECH: And instead I gave you the chance to  
12          come in here.

13          JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

14          SERGEANT CREECH: All right. Anything else, Jacob?

15          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Like I said, people talk. So I  
16          mean, if you hear anything -- people talk.

17          JEREMY CORNISH: They do.

18          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Especially when coworkers get hurt  
19          or gets arrested for triple murder, people are  
20          going to talk.

21          SERGEANT CREECH: Uh-huh.

22          DETECTIVE HENDRIX: So --

23          SERGEANT CREECH: And I'll go ahead and tell you this,  
24          there was a few other people that we've identified  
25          that we need to talk to who have firsthand

1 information about that happened.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: And it's come from Justin because  
4 Justin's run his mouth on the streets.

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right.

6 SERGEANT CREECH: And he's -- and we know who these  
7 people are that this information's coming from.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

9 SERGEANT CREECH: And they're probably going to be --  
10 have a lot to explain about this. So like I said,  
11 if, you know, I feel like we got to clear some --  
12 clarify anything else, I'll reach out and let you  
13 know. I can tell you this, though -- hey, no.  
14 I'll tell you this: I will never call you -- call  
15 you and have you come in here because we got paper  
16 on you.

17 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

18 SERGEANT CREECH: I'll never call you --

19 JEREMY CORNISH: What you mean paper on me?

20 SERGEANT CREECH: Like if you were somebody that we  
21 found out was lying down the road, if I call you  
22 and ask you to come in, it's not going to be  
23 because you got warrants.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: I -- I don't ever trick somebody who's

1 going to jail.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, I mean, no.

3 SERGEANT CREECH: The Supreme Court says we can, but

4 that's -- I don't --

5 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah. I mean -- I mean, I'm going to

6 still come, you know.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I'm just saying --

8 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I don't -- I don't --

9 SERGEANT CREECH: -- that's -- to me, that's a trust

10 thing.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: So I'm not going to lie to you. All I

13 ask is you don't lie to me.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: All right.

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Yes, sir.

17 SERGEANT CREECH: So you might not like some of the

18 things I ask you and some of the things we've gone

19 over, over and over and over.

20 JEREMY CORNISH: Right.

21 SERGEANT CREECH: But I'm not going to -- I'm not going

22 to lie you to get what I want.

23 JEREMY CORNISH: I gotcha.

24 SERGEANT CREECH: All right. So -- so if I reach out to

25 you again, we might have some follow-up questions

1 but there's no trickery to it.

2 JEREMY CORNISH: Okay. Well, I hope we don't have to  
3 but --

4 SERGEANT CREECH: Well, I hope so to. We got -- we got  
5 a lot of other people we have to talk to.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: I mean, I'm not trying to make the  
7 situation --

8 SERGEANT CREECH: I'm just saying --

9 JEREMY CORNISH: -- funny now.

10 SERGEANT CREECH: No. No. But that's how this goes.

11 JEREMY CORNISH: Yeah.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: I mean, we got -- we talked to you  
13 once before this. But we've got people that last  
14 week we've already talked to four or five times.

15 JEREMY CORNISH: Oh, Lord.

16 SERGEANT CREECH: Because they got into this early and  
17 it's -- that's how this has been. This has been a  
18 very wide net with a lot of people in it, and now  
19 we've got to -- got to go back and now that we've  
20 got a focal point with Justin, we've got to see how  
21 it all connects.

22 JEREMY CORNISH: Gotcha.

23 SERGEANT CREECH: And we will. We'll figure it all out.

24 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure you will.

25 SERGEANT CREECH: So --

1 JEREMY CORNISH: I'm pretty sure you will.

2 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: Well, we appreciate you coming in  
3 today.

4 JEREMY CORNISH: Thank you, sir.

5 SERGEANT CREECH: We sure do.

6 JEREMY CORNISH: Thank you, sir.

7 SERGEANT CREECH: Nothing personal.

8 JEREMY CORNISH: I know that. I know it's not, man. I  
9 know it's not, but I just ain't never been through  
10 a situation like this before. Like I said, I seen  
11 it on TV.

12 SERGEANT CREECH: If it was personal, we wouldn't be  
13 smiling about it now.

14 JEREMY CORNISH: Right, right, right.

15 SERGEANT CREECH: So --

16 JEREMY CORNISH: Right. Thank you, sir.

17 DETECTIVE HENDRIX: I'll walk you out.

18 (All three men exit the interview.)

19 (End of recording.)

20

21

22

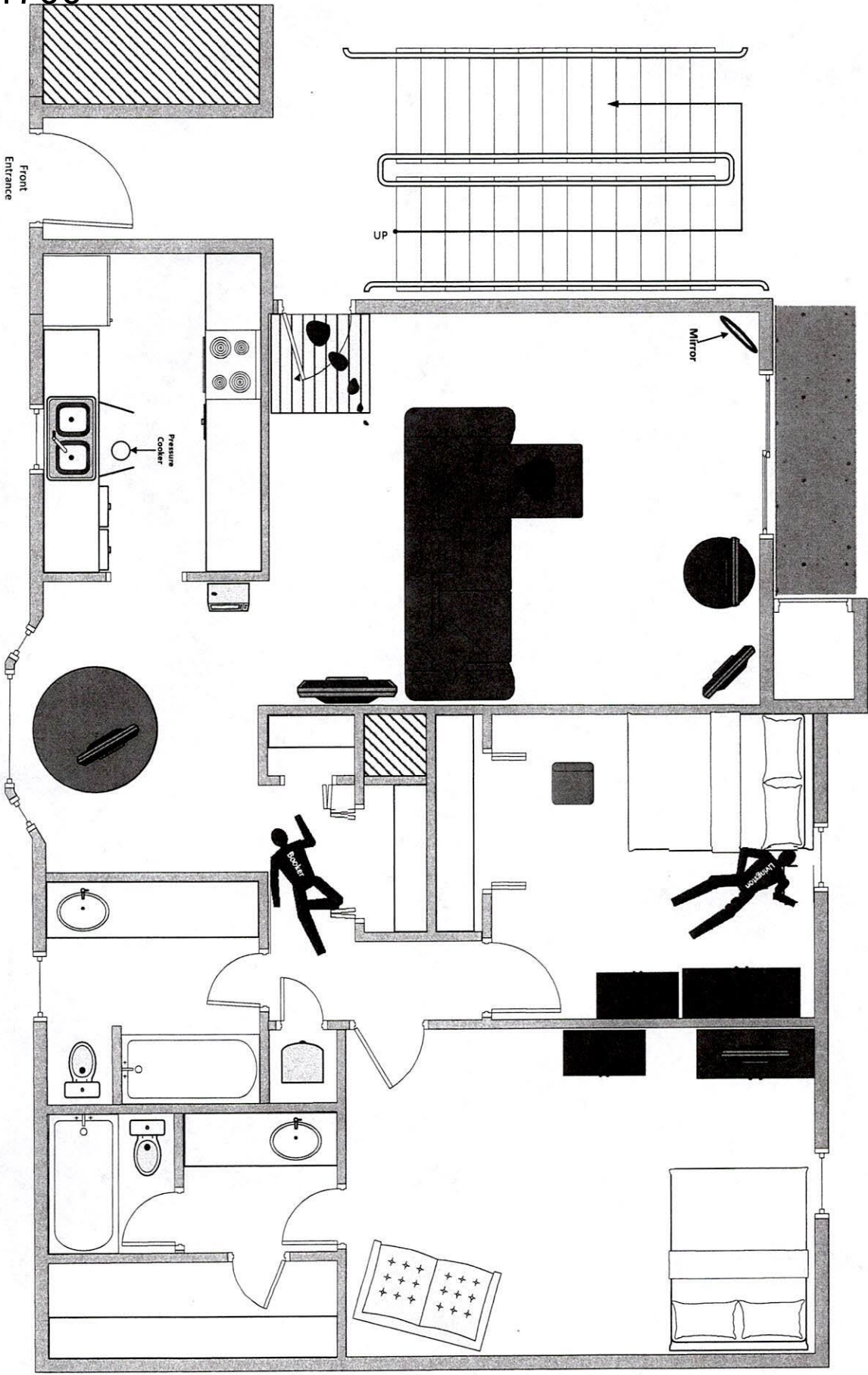
23

24

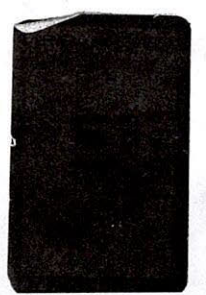
25

1700

19-024577  
Lexington County Sheriff's Department  
12/17/19  
Butternut Lane, Columbia, SC 29210  
CSI Patrick Ward



NOT TO SCALE  
NOT ALL ITEMS SHOWN  
ALL MEASUREMENTS APPROXIMATE



DOCKET NO. 2022GS3200262A

**The State of South Carolina**

County of Lexington

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

AUGUST TERM 2022

THE STATE

vs.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

CDR #: 0116

Indictment for

Murder

§ 16-03-0010

**S.R. Hubbard III, SOLICITOR**

WITNESSES

Lexington County Sheriffs Department

Adam Creech

Law Enforcement Case #: 19024577

DSG

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2019A3210202505

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

**TRUE BILL**

Foreperson of Grand Jury *J. H. He*  
Date: 8.8.22

VERDICT

*GUILTY*

*GVI*

Foreperson of Petit Jury *Chubb*

Date: 10/31/2022

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON )  
 )

INDICTMENT FOR  
Murder  
§ 16-03-0010

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on August 2022, the Grand Jurors of Lexington County present upon their oath:

That **Jeremy Savoy Cornish**, whether acting alone or in concert with another, did in Lexington County on or about December 17, 2019, unlawfully, willfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought kill the victim, Sheldon Livingston, by shooting the victim, and the victim died as a proximate result thereof, in violation of § 16-3-10, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.

  
DEPUTY SOLICITOR

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Lexington

STATE

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2022 - GS - 32 - 0262A

VS.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

A/W#: 2019A3210202505

AKA: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Offense: 12/17/2019

Race: Black Sex: M Age: 41

S.C. Code §: 16-03-0010

DOB: -1981 SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

CDR Code #: 0116

Address: Angel Garden Way

City, State, Zip: Columbia, SC 29223-7788

SENTENCE SHEET

DL# \_\_\_\_\_ SID# \_\_\_\_\_

\*CDL Yes  No  CMV Yes  No  Hazmat Yes  No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was  CONVICTED OF or  PLEADS

TO: Murder / Murder

In violation of § 16-03-0010 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0116

NON-VIOLENT  VIOLENT  SERIOUS  MOST SERIOUS  Mandatory GPS  § 17-25-46  
(CSC w/minor 1<sup>st</sup> or CSC w/minor 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The charge is:  As indicted,  Lesser Included Offense,  Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. \_\_\_\_\_ (def.'s initials)

The plea is:  Without Negotiations or Recommendation,  Negotiated Sentence,  Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

LS Mayes 64191 Solicitor SC Bar # \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant [Signature] Attorney for Defendant 5457 SC Bar # \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the  State Department of Correction  County Detention Center, LIFE

for a determinate term of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served  Youthful Offender Act not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$\_\_\_\_\_; provided that upon the service of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment

of \$\_\_\_\_\_; plus costs and assessments as applicable\*; the balance is suspended with probation for \_\_\_\_\_

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run

CONCURRENT or  CONSECUTIVE to sentence on:

2022 - GS - 32 - 0264 A  
2022 - GS - 32 - 0267 A  
2022 - GS - 32 - 0263 A

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. \_\_\_\_\_ days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE VS. Jeremy Savoy Cornish INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0262A

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

- PTUP after \_\_\_\_\_ months/years  
**And Other Terms Listed Below:**
- Substance Abuse Counseling       Completion of GED       Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp       No Contact with Victim       Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling       May serve W/E beginning: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430       Public Service Employment \_\_\_\_\_ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- RESTITUTION:     Deferred     Def. Waives Hearing     Ordered

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus 20% fee: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Terms: \_\_\_\_\_  Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Fine:

Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly prmts. of	\$ _____	Beginning	_____	\$ _____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)				\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)				\$100 \$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)				\$100 \$ _____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)				\$12 \$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)				\$25 \$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)				\$25 \$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)				\$150 \$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)				\$41 \$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)				\$50 \$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)				\$40/ea \$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)				TBD \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees				\$500 \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund				TBD \$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 125.90

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Stacy Jones  
 Court Reporter: Stacy Jones

Presiding Judge: Debra McLashin  
 Judge Code: 2769  
 Sentence Date: Oct 24 2022

DOCKET NO. 2022GS3200263A

**The State of South Carolina**  
County of Lexington

**COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**  
**AUGUST TERM 2022**

**THE STATE**  
**vs.**

**Jeremy Savoy Cornish**

**CDR #: 0116**

**Indictment for**

**Murder**

**§ 16-03-0010**

**S.R. Hubbard III, SOLICITOR**

WITNESSES

Lexington County Sheriffs Department

Adam Creech

Law Enforcement Case #: 19024577

DSG

**ARREST WARRANT NUMBER**

**2019A3210202506**

**ACTION OF GRAND JURY**

**WARRANT**

Foreperson of Grand Jury *J. J. Hill*  
Date: *8.8.22*

**VERDICT**

*GUILT*

*CV Hills*  
Foreperson of Petit Jury  
Date: *10/12/2022*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON )  
 )

INDICTMENT FOR  
Murder

§ 16-03-0010

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on AUGUST 2022, the Grand Jurors of Lexington County present upon their oath:

That **Jeremy Savoy Cornish**, whether acting alone or in concert with another, did in Lexington County on or about December 17, 2019, unlawfully, willfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought kill the victim, Branton Booker, by shooting the victim, and the victim died as a proximate result thereof, in violation of § 16-3-10, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.

  
DEPUTY SOLICITOR

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Lexington

STATE

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2022 - GS - 32 - 0263A

VS.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

A/W#: 2019A3210202506

AKA: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Offense: 12/17/2019

Race: Black Sex: M Age: 41

S.C. Code §: 16-03-0010

DOB: -1981 SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

CDR Code #: 0116

Address: Angel Garden Way

City, State, Zip: Columbia, SC 29223-7788

DL# \_\_\_\_\_ SID# \_\_\_\_\_

SENTENCE SHEET

\*CDL Yes  No  CMV Yes  No  Hazmat Yes  No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was  CONVICTED OF or  PLEADS

TO: Murder / Murder

In violation of § 16-03-0010 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0116

NON-VIOLENT  VIOLENT  SERIOUS  MOST SERIOUS  Mandatory GPS  § 17-25-45  
(CSC w/minor 1<sup>st</sup> or CSC w/minor 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The charge is:  As indicted,  Lesser Included Offense,  Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. \_\_\_\_\_ (def.'s initials)

The plea is:  Without Negotiations or Recommendation,  Negotiated Sentence,  Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

[Signature] 64191 SC Bar # \_\_\_\_\_ Defendant [Signature] Attorney for Defendant 5957 SC Bar # \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the  State Department of Correction  County Detention Center, LIFE

for a determinate term of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served  Youthful Offender Act not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ years and/or to pay a fine of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; provided that upon the service of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; plus costs and assessments as applicable<sup>4</sup>; the balance is suspended with probation for \_\_\_\_\_

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run:  CONCURRENT or  CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2022-GS-32-0264A  
2022GS-32 0267A  
2022 GS-32 0262A

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. \_\_\_\_\_ days/months  
 To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.  
 The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE VS. Jeremy Savoy Cornish INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0263A

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

- PTUP after \_\_\_\_\_ months/years
- And Other Terms Listed Below:**
- Substance Abuse Counseling       Completion of GED       Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp       No Contact with Victim       Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling       May serve W/E beginning: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430       Public Service Employment \_\_\_\_\_ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

RESTITUTION:     Deferred     Def. Waives Hearing     Ordered

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus 20% fee: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Terms: \_\_\_\_\_  Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

*Fine:		\$
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly prmts. of	\$ _____	Beginning _____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	\$100	\$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	\$100	\$ _____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	\$12	\$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	\$25	\$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	\$25	\$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	\$150	\$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	\$41	\$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	\$50	\$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	\$40/ea	\$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	\$500	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$ 125.00

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Lisa Cornish  
 Court Reporter: Stacy Johns

Presiding Judge: Debra McLester  
 Judge Code: 2769  
 Sentence Date: Oct 21, 2022

DOCKET NO. 2022GS3200264A

**The State of South Carolina**

County of Lexington

**COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**

**AUGUST TERM 2022**

**THE STATE**

vs.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

CDR #: 0116

Indictment for

Murder

§ 16-03-0010

**S.R. Hubbard III, SOLICITOR**

WITNESSES

Lexington County Sheriffs Department

Adam Creech

Law Enforcement Case #: 19024577

DSG

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2019A3210202507

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

**TRUE BILL**

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: *J. O. Hill* 8.8.22

VERDICT

*GUILTY*

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date: *10/21/2022*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON )  
 )

INDICTMENT FOR  
Murder  
§ 16-03-0010

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on August 2022, the Grand Jurors of Lexington County present upon their oath:

That **Jeremy Savoy Cornish**, whether acting alone or in concert with another, did in Lexington County on or about December 17, 2019, unlawfully, willfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought kill the victim, Duwan Williams, by shooting the victim, and the victim died as a proximate result thereof, in violation of § 16-3-10, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided

*Suzanne Mayes*  
DEPUTY SOLICITOR

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Lexington

STATE

INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0264A

VS.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

AW#: 2019A3210202507

AKA: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Offense: 12/17/2019

Race: Black Sex: M Age: 41

S.C. Code §: 16-03-0010

DOB: 1981 SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

CDR Code #: 0116

Address: Angel Garden Way

City, State, Zip: Columbia, SC 29223-7788

SENTENCE SHEET

DL# \_\_\_\_\_ SID# \_\_\_\_\_

\*CDL Yes  No  CMV Yes  No  Hazmat Yes  No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was  CONVICTED OF or  PLEADS

TO: Murder / Murder

In violation of § 16-03-0010 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0116

NON-VIOLENT  VIOLENT  SERIOUS  MOST SERIOUS  Mandatory GPS  § 17-25-45  
(CSC w/minor 1<sup>st</sup> or CSC w/minor 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The charge is:  As indicted,  Lesser Included Offense,  Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. \_\_\_\_\_ (def.'s initials)

The plea is:  Without Negotiations or Recommendation,  Negotiated Sentence,  Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

[Signature] 64191 SC Bar # Defendant [Signature] Attorney for Defendant 5457 SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the  State Department of Correction  County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of LIFE days/months/years/Time Served  Youthful Offender Act not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; provided that upon the service of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; plus costs and assessments as applicable\*; the balance is suspended with probation for \_\_\_\_\_

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run  CONCURRENT or  CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2022-45-32-0262A  
2022-45-36-0267A  
2022-45-32-0263A

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. \_\_\_\_\_ days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE VS. Jeremy Savoy Cornish INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0264A

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

**PTUP** after \_\_\_\_\_ months/years

**And Other Terms Listed Below:**

- Substance Abuse Counseling       Completion of GED       Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp       No Contact with Victim       Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling       May serve W/E beginning: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430       Public Service Employment \_\_\_\_\_ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESTITUTION:**     Deferred     Def. Waives Hearing     Ordered

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus 20% fee: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Terms: \_\_\_\_\_  Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

*Fine:		\$
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of	\$ _____ Beginning	_____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)		\$100 \$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)		\$100 \$ _____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)		\$12 \$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)		\$25 \$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)		\$25 \$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)		\$150 \$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)		\$41 \$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)		\$50 \$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)		\$40/ea \$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)		TBD \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees		\$500 \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund		TBD \$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 125</b>

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: [Signature]  
Court Reporter: [Signature]

Presiding Judge: Debra McCaster  
Judge Code: 2768  
Sentence Date: Oct 26, 2022

DOCKET NO. 2022GS3200267A

**The State of South Carolina**  
County of Lexington

**COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**  
**AUGUST TERM 2022**

**THE STATE**  
**vs.**

**Jeremy Savoy Cornish**

**CDR #: 0079**

**Indictment for**

Burglary / Burglary - First Degree

§ 16-11-0311

**S.R. Hubbard III, SOLICITOR**

WITNESSES

Lexington County Sheriffs Department

Adam Creech

Law Enforcement Case #: 19024577

DSC

**ARREST WARRANT NUMBER**

**2019A3210202508**

**ACTION OF GRAND JURY**

**TRUE BILL**

*Handwritten signature*  
Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: *8/8/22*

**VERDICT**

*Handwritten: GUILTY*

*Handwritten signature*

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date: *10/7/2022*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON )  
 )

INDICTMENT FOR  
Burglary / Burglary - First Degree  
§ 16-11-0311

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on August 2022, the Grand Jurors of Lexington County present upon their oath:

That **Jeremy Savoy Cornish**, whether acting alone or in concert with another, did in Lexington County, South Carolina on or about December 17, 2019 knowingly and willfully enter a dwelling at [REDACTED] Butternut Lane, to wit: being the dwelling of Duwan Williams and/or Sheldon Livingston, and /or Branton Booker and/or Donovan Hayes, without consent and with the intent to commit a crime therein and when, in effecting entry or while in the dwelling or in immediate flight, he/she or another participant in the crime,

- a) was armed with a deadly weapon or explosive, or
- b) caused physical injury to a person who is not a participant in the crime, or
- c) used or threatened the use of a dangerous instrument, or
- d) displayed what was or appeared to be a knife, pistol, revolver, shotgun, machine gun, or other firearm,

in violation of § 16-11-311 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided

*Suzanne Mayes*  
DEPUTY SOLICITOR

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Lexington

STATE

INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0267A

VS.

Jeremy Savoy Cornish

A/W#: 2019A3210202508

AKA: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Offense: 12/17/2019

Race: Black Sex: M Age: 41

S.C. Code §: 16-11-0311

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ -1981 SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

CDR Code #: 0079

Address: Angel Garden Way

City, State, Zip: Columbia, SC 29223-7788

DL# \_\_\_\_\_ SID# \_\_\_\_\_

SENTENCE SHEET

\*CDL Yes  No  CMV Yes  No  Hazmat Yes  No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was  CONVICTED OF or  PLEADS

TO: Burglary / Burglary (After June 20, 1985) - First degree

In violation of § 16-11-0311 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0079

NON-VIOLENT  VIOLENT  SERIOUS  MOST SERIOUS  Mandatory GPS  § 17-25-45  
(CSC w/minor 1<sup>st</sup> or CSC w/minor 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The charge is:  As indicted,  Lesser Included Offense,  Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. \_\_\_\_\_ (def's initials)

The plea is:  Without Negotiations or Recommendation,  Negotiated Sentence,  Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

[Signature] 64191 Defendant [Signature] Attorney for Defendant 5457 SC Bar#

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the  State Department of Correction  County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of 18 days/months/years/Time Served  Youthful Offender Act not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; provided that upon the service of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; plus costs and assessments as applicable\*; the balance is suspended with probation for \_\_\_\_\_

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run  CONCURRENT or  CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2022-GS-32-0264A  
2022-GS-32-0262A  
2022-GS-32-0263A

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. \_\_\_\_\_ days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE VS. Jeremy Savoy Cornish INDICTMENT/CASE# 2022 - GS - 32 - 0267A

**SPECIAL CONDITION 5:**

- PTUP after \_\_\_\_\_ months/years
- And Other Terms Listed Below:**
- Substance Abuse Counseling       Completion of GED       Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp       No Contact with Victim       Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling       May serve W/E beginning: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430       Public Service Employment \_\_\_\_\_ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

RESTITUTION:     Deferred     Def. Waives Hearing     Ordered

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus 20% fee: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Terms: \_\_\_\_\_  Set by SCOPPPS

Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Fine:

Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly prmts. of	\$ _____	Beginning	_____	\$ _____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)				\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)			\$100	\$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)			\$100	\$ _____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)			\$12	\$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)			\$25	\$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)			\$25	\$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)			\$150	\$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)			\$41	\$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)			\$50	\$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)			\$40/ea	\$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)			TBD	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees			\$500	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund			TBD	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ 175.00

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Alex Cornish  
Court Reporter: John

Presiding Judge: Debra McCaslin  
Judge Code: 2169  
Sentence Date: Oct 21, 2022

## CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL FOR APPELLANT

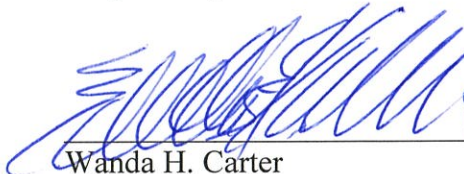
Counsel for appellant certifies that this Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by any of the parties and not any other material and that this Record on Appeal complies to the best of my ability with the April 15, 2014 order from the South Carolina Supreme Court entitled "Revised Order Concerning Personal Identifying Information and Other Sensitive Information in Appellate Court Filings."

Respectfully Submitted,

**RECEIVED**

**Jul 12 2024**

**SC Court of Appeals**



Wanda H. Carter

Deputy Chief Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense  
Division of Appellate Defense  
PO Box 11589  
Columbia, S.C. 29211-1589

This 12th day of July, 2024.

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

**RECEIVED**

**Jul 12 2024**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Appeal from Lexington County

Honorable Debra R. McCaslin, Circuit Court Judge  
\_\_\_\_\_

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

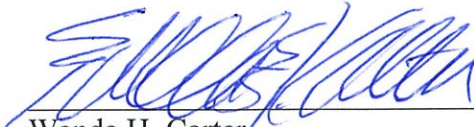
V.

JEREMY SAVOY CORNISH,

APPELLANT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to Rule 262(a)(3) and Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR, the undersigned hereby certifies a true copy of the Record on Appeal in the above-referenced case has been served upon Tommy Evans, Jr., Esquire, at the primary e-mail address listed in the Attorney Information System (AIS), this 12th day of July, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wanda H. Carter  
Deputy Chief Appellate Defender