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SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Spartanburg County

Honorable J. Derham Cole, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

MARCUS DANTA BATSON,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2023-001593

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**THE FOLLOWING EXHIBIT IS ON FILE WITH THIS COURT:
STATE’S EXHIBIT #11 (DEFENDANT’S INTERVIEW WITH REESE AND RYANT).**

1 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
2 COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

3 The State,)
4 -vs-) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD
5) 2022-GS-42-2735;2736
6 Marcus Danta Batson,)
7 Defendant.) September 25 - 28, 2023
8) Spartanburg, South Carolina
9)

10 B E F O R E:

11 HONORABLE J. DERHAM COLE, JUDGE; and a jury
12
13

14 A P P E A R A N C E S:

15 JAMES E. HUNTER, ESQUIRE
16 Attorney for the State

17 CHARLES WILLIAM SNYDER, III, ESQUIRE
18 Attorney for the Defendant
19
20

21 Linda D. Moffitt
22 Circuit Court Reporter
23
24
25

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Jury qualification

1 (Proceedings September 25, 2023)

2 THE COURT: Mr. Snyder, do you have any voir dire
3 requests and a witness list?

4 MR. SNYDER: No, sir. I don't.

5 THE COURT: You don't have any witnesses?

6 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: And where is this event alleged to have
8 occurred?

9 MR. HUNTER: ■■■ Winsmith Avenue. It's at the
10 intersection of Winsmith and Union.

11 THE COURT: All right. Any matters that need to be
12 addressed before the jury is brought around?

13 MR. HUNTER: Not from the state, Your Honor.

14 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Bring them around.

16 (The following takes place in the presence of the jury
17 venire.)

18 THE COURT: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

19 We are ready to begin with jury selection in the first
20 case that's going to require some of your participation.
21 The title of that case is the State vs. Marcus Danta
22 Batson.

23 Mr. Batson has been charged in two separate
24 indictments with a crime. Indictments are charging papers.
25 They're like an arrest warrant. They don't prove anything;

1 they don't establish anything; but they do set forth the
2 charges that are brought against the defendant here in
3 circuit court.

4 And these two indictments allege that Mr. Batson did
5 on or about July the 5th of 2021 wilfully and with malice
6 aforethought kill one Ronald Glenn and one Matthew Booker
7 by beating each of those persons alleged to be the victims
8 and that they died as a proximate result of the injuries
9 sustained.

10 The defendant has been charged in each indictment with
11 the crime of murder.

12 Now, as to those charges he has entered a plea of not
13 guilty. A plea of not guilty places upon the state the
14 burden of proving the allegations that they have set forth
15 in each of those indictments, the burden of proving each of
16 the essential elements that make up the crime alleged in
17 the indictment -- in this case murder -- and therefore the
18 burden is upon the state to establish the defendant's guilt
19 to the satisfaction of 12 jurors beyond a reasonable doubt
20 before a verdict of guilty could be returned as to either
21 of the separate indictments.

22 So we're going to be selecting 12 primary jurors and a
23 couple of other jurors to serve as alternates. And the
24 function of the jury of course is to listen to the
25 testimony and to consider other evidence received, decide

1 the facts that relate to the allegations made, apply the
2 law that the Court will provide and determine whether or
3 not the defendant's guilt as to a charge has been proven
4 beyond a reasonable doubt.

5 Before we begin with that jury selection I've got some
6 folks that I'm going to introduce to you. That would
7 include the defendant, the lawyers, members of the
8 deceaseds' families, other potential witnesses that might
9 be called during the trial of the case.

10 The purpose of the introductions is for me to find out
11 whether or not any juror has any connection with any person
12 that's going to be involved in this particular case or any
13 members of their respective families. You might know a
14 brother, sister, parent or grandchild or something.

15 So as these folks are introduced to you, I'm going to
16 ask that you let me know if you have any connection
17 whatsoever, whether it be by blood or marriage, whether it
18 be some social connection, whether it be employment
19 connection, school connection, church connection or any
20 other type of connection, or if you know them, if you've
21 met them somewhere sometime before today.

22 I need you to let me know of that fact. And if you do
23 have any sort of connection, then we'll determine whether
24 or not that connection would have any bearing in your
25 decision in this case if you were called upon to serve in

1 it.

2 So, now, first of all, as I told you, the person who
3 is accused of having committed these two criminal offenses
4 is Marcus Danta Batson.

5 Mr. Batson, if you will, stand and face the jury
6 panel.

7 (Whereupon, the defendant stood.)

8 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Batson is represented by
9 Chad Snyder who is seated with him at the defense table.
10 Mr. Snyder is employed as an assistant public defender in
11 the Seventh Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office.

12 (Whereupon, Mr. Snyder stood.)

13 THE COURT: Presenting the case on behalf of the state
14 is Eddie Hunter. He's an assistant circuit solicitor for
15 the Seventh Judicial Circuit, and he will be presenting the
16 case on behalf of the state.

17 (Whereupon, Mr. Hunter stood.)

18 THE COURT: Now, I have a number of potential
19 witnesses that I'll be introducing.

20 And are there any family members present that will be
21 a potential witness?

22 MR. HUNTER: Ms. Booker, Melody Booker. She is on the
23 witness list.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I will wait until we get to
25 her then.

1 All right. So in addition to those that I've just
2 introduced, potential witnesses include -- and the next
3 number looks like about 18 or so. All work for the
4 Spartanburg City Police Department. All of these work for
5 the Spartanburg City Police Department.

6 Now, if I -- if I call out a name and that person is
7 not present but you know somebody by that name but you're
8 not sure if it's the same person, stand up. Let me know.
9 We'll try to narrow the identification to find out whether
10 or not the person I call out is somebody that you happen to
11 know.

12 But the next 18 or so -- I'll tell you when I quit --
13 are all employed by the Spartanburg City Police Department.

14 And those include Kathryn Davis, Jeremy Drake, Louis
15 Nelson, Ronnie Horn, Michael Woodcock, Chindar Ryant,
16 William Reece, Sandra Adorno, Caitlin Wright, Jeff Kirby,
17 Bianca Hatcher who was formerly with the police department,
18 Matt Smith, Christina Morgan, Bill Mabry, Jeff Powell,
19 Lauren Russo, Tim Metz, Ed Guthro, Mark Norungolo; and also
20 Clay Risen with the Greenville County Sheriff's Department.

21 MR. HUNTER: And, Your Honor, he was formerly with the
22 Spartanburg police as well.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Risen was?

24 MR. HUNTER: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: Okay. And he was a former city police

1 officer.

2 All right. Now the next group of individuals are
3 citizens of Spartanburg, and/or perhaps Greenville County.

4 They include Sharon Porter, Melody Booker, Johnnie Mae
5 Roseburgh, Josh Kingsmore, Barbara Riaz, Darryl Booker,
6 Daniel Sprouse, Bobby Jackson, Patty Jackson, Richard
7 Turner, Sandra Porter-Johnson, Timothy Geter, Scottie
8 Allen, Gene James and Marcia Batson.

9 Also, I have Dr. Andy Wassum. He's a Greenville
10 County resident.

11 And the next four witnesses are employed by the state
12 law enforcement division, also referred to as SLED often.
13 And those are agents Matthew Davis, Sarah Zapata, Bailey
14 Haynes and Courtney Thompson.

15 Are there any other potential witnesses on behalf of
16 the state?

17 MR. HUNTER: Not on behalf of the state, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Of the defendant?

19 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

20 THE COURT: All right. I've introduced the lawyers;
21 I've introduced the defendant; I've introduced Mr. Matthew
22 Booker's relative; and the other potential witnesses.

23 Does any juror have any connection with anybody who
24 has been introduced?

25 And let me say this. If you do, please stand.

16 Jury qualification

1 And also since Mr. Snyder is employed in the public
2 defender's office and Mr. Hunter is employed in the
3 solicitor's office, I need to find out if you know anybody
4 else not here but who is employed by either of those
5 agencies.

6 All right. What I'll do, I'll start on the front row.
7 I'll go across the front, and I'll go row by row. I'll
8 skip the aisle and start over to the left.

9 So I'll start with you, ma'am. Name and number, and
10 tell me who you're connected with.

11 JUROR NO. 184: My name is Alma Shaw. I'm 184. And
12 if it's the same Jeff Kirby, used to be with the Chesnee
13 Police Department.

14 THE COURT: Is that right? Did Jeff Kirby used to be
15 a police with Chesnee? Nobody knows. Well, let's just do
16 this.

17 MR. HUNTER: The last 15 years, he has not.

18 THE COURT: Okay. In the last 15 years, he has not.

19 JUROR NO. 184: That's not going to be the same Jeff
20 Kirby.

21 THE COURT: Let's just assume for a minute that it
22 could be or is.

23 Would that have -- in any way would that affect your
24 judgment in the case?

25 JUROR NO. 184: Not at all.

1 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Be seated. 184.

2 Yes, sir.

3 JUROR NO. 117: No. 117, Philip Nix. I know

4 Mr. Hunter.

5 THE COURT: How do you know Mr. Hunter?

6 JUROR NO. 117: Family association.

7 THE COURT: Would that have any bearing in your
8 decision?

9 JUROR NO. 117: No.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

11 Yes, ma'am.

12 JUROR NO. 5: Sharon Atherton, No. 5. I met Mr. Mark
13 Norungolo. I'm somewhat friends with his wife.

14 THE COURT: Would that bear in any way in your
15 decision in this case?

16 JUROR NO. 5: No.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

18 Yes, ma'am.

19 JUROR NO. 169: Boyce Wharton, No. 169. I know Tim
20 Metz.

21 THE COURT: How?

22 JUROR NO. 169: Just a social acquaintance.

23 THE COURT: Would that have -- would that have any
24 bearing in your decision?

25 JUROR NO. 169: No, sir.

18 Jury qualification

1 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

2 Yes, ma'am.

3 JUROR NO. 33: Elizabeth Crawford, 33. I knew a guy
4 named Jeff Powell about 20 years ago.

5 THE COURT: All right. Do you know if he works for
6 the city police department?

7 JUROR NO. 33: No.

8 THE COURT: If he does, would it have any bearing in
9 your decision?

10 JUROR NO. 33: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

12 Yes, ma'am.

13 JUROR NO. 126: April Pell, No. 126. If it's the same
14 Jeff Kirby, he used to live beside my brother-in-law and
15 sister-in-law.

16 THE COURT: And did you know if he worked with the
17 police department?

18 JUROR NO. 126: He does.

19 THE COURT: He did. Okay. Well, it could be the same
20 one. Would that have any bearing in your decision in the
21 case?

22 JUROR NO. 126: It would not.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Be seated.

24 Anybody else?

25 (No response.)

1 THE COURT: All right. This is -- these cases arise
2 out of an event which the state contends occurred back on
3 July the 5th of 2021 at a residence at or near the
4 intersection of Winsmith Avenue and Union Street here in
5 the City of Spartanburg.

6 Is there any member of the jury panel that thinks you
7 might have heard, seen or read something that relates to
8 this particular case?

9 In other words, do you think you've been exposed to
10 any type of information that relates to this particular
11 case from any source whatsoever? If so, let me know of
12 that fact.

13 (No response.)

14 THE COURT: As you've been told, the defendant is
15 charged with two counts of murder.

16 Is there anything about the nature of the case itself
17 or what is alleged that would that have any bearing upon a
18 juror's decision if you were selected to participate in the
19 trial? Is there anything about the nature of the case that
20 would prevent any juror from being able to be fair and
21 impartial if you were called upon to decide it?

22 (No response.)

23 THE COURT: None responding.

24 Has any member of the jury panel or any members of
25 your immediate family -- I'm going to define an immediate

Jury qualification

1 family member as a parent or a spouse or a child or a
2 sibling -- parent, spouse, child or sibling. Have you or
3 any members of your immediate family as I just defined it
4 ever been the victim of any type of violent criminal
5 offense?

6 That would include murder, manslaughter, assault and
7 battery with intent to kill, assault and battery of a high
8 and aggravated nature, burglary, criminal sexual conduct,
9 domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature, or
10 any -- armed robbery or any other similar type of an
11 offense. Have you or any members of your immediate family
12 ever been the victim of such?

13 And also have you or any members of your immediate
14 family ever been accused of having committed any type of
15 similar offense?

16 So I need to know if you or a family member has been
17 the victim of such or if you or a family member has been
18 accused of such. If so, let me know of that fact.

19 All right. I'll start with you, ma'am, and then
20 I'll -- I'm going to start back over here again.

21 184.

22 JUROR NO. 184: Yes, sir. I was a victim of domestic
23 violence of a high and aggravated nature, and my daughter
24 was sexually assaulted when she was 12.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Is there anything about either of

1 those experiences that would affect your judgment in this
2 case if selected?

3 JUROR NO. 184: Not particularly, no.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, ma'am. Be seated.

5 All right. Yes, ma'am.

6 JUROR NO. 182: 182. My son been convicted of robbery
7 and murder.

8 THE COURT: And would that have any bearing in your
9 decision in this case if selected?

10 JUROR NO. 182: It kind of bothers me. I don't think
11 so.

12 THE COURT: Well, what I'm saying is based upon your
13 own personal experience, or that of your son, do you think
14 that that would likely or probably affect your decision in
15 the case?

16 JUROR NO. 182: I think so.

17 THE COURT: You think it would?

18 JUROR NO. 182: Uh-huh.

19 THE COURT: Okay. That's Juror 182.

20 We'll excuse you from service in the case, but don't
21 leave yet -- don't leave yet.

22 Yes, ma'am.

23 JUROR NO. 101: My son's biological father was
24 convicted of -- I don't know exactly what the charge was
25 because they dropped it down, but he murdered someone.

Jury qualification

1 THE COURT: All right. And your name and number?

2 JUROR NO. 101: Cecelia McKenzie, 101.

3 THE COURT: And would that experience have any bearing
4 in your decision?

5 JUROR NO. 101: No.

6 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

7 Yes, ma'am.

8 JUROR NO. 35: Tracy Crosby, Juror 35. My daughter
9 was charged with assault and domestic violence, and then it
10 was dismissed.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Would that have any bearing in your
12 decision here if you were selected?

13 JUROR NO. 35: No.

14 THE COURT: Thank you. Be seated.

15 Next.

16 JUROR NO. 140: 140, Israel Salas. I can't remember
17 all of the exact charges, but it was like nine counts
18 against my brother -- assault and battery, robbery,
19 breaking and entering. That's all of those.

20 THE COURT: And did all of that arise out of one
21 event, or more than one?

22 JUROR NO. 140: One.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Would that fact or that experience
24 have any bearing in your decision in this case?

25 JUROR NO. 140: No.

1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may be seated.
2 Yes, sir.

3 JUROR NO. 105: Donald William Melvin, 105. My
4 mother. She was a victim of sexual assault when she was
5 young. She was also a victim of domestic violence by my
6 father also.

7 THE COURT: And would either of those facts have any
8 bearing in your decision in this case if you were selected?

9 JUROR NO. 105: No, sir.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Be seated.

11 Has any member of the jury panel already formed an
12 opinion as to what you think the outcome ought to be based
13 upon what you've heard up to this point or based upon any
14 other consideration? Have you already made up your mind as
15 to the outcome? If so, I need you to let me know.

16 (No response.)

17 THE COURT: Does any juror know of any reason
18 whatsoever why you think you could not be fair and
19 impartial if you were called upon to serve as a juror in
20 this particular case? If you have any reason whatsoever
21 why you think you could not be fair and impartial, I need
22 you to let me know of that fact.

23 (No response.)

24 THE COURT: None responding.

25 Any other questions requested by the state?

Jury qualification

1 MR. HUNTER: No, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: By the defendant?

3 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: All right. Now, the way a jury is
5 selected is your names are in a computer, and the computer
6 is going to shuffle them and randomly select them, and
7 they'll appear on a list one through whatever. And however
8 you were drawn is how you will be presented to the lawyers
9 to find out if you're going to be seated or excused.

10 So when your name is called you'll be asked to simply
11 come up, come forward towards where the bailiff is. And
12 each side has an opportunity to have you excused from
13 service in the case or to have you seated for service in
14 the case.

15 So if either side asks that you be excused, just go
16 back and have a seat where you are. If both agree to have
17 you seated for serving in the case, you'll be having a seat
18 in that jury box to your right and to my left.

19 So please come forward as your name is called, and
20 you'll be instructed as to whether you've been excused or
21 seated for service in the case.

22 THE CLERK: No. 67, Peggy Hudson.

23 What says the state?

24 MR. HUNTER: Please present the juror.

25 THE CLERK: What says defense?

1 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

2 THE CLERK: No. 156, James Steinmeyer.

3 what says the state?

4 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

5 THE CLERK: what says defense?

6 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

7 THE CLERK: No. 32, Mark Craven.

8 what says the state?

9 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

10 THE CLERK: what says defense?

11 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

12 THE CLERK: No. 115, Janet Nedbal.

13 what says the state?

14 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

15 THE CLERK: what says defense?

16 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

17 THE CLERK: No. 81, Lisa Ledbetter.

18 what says the state?

19 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

20 THE CLERK: what says defense?

21 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

22 THE CLERK: No. 87, Lavonda Lowrance.

23 what says the state?

24 MR. HUNTER: Please excuse this juror.

25 THE CLERK: 140, Israel Salas.

Jury qualification

1 what says the state?

2 MR. HUNTER: Please excuse this juror.

3 THE CLERK: No. 21, Russell Chatfield -- 24, No. 24,
4 Russell Chatfield.

5 what says the state?

6 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

7 THE CLERK: what says defense?

8 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

9 THE CLERK: No. 52, James Glead.

10 what says the state?

11 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

12 THE CLERK: what says the defense?

13 MR. SNYDER: Is that No. 53?

14 THE CLERK: Yes, sir.

15 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

16 THE CLERK: No. 4, Chrystal Assadzandi.

17 what says the state?

18 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

19 THE CLERK: what says defense?

20 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

21 THE CLERK: No. 126, April Peel.

22 what says the state?

23 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

24 THE CLERK: what says the defense?

25 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

1 THE CLERK: No. 35, Tracy Crosby.
2 what says the state?
3 MR. HUNTER: Please excuse this juror.
4 THE CLERK: No. 7, Jeffrey Bailey.
5 what says the state?
6 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.
7 THE CLERK: what says defense?
8 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.
9 THE CLERK: No. 10, Kelly Bogan.
10 what says the state?
11 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.
12 THE CLERK: what says defense?
13 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.
14 THE CLERK: No. 104, Calvin Means.
15 what says the state?
16 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.
17 THE CLERK: what says defense?
18 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.
19 THE CLERK: No. 38, Katherine Delaney.
20 what says the state?
21 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.
22 THE CLERK: what says defense?
23 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.
24 THE CLERK: No. 30, Shannon Barnette.
25 what says the state?

1 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

2 THE CLERK: What says defense?

3 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

4 THE CLERK: 162, Jermaine Swindler.

5 What says the state?

6 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

7 THE CLERK: What says the defense?

8 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

9 THE CLERK: 111, Keith Moore.

10 What says the state?

11 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

12 THE CLERK: What says the defense?

13 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

14 THE CLERK: No. 128, Charles Rambo.

15 MR. SNYDER: 138?

16 THE CLERK: 128. I'm sorry. 128, Charles Rambo.

17 What says the state?

18 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

19 THE CLERK: What says defense?

20 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

21 THE CLERK: No. 6, Luis Aveiro.

22 MR. SNYDER: I'm sorry. What number?

23 THE CLERK: Six.

24 What says the state?

25 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

1 THE CLERK: What says the defense?

2 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

3 THE CLERK: Your Honor, this is for the first
4 alternate.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 THE CLERK: 172, Barbara Wilson.

7 What says the state?

8 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

9 THE CLERK: What says defense?

10 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

11 THE CLERK: 169, Boyce Wharton.

12 What says the state?

13 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

14 THE CLERK: What says defense?

15 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

16 THE CLERK: 107, Roger Miller.

17 What says the state?

18 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

19 THE CLERK: What says the defense?

20 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

21 THE CLERK: No. -- I'm sorry. No. 33, Elizabeth
22 Crawford.

23 What says the state?

24 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

25 THE CLERK: What says defense?

1 MR. SNYDER: Please excuse this juror.

2 THE CLERK: No. 94, Mary Massetti.

3 what says the state?

4 MR. HUNTER: Please present this juror.

5 THE CLERK: what says defense?

6 MR. SNYDER: Please seat this juror.

7 THE CLERK: Your Honor, jury selection is complete.

8 (Whereupon, a jury was impaneled.)

9 THE COURT: Okay. Those selected, please go with the
10 bailiff to a jury room, and I'll bring you back shortly.

11 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
12 jury.)

13 THE COURT: Are there any matters to address regarding
14 jury selection by the state?

15 MR. HUNTER: Not from the state, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: From the defendant?

17 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

18 (Whereupon, the remaining members of the jury venire
19 were excused.)

20 THE COURT: All right. Bring the jury back.

21 (The following takes place in the presence of the
22 jury.)

23 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, I
24 haven't completed what I had scheduled for this morning,
25 but I had you come back, so we went ahead and selected the

1 jury. But we are not going to begin the trial of the case
2 until in the morning at 9:30.

3 Now, I know you know very little about the case
4 probably from just what I told you before you were
5 selected, but not withstanding that fact you're not
6 permitted now that you've been selected. You're not
7 permitted to talk about the case in any fashion whatsoever
8 with any person whatsoever -- siblings, spouses, children,
9 grandparents, friends, neighbors, nobody.

10 You can't talk about it even with your fellow jurors.
11 You can't talk about the case until it's concluded and
12 you're going back for deliberations.

13 Also, in every case a jury has to base the decision on
14 the evidence that's received during the course of the trial
15 and the law that's applicable that I'll provide you. And
16 so the jury can't do any research, can't do your own
17 investigation into any issue.

18 You have to base your decision upon what you see and
19 hear during the trial, and you can't allow yourselves to be
20 influenced by any outside or extraneous information.

21 Also, don't know that there will be any news coverage,
22 but you can't be influenced by that. You can't watch it
23 either should something come on the television or radio or
24 newspaper. You can't be exposed to that, so avoid it
25 should it happen.

1 So no discussions, no media exposure, no research, no
2 investigation.

3 Do have a good afternoon. Please report to your jury
4 room at 9:30 in the morning, 9:30 in the morning. Have a
5 good afternoon.

6 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
7 jury.)

8 THE COURT: Pretrial matters include what?

9 MR. SNYDER: Well, for the offense, Judge, Mr. Batson
10 gave three statements on three separate occasions, so we're
11 going to challenge each statement.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, I can go ahead and call all
14 of those witnesses if you want. I'll just do it in
15 chronological order. We'll start with SLED Agent Matt
16 Davis.

17 THE COURT: This relates to a statement provided on
18 what day?

19 MR. HUNTER: This will be on July 8th, the day that
20 the bodies were actually discovered.

21 (Baseball bat marked State's Exhibit No. 1 for
22 Identification; buccal swabs from Ed Guthro marked State's
23 Exhibit No. 2 for Identification; buccal swabs from Clay
24 Risen marked State's Exhibit No. 3 for Identification;
25 buccal swab from defendant marked State's Exhibit No. 4 for

1 Identification; C.S.C. kit from Matthew Booker marked
2 State's Exhibit No. 5 for Identification; C.S.C. kit from
3 Ronald Glenn marked State's Exhibit No. 6 for
4 Identification; buccal swabs from Timothy Geter marked
5 State's Exhibit No. 7 for Identification; swabs from bat
6 marked State's Exhibit No. 8 for Identification; defendant's
7 interview with Matt Davis marked State's Exhibit No. 9 for
8 Identification; defendant's interview with Louis Nelson
9 marked State's Exhibit No. 10 for Identification;
10 defendant's interview with Reese and Ryant marked State's
11 Exhibit No. 11 for Identification; consent to search for
12 D.N.A. marked State's Exhibit No. 12 for Identification;
13 statement of defendant marked State's Exhibit No. 13 for
14 Identification; preinterrogation waiver form marked State's
15 Exhibit No. 14 for Identification; Riaz interview with SLED
16 marked State's Exhibit No. 15 for Identification; Batson
17 interview with SLED marked State's Exhibit No. 16 for
18 Identification; Batson interview with Riaz and Ryan marked
19 State's Exhibit No. 17 for Identification; bat video from
20 Jackson Electrical marked State's Exhibit No. 18 for
21 Identification; body-worn-camera video of Jeremy Drake
22 marked State's Exhibit No. 19 for Identification; video from
23 Jackson Electrical marked State's Exhibit No. 20 for
24 Identification; E.M.S. video marked State's Exhibit No. 21
25 for Identification; body-worn-camera video of William

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1 Clayton Risen marked State's Exhibit No. 22 for
2 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 23 for
3 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 24 for
4 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 25 for
5 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 26 for
6 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 27 for
7 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 28 for
8 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 29 for
9 Identification; photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 30 for
10 Identification; E.M.S. hard drive and thumb drive marked
11 State's Exhibit No. 31 for Identification; evidence bag of
12 Matthew Booker marked State's Exhibit No. 32 for
13 Identification; evidence bag of Ronald Glenn marked State's
14 Exhibit No. 33 for Identification; bed sheets marked State's
15 Exhibit No. 34 for Identification; photograph marked State's
16 Exhibit No. 35 for Identification; third interview of
17 defendant marked State's Exhibit No. 36 for Identification.)

18 MATTHEW DAVIS, having been
19 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 MR. HUNTER: May it please the Court.

21 THE COURT: Yes, sir, Mr. Hunter.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

23 Q Please state your full name for Ms. Moffitt.

24 A Matthew Davis.

25 Q And where are you currently employed?

1 A The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, also
2 referred to as SLED.

3 Q And where were you employed in July of 2021?

4 A With SLED.

5 Q Okay. And what is your law enforcement experience up
6 until that point?

7 A 2004, employed with the City of Spartanburg; and then
8 in 2008 I left and went to the Spartanburg County Sheriff's
9 Office, became an investigator there; and in 2017 I went to
10 South Carolina Law Enforcement Division as a special agent
11 in the investigations unit.

12 Q And where were you on July 8th of 2021?

13 A I was at -- in Spartanburg city at Spartanburg City
14 Hall.

15 Q Okay. You sometimes sit at a desk with the other
16 investigators for the city?

17 A I do.

18 Q Okay. Did you happen to go out to [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue
19 that day?

20 A I did.

21 Q Okay. Where is that located?

22 A That's located in Spartanburg County. It's in the
23 Spartanburg city limits.

24 Q Okay. And is that right behind the old Bobby Jackson
25 Electrical building?

1 A It is.

2 Q Across from All Phase Electric on Union Street and the
3 E.M.S. headquarters?

4 A E.M.S., yes, sir.

5 Q Okay. And what were you doing at that location?

6 A I had come out to assist and do a canvass with the
7 city on this case. They had had a -- I was upstairs with
8 them when they were alerted to a dead-body-death
9 investigation at this location. I had come out to assist.

10 Q So at the time you came out, how many bodies had been
11 discovered?

12 A There was only a total of one.

13 Q Okay. And that's at the [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue address?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay. What did you do when you arrived?

16 A When I arrived I had asked what was needed, and they
17 said that there was some people that were wanting to speak
18 and a neighborhood canvass needed to be done. And when I
19 was there a gentleman that I was able to later identify as
20 Marcus Batson was saying he needed to speak to someone.

21 Q Okay. And did you speak to Mr. Batson that day?

22 A I did.

23 Q All right. Did you have a body camera issued to you
24 by SLED?

25 A I did.

1 Q Did you turn that camera on?

2 A I did.

3 Q Show you what's been marked State's Exhibit 9. I'll
4 go ahead and have you initial. I've got a sharpie. Have
5 you reviewed your interview video with Mr. Batson?

6 A I have previously.

7 MR. HUNTER: And, Your Honor, to save time, I'm not
8 going to play this. I'm going to enter it so that you can
9 watch it if you'd like.

10 Q And you had basically a very short interview with
11 Mr. Batson that day?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Okay.

14 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
15 offer State's Exhibit 9 for the purposes of this hearing.

16 MR. SNYDER: Without objection.

17 THE COURT: It's admitted.

18 (Defendant's Interview with Matt Davis marked State's
19 Suppression Exhibit No. 9.)

20 Q Now, at the time you interviewed Mr. Batson, again,
21 how many bodies had been discovered?

22 A One.

23 Q Okay. Did you have any suspects at that time?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Do you know if any evidence had even been collected at

1 this point?

2 A No, sir. To my understanding, nobody had even been in
3 the house by the time I went over to a parking lot of Bobby
4 Jackson Electrical right around the corner too.

5 Q None of the investigators had been there.

6 A No, sir.

7 Q But a body had been located --

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q -- by police, uniform patrol.

10 Okay. And so when you spoke to Mr. Batson did you
11 provide him any Miranda warnings?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q And why not?

14 A He was a witness. He was not in custody, not being
15 interrogated.

16 Q Okay. Did you interview anybody else that day?

17 A I did.

18 Q And who was that?

19 A I had spoke to a Barbara Riaz, I believe, is how she
20 says her last name.

21 Q And who was she with when you spoke to her? who did
22 she show up to that residence with?

23 A She showed up later with -- she come walking up and
24 identified -- she knew Marcus Batson. I don't know how
25 they -- I don't know if they were there together or not. I

1 just knew they had been standing there.

2 Q When speaking with Mr. Batson was he in handcuffs?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Okay. Did you offer him anything, any leniency?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Did you coerce him into giving a statement?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Was the statement given freely and voluntarily?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Have you ever spoken to someone who has been under the
11 influence of drugs or alcohol?

12 A I have.

13 Q Okay. Did it appear that Mr. Batson was under the
14 influence?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Okay. Did he appear to understand the questions you
17 were asking in the English language?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Did he give appropriate responses?

20 A He did.

21 Q Okay. Did he appear to have an education level to
22 understand what y'all were speaking about?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q In fact, did he seek you out or seek someone out there
25 to speak?

Matthew Davis (In-camera)
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 A He did.

2 Q Okay.

3 A From my understanding, that's what.

4 Q And was he considered a suspect at all at this time?

5 A No, sir, not to my knowledge.

6 Q Okay. Was just one of the witnesses that you were
7 speaking with.

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q And during your questioning, just to be sure, he
10 didn't confess to the murders, did he?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q Okay. Can you just give a brief overview of what
13 y'all spoke about?

14 A I spoke to him about -- he identified that he had
15 lived there, told me who he lived with, that he had rented
16 a room. And I was mainly trying to get background
17 information, information as to when he would have last seen
18 anyone that lived there, where he had stayed at, anybody
19 that he had seen there.

20 He had told me that they had come across a Timothy
21 Geter there at the residence when we had went to pay his
22 rent that day, or back on July 5th. I was trying to
23 establish that.

24 Q So you were just trying to establish who the last
25 person to see the deceased was?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q And at some point while questioning him or Ms. Riaz
3 was a second body discovered in that residence?

4 A To my understanding, yes, sir, it was.

5 Q And, again, he was not in custody.

6 A No, sir.

7 Q No handcuffs.

8 A No, sir.

9 Q Was he surrounded by officers?

10 A No, sir. We talked in the parking lot. That was away
11 from all the other people dealing with the house.

12 Q How long did you talk approximately?

13 A I don't know. It could have been -- without
14 refreshing back to that body camera, it was not a long time
15 at all.

16 Q But a body camera would show how much y'all talked?

17 A Yes. And then after that he was free to go. And I
18 spoke to Barbara after if I recall correctly. I'd have to
19 go back and look, but I talked to him and then I had talked
20 to Barbara afterwards.

21 Q After speaking to him, you moved on to a second
22 witness.

23 A Correct.

24 Q And did you make any misrepresentations to him during
25 your interrogation or interview with him?

1 A No.

2 Q In fact, it wasn't even an interrogation, was it?

3 A No. I didn't know anything about the case.

4 Q Okay. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may
5 have.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. SNYDER

8 Q Investigator, you said that you don't know exactly how
9 long the interview was?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q But you said Miranda was not given.

12 A Correct.

13 Q Was all of the interview recorded? Is it all captured
14 on your body cam?

15 A Capture on the body cam, later he come back and
16 started talking to us, again, trying to provide additional
17 information, at which point I reactivated my body camera.
18 He had come back over to engage officers.

19 Q When he re-engaged were Miranda warnings given?

20 A No. He was just providing additional information. I
21 put that in my memorandum.

22 Q Were there any contemporaneous notes taken during this
23 interview?

24 A Anything that I would have taken would have been put
25 right here into this memorandum and referred back to on my

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr. (In-camera)
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1 body camera.

2 Q You said he wasn't alone. He was with someone else?

3 A He come up with -- when I first spoke to him, he was
4 by himself. He pointed out a Barbara. That was how I was
5 able to identify Barbara. So he helped me identify her as
6 someone that he said he had been with. But as far as how
7 he got there, he was already there by the time I had gotten
8 out and approached the scene. I remember seeing him as I
9 walked up.

10 Q At any point during this interview did you -- did you
11 think that Mr. Batson might be a suspect in this case?

12 A No, sir. I had limited knowledge of just one body in
13 there. Interviewed him. And I passed on what he had told
14 me about to investigators with the City of Spartanburg.

15 Q Were you the only officer there when you were speaking
16 with Ms. Riaz and Mr. Batson?

17 A I'd have to go back and look at my body cam to see. I
18 can't remember at one point if -- I know the crime scene,
19 it was a scene where everybody was moving around. I don't
20 recall my body cam would show if someone else walked up in
21 the middle of us talking.

22 MR. SNYDER: I have no more questions for this
23 witness.

24 THE COURT: Step down.

25 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr. (In-camera)
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 came Officer Louis Nelson.

2 LOUIS MACEO NELSON, SR.,
3 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

4 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may I have a brief second?
5 The family left for jury selection. Get them back in.

6 (Pause.)

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

8 Q Officer Nelson, what is your full name?

9 A My full name is Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.

10 Q And how are you employed?

11 A I'm employed with the City of Spartanburg with the
12 police department in the crime prevention division.

13 Q And how were you employed on July of 2021?

14 A Still with the Spartanburg City Police Department but
15 in the criminal investigations bureau.

16 Q Okay. Can you give us a brief overview of your law
17 enforcement career?

18 A I began my law enforcement career in -- with the City
19 of Chester in Chester, South Carolina.

20 I came to Spartanburg.

21 I returned to the Sheriff's Office in Chester County
22 for seven years.

23 And I came back to the City of Spartanburg where I've
24 been here for nearly 16 years. Total of over 30 years of
25 law enforcement.

1 Q Okay. And what was your title in July of 2021?

2 A My title was a senior investigator.

3 Q Okay. Did you respond out to ■■■ Winsmith Avenue?

4 A I did.

5 Q And why did you go out there?

6 A We had been dispatched to the residence for a body
7 that was located inside of a residence after a welfare
8 check.

9 Q Okay. And when you got to that scene did you
10 recognize anybody outside of the house?

11 A There was a lot of other officers while I was standing
12 there.

13 Q Did you recognize anybody outside of law enforcement?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. And would that be the defendant?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Had you previously spoken to the defendant,
18 notwithstanding this case?

19 A Yes. I have.

20 Q Okay. In fact, at some point wasn't he the victim of
21 a shooting and you had investigated that?

22 A Yes.

23 Q So you knew who Mr. Batson was?

24 A Yes.

25 Q All right. When you saw Mr. Batson out there, what

1 did you do?

2 A When I saw Mr. Batson, he -- he approached us. He
3 came up to near the barrier tape, and he just said that he
4 lived in the residence.

5 Q Okay. So he was someone who had a room in that
6 residence --

7 A Yes.

8 Q -- where the deceased bodies were found?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And what was your suggestion at that point?

11 A We wanted to gather information since he did live in
12 the residence, and I asked him, since this was a very hot
13 day in July, I asked him if he would mind coming to city
14 hall where we could speak privately.

15 Q Did you drive him to city hall?

16 A I did.

17 Q And this would have been after his interview with Matt
18 Davis on the scene?

19 A I wasn't aware that Matt --

20 Q Okay.

21 A -- had spoken to him.

22 Q But you're the one that drove him to city hall, and he
23 gave you an interview at city hall.

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. How many people were out at the scene

1 non-law-enforcement at that time?

2 A It was a small crowd that had gathered out there.

3 Q Was it starting to get larger though?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. On your way to city hall did he ask you
6 anything?

7 A I think he asked me was he in trouble.

8 Q Okay. And what was your answer?

9 A No.

10 Q Okay. On the way to city hall was he in handcuffs?

11 A No.

12 Q Where was he riding in your car?

13 A He rode in the front seat beside me.

14 Q Okay. Wasn't in custody.

15 A No.

16 Q Okay. At any time in the interview, either ride
17 there -- in fact, after the interview did you take him home
18 or to wherever he wanted to go?

19 A I believe I did.

20 Q Okay. At any time during the interview or the rides
21 was he ever in custody?

22 A No.

23 Q Was he ever in handcuffs?

24 A No. He wasn't.

25 Q Did he ever have his freedom of movement outside of,

1 obviously, being in a car restrained?

2 A No.

3 Q Okay. When you got to city hall, did you grab him
4 some water?

5 A I don't recall. Most of the time. With it being as
6 hot as it was, I'm sure I did.

7 Q Okay. When you got to city hall, where did you go?

8 A We went into the interview room, Interview Room 2.

9 Q Okay. And why did you go into the interview room?

10 A Because I wanted to have our interview conversation
11 that we had recorded.

12 Q Okay. Did you read him his Miranda rights?

13 A I did not.

14 Q Okay. And just like Mr. Davis, why did you not read
15 him Miranda rights?

16 A He wasn't under arrest at that time, and I had no
17 cause to read him his rights.

18 Q Okay. So was -- was this an interview or
19 interrogation?

20 A It was an interview.

21 Q Okay. What did you learn in speaking with Mr. Batson?

22 A Mr. Batson stated that he had been living there
23 previously with the victim and that he had spent the night,
24 I think, with the lady that he referred to as his aunt,
25 Ms. Barbara Riaz. I think it was her name.

1 Q what was the purpose of this interview?

2 A The purpose of the interview, I was just -- it was
3 just a fact gathering. Whatever information that he had to
4 offer, I just wanted to find out what he knew about the
5 residents there and if he knew of anyone that presented any
6 problems.

7 Q Did he give you someone who presented possible
8 problems?

9 A I think the guy's name was Timothy Geter.

10 Q Okay. And, in fact, at some point do you go and get
11 pictures of this Mr. Geter for him to pick out which
12 Mr. Geter it is?

13 A I believe I did.

14 Q What else did you learn about the apartment and
15 leading up to this July discovery with Mr. Batson? Or how
16 about this. When did Mr. Batson say the last time he saw
17 him alive was?

18 A I'm going to have to refer to my notes. Mr. Batson
19 stated that he left the residence on Monday between
20 2:00 and 3:00 o'clock.

21 Q And who was alive at that time?

22 A Everyone in the house would have been alive at that
23 time.

24 Q And the victims in this case are Ronald Glenn and
25 Matthew Booker?

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr. (In-camera)
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 A Yes.

2 Q They were the other residents, along with Mr. Batson?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Now, you interviewed Mr. Batson for a little bit
5 longer than Mr. Davis?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. And, again, it's captured on your L3 recording
8 system?

9 A Yes, sir. It is.

10 Q I believe that's State's Exhibit 10 there on your
11 stand.

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. And is that a disc from your L3 recording
14 system?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q And that would -- this would contain your interview
17 with Mr. Batson?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
20 offer State's Exhibit 10 for purposes of the Jackson vs.
21 Denno.

22 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

23 THE COURT: Admitted.

24 (Defendant's interview with Louis Nelson marked State's
25 Suppression Exhibit No. 10.)

1 Q Did he mention anything about homosexuality?

2 A He did.

3 Q Specifically, what?

4 A He stated that he didn't -- he didn't like hearing the
5 sound of men having sexual intercourse in the middle of the
6 night.

7 Q Okay. And why was he speaking about that?

8 A He stated that Ronnie told him that he and Mr. Geter
9 were involved in a sexual relationship.

10 MR. HUNTER: Beg the Court's indulgence.

11 (Pause.)

12 Q During the interview did you ask for consent to search
13 for D.N.A. from Mr. Geter, or excuse me, Mr. Batson?

14 A I did.

15 Q Okay. And did he give you consent?

16 A Yes, sir. He complied.

17 Q Okay. And did you take a buccal swab of Mr. Batson?

18 A Yes. I did.

19 Q And you're the one that actually took that buccal
20 swab?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Okay. And that's also on the video interview --

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q -- that occurred in the interview room?

25 A Yes, sir. It did.

1 Q And, again, kind of these questions, did you -- did he
2 seem to understand and speak the English language?

3 A He did.

4 Q And were his answers -- comply with the questions that
5 you asked?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Did he appear to be educated enough to understand what
8 y'all were talking about?

9 A Yes, sir. He did.

10 Q Have you ever interviewed someone under the influence
11 of drugs or alcohol?

12 A Many times.

13 Q Okay. Did it appear that he was under the influence
14 of drugs or alcohol when you spoke to him?

15 A No, sir. He did not.

16 Q What was his physical condition at the time?

17 A He -- he just appeared to be somewhat excited about --
18 when I say excited, because of what had happened at the
19 residence, you know.

20 Q But he wasn't sickly. He wasn't --

21 A No. He wasn't.

22 Q Okay. Did he appear to have any mental health defects
23 at that time?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Okay. How long did you speak with him? How about

1 this. It was an hour or two?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. It wasn't eight hours or ten hours.

4 A No, sir. It wasn't.

5 Q And you spoke to him at city hall?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q At any time did you physically impose your will on
8 him?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Did you ever coerce him?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q Did he give a statement freely and voluntarily?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Okay. At any time did you offer him any leniency, or
15 for cooperation?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Okay. At any time did you make any misrepresentations
18 about the case that you had at the time?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q In fact, did you even have a case at the time, a case
21 against him?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
24 you.

25

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. SNYDER

3 Q Investigator Nelson, you took Mr. Batson to the city
4 hall.

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q In your police car.

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Okay. And you said you didn't give him Miranda
9 warnings because he was not under arrest.

10 A That's correct.

11 Q But you know that's not the standard.

12 A Well, I didn't have any more reason at that time.

13 Q All right. You took him to city hall in your police
14 car for an interview, correct?

15 A Unmarked unit, yes, sir.

16 Q And you wanted to give him an interview that was
17 recorded, correct?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q During this interview you asked him to provide a
20 sample of his D.N.A.

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q And at no point did you advise him against his rights
23 to remain silent or his rights to an attorney?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Okay. All right. Just to summarize. You took him to

1 city hall in your police car, but it's your position that
2 he was not in custody.

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Okay. Thank you.

5 THE COURT: Step down.

6 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
7 call Investigator Ryant.

8 CHINDAR RYANT, having been
9 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

11 Q Please give your full name for the court reporter,
12 please.

13 A My name is Chindar Ryant.

14 Q And how are you employed?

15 A I'm employed with the Spartanburg Police Department.

16 Q And how were you employed in July of 2021?

17 A Still with the Spartanburg Police Department in the
18 C.I.D. unit.

19 Q Okay. Please give a brief overview of your law
20 enforcement experience.

21 A I started with Spartanburg Police Department
22 December 2013 where I worked patrol for approximately five
23 years, and then I transitioned over to investigations.

24 Q Okay. And you were an investigator in July of 2021?

25 A Yes, sir. I was.

1 Q One of the violent crime investigators?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. Were you the assigned lead investigator for
4 this case?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Okay. When did you arrive at [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue?

7 A I responded approximately 2:10 p.m. after being
8 notified by Sergeant/Investigator, at the time, Jeff
9 Powell.

10 Q Ultimately, who passed away?

11 A We found out that Mr. Ronald Glenn and Mr. Matthew
12 Booker were the decedents.

13 Q Now, ultimately, was Mr. Batson arrested on this case?

14 A Yes, sir. He was.

15 Q I show you what's been premarked State's Exhibit 11.
16 Were you part of an interview with Mr. Batson?

17 A I was.

18 Q Who else was part of that interview?

19 A Myself and Investigator William Reece.

20 Q Okay. Do you know what date that occurred on?

21 A Checking my notes. That would have been July 30th of
22 2021.

23 Q And on that day was he arrested at that point?

24 A He was.

25 Q Where did y'all arrest him?

1 A We arrested him at his place of employment at the
2 time. That would have been Bob's Carwash.

3 Q Okay. Did y'all bring him back to city hall?

4 A We did.

5 Q When y'all arrested him at Bob's Carwash, was he read
6 his rights at that point?

7 A No.

8 Q Okay. But did y'all ask any questions between Bob's
9 Carwash and city hall?

10 A We did not.

11 Q Okay. Where did y'all bring him in city hall?

12 A We sat him in the interview room.

13 Q Okay. Same interview room that Mr. Nelson took him
14 to?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Okay. But, again, this is 22 days later?

17 A Correct.

18 Q Okay. Can you just briefly talk about some of the
19 evidence that you had gotten back at that point that
20 pointed to Mr. Batson?

21 A We got D.N.A. evidence from one of the decedents,
22 Mr. Ronald Glenn. We had Mr. Batson's D.N.A. under his
23 fingernails, as well as on the murder weapon.

24 Q That murder weapon would be?

25 A A baseball bat.

1 Q Okay. That was recovered where?

2 A It was recovered beside a dumpster, I believe, by the
3 electrical store if I'm not mistaken.

4 Q Okay. Just across the street from the residence?

5 A Across the street from the residence, yes, sir.

6 Q So you had D.N.A. evidence pointing to Mr. Batson --

7 A We did.

8 Q -- as the perpetrator?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. Had you discovered some holes in his stories
11 that he had told Agent Davis and Investigator Nelson?

12 A Yes. We did.

13 Q I've already put up State's Exhibit 11 on the stand.
14 As part of that interview room was it recorded?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. And did y'all speak to him for just over two
17 and a half hours?

18 A We did.

19 Q Okay. And that interview is on that State's
20 Exhibit 11 that's in front of you?

21 A Yes. It is.

22 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
23 offer State's Exhibit 11.

24 MR. SNYDER: No objection for this hearing.

25 THE COURT: It's admitted.

1 (Defendant's interview with Reese and Ryant marked
2 State's Suppression Exhibit No. 11.)

3 Q At the beginning of the interview who does most of the
4 talking for law enforcement?

5 A It would be Investigator Reece.

6 Q Okay. Were you present when he gave Mr. Batson his
7 rights waiver?

8 A Yes.

9 Q I'll show real quick. Just make sure. Is that your
10 signature on the witness? If not, let me know.

11 A No.

12 Q Okay. So you didn't sign his rights waiver?

13 A I did not.

14 Q But you were there when they were read to him?

15 A I was.

16 Q You were there when he acknowledged that he understood
17 them?

18 A I was.

19 Q Okay. And he initialed by them. You viewed that?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. So those rights, waiver, State's Exhibit 14
22 that I provided you. You were there when it was filled
23 out.

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. And he indicated that he understood what he was

1 doing?

2 A Yes, sir. He did.

3 Q Okay. And, again, some of the same questions that I
4 asked. He appeared to be of an age that he understood what
5 was going on?

6 A He did.

7 Q In fact, this wasn't his first involvement with the
8 police?

9 A No.

10 Q Okay. Have you ever interviewed somebody who's under
11 the influence of drugs or alcohol?

12 A I have.

13 Q Did it appear that he was?

14 A No.

15 Q Did he give a statement freely and voluntarily and
16 knowingly?

17 A He did.

18 Q Okay. And there was a presence of a written waiver,
19 as well as verbal, waiver of rights?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Or verbal reading of the rights?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Describe his physical condition.

24 A He was a little upset that he was being arrested and
25 just wanting to know what was going on.

1 Q Okay. And, again, location of the interview was
2 where?

3 A It was in the interview room at city hall.

4 Q Okay. At the time that y'all were actually speaking
5 to him -- I know y'all brought him there in handcuffs, but
6 was he in handcuffs at the time you were speaking to him?

7 A I don't think he was.

8 Q Okay. Was he allowed to smoke a cigarette after the
9 interview?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. Did y'all provide him water if he wanted one?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. Did you offer any promises of leniency?

14 A No.

15 Q Did you physically coerce him or put him under duress
16 to make him give a statement?

17 A No.

18 Q And did you make any deliberate misrepresentations
19 about the evidence that you had at the time?

20 A I did not.

21 Q Okay. Ultimately, for the first two hours of the
22 interview does Mr. Batson confess to these crimes?

23 A He does.

24 Q For the first two hours of the interview.

25 A Oh, no, no.

1 Q Okay. What happens kind of in that last 30 minutes?

2 A During the last -- I'm sorry?

3 Q Kinda give us a brief overview of what happens those
4 last 30 minutes.

5 A So during the last 30 minutes he became emotional, and
6 he finally admitted to killing both decedents with a bat.
7 And the reason that he gave was because he was tired of
8 being raped by both decedents. And I believe that was --
9 that pretty much sums up the last 30 minutes.

10 Q And he gives different stories about it, but that
11 basically he stated he did it because he was getting raped.

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q So he does -- he does confess ultimately to killing
14 both Mr. Glenn and Mr. Booker?

15 A Yes. He does.

16 Q Again, during that interview is he told that D.N.A.
17 would be on the bat?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. And y'all kind of went over his previous
20 statements?

21 A I believe we did, yeah.

22 Q Did y'all share some video captures from Bobby Jackson
23 Electrical?

24 A Yes, sir. We did.

25 Q Again, he gave this freely and voluntarily?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Did he ever ask for a lawyer?

3 A He did not.

4 Q Did he ever invoke his right to remain silent?

5 A No.

6 Q Okay. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have
7 for you.

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. SNYDER

10 Q Investigator Ryant, you said that this interview
11 was about two and a half hours long.

12 A Approximately.

13 Q But you never let him go to the bathroom.

14 A Say that again.

15 Q He never went to the bathroom, right?

16 A I don't -- I don't think he did, no.

17 Q Okay.

18 A But if he wanted to, he could have.

19 Q Was he ever offered a chance to go to the bathroom?

20 A I don't remember. I'm not sure.

21 Q Was he ever offered something to eat?

22 A Say that again.

23 Q Was he ever offered something to eat?

24 A I don't think so.

25 Q Okay. And you just said that Investigator Reece did

1 most of the talking during this interview, correct?

2 A Correct.

3 Q And it's also true that Investigator Reece made
4 promises throughout the interview, correct?

5 A No, sir, not that I remember.

6 Q Not that you remember.

7 A Uh-uh.

8 Q Okay. And you stated that the first two hours of the
9 two-and-a-half-hour interview Mr. Batson never gave any
10 incriminating statements, correct?

11 A He never gave any incriminating statements?

12 Q He never -- he never confessed to the crimes until the
13 last 30 minutes of the interview.

14 A Correct.

15 Q And that's after he was placed in handcuffs, in
16 shackles, correct?

17 A I don't think he was in -- he may have been. I
18 don't -- I don't remember if he was in handcuffs or not.

19 Q Okay.

20 A I do know that he was still sitting down.

21 Q Right. Do you remember some talk about smoking a
22 cigarette?

23 A I do know that he was allowed to smoke a cigarette.

24 Q Okay. But you don't remember when he was shackled.

25 A I don't.

1 Q Okay.

2 MR. SNYDER: No more questions.

3 THE COURT: Step down.

4 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, the state would call
5 Investigator William Reece. Actually Sergeant Reece.

6 WILLIAM EDWARD REECE, having
7 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

9 Q Please state your full name.

10 A It's William Edward Reece.

11 Q Can you go over your law enforcement career, please?

12 A I began law enforcement in 1996 at the Spartanburg
13 Police Department. Currently still employed at Spartanburg
14 Police Department as an investigator. I retired several
15 years ago and came back. And so probably about 28 years
16 law enforcement.

17 Q Okay. And were you employed July of 2021 with the
18 Spartanburg City Police Department?

19 A I was.

20 Q Okay. What was your title?

21 A I was an investigator.

22 Q Okay. Did you go out to [REDACTED] Winsmith?

23 A I did.

24 Q Were you involved in that case? Ultimately, what was
25 most of your involvement?

1 A Most of my involvement was to assist Investigator
2 Ryant in this case. I was kinda her second chair.

3 Q Okay. Just kinda did whatever she needed?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. Were you part of the interview process?

6 Actually, this would be the interrogation process of Mr.

7 Batson.

8 A I was.

9 Q And when did that occur?

10 A That would have occurred on July the 30th of '21.

11 Q Okay. And that was at city hall?

12 A Yes, sir. It was.

13 Q Approximately what time?

14 A 12:30 p.m.

15 Q Okay. I want to show you what's been premarked

16 State's Exhibit 14. Do you recognize this item?

17 A Yes, sir. I do.

18 Q And how do you recognize that item?

19 A It's in my handwriting and I read these to Mr. Batson.

20 Q Okay. Is it all in your handwriting?

21 A No. It's -- it's my handwriting where I signed it,
22 but this is Mr. Batson's initials for he understood the
23 waiver of rights.

24 Q How do you start out your interview with Mr. Batson?

25 A Basically, reading his waiver of rights as they're

1 written on this form.

2 Q Can you read?

3 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
4 offer State's Exhibit 14 into evidence.

5 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

6 THE COURT: It's in.

7 (Preinterrogation waiver form marked State's
8 Suppression Exhibit 14.)

9 Q Can you read the rights as you read him that day?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 He was asked, "You have a right to remain silent."

12 The second would be, "Anything you say can and will be
13 used against you in a court of law."

14 The third, "You will have the right to talk to a
15 lawyer or have a lawyer present while you are being
16 questioned. If you can't afford to hire a lawyer, a lawyer
17 will be appointed free of any cost to represent you before
18 any questioning begins, and you have a right to stop
19 answering questions at any time."

20 Q Okay. And did you read those rights to him on
21 July 30th?

22 A Yes, sir. I did.

23 Q Okay. And did he initial beside each of those rights?

24 A Yes, sir. He did.

25 Q What does that indicate?

1 A That he understands the rights that we read him.

2 Q Okay. Just so we're clear, during any time during
3 your interrogation with him did he invoke his right to
4 remain silent?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Did he invoke his right to a lawyer?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Okay. At some points in the interview is he shackled?

9 A I believe in the beginning when he first came in he
10 might have been handcuffed, but we had him un-handcuffed.

11 Q Okay. And at the end was he shackled by Sergeant
12 Powell right before he was in custody?

13 A Yes. They were coming in actually to do a transport,
14 and he decided to talk to us further.

15 Q Okay. Just go through the basic questions. Did he
16 appear to understand the English language?

17 A He did.

18 Q And he had an education level that allowed him to
19 speak --

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q -- with you?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. He was advised of his constitutional rights?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Including the right to remain silent and have counsel

1 present?

2 A Correct.

3 Q He did sign the written waiver of his rights, which is
4 State's Exhibit 14?

5 A He did.

6 Q Okay. What was his physical condition at the time?

7 A We'd just picked him up from his job. He was fine in
8 speaking to us.

9 Q What was his mental health at the time?

10 A He seemed to be clear.

11 Q Okay. Did he say he wanted to kill himself a few
12 times during the interview?

13 A I think he probably did say that, like, in the -- in
14 the past, I think.

15 Q Okay. And, again, how long was the interview
16 approximately?

17 A It's about two and a half hours.

18 Q Okay. And the interview happened all at the same
19 time? It wasn't broken up?

20 A No.

21 Q Okay. Was there any use of physical punishment?

22 A No.

23 Q Any coercion or duress?

24 A No.

25 Q So this was at 12:30. But outside of the cigarette,

1 was he deprived of sleep?

2 A No.

3 Q was he given something to drink?

4 A I do believe he was given water.

5 Q But no food?

6 A No.

7 Q Okay. Now, did you make any specific promises of
8 leniency as to sentencing if he were to confess?

9 A I did not. I think the only thing I may have promised
10 was he had to smoke. I let him smoke before he was
11 transported.

12 Q Okay. And did you make any deliberate
13 misrepresentations of the evidence that you had --

14 A No, sir.

15 Q -- at the time? Okay. When you began speaking to
16 him, kind of what's his story when you first started
17 speaking to him after you read him his rights?

18 A Basically, he wasn't there. He was at a friend's, or
19 he called her his aunt's, home and that's where he had been
20 staying for several days.

21 Q Okay. So he denied. When was the last time he stated
22 he'd been over there?

23 A Let me find it in my notes here. I think he had said
24 Monday morning or Monday about afternoon was the last time
25 he'd been there.

1 Q But at this time did you have video evidence from
2 Bobby Jackson Electrical Supply?

3 A I did.

4 Q And did you show him screen captures from that video?

5 A I did.

6 Q Okay. And did he admit that the pictures in those
7 screen captures were of him -- and some of them?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And Ms. Riaz was also in some of them?

10 A Correct.

11 Q Okay. Did he initially tell you that he had touched
12 the bat in the house?

13 A Initially, no.

14 Q Okay. But he knew about the bat being in the house
15 but he didn't touch it?

16 A Correct.

17 Q And during the course of the interview did that story
18 change?

19 A It did.

20 Q What did it change to?

21 A That he had found it in the yard and it had blood on
22 it and he had taken it and dropped it behind the garbage
23 can.

24 Q Okay. And, ultimately, does his story start changing
25 throughout the interview?

1 A It does.

2 Q Okay. We get to the penalty, the last 30 minutes.

3 What happened at that point?

4 A Basically, we were wrapping up an interview at that
5 point with him. At the end of the interview he wanted to
6 tell us what happened. So we allowed him to continue on
7 speaking.

8 Q And you mentioned that they were about to do the
9 transport. Did you notice something about him that made
10 you want to keep interviewing him?

11 A Yes. I mean, he was trying to re-engage with us and
12 wanted to keep speaking about it.

13 Q Okay. And what did he tell you there at the end?

14 A Basically, said that, yeah, he was the one who would
15 kill both subjects here with a baseball bat and the reason
16 for it was the same reason that she -- here in court, was
17 that they were raping him.

18 Q But during the interview, prior to interview, had he
19 known any about the D.N.A. evidence that you had, prior to
20 the interview?

21 A No.

22 Q Did he know about the videos that you had recovered?

23 A No.

24 Q Or any of the witnesses that you had spoken to?

25 A No.

1 Q After confronting him with all of that information, is
2 that when he changed his tune?

3 A It is.

4 Q Okay. At any time did he ask for a lawyer?

5 A Did not.

6 Q At any time did he invoke his right to remain silent?

7 A He did not.

8 Q And did he give this statement freely and voluntarily?

9 A He did.

10 Q Understanding his constitutional rights?

11 A He did.

12 Q And in that State's Exhibit 14, the video -- excuse
13 me -- 11 -- that video captured you reading the rights to
14 him?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And signing the waiver of rights form?

17 A It does.

18 Q And, again, never invoking his rights?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder has.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. SNYDER

23 Q Investigator Reese, Sergeant, whatever, he said that
24 his -- when Marcus met with Investigator Nelson, he gave
25 consent for D.N.A., correct?

1 A I don't know, sir. I don't remember being there for
2 that.

3 Q Okay. Do you know if the results of that D.N.A. test
4 or consent to give D.N.A. was how you matched the D.N.A.
5 from the crime scene?

6 A That would be a question for Investigator Ryant.

7 Q Okay. You said that, just to go along with the lines
8 of the other witnesses -- you said it was about a
9 two-and-a-half-hour interview.

10 A Correct.

11 Q And during the first two hours of that interview
12 Mr. Batson never gave a confession, so to speak.

13 A That's correct.

14 Q It wasn't until he was shackled that he did admit to
15 killing these two individuals.

16 A I believe they were starting to just about --

17 Q You were -- you were there, right?

18 A Yes, sir. I was.

19 Q And you said that you were there to assist another
20 officer.

21 A Another investigator, yes, sir.

22 Q But you did most of the talking, correct?

23 A Correct.

24 Q And during that two-and-a-half-hour interview you made
25 several promises off and on telling him he's not -- he said

1 his life is over. You indicated his life is not over, that
2 if he told the truth he would be okay.

3 A I'm not sure that's the words, sir.

4 Q Did you ever offer Mr. Batson anything to eat?

5 A I did not.

6 Q Did you ever offer him the chance to go to the
7 restroom?

8 A He never asked. I did not.

9 Q And you told the solicitor that it was a steady
10 interview for two and half hours. There were no breaks.

11 A Not that I remember. I don't see anybody walk out.

12 Q Mr. Reese, you don't remember making any promises over
13 that two-and-a-half-hour interview, correct?

14 A No, sir. The only thing I remember I told him I would
15 definitely let him smoke a cigarette.

16 Q Okay. Did he smoke that cigarette?

17 A He did.

18 Q Just one last time. You don't remember if -- you
19 don't remember if the handcuffs were on at the beginning of
20 the interview.

21 A In the beginning of the interview?

22 Q Correct. You just -- you remember if they were taken
23 off.

24 A Yeah.

25 Q So for the most of the interview he did not have

1 handcuffs on.

2 A Correct.

3 Q And it was not until he was shackled that he confessed
4 to killing those two individuals, correct?

5 A Yes, sir. We -- we have to watch the video.

6 Q Okay. Thank you.

7 MR. SNYDER: I am no more questions.

8 MR. HUNTER: Just briefly, Your Honor.

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. HUNTER

11 Q Again, he keeps asking about promises. Did you make
12 any promises towards a sentence or toward leniency in any
13 of the trial proceedings?

14 A I did not.

15 Q When speaking to suspects do you sometimes tell them
16 that everything is going to be okay, that you understand
17 what they're talking about?

18 A Well, yeah. If you tell me your life is over, your
19 life's not over. I mean, even though you're still being
20 arrested, your life's not over.

21 Q So sometimes you might make a comment like that.

22 A Correct.

23 Q But you never actually promise him anything as it
24 comes to court.

25 A No.

1 Q Any sentence reductions, anything like that if he --

2 A Not at all.

3 Q -- were to tell. Thank you.

4 MR. SNYDER: Briefly.

5 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. SNYDER

7 Q why did you give him Miranda warnings?

8 A He was under arrest at that time.

9 Q Okay. If you did not arrest him, would you have given
10 him Miranda warnings?

11 A If he was a suspect, yes, sir, he would have gotten
12 Miranda warnings.

13 Q So if you drove him to city hall to interview him, you
14 would have given him Miranda warnings.

15 A Not necessarily, no, sir.

16 Q Okay.

17 MR. SNYDER: I have no more questions.

18 THE COURT: Step down.

19 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, those are the only officers
20 present when speaking with Mr. Batson during this case.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Snyder, do you wish to offer any
22 additional evidence?

23 MR. SNYDER: I don't, but I'll argue in the case.

24 THE COURT: Have you talked to your client about
25 testifying?

1 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir. And for purposes of the
2 pretrial matters at this time, we're satisfied.

3 THE COURT: Is that true, Mr. Batson?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir. It is.

5 THE COURT: Do you understand you can provide
6 additional information on the issue of the voluntariness of
7 any statement?

8 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir. I understand.

9 THE COURT: But you don't wish to?

10 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Is that all?

12 MR. SNYDER: Unless you would like me to make
13 arguments for why the statements should not be admitted at
14 trial.

15 THE COURT: If I would like for you to make an
16 argument?

17 MR. SNYDER: Now or later.

18 THE COURT: Well, I mean, I don't care one way or
19 another, but I'll let you if you want to.

20 MR. SNYDER: Regarding the issue where he went with
21 Investigator Nelson to city hall, he was in a police car.
22 He was taken to city hall as part of an interview. He was
23 clearly in custody.

24 He did not -- Mr. Batson wanted to know he had the
25 right to stop answering questions, that he refused the

1 buccal swab. He -- a reasonable person just would've
2 assumed that they are in a police car going to city hall,
3 they're -- they're in custody for purpose of an interview.

4 THE COURT: which ride are you talking about?

5 MR. SNYDER: I'm sorry?

6 THE COURT: which ride are you referring to? You say
7 taken to city hall.

8 MR. SNYDER: When he went with Investigator Nelson to
9 the interview at city hall, he was not provided Miranda
10 warnings.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 MR. SNYDER: He was in custody. He should have been
13 provided Miranda warnings.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Is that the only one?

15 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

16 Regarding the last matter that we just addressed, you
17 heard from the officers it was a long interview. He was
18 never offered a chance to go to the bathroom; he was never
19 offered anything to eat. There were never any breaks
20 during the interview.

21 It was a two-and-a-half-hour interview. First two
22 hours of that interview, he did not make any incriminating
23 statements or give a confession. It was not until he was
24 shackled that he did. The argument, the circumstances
25 surrounding the interview, the length as well as promises

1 the officers made, as well as being shackled two hours into
2 it, would deem any confession involuntary.

3 It would be our position that he was -- it was just
4 too long, and he was essentially broken down by the length
5 of the interviewing and the questioning.

6 Your Honor, it's our position that the statement
7 should not be considered voluntary for purposes of trial.
8 Thank you.

9 MR. HUNTER: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 As far as the first statement to Agent Davis, I don't
11 think he argued for that, but we'd also -- we just state
12 that that is voluntary.

13 Agent Davis had just shown up to the scene. The crime
14 was fresh. They had just discovered the bodies. It was
15 basically a witness interview. He was not in custody.
16 There was no interrogation. So we would argue that that
17 does not comply.

18 Also, there's not a confession. If you look at
19 Jackson vs. Denno and its protege, it all talks about
20 confession given by the defendant. At that time there was
21 no confession. He was just at that time a witness stating
22 what his involvement in the residence was.

23 The second interview with Louis Nelson actually
24 happened shortly after Agent Davis on the same day, July
25 8th. They had just discovered the bodies. There wasn't a

1 suspect. There was no evidence.

2 It's clearly just a witness interview. He's not in
3 custody; he's not in cuffs. He's given a ride in the front
4 seat of a police car. He was given a ride home afterwards.
5 He was free to move.

6 He wanted to give his side of the story of what he
7 thought occurred, who was present in the house, who the
8 last ones to be seen alive with the deceased were.

9 Again, he's not in custody under law. He was not
10 handcuffed; his physical movement wasn't restrained. He
11 was given water. He was able to leave when he wanted to.
12 He left and was given a ride. I'm not sure exactly where
13 but away from city hall. He was not arrested.

14 At no point -- and, again, this is within a couple of
15 hours of the bodies being found. No evidence had been
16 collected. He was clearly just a witness they wanted to
17 get a recorded interview of.

18 Now, as to the third, he was under arrest. He was in
19 custody on that one. Warrants had already been served on
20 him. He was picked up. He was shackled and brought to
21 city hall.

22 That occurred on July 30th. We're now 22 days later.
23 They already have D.N.A. evidence; they already have
24 videos. They wanted then to speak to him.

25 I disagree with Mr. Snyder's remarks that there was

1 nothing inculpatory in his statements being interviewed,
2 because he is very inconsistent with the first statements
3 that he gave Agent Davis and Investigator Nelson. There
4 are some inconsistencies that they bring in -- bring up
5 during the interview.

6 They show him pictures because he initially stated he
7 hadn't been there since Monday afternoon. That clearly
8 showed early Tuesday morning he is walking to and from that
9 house, again, with Ms. Riaz.

10 He identifies himself in those pictures. So, yes, he
11 was in custody, but if he's in custody they can still speak
12 to him as long as they're providing him the Miranda rights,
13 which is on video. They do have the written waiver. And,
14 again, like I said, it's on video.

15 Now, at the end I do believe -- we've seen the video
16 evidence. You'll be able to see that they think that the
17 interview or the interrogation is about to be over at which
18 point he re-engages and wishes to speak to them about what
19 actually happened at that residence where he ultimately
20 gives a confession to the murder, basically saying that he
21 did it after being raped by the other residents.

22 He was in shackles, but just because he was in
23 shackles does not mean that anything he says when he's in
24 handcuffs or shackles can never be used.

25 He was given his rights. He understood his rights.

1 He did not invoke them, and he continued to speak; and
2 therefore we believe that the interrogation was voluntary,
3 the statements given were voluntary, and that they complied
4 with Jackson vs. Denno and they should be admitted as
5 freely and voluntarily given by Mr. Batson.

6 MR. SNYDER: I'm not going to argue the first set of
7 statements. I, actually I, agree with Mr. Hunter.

8 Regarding the trip to city hall, again, Your Honor,
9 this is a reasonable-person standard. If I'm in a police
10 car to go to city hall I am -- I believe a reasonable
11 person -- they can't just leave the interview whenever they
12 want. He was not provided the Miranda warnings, which is
13 required.

14 And, again, Judge, I think there's no question that he
15 was in custody at the time. Miranda warnings should have
16 been given.

17 Regarding the last interview, it was a
18 two-and-half-hour interview. Two hours into it we can
19 argue whether or not the statements were incriminating.

20 There was no confession. He was not in handcuffs.
21 He -- I thought the statements were pretty -- pretty
22 consistent until they placed him in handcuffs and he was
23 shackled. And at that point, that's when he -- things
24 changed. He becomes very emotional, and it's just due to
25 all of the surrounding, certainly totality of the

1 circumstances, that led Mr. Batson probably to feel that,
2 you know -- he got very under duress. He got very scared
3 at the moment and that's -- he was in shackles, and that's
4 when he decided to confess to killing those two
5 individuals. I believe that what may have started out as a
6 voluntary interview became involuntary due to the
7 circumstances surrounding it. Thank you.

8 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Snyder, of course you've
9 heard the testimony from the witnesses.

10 There are also videos that have been introduced. Are
11 these videos something you want me to look at which you
12 think the videos will dispute the testimony provided?

13 MR. SNYDER: I don't believe that there's any question
14 that Mr. Batson was in custody on the way to city hall.

15 I would ask Your Honor to review the final video as
16 long -- there were many statements made throughout the
17 course of that interview, as well as everything I just
18 described. So I would ask Your Honor to view it.

19 THE COURT: All right. And which exhibit is that?

20 MR. SNYDER: That is -- I don't know the number.

21 MR. HUNTER: Eleven is Reese and Ryant; ten is Nelson.

22 MR. SNYDER: It would be 11.

23 THE COURT: Eleven is a recording with Chindar Ryant,
24 and 14 is the Miranda with Investigator Reece.

25 MR. SNYDER: The one I'm talking about there was --

1 MR. HUNTER: It's the same one. Eleven is Reese and
2 Ryant.

3 MR. SNYDER: Okay. It's the same. The video is the
4 same footage.

5 THE COURT: All right. So the recording at the city
6 hall that's Exhibit No. 11 is what you want me to review?

7 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Okay. I will.

9 Anything else?

10 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: All right. I'll review it and then I'll
12 decide it.

13 Anything else?

14 MR. HUNTER: May we approach?

15 THE COURT: Yes.

16 (Bench conference held off the record.)

17 THE COURT: All right. If there are no other motions
18 to address, I'll review the exhibit and decide it, and I
19 will let y'all know in the morning.

20 Any other matters?

21 MR. HUNTER: Not from the state, Your Honor.

22 MR. SNYDER: Not at this time, Judge.

23 THE COURT: Court's in recess until 9:30 in the
24 morning.

25 END OF PROCEEDINGS SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

1 (Proceedings September 26, 2023)

2 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
3 jury.)

4 THE COURT: Good morning.

5 As to the admission of the statement provided to law
6 enforcement, considering the testimony and the other
7 evidence introduced, including Exhibit No. 11, the C.D.,
8 nothing that I have heard and nothing that I have seen
9 indicates any other than that the statement was freely and
10 voluntarily made.

11 The defendant was in custody, but he was properly
12 advised of his Miranda rights. It appeared to me that he
13 was making those statements completely of his own free will
14 and accord.

15 He was not placed upon any pressure; he was not
16 offered anything, not promised anything, not coerced in any
17 way; and therefore the statement, in the event somebody
18 wishes to admit it, is admissible, it having been freely
19 and voluntarily made after having been properly advised as
20 to his Miranda warnings.

21 All right. Anything else we need to address before
22 the jury comes in?

23 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir. There are two statements that
24 I argued should not be admissible.

25 THE COURT: Are you talking about Investigator

1 Nelson's statement?

2 MR. SNYDER: The statements given to Investigator
3 Nelson at city hall.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Well, all right, with regard to
5 that statement -- I didn't understand you were objecting to
6 that one.

7 With regard to that one, he was not in custody. He
8 was asked if he would go to the city hall with the
9 investigator, and he said he would.

10 He was not even considered by the police officer as a
11 suspect at that particular time. He was simply at that
12 point considered to be a potential witness just to give
13 facts surrounding the residence, the folks that resided
14 there, and perhaps any other information he could provide.
15 But at that time, even in the officer's mind, he was not a
16 suspect.

17 Clearly, no reasonable person would have thought that
18 they were a suspect and no reasonable person would have
19 thought that they had to go with the police officer and had
20 to go to city hall and had to answer questions. That was
21 all completely freely and voluntarily made too.

22 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: And he was not in custody for purposes of
24 Miranda.

25 All right. Anything else?

1 MR. HUNTER: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right. Bring the jury in.

3 Ask Mr. Steinmeyer to take the foreperson's seat.

4 He's the first juror.

5 (The following takes place in the presence of the
6 jury.)

7 THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

8 We are ready to begin with the trial of the case for
9 which each of you have been selected.

10 Mr. Steinmeyer, I'm going to ask you to serve as the
11 foreperson of the jury, and as the foreperson you'll have
12 three specific duties that the other jurors do not have.

13 First of all, you'll be asked to serve as the
14 spokesperson for the jury, and that just means if something
15 arises during the course of the trial that needs to be
16 brought to my attention -- you or a fellow juror has some
17 difficulty or problem or question -- you're going to be the
18 person to let me know of that fact.

19 You can do that directly if you're here in the
20 courtroom. You do it through the bailiff if you're outside
21 of the courtroom.

22 Secondly, you'll be called upon to preside over jury
23 deliberations when that time comes. That of course won't
24 be until the end of the trial after all of the evidence has
25 been received, I've instructed you on the law that's

1 applicable and I've requested that you go back to begin
2 deliberations. But it will be you who will preside over
3 that process in the jury room simply to ensure that those
4 deliberations are carried out in some orderly fashion.

5 And, thirdly, you will be actually writing the
6 verdicts or the decisions of the jury. You'll do that on a
7 verdict form that I'll provide you at the trial's
8 conclusion on which you will indicate the jury's unanimous
9 decision as it relates to each of the separate indictments.

10 Now, the foreperson has those specific duties that I
11 have just indicated, but that doesn't mean that he's any
12 more important than any of you other jurors, and that's
13 because the decision of a jury is the unanimous consensus
14 opinion of all 12 jurors, and so all of you and each of you
15 will have an equal say and equal vote in what the ultimate
16 decisions will be in this case.

17 Someone simply has to be delegated those
18 responsibilities that I've just indicated, and I have
19 delegated those to the foreperson to handle those specific
20 matters. But all of you are important so far as the
21 ultimate decision in the case is concerned, because, as
22 I've stated, the verdicts have to be unanimous. All of you
23 must be in agreement.

24 Now, Mr. Miller and Ms. Massetti, each of you have
25 been selected as alternate jurors, and the function of an

Jury sworn

1 alternate juror is to take the place of one of the original
2 jurors if, during the trial, one of these 12 cannot
3 continue to serve for some reason.

4 So if a juror is called away because of an emergency
5 or an illness or some other circumstance that prevents them
6 from continuing to serve as a juror, one or both of you
7 would be called upon to take that juror or those jurors'
8 places.

9 In that event you would become the twelfth juror. In
10 that event you participate throughout the trial, including
11 the jury deliberations at the trial's conclusion.

12 If however when the time does come for jury
13 deliberation the original 12 are all able to perform that
14 function, then your service as jurors ends, and you're not
15 permitted to deliberate with the original 12, because the
16 verdict or the decision of a jury is that of 12, and no
17 more than 12 can participate in that deliberation process.

18 But it is important that you pay just as careful
19 attention as we ask of all of the jurors in the case,
20 because it does occur from time to time for one reason or
21 another one of these may be called away. In that event you
22 may be called upon to participate as the twelfth.

23 So we do appreciate your participation as alternate
24 jurors, just as we appreciate the participation of each of
25 you jurors who have been selected for the purpose of

1 deciding the verdicts in this particular case.

2 You may swear the panel.

3 (Whereupon, the jury was duly sworn.)

4 THE COURT: All right. As you know, you have been
5 selected to decide the verdicts in the case of the State
6 vs. Marcus Danta Batson.

7 As you also know, Mr. Batson has been accused by the
8 prosecutor by way of these indictments with having
9 committed the crimes of murder in two separate indictments.

10 One alleges that the victim was Matthew Booker; the
11 other alleges that the victim was Ronald Glenn.

12 Both indictments allege that the offenses occurred on
13 or about July the 5th of 2021, and each alleges that the
14 defendant did with malice aforethought kill the person
15 named in the indictment by beating that person and that
16 that person died as a proximate result of the actions of
17 Mr. Batson.

18 The indictments are not evidence in the case. They
19 don't establish anything; they don't prove anything. As I
20 told you earlier, they are simply the charging paper. They
21 put the defendant on notice as to what the state claims
22 that he has done by way of the commission of a criminal
23 offense. And these are the documents that bring the
24 defendant into court, into the circuit court, to stand
25 trial on those charges.

1 The indictments will be in the jury room. Although
2 they're not evidence, the indictments will be in the jury
3 room when you go back to deliberate, Mr. Foreman, because
4 each of these indictments will serve as the verdict form as
5 it relates to that particular charge.

6 You'll see on the back of each indictment the word
7 verdict, and it's beneath that word that you will indicate
8 the jury's unanimous decision as to that particular charge.
9 But other than serving as the verdict form, the indictments
10 serve no purpose so far as you jurors are concerned.

11 Now, as to the charges contained in the indictment and
12 the allegations made against the defendant he has entered a
13 plea of not guilty.

14 And as I told you, that plea of not guilty places upon
15 the state the burden of proving the allegations that they
16 have made by way of each of those indictments, the burden
17 of proving each of the essential elements of the crime of
18 murder that is alleged in each of those separate
19 indictments; and therefore the burden is upon the state to
20 establish the defendant's guilt to the satisfaction of you
21 12 jurors beyond a reasonable doubt before a verdict of
22 guilty could be returned as to either of the separate
23 charges.

24 Every person who is accused of a crime -- and it
25 doesn't matter how serious the offense might be for which

1 that person stands charged -- that person shall always be
2 presumed innocent of that charge, and that presumption of
3 innocence remains with any defendant, as it does with this
4 defendant, from the time that he is placed under arrest and
5 throughout the course of the criminal process and even
6 throughout the course of the actual trial in the case.

7 That presumption of innocence will be with Mr. Batson
8 even as you go back to your jury room at this trial's
9 conclusion to begin with your deliberations in the case,
10 and that presumption of innocence will be with him in that
11 jury room, and it'll be with him forever unless you 12
12 jurors determine that he is no longer entitled to that
13 presumption of innocence.

14 In other words, after you have carefully considered
15 all of the evidence received during the trial of the case,
16 and from that evidence you have been able to determine the
17 material facts as they relate to the allegations supporting
18 the charges contained in the indictment, and after deciding
19 those facts you apply the law that I will have provided you
20 as it relates the crime of murder, if you 12 jurors
21 unanimously determine that the defendant's guilt has been
22 proven beyond a reasonable doubt as it relates to a
23 particular indictment, then he would no longer be entitled
24 to the presumption of innocence as it relates to that
25 particular charge. But it is only if, unless and until you

1 are satisfied of his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt that
2 the presumption of innocence would no longer be applicable.

3 Now, the way that the trial will proceed is that in a
4 moment the lawyers are going to address you in what are
5 referred to as opening statements.

6 There are two occasions in the trial of a case where
7 lawyers are permitted to address the jury directly, and
8 that is at the beginning of the trial before any evidence
9 has been introduced, then again at the conclusion of the
10 trial after all of the evidence has been received.

11 But please keep in mind, as I've just indicated, the
12 evidence upon which you will base your determination as to
13 the facts comes in between the opening and the closing
14 statements of the lawyers.

15 The lawyers' statements are not evidence, and that's
16 because the lawyers don't know anything about this case of
17 their own personal knowledge or perception like witnesses
18 will be testifying to when the witness testifies from that
19 witness stand before you.

20 The lawyers aren't going to be placed under oath.
21 They're not going to be subject to direct examination and
22 cross-examination like witnesses will be who are called to
23 testify; and therefore what the lawyers tell you in their
24 statements is not to be considered by you as any evidence
25 upon which you will base your decision. But you should

1 listen to what the lawyers have to say because those
2 statements do serve a purpose.

3 The opening statements will serve to provide you with
4 a basic understanding as to what this case is about from
5 both the state and the defense perspectives so that you'll
6 have some context in which to place the evidence that we
7 will be receiving shortly thereafter.

8 The closing statements occur after all of the evidence
9 has been received. And, again, while those statements are
10 not evidence, that does afford the lawyers an opportunity
11 to discuss with you the evidence that you have seen and
12 heard during the course of the trial. And through that
13 discussion each lawyer will have an opportunity to try to
14 persuade you or to convince you that the evidence in the
15 case does or does not support a particular decision
16 depending upon the perspective of the lawyer.

17 It's in between those statements that we actually
18 receive the evidence upon which you will base your
19 decision.

20 The state has the burden of proof, as you have been
21 told, and therefore the state goes forward first in its
22 presentation of evidence.

23 Once the state has concluded with its presentation of
24 evidence a defendant has an opportunity to testify or to
25 call additional witnesses or to introduce other evidence,

1 but please understand that the burden is never upon a
2 person accused of a crime to prove that they are not guilty
3 or to prove that they are innocent, because in some cases
4 that might not be possible.

5 The burden is always upon the state to establish a
6 defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, because they
7 made the accusation, and therefore they have the burden of
8 proof. But, as I've stated, anybody accused of a crime
9 always has an opportunity to present evidence in the event
10 they wish to do so. But they're certainly not required to
11 do so.

12 If a defendant in a criminal trial does not testify
13 himself or herself or does not call any additional witness
14 or does not produce any additional evidence, that's not a
15 circumstance or a fact that you may consider in any way in
16 the slightest degree against the defendant, because, I've
17 said, the burden's not upon a person accused of a crime to
18 prove that they're not guilty. The burden is on the state
19 to prove that they are.

20 So after all of the evidence is received, after you
21 hear the final summations of the lawyers, I will then
22 instruct you fully on the law as it relates to the criminal
23 law generally and as it relates to the crime of murder
24 specifically.

25 Then you'll be asked to go back and to begin with your

1 deliberations, and through that process you're simply going
2 to be called upon through the exercise of good judgment and
3 common sense conscientiously applied to the testimony and
4 the evidence received during the course of the trial to
5 determine the facts that relate to the matter.

6 Upon deciding the facts you then apply the law that I
7 provide you, and you determine whether or not the
8 defendant's guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable
9 doubt. And if it has been so proven, then the verdict is
10 guilty. If it has not been so proven, then the verdict is
11 not guilty.

12 So all that we ask for you to do is to pay careful
13 attention throughout the course of the trial. Give every
14 witness the same degree of attention as they testify,
15 because it may be that there's a conflict in testimony, and
16 that conflict might relate to a material fact that needs to
17 be decided by the jury in order to arrive at a decision.
18 And so one of your prerogatives in deciding the facts of
19 the matter is to judge the credibility and the
20 believability of each witness that has testified during the
21 trial.

22 And in deciding the facts and in evaluating the
23 testimony of a witness you may believe everything that the
24 witness testified to. You may choose to believe none of
25 it. You may believe one portion of a witness' testimony

1 and reject some other portion of that same witness'
2 testimony.

3 In a given case you could believe one witness as
4 opposed to several, or several as opposed to one. But
5 whatever your good judgment and common sense tells you is
6 the most believable and credible evidence is the testimony
7 and evidence that you should accept, and you should reject
8 any testimony or other evidence that you find not to be
9 credible or believable.

10 Again, your sole objective is to simply render a fair
11 and impartial decision based upon the evidence presented
12 and the law that is applicable.

13 It's also important that you keep an open mind
14 throughout the course of the trial, and that just means
15 that you are not to begin making up your minds or
16 formulating your opinions as to what you think the ultimate
17 decisions ought to be until all of the evidence has been
18 received, until you have been instructed on the law that's
19 applicable in the case and until you've been asked to go
20 back to begin with your deliberations.

21 That is the process that has been designed over the
22 last 236 or 247 -- it depends if you start with the
23 Declaration of Independence or you start with the
24 Constitution. But, anyway, it's a long time. But that's
25 the process that has been designed over those many years in

1 order to ensure that you 12 jurors can arrive at a fair and
2 impartial decision in this case, as well as any case that
3 you might be called upon to participate in.

4 So I do want to thank you in advance for your
5 participation, as well as for your careful attention. I
6 would ask that you please give the lawyers your attention
7 now as they give you their opening statements.

8 Mr. Hunter.

9 MR. HUNTER: May it please the Court.

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 MR. HUNTER: Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Eddie
12 Hunter. I'm a prosecutor here in Spartanburg County, One
13 of the violent crime prosecutors.

14 It's my job this week to stand in front of you with
15 the witnesses and the evidence and prove to you that Marcus
16 Batson took a baseball bat to the head of Ronald Glenn and
17 to the head of Matthew Booker.

18 The evidence you will hear and the evidence you will
19 see will show that on July 6th Bobby Jackson Electrical and
20 Bobby Jackson and one of his employees actually finds a
21 baseball bat besides his dumpster.

22 The evidence will show that that day they didn't think
23 anything of it. They thought possibly someone killed an
24 animal. But it was there the next day. So they called
25 police.

1 The police come and collect that baseball bat. Dried
2 blood all over it.

3 It wasn't until July 8th that police were then called
4 to ■ winsmith Avenue, which is right there at the
5 intersection of Winsmith and Union, just down from the
6 skate park across from E.M.S., across from All-Phase
7 Electrical Supply on Union and behind the Bobby Jackson
8 building.

9 The police were called for a welfare check because
10 Ronald Glenn's family, neighbors, friends hadn't heard from
11 him in a while. They'd seen him at a July 4th party that
12 he hosted at his house. Hadn't seen him.

13 So the evidence will show the police showed up, could
14 smell decomposition coming from the house, entered the
15 house and found first the body of Matthew Booker.

16 It wasn't until a short time later when they had to
17 break into Ronald Glenn's room that they found him. Both
18 dead with obvious trauma to the head.

19 There's three bedrooms in that house, and walking up
20 to the scene is Marcus Batson. They speak to Mr. Batson
21 that day. You'll hear in that statement that he tells them
22 that he was last at the house on Monday the 5th and there
23 was a gentleman by the name of Tim Geter there and he
24 didn't like Tim, so he left.

25 He knew that Tim Geter and Ronnie were in a sexual

1 relationship, and he didn't like him being around, and so
2 he left and went to stay at who he calls his aunt's house.
3 You'll hear from the aunt as well -- Barbara Riaz.

4 At this time officers begin their investigation. The
5 evidence will show that they go and get video from Bobby
6 Jackson Electrical. They get video from E.M.S.

7 what that video will show is that Marcus Batson comes
8 from the area of St. Andrews where Ms. Riaz lives with her
9 early in the morning on July 6th to get beer from Ronnie's
10 house.

11 The video does show that three minutes later
12 approximately they go back to her house. Again, her house
13 is probably 200 yards away.

14 what the evidence will also show is that a short time
15 later Mr. Batson come backs by himself and in flip-flops,
16 back in the direction of winsmith Avenue, a place where he
17 actually had a bedroom. Then approximately an hour later
18 he comes back by himself.

19 what the E.M.S. video will show is that he dumped
20 something beside the dumpster of Bobby Jackson Electrical
21 Supply exactly where that bat was found.

22 He's confronted with this in an interview after
23 they've already gotten the videos and after they've already
24 sent items down to SLED for D.N.A. analysis.

25 At first he denies everything. when he's confronted

1 with the video, the still shot showing that he was, in
2 fact, in that parking lot, he does admit that that's him in
3 the Bobby Jackson videos walking to and from Barbara's
4 house to his house on Winsmith.

5 what the evidence will show is that then they start
6 talking to him about the baseball bat. The evidence will
7 show he denies that, that he's ever touched it. But at
8 some point in the interview once he's faced with the fact
9 that video shows him dumping something beside the dumpster,
10 his story changes. And now all of a sudden it's he did
11 touch it but he just picked it up in the front yard and
12 moved it over by the dumpster.

13 Again, he's confronted with the evidence from SLED
14 D.N.A., the videos. And finally at the end of the
15 interview he confesses to killing Matthew Booker,
16 56-year-old, and Ronald Glenn, 73-year-old, with a baseball
17 bat.

18 But at this point he knows about the D.N.A. evidence.
19 He knows about the videos. He makes up the story about
20 being raped by both men. Again, a 56-year-old and a
21 73-year-old.

22 what the evidence will show is that they finally
23 painted him in a corner and he had to make up a story
24 because he knew that we caught him in the murder, and that
25 his rape story is false, because you'll hear from the SLED

1 D.N.A. analyst. What you'll hear is that a sexual assault
2 kit was done on both Mr. Booker and Mr. Glenn.

3 Swabs were taken orally and rectally from the penis.
4 The only D.N.A. on the swabs are the individuals who the
5 swabs were taken. Not a single strand of Marcus Batson's
6 D.N.A. was in their sexual assault kits. So the evidence
7 will show that he was not being raped.

8 He killed them in cold blood. He murdered them, and
9 that's what I'm here to prove to you. He took that bat
10 across Mr. Glenn's head multiple times, across Mr. Booker's
11 head once because he was in bed. Sheets are covered.

12 You'll get to see the pillowcase. Blood up against
13 the wall. Skull fracture. Never had time to react.

14 At the end of this trial I'll come back before you and
15 I'll ask you to return a verdict of guilty. Thank you.

16 MR. SNYDER: Good morning.

17 This should be a relatively short trial. I'm not
18 going to waste a lot of your time right now. You don't
19 particularly care what I have to say right now. You want
20 to hear what happened, and I don't blame you.

21 Throughout this trial you're probably going to hear a
22 lot of things of a sexual nature. The solicitor just
23 alluded to it. Get around it. Different people do
24 different things.

25 We're not disputing the fact that two people died at

Patricia Jackson
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 the hands of Mr. Batson, but there are a lot of
2 circumstances surrounding what happened that I think y'all
3 need to be aware of and should take into consideration.

4 I have a feeling after hearing all of that information
5 probably you'll come away feeling kinda sad for Mr. Batson.
6 I know I did.

7 As I mentioned, this should be a relatively short
8 trial. All I ask is that you keep an open mind and
9 consider all of the information that you're about to hear.

10 At the end of this trial I have a feeling you're going
11 to have a doubt, have questions about what happened. All
12 of those questions raise a reasonable doubt, and if you
13 have a reasonable doubt you must find Mr. Batson not guilty
14 of murder. Thank you.

15 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
16 call Patricia Jackson.

17 PATRICIA JACKSON, having been
18 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

19 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

20 Q Will you please state your full name for the record?

21 A Patricia Jackson.

22 Q How old are you, Ms. Jackson?

23 A Fifty-nine.

24 Q How were you employed in July of 2021?

25 A Bobby Jackson Electrical.

- 1 Q Okay. And what is that?
- 2 A We provide electrical services.
- 3 Q Okay. Does Bobby Jackson Electrical still exist?
- 4 A Yes, sir.
- 5 Q Okay. But who is Bobby Jackson?
- 6 A That's my daddy.
- 7 Q Okay. And that's the gentleman seated back here --
- 8 A Yes, sir.
- 9 Q -- with the white hair?
- 10 A Yes, sir.
- 11 Q Okay. Were you working in July of 2021 for Bobby
- 12 Jackson?
- 13 A Yes, sir.
- 14 Q Okay. And what was your role?
- 15 A The secretary, worked in the office.
- 16 Q Okay. Kind of the business, the office, manager?
- 17 A Yes, sir.
- 18 Q Now, Bobby Jackson Electrical, where is that?
- 19 A 536 Union Street, Spartanburg.
- 20 Q What's the cross street right beside?
- 21 A Winsmith.
- 22 Q Did you have a security system?
- 23 A Yes. We did.
- 24 Q Okay. And where was that camera facing?
- 25 A We had two in the front and one bogus one on the side.

1 Q Okay. The bogus one was on the winsmith side?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. But you had one in the front facing the parking
4 lot?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Okay. Did you have a chance to call police, I
7 believe, on July 7th of 2021?

8 A Yes. I did.

9 Q Okay. why did you call police?

10 A I found a bloody bat.

11 Q Okay. Did you also provide video to police from your
12 security system?

13 A Yes. I did.

14 Q Okay. I'm going to show you what's been marked
15 State's Exhibits 18 and 20. Do you recognize these items?

16 A yes. I do.

17 Q Okay. If you could, pull out each disc and tell me
18 why you recognize these items.

19 A You showed them to me on Friday, and I initialed them
20 after I looked at the videos.

21 Q Okay. So on the disc, is your initial on both of
22 them?

23 A Yes. It is.

24 Q Okay. And do those videos fairly and accurately
25 depict your security system from the days --

1 A Yes. They do.

2 Q -- the police came and asked for the videos?

3 A They do.

4 Q Okay.

5 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
6 offer State's Exhibits 18 and 20 into evidence.

7 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

8 THE COURT: They're admitted.

9 (Bat video from Jackson Electrical marked State's
10 Exhibit No. 18; video from Jackson Electrical marked State's
11 Exhibit No. 20.)

12 MR. HUNTER: All right. I am going to start with
13 State's Exhibit 18.

14 Beg the Court's indulgence.

15 (Pause.)

16 Q Now, these videos don't have sound, correct?

17 A They do not.

18 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

19 Q whose vehicle is that that we see?

20 A The gray Tahoe is mine.

21 Q Okay. And where is the dumpster located?

22 A If you're looking at it, it's to the left of it on
23 down.

24 Q Basically, kind of under the camera and behind it?

25 A Yes, sir.

Bobby Jackson
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 Q So, again, after y'all located the bat, you called the
2 police.

3 A Yes. I did.

4 Q Okay. Who had actually located the bat originally?

5 A One of the employees, Daniel Sprouse. And then he
6 showed it to my daddy, Bobby Jackson.

7 Q And when did they first locate it?

8 A The day before me.

9 Q Okay. So that would have been July 6th?

10 A July 6th. Yes, sir.

11 Q And you were present when those officers showed up?

12 A Yes. I was.

13 Q We'll see an officer here get out of the SUV in a
14 second. Is that this officer here in the red hair?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Okay. Again, this isn't the only video you provided.
17 You provided a lot of video.

18 A I did.

19 Q All right. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may
20 have for you.

21 MR. SNYDER: No questions.

22 THE COURT: You may step down.

23 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may Ms. Jackson be excused?

24 THE COURT: She may be.

25 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

1 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
2 call Bobby Jackson.

3 BOBBY JACKSON, having been
4 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

6 Q Please state your full name for the record.

7 A Bobby Jackson.

8 Q How old are you?

9 A Soon be 81.

10 Q Okay. What was your business?

11 A Electrical contractor.

12 Q Okay. Electrical contractor?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Was that your building that we saw the video of?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. How long had you been there?

17 A '86.

18 Q Since 1986?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Do you still own that building?

21 A No. I've sold it since then.

22 Q Okay. Retired to farm life?

23 A Yeah, yes.

24 Q Can you tell me what happened on July 6th of 2021?

25 A Well, I pulled into the driveway. Daniel was already

1 there. He was throwing some trash in the dumpster, and he
2 called me over. He said, "Bobby, come here and look. I
3 want to show you something." And I went over there and
4 this ball bat was between the dumpster and the office. And
5 we saw it there, and it had blood on it.

6 And the first thing I thought that somebody killed a
7 dog, because, you know, you wouldn't think something else.

8 And we left it there and nobody touched it. We were
9 going to work. We had to get to a job by 7:00 o'clock. So
10 we went ahead and left. And the next day Patty came in. I
11 told her about it and she called the police.

12 Q I'm going to show you the second video that's already
13 been entered.

14 Now, did you have a chance along with Patty to watch
15 these videos last week?

16 A Yes. I did.

17 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

18 Q whose truck vehicle is that pulling in right now?

19 A Daniel Sprouse, one of my employees.

20 Q And this is about what time in the morning?

21 A Probably close to 6:30.

22 Q Okay. Actually, it says that up there at the top
23 about, almost at 6:30.

24 A Yeah.

25 Q And where is he heading to right now?

1 A Dumpster.

2 Q Very close to that camera?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Again, this is on July 6th?

5 A Yes.

6 Q I would fast forward, but I don't want to mess the
7 video up.

8 Do you come here shortly --

9 A Yes.

10 Q -- after he's parked over there in the corner?

11 A Yes.

12 Q I think that's you waiting at the light right up there
13 in the corner. I know it's hard to see on this T.V., but
14 on this T.V.

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q That's you waiting at the red light?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Do you know what street that is?

19 A Union Street.

20 Q The other street that you're waiting at.

21 A Winsmith is the corner there but --

22 Q I'm talking about the street where you're waiting at
23 the red light.

24 A Oh, that's --

25 Q Is that St. Andrews?

1 A St. Andrews, yes.

2 Q There we go. Now, that truck pulling in, who is that?

3 A That's my truck. I did. My truck.

4 Q Now, what's he coming to show you?

5 A The ball bat.

6 Q And this is when you initially observed it?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And, again, just approximately what time is this?

9 A About -- it's close to 6:30, 20 till.

10 Q I think on the thing it's showing 6:34?

11 A Yes. That sounds right.

12 Q And, again, on July 6th?

13 A Right.

14 Q Okay. And then y'all call the police on July 7th and
15 they come and collected it.

16 A Yes. Patty did. She come.

17 Q But at 6:30, it's by the dumpster on July 6th.

18 A What's that?

19 Q At 6:30, it's beside the dumpster on July 6th.

20 A Yes.

21 Q And what was it -- appeared to be covered in?

22 A Blood.

23 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
24 you.

25 MR. SNYDER: No questions.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

2 MR. HUNTER: May Mr. Jackson be excused?

3 THE COURT: He may be.

4 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

5 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
6 call Officer Clay Risen.

7 WILLIAM CLAYTON RISEN, having
8 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

10 Q Can you please state your full name?

11 A It's William Clayton Risen.

12 Q Okay. And how are you employed?

13 A I -- at the time of this incident I was employed
14 with --

15 Q Currently.

16 A Current. I'm with the Greenville County Sheriff's
17 Office.

18 Q Okay. And in July of 2021, how were you employed?

19 A I was with the Spartanburg City Police Department
20 Uniform Patrol Division.

21 Q How long had you been with the Spartanburg police at
22 that time?

23 A I believe it was a little over a year, a year and a
24 half.

25 Q Okay. And July 7th of 2021 you were in uniform

1 patrol?

2 A Correct.

3 Q What were your duties as a uniform patrol officer?

4 A I responded to calls of service and provided
5 policemen.

6 Q Did you respond to a call for service that day?

7 A I did.

8 Q And where did you respond to?

9 A I responded to the incident location. It was, I
10 believe it was -- I'm not positive. I don't recall the
11 address.

12 Q What was the name of the business you responded to?

13 A It was Jackson Electrical.

14 Q Okay. And that was the -- you were the officer we saw
15 getting out of the SUV in that video?

16 A Correct.

17 Q I'm going to show you what's been premarked State's
18 Exhibit 22. Did you have a body-worn camera at the time?

19 A I did.

20 Q Okay. And did you turn it on when you showed up to
21 Bobby Jackson Electrical?

22 A I did.

23 Q And does it fairly and accurately depict the events
24 that you remember that day?

25 A Yes.

1 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
2 offer State's Exhibit 22 into evidence.

3 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

4 THE COURT: It's admitted.

5 (Body-worn-camera video of William Clayton Risen
6 marked State's Exhibit No. 22.)

7 Q There's a lot of talk in the video. I'm going to play
8 it without sound.

9 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

10 Q Seems to be skipping. I'm going to start it back
11 over.

12 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

13 MR. HUNTER: Pause it.

14 Q What did you locate beside the dumpster?

15 A It was a baseball bat. Appeared to be covered in
16 blood.

17 Q Is that the baseball bat we see on the video?

18 A Yes. It is.

19 Q Hand you what's been premarked State's Exhibit 1. Do
20 you need a knife?

21 A Yes. Please.

22 (Pause.)

23 Q Do you recognize that item?

24 A I do.

25 Q How do you recognize that item?

1 A This was the item that I collected that day at Jackson
2 Electrical.

3 Q Is this your original evidence bag down here that was
4 in the box?

5 A Yes. It is.

6 Q And is it in the same or substantially the same
7 condition as you found it that day?

8 A It is.

9 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
10 offer State's Exhibit 1 into evidence.

11 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

12 THE COURT: It's admitted.

13 (Baseball bat marked State's Exhibit No. 1.)

14 Q Just like today, what do you do when you first see the
15 bat?

16 A Probably a pair of gloves prior to making any contact
17 with the bat.

18 Q Okay. However, at some point do you make contact with
19 the bat?

20 A Unfortunately, I did during the logging in evidence, I
21 did make contact with the bat.

22 Q Okay. Just so we don't have to waste a lot of time,
23 after you collect the bat, what do you do?

24 A After the bat was collected I notified the supervisor
25 of the current situation and advised her of the situation,

1 that we had had.

2 Q Okay. And as of July 7th had that bat been connected
3 to anything?

4 A No, sir. As of that time, I checked my dispatch and
5 requested to see if there was any assault or anything of
6 that nature had been reported in the area within the last
7 72 hours, and no, sir.

8 Q And nothing at that point?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Okay. Ultimately, did you come out the next day to
11 Winsmith Avenue?

12 A I did, yes.

13 Q Okay. Did you alert the supervisors as to what you
14 had found the day before?

15 A I did.

16 Q Okay. And when you took it back to evidence, you took
17 it into the brown paper bag that we saw?

18 A Correct.

19 Q Okay. And some point you came in contact with it?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q At that point -- at that point did you provide a
22 buccal swab?

23 A I did.

24 Q Can you explain what a buccal swab is?

25 A It's an extraction of my D.N.A. to match the D.N.A.

Sharon Porter
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 that I, unfortunately, left on the bat.

2 Q I'm going to show you what's been premarked State's
3 Exhibit 3. Now, obviously, this heat-sealed bag is from
4 SLED but do you -- after reading the inside bag, do you
5 recognize that?

6 A I do.

7 Q And what is that?

8 A It's a D.N.A. swab labeled with my name on it.

9 Q Okay. And what do they do when they give you -- what
10 happens when you get a D.N.A. swab?

11 A Usually, they take a swab of your hands, and they also
12 take a swab orally of the saliva.

13 Q Okay. And who took your swab? would it have been
14 forensic analyst Caitlin Wright?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q Bear with me just one second.

17 (Pause.)

18 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
19 you.

20 MR. SNYDER: No questions.

21 THE COURT: You may step down.

22 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
23 call Sharon Porter.

24

25

1 SHARON PORTER, having been
2 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Ms. Porter --

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q -- can you please state your full name for the record?

7 A Sharon Porter.

8 Q Okay. And how old are you?

9 A Seventy-one.

10 Q Okay. And what is your occupation?

11 A A retired college professor.

12 Q Okay. From where?

13 A Spartanburg Methodist College.

14 Q Okay. What did you teach?

15 A Psychology.

16 Q How were you related to this case?

17 A Ronald Glenn was my cousin.

18 Q Okay. That's one of the deceased?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. Where did Mr. Glenn live?

21 A Winsmith Avenue.

22 Q Okay. At [REDACTED]?

23 A [REDACTED], yes.

24 Q How long had he lived there?

25 A Probably 30 or 40 years.

1 Q So he had lived there for quite a while?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. What was his occupation?

4 A He was a retired teacher.

5 Q From where?

6 A Jonesville High School.

7 Q Okay. Getting more into the specifics of this time,
8 when was the last time you spoke to your cousin?

9 A Probably around July 1st or -- around July 1st.

10 Q Okay. Of 2021?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. Had you seen him around July 4th at all?

13 A No.

14 Q Okay. Had you been trying to reach him?

15 A No.

16 Q Okay. Did you ever get a call from his neighbors?

17 A I did.

18 Q Okay. And after speaking to his neighbors --
19 specifically, who did you get a call from?

20 A Ms. Kitty.

21 Q Okay. Ms. Kitty's real name is Johnnie Mae?

22 A Johnnie Mae.

23 Q She's the one seated back here with the red hair?

24 A Yeah, yes.

25 MR. HUNTER: Please stand up.

1 (Whereupon, person complied.)

2 Q That's who --

3 A Yes.

4 Q -- you got a call from?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay. And after speaking to her, what did you tell
7 her to do?

8 A I told her to -- that I would call him. And I said he
9 would answer the phone if I call him. And I called once
10 and I didn't get an answer, and I waited a couple of
11 minutes and I called again.

12 And then I called her back and told her that I was
13 going to call the police to get a welfare check, and I
14 called the police.

15 Q Okay. And did you ultimately head towards his house?

16 A Yes. I did.

17 Q And this was on the morning of July 8th?

18 A That's correct.

19 Q Okay. When you get to the house, or shortly after you
20 get to the house, who's present?

21 A Ms. Kitty and -- just Ms. Kitty and I, yes.

22 Q Was there a Mr. Scottie Allen there?

23 A No.

24 Q Okay. Did y'all walk around the house?

25 A No. We just kind of stayed at the front door and the

1 side, and the side of the house.

2 Q Did y'all try to get into the house?

3 A I tried with my key and I was fumbling and I couldn't
4 get in.

5 Q Okay. Did, ultimately, the emergency services come to
6 the house?

7 A Yes. Police department did. Police officer did show
8 up.

9 Q Okay. And some E.M.S. officer or E.M.S.s, E.M.T.s
10 came as well?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q Did y'all try to call him out from the house?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did you have any response?

15 A No response.

16 Q Did he have any medical issues that you were aware of?

17 A Heart. He had some heart issues, and high blood
18 pressure.

19 Q So you were worried at this point since he wasn't
20 answering the phones calls or answering at the house?

21 A Right, correct.

22 Q Now, he didn't have a car, did he?

23 A No. He had to walk.

24 Q So the lack of a car there didn't surprise you.

25 A That's true.

1 Q Okay. Did you advise the police officers that you
2 want them to go into the house?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Okay. After they go into the house, where do you go?

5 A I stayed on the porch, and he told me to move
6 backwards, get closer to the street.

7 Q At that point you knew something was wrong?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And so, again, you and Ms. Kitty or Ms. Roseburgh
10 tried to get in the house and couldn't. No response. And
11 that was the morning of July 8th.

12 A That's correct.

13 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
14 you.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. SNYDER

17 Q Ms. Porter, did you know -- did you know a whole lot
18 about the personal dealings of your cousin?

19 A Yes. I did.

20 Q You knew about his homosexual tendencies?

21 A Yes. I did.

22 Q And did you also know that he would sell different
23 things in his house like beer, cigarettes?

24 A Yes. I did.

25 Q And he would have people come throughout the day to

Johnnie Mae Roseburgh
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 buy things.

2 A Yes. I did.

3 Q So you're aware that he lived an alternative
4 lifestyle.

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

8 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
9 call Johnnie Mae Roseburgh.

10 JOHNNIE MAE ROSEBURGH, having
11 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

13 Q Can you please state your full legal name for the
14 record?

15 A Johnnie Mae Roseburgh.

16 Q Okay. what do people call you?

17 A Kitty.

18 Q Okay. where do you live?

19 A [REDACTED] winsmith Avenue.

20 Q Okay. what is the building directly to your right?

21 A Mr. --

22 Q If looking at your house directly to the left.

23 A To the right is Mr. Jackson's building. To the -- to
24 the left is a big yellow house.

25 Q So you're right behind Bobby Jackson Electrical?

- 1 A Uh-huh.
- 2 Q Okay. And what's across the street from you?
- 3 A Ronnie's house and a blue house on the corner.
- 4 Q Okay. But the [REDACTED] winsmith, that's Ronnie's house
- 5 that's close to you.
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Okay. How long have you lived there?
- 8 A About 27 years.
- 9 Q And the whole time you lived there, Ronnie's lived
- 10 across the street?
- 11 A Uh-huh. I knowed Ronnie before I moved there.
- 12 Q Okay.
- 13 A Uh-huh. Because we stated on Union Street once.
- 14 Q Do you know how many bedrooms were in Ronnie's house?
- 15 A Three.
- 16 Q Okay. What did he do with the other two bedrooms?
- 17 A I know he had a boarder, Mr. Book, and I guess Marcus.
- 18 Q So he rented out the rooms? He rented out the other
- 19 rooms?
- 20 A Yeah. He rented out the one to Mr. Book.
- 21 Q To -- and that's Matthew Booker?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Okay. Had you ever seen this defendant over at the
- 24 house?
- 25 A Uh-huh.

1 Q Did you know him to be living there as well?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. On -- when was the last time you saw Ronald
4 Glenn?

5 A I saw him that Sunday on the porch.

6 Q And that's July 4th?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Y'all have a little party?

9 A Well, I didn't go. You know, I -- I didn't go over
10 there, but I seen him on the porch because I was on my
11 porch.

12 Q Okay. And y'all are how many feet away from each
13 other? Just a road, basically the road?

14 A Yeah. I guess about 10 feet, something like that, 20,
15 13, something. Nothing much.

16 Q Did he have a cookout July 4th?

17 A Yeah. I think he was having a cookout.

18 Q So is that the last day you saw him?

19 A Uh-huh.

20 Q Okay. Do you remember who was there?

21 A I remember seeing Ronnie and Marcus.

22 Q Okay. On July 4th.

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. Did you after July 4th, did you ever try to
25 speak to Mr. Glenn?

1 A Uh-huh.

2 Q Okay. when did you do that?

3 A That Monday. I called him and didn't get no answer.

4 So I didn't know what was going on.

5 So that Tuesday I called him again and didn't get no
6 answer. So I went over there and rang the doorbell because
7 I wanted to get me two cigarettes.

8 Q Okay.

9 A And I didn't get no response. So I just went on back
10 over to the house.

11 Q And as Mr. Snyder alluded to with Ms. Sharon, what did
12 Ronnie do to help make a living for himself at that house?

13 A I know he got a check.

14 Q well, how about this. what is a liquor house?

15 A Yeah. He sold liquor.

16 Q what is a liquor house to you?

17 A It seemed like a liquor house.

18 Q Okay. But he would sell beer, wine, cigarettes and
19 liquor?

20 A And he didn't sell wine. He just sold a little liquor
21 and beer and cigarettes.

22 Q Okay. So if you needed something when a store was
23 closed, you could go to his house?

24 A Yeah, when he had my brand.

25 Q He had your brand?

1 A He stopped selling my brand. He said it got too
2 expensive.

3 Q But you would go over there if you needed something?

4 A Yeah. I have went over there and bought it. Yeah. I
5 ain't going to lie.

6 Q All Right. And after July 5th, you tried to go over
7 there and ring the doorbell?

8 A Uh-huh.

9 Q And that was what, on July 6th?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. And did you get an answer?

12 A No.

13 Q Okay. When was the -- when did you next try to go
14 over there?

15 A That Thursday. Scottie Allen knocked on my door, and
16 he asked me had I seen Ronnie. He had been trying to get
17 in touch with him. He wasn't answering the phone. And he
18 said he had called all the hospitals and everything and he
19 wasn't in the hospital. I told him I hadn't seen him since
20 that Sunday.

21 Q So did you go over to the house --

22 A Yeah.

23 Q -- this day?

24 A Me and him went over -- me and him went over there,
25 and he went around the house calling his name and knocking

1 on the windows.

2 Q And no response?

3 A Uh-uh. And then I thought about it. I had Sharon's
4 phone number and his sister's phone number he had gave me a
5 long time ago in case something happened. And I said let
6 me go over here and get the number and call Sharon. And I
7 called her.

8 Q And did she tell you to call police?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. After she tried to call him?

11 A I don't know whether she --

12 Q Okay.

13 A But I called them first or what.

14 Q Y'all called the police to come over there --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- because you hadn't heard from Ronnie?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q Had you heard from Booker either -- Matthew Booker?

19 A No. Hadn't seen him no more.

20 Q Okay. And after seeing Mr. Batson on the 4th, had you
21 seen him around?

22 A Not to that day they found, they went in the house and
23 found.

24 Q They found them?

25 A Uh-huh.

1 Q Now, when police showed up, were you outside at that
2 time?

3 A When -- yeah.

4 Q When police showed up to go into the house.

5 A Yeah. I was over there in the yard.

6 Q And at that time, just in case we see a video, you
7 were not wearing your wig?

8 A No.

9 Q Okay. You just had the rag on?

10 A Huh?

11 Q You just had the rag on?

12 A Yeah.

13 Q Okay. So just because you look a little different, so
14 I want to make sure.

15 A Yeah.

16 Q And did you inform police of the information you just
17 told me?

18 A Yeah.

19 Q Okay. So when was the last time you saw Ronnie alive?

20 A That Sunday.

21 Q And who was he with?

22 A On his porch. Him and Marcus.

23 Q Just the two of them?

24 A That's all I saw.

25 Q Okay. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have

1 for you.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. SNYDER

4 Q Kitty, right?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay. Just a few questions.

7 You said you used to go over to Mr. Glenn's house and
8 get cigarettes?

9 A Uh-huh.

10 Q And that he would sell cigarettes, beer, liquor?

11 A Uh-huh.

12 Q So, and as the solicitor indicated, that would be
13 referred to as a liquor house?

14 A Well, I didn't call it a liquor house. I just -- you
15 know.

16 Q Okay. You weren't the only person that would go over
17 there.

18 A Oh, no.

19 Q He had people going there throughout the day.

20 A Yeah. And a lot of young -- you know, young guys. A
21 lot of young guys went over there and bought liquor and
22 stuff.

23 Q So a lot of young guys would go over there to buy.

24 A Yeah. But they wouldn't stay and drink it. They'd
25 take it with them.

1 Q Okay.

2 A Yeah. He wouldn't let them do that.

3 Q Okay. Did you know about his sexual tendencies?

4 A Uh-huh. I been knowing Ronnie, yes.

5 Q I'm sorry? Could you say that again?

6 A I say I been knowing him for a lot of years. Yes. I
7 knew.

8 Q What do you mean by that?

9 A I -- I been knowing him almost 40 years, 30 or 40
10 years, because I knew him before I moved on Winsmith. I
11 stayed on Union Street with my mom before my mama passed.
12 And I knew him then -- his mother.

13 Q Same person then?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Sold cigarettes, beer?

16 A Not then. Not back then, he didn't. Not then. They
17 didn't. Uh-uh.

18 Q Did he have a lot of young guys at his house then?

19 A Well, yeah, on Sundays.

20 Q Yeah.

21 A Mostly on Sundays. Yeah. They be down the street,
22 and they'll come up there and buy their liquor and go on
23 back down the road where they was.

24 Q We heard that he, Mr. Glenn, was retired.

25 A Yes.

1 Q So he had a lot of time to be selling cigarettes,
2 liquor and beer to young men in the neighborhood.

3 A I guess so.

4 Q Okay. Thank you.

5 A You're welcome.

6 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

7 THE WITNESS: All right.

8 MR. HUNTER: May we take a short break, Your Honor?

9 THE COURT: All right. I'll ask the jury to please go
10 to your jury room.

11 Understand you can't talk about the case until it's
12 over. So don't discuss the case. You can talk about
13 anything else, but you cannot discuss the case while it's
14 in progress.

15 Please go to your jury room. I'll bring you back
16 after that break.

17 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
18 jury.)

19 THE COURT: We'll be at ease for 15 minutes.

20 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

21 THE COURT: All right. Who is the next one?

22 MR. HUNTER: Richard Turner, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Richard Turner.

24 All right. Bring the jury in.

25 (The following takes place in the presence of the

134 Richard Lee Turner
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 jury.)

2 THE COURT: We'll continue with the state's
3 presentation of evidence.

4 MR. HUNTER: The state would call Richard Turner.

5 RICHARD LEE TURNER, having
6 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

8 Q Can you state your full name for the record?

9 A Richard Lee Turner.

10 Q Okay. And where do you live, Mr. Turner?

11 A [REDACTED] winsmith.

12 Q Okay. How many houses down from that is Ronnie
13 Glenn's house?

14 A Two.

15 Q Okay. And what city is that?

16 A Spartanburg.

17 Q All right. What county is that?

18 A South Carolina.

19 Q County?

20 A County, Spartanburg.

21 Q State of South Carolina?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. I know that's a weird question, but it's
24 something we have to do.

25 How long have you lived there?

1 A I've lived there about 50 years.

2 Q Okay. Fifty years. How long had Mr. Glenn lived
3 there approximately?

4 A I think he was about that long too.

5 Q Okay. So y'all were neighbors for a long time.

6 A Yeah.

7 Q Y'all knew each other pretty well?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Where do you work?

10 A I work at a flop shop.

11 Q Did you work there at that time?

12 A Yes. I worked there, yes.

13 Q July 4th of 2021. Was there a cookout at his house?

14 A Yes. There was.

15 Q Did you attend?

16 A No. I did not.

17 Q Okay. Did you walk by?

18 A I walked by it, yes.

19 Q When did you last see Mr. Glenn alive?

20 A It was July 5th, the morning.

21 Q So the day after July 4th.

22 A Yes. It was the morning.

23 Q That Monday?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay.

- 1 A I just passed by.
- 2 Q Okay. where were you going?
- 3 A To the store.
- 4 Q To do what?
- 5 A To buy some cigarettes.
- 6 Q Okay. Did you play the lottery?
- 7 A Yeah. Played the lottery. Yeah.
- 8 Q Okay. who was with Mr. Glenn at that time?
- 9 A Marcus.
- 10 Q Okay. was there anybody else with him?
- 11 A That's all I see.
- 12 Q All right. And that's the morning of July 5th.
- 13 A Yes. I just spoke and kept on.
- 14 Q Did you speak to him?
- 15 A Yeah. I spoke. They spoke back. That's it.
- 16 Q Did you know who lived at that house at the time?
- 17 A Only Ronnie.
- 18 Q Okay. Did you know who else lived at that house?
- 19 A I guess Marcus and another.
- 20 Q You say you guess. Was he there, Marcus there, a lot?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q Okay. what about the other gentleman -- Mr. Booker?
- 23 A I didn't see him.
- 24 Q Okay. Not that morning.
- 25 A Not that morning, yeah.

1 Q But you knew who he was?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q Okay. So July 5th, the only people there are

4 Mr. Batson and Mr. Glenn.

5 A Yes. They was on the side of the porch.

6 Q when you walked by.

7 A when I walked by. That's it.

8 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
9 you.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. SNYDER

12 Q Say you lived three houses down?

13 A No. Two houses down.

14 Q Two houses down.

15 A Yes.

16 Q So one house in between.

17 A Yeah. One house in between. Yes, sir.

18 Q And you saw a party on July 4th?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Lots of people?

21 A There was a lot of people.

22 Q Lots of guys?

23 A Lots of guys and women too.

24 Q were you familiar with Mr. Glenn's sexual tendencies?

25 A I knew him, but as far as his sexual tendencies, I

1 didn't pay no attention. I don't bother them. I knew
2 about it.

3 Q So you knew there's lots of guys coming in and out of
4 the house?

5 A Yes, yes.

6 Q Did you know he sold things inside of his house?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Did you know that he rented out rooms to that
9 house?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Okay. Were you familiar with any activities that were
12 going on regarding the three residents of that house?

13 A No. I did not.

14 Q You knew nothing about what they did when the doors
15 were shut.

16 A No, no.

17 Q Okay. Thank you.

18 A Uh-huh.

19 MR. HUNTER: May Mr. Turner be excused?

20 THE COURT: He may be.

21 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

22 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
23 call Melody Booker.

24

25

1 MELODY ELAINE BOOKER, having
2 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Good morning, Ms. Booker.

5 A Good morning.

6 Q Please state your full name.

7 A Melody Elaine Booker.

8 Q And how old are you?

9 A Fifty-nine.

10 Q Okay. And are you married?

11 A I was.

12 Q Okay. Who were you married to?

13 A Matthew Booker.

14 Q Okay. Can you kind of briefly explain to us how
15 Matthew came to be living there over there on Winsmith
16 Avenue?

17 A The earlier part of 2021, we separated, and he was
18 staying in an apartment. He lost his apartment. He was
19 staying in a hotel, which was \$381 a week, and I was paying
20 for that out of pocket.

21 The second week in June of that same year he called my
22 son and said that he was washing cars. He was going to be
23 washing cars for Landon Cohen on Union Street.

24 Q Okay.

25 A So Landon -- and I don't know who else -- got him a

1 room at Mr. Glenn's house.

2 Q Okay.

3 A So he moved in there the second week in June.

4 Q So he moved out of the hotel into that house.

5 A Uh-huh.

6 Q And it was much cheaper?

7 A Uh-huh.

8 Q Were you paying for that house as well?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. And this carwash that he was working at, where
11 is that located?

12 A I don't know the number, but it's on Union Street,
13 maybe about ten minutes from there.

14 Q Okay. A ten-minute walk?

15 A Well, no. Maybe about 15-or-20-minute walk, but in a
16 car.

17 Q Is that just after the intersection of Country Club
18 Road?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So after the C.V.S. but before the Bronco's out on
21 Union Street?

22 A Yes. It's right beside Burnett's automotive place.
23 They fix cars there.

24 Q Right up --

25 A Yeah. Right beside it.

1 Q I think at one point it had a huge picture of George
2 Floyd on the side of it.

3 A Yes, yes.

4 Q And that was the carwash that he was working at?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Owned and operated by Mr. Landon Cohen?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Is that the former football player?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. So y'all were separated?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And that's why you were not living with him?

13 A Yes.

14 Q How much contact did you have with him?

15 A Daily. Every day.

16 Q Would you ever come by and bring food?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. When was the last time you did that?

19 A On Monday, July the 5th.

20 Q Okay. The same day that Mr. Turner just testified to?

21 A Yes.

22 Q What did you bring him?

23 A Chicken livers from K.F.C.

24 Q Okay. I was about to ask where they were from. Why
25 did you bring him chicken livers?

1 A Because he called me and I was at K.F.C. He doesn't
2 eat -- he didn't eat chicken, but he would like chicken
3 livers. So he asked me would I bring them to him, and I
4 did.

5 Q Y'all were separated but still contact?

6 A Oh, yes. Best friends.

7 Q Okay. Did you hope to get back together with him?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Now, you said -- at some point you talked about having
10 a child. Did you have a child with Mr. Booker?

11 A No, no.

12 Q How many children do you have?

13 A I have three.

14 Q Did Mr. Booker have any children?

15 A Yes. He has three.

16 Q Okay. But not with you.

17 A No.

18 Q Did Mr. Booker have any health issues?

19 A Yes.

20 Q What health issues did he have?

21 A He had heart problems. He had a pacemaker. He had --
22 he was a real bad diabetic. He had just recently had one
23 of his toes amputated -- his big toe on his right foot. He
24 had neuropathy real bad. He had a lot -- he took like 16
25 pills a day.

1 Q Did you help him with his pills when y'all were living
2 together?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Did he have any side effects from those pills?

5 A Yes.

6 Q What were they?

7 A Lots of time at night when you take them, he's out.
8 He's just -- he's sleepy. Heart -- sleepy -- he had sleep
9 apnea too.

10 Q Did he have any sexual side effects with the pills?

11 A Yes. He was impotent. He couldn't do anything. He
12 was impotent.

13 Q Okay. When was the last time that y'all had sexual
14 relations?

15 A Probably a year or two before that.

16 Q Okay. So it had been a while.

17 A Yes.

18 Q Was it due to the medications?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So the medications made him really sleepy and tired
21 and impotent?

22 A Yes.

23 Q So when was the last time you saw Mr. Booker alive?

24 A The last time I talked to him -- the last time I saw
25 him was Monday, July the 5th. It was between 7:00 and

1 7:30.

2 Like I said, I was at K.F.C. I took him chicken
3 livers, and when I got to the house he was sitting on the
4 porch with Mr. Glenn and Marcus, because he told me who
5 they were. And there was two other ladies that was there.
6 And he came and we talked for maybe an hour. We sat
7 outside in my car and we talked.

8 Q So you never went to the house. Would you ever go to
9 the house?

10 A I would go pick him up, like take him to the doctors'
11 appointments or take him to the store or take him wherever
12 he had to go. But I never just got outta the car. He
13 would always be outside waiting on me.

14 Q You never went into the house.

15 A No. I never went in.

16 Q Again, what time was that?

17 A It was between 7:00 and 7:30. And the reason why I
18 know the time is because July the 5th is also my grandson's
19 birthday, and we were on the phone. He was at the beach
20 and we was at the phone. It was on the phone because he
21 wanted to talk to Mac.

22 Q And that's at night or in the morning.

23 A At night.

24 Q Okay. So 7:00 or 7:30 at night you bring some
25 chicken, some chicken livers.

1 A Yeah.

2 Q And the three roommates are there --

3 A Yeah.

4 Q -- along with some females?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q Okay. Is that the last time you saw your husband
7 alive?

8 A Yeah.

9 Q Did you ever try to get in touch with him after that?

10 A Well, I talked to him later on that night about 10:00,
11 and he told me he had just got finished eating and took a
12 shower. He was fixing to go to bed.

13 And the next day he wanted me to take him to get some
14 diabetic shoes. So I tried to call him all day Tuesday,
15 and I didn't get an answer. And a lot of times he do lose
16 his phone. So I thought maybe he had lost his phone or he
17 was doing something with Landon.

18 And that Wednesday I didn't get in touch with him, and
19 my mom was sick, so I had to take her to the doctor.

20 So Thursday when I got off from work I went by the
21 carwash, and it was locked. I went up to the house, and
22 that's when I saw all of the police cars and everything
23 that was there.

24 Q And so you showed up at the scene after the police
25 were at the house?

1 A Yeah.

2 Q Okay. And that's on that July 8th?

3 A That Thursday.

4 Q That Thursday. Kind of the mid-afternoon?

5 A It was -- it had to be around 4:00, because I get off
6 from work at 3:00. I don't -- I'm going to leave. So when
7 I do my reports, I usually leave about 3:15 or 3:30. And I
8 came straight. Come from Duncan, and I came straight
9 there.

10 Q Where are you employed?

11 A At Rochling Automotive.

12 Q Okay. So you came straight there. And did you inform
13 the police who you were?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did they tell you at that time what was happening?

16 A They just -- they didn't really tell me anything.
17 They just asked me did I know who lived there, and I told
18 them about Matt.

19 And at this time I was hearing different people
20 talking about two bodies. So I walked up to the police
21 officer when I got there, and I was, like, asked them can I
22 go in, and he told me no, I wouldn't want to go in. And he
23 asked me who I was, and I told him. And I said, well, I
24 know Matt. I said look at his chest. He has a scar from
25 heart surgery. I said and his toe on his right foot is

1 taken off. And I said please tell me he's not in there,
2 and they wouldn't tell me anything.

3 Q But, ultimately, you were told?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. SNYDER

8 Q Ms. Booker, I am sorry about what happened.

9 How long were you and Matthew married?

10 A We were married seven years. We were together 12.

11 Q Okay. And you said he was taking medication that made
12 him drowsy and impotent?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Were you also aware of his homosexual tendencies?

15 A No. He wasn't homosexual.

16 Q Okay. Were you also aware that he was in a --
17 essentially a boarding house?

18 A Yes. I was aware that he was renting a room from
19 Mr. Ronnie.

20 Q Okay. Were you also aware that -- that Mr. Glenn
21 would sell stuff out of the house -- liquor, cigarettes?

22 A I didn't know Mr. Glenn personally. I only -- I never
23 went in the house. I only stopped and picked Matt up if he
24 had to go to the doctor or we went out somewhere. So I
25 don't know what Mr. Glenn was doing.

1 Q So you don't know anything that was going on inside
2 that house.

3 A No. We never talked about it. We only talked about
4 him leaving the house.

5 Q Okay. And you didn't -- you weren't aware that this
6 was a liquor house?

7 A No. He never talked about that. He never said that
8 about that house.

9 Q And you didn't know that there were young men going
10 inside, in and out of his house, throughout the day.

11 A No. The only person I knowed that Matt would talk
12 about was Mr. Glenn and Marcus.

13 Q Okay. The two that lived there.

14 A Yes.

15 Q Were you aware that Mr. Glenn had these homosexual
16 tendencies?

17 A Well, he did tell me that Mr. Glenn and Marcus was
18 together. He told me that, now.

19 Q He didn't say he was with him -- Mr. Glenn.

20 A No. I asked him personally about -- when he told me
21 about Mr. Glenn and Marcus, I asked him. But Matt was
22 impotent. He couldn't do anything for anybody anyway, so.

23 Q You would agree though that you can have homosexual
24 tendencies and still be impotent.

25 A No. He wasn't homosexual. That's all.

1 Q But you could -- you can agree that you can have
2 homosexual tendencies and still be impotent, correct?

3 A I don't know that. I don't know that personally. I
4 don't know that.

5 Q Okay. So you're aware that he was renting out a room
6 with a person that -- who -- a person that was homosexual.

7 A I only found out about the homosexual that Monday,
8 that Monday that they had -- July the 5th, because we was
9 outside talking, and he talked about it. He told me about
10 it.

11 I was just asking who was those people on the porch,
12 because they kept looking in my car. They kept looking
13 over there at us. And he pointed out who they were.
14 That's how I knew who they were.

15 Q But, so, you were -- you were aware that --

16 A That Monday, that first day.

17 Q Yeah. Okay. Great.

18 How long had you been separated with Matthew?

19 A Since January, the beginning of the year that year.

20 Q January of 2021?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And to your knowledge he wasn't homosexual.

23 A No. He wasn't.

24 Q But he was impotent.

25 A Yes.

1 Q And you don't know what was going on inside the house.

2 A No. I don't.

3 Q You don't know anything else about that house.

4 A He had only been there for -- he wasn't even -- about
5 a month.

6 Q Okay.

7 A So we just talked about me and him. I never wanted to
8 know what was going on in there.

9 I just know he at that moment, Monday, July the 5th,
10 when we talked, he was telling me that he wanted to find
11 somewhere else.

12 He was just -- he just told me he was there to go to
13 work. It was closer to his job, and he just told me
14 Monday, July the 5th, that he wanted to leave because he
15 said that Mr. Glenn and Marcus was together. And I asked
16 him then, and he said that Mr. Glenn liked younger men,
17 much younger men.

18 That's all he told me. I don't know anything else. I
19 can't tell you anything else because I don't know.

20 Q Sure, yeah. But so the one time in -- was it five
21 months -- that he talked about that house he told you that
22 there's some weird sexual stuff going on in that house.

23 A Yeah. He was -- like I said, he moved in the second
24 week in June of 2023, and he was killed July the 5th.

25 Q When?

1 A The second week in June of 2021. I'm sorry. And he
2 was killed that Monday, July. He was there for about a
3 month. Not -- well, less than a month.

4 Q Do you remember speaking with an Investigator
5 Woodcock?

6 A Yeah, no. I don't -- I only spoke with her. I don't
7 know anybody else.

8 Is that the guy I spoke with in the car? I spoke with
9 a detective in the car, but I don't know his name.

10 Q Do you remember saying that Matthew had lived there
11 for two months?

12 A No. I didn't say that. He moved in the second week
13 of June, and he moved out. And he was killed July the 5th.
14 That's when he moved, because I paid the bills. I paid
15 Mr. Ronnie \$300 in June and I paid him \$400 in July for the
16 month of July.

17 Q So you don't remember telling Mr. Woodcock that he had
18 been living there for two months?

19 A No. Because I know he didn't.

20 Q Yeah. Okay. But at the time he was there, the one
21 conversation you had about what was going on inside the
22 house, he said that there's some weird sexual things
23 happening with the other two residents.

24 A That's what he told me.

25 Q Okay. Thank you.

Jeremy Drake
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. HUNTER

3 Q I don't know why they keep saying homosexual
4 tendencies. He told you that Ronald was gay, Ronnie Glenn
5 was gay.

6 A Yes.

7 Q And that he was in a sexual relationship with Marcus
8 Batson.

9 A Yes.

10 Q Thank you.

11 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

12 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
13 call Officer Drake.

14 JEREMY DRAKE, having been
15 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

17 Q I'm going to hand you a report just so that you can
18 refer to it if you need to.

19 Okay. Can you please state your full name for the
20 record?

21 A Jeremy Drake.

22 Q I'm going to hand you what's been premarked State's
23 Exhibit 19. We'll talk about it in a second. You might
24 need that.

25 How are you employed?

1 A I'm a patrol officer at the City of Spartanburg Police
2 Department.

3 Q And how long have you been there?

4 A Coming up on four years.

5 Q And what is your duty as a patrol officer?

6 A Respond to calls for service, provide basic law
7 enforcement for the city.

8 Q And did you respond to a call for service on
9 July 7th or 8th of 2021?

10 A I did.

11 Q Just looking at your report, you said July 7th. But
12 was it July 8th?

13 A It was July 7th.

14 Q The 7th. So that's a typo, or no?

15 A I believe it is --

16 Q July 7th is a typo. July 8th is when y'all responded?

17 A I believe so.

18 Q And that would be the Thursday.

19 A Yes. It was a Thursday. I know that.

20 Q Why did you respond to -- well, first of all, where is
21 [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue?

22 A It's right about a house or two in the intersection of
23 Winsmith and Union Street on the south side of the city.

24 Q City of?

25 A City of Spartanburg.

1 Q County of?

2 A County of Spartanburg.

3 Q State of?

4 A South Carolina.

5 Q Okay. And that's where the bodies were ultimately
6 located?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Why did you respond that day?

9 A I responded out there for -- I believe it was a
10 welfare check that another officer was dispatched to that
11 we -- my trainee and I at the time also responded to for
12 assistance.

13 Q So you were a field training officer?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Who was your officer that you were training?

16 A Officer Katherine Davis.

17 Q Okay. And is she a blond?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Who was the other officer that was already on
20 the scene?

21 A Officer Michael Smith.

22 Q Okay. And when you all arrived on the scene, is there
23 an air conditioning unit on the porch?

24 A There was.

25 Q And who had removed that?

1 A Officer Smith did.

2 Q Okay. Were you able to smell anything when you were
3 on the porch?

4 A Yes. When we approached the window there's an odor
5 emanating from the house that was consistent with that of
6 decomposition.

7 Q How are you familiar with that?

8 A I've been on numerous cases where bodies have been
9 found, and death calls and such.

10 Q So just through your training and experience you know
11 what it smells like?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Did y'all attempt to call out in the house?

14 A We did.

15 Q Was there an answer?

16 A There was not.

17 Q Did y'all inform the city police y'all were looking
18 for Mr. Glenn?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Is that who you were looking for at the time?

21 A I believe that's who I instructed Officer Davis to
22 call out for.

23 Q And Ms. Sharon Porter was there prior to that.

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. And did you receive a response?

1 A We did not.

2 Q At that time did y'all enter the house?

3 A We did.

4 Q Okay. What did you discover?

5 A I walked into the house and saw a door directly to the
6 left that was closed, a slightly ajar door. I believe it
7 was right next to the dining room. We ended up opening
8 that.

9 Inside the residence or inside that room on the floor
10 was found a -- what appeared to be a deceased male with a
11 red substance around the head.

12 Q Okay. And, ultimately, who was that male?

13 A I believe that was Mr. Glenn. I'm not entirely sure
14 though. I helped with the security at the scene.

15 Q But that's the middle bedroom.

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Mr. Booker's bedroom.

18 A Mr. Booker. I'm sorry. Yes.

19 Q At that point, what do y'all do?

20 A We notified the supervisor on the scene, basically
21 secured the -- secured the house. I believe I asked the
22 family members to step off the porch to secure the area.

23 Q When you secure the house, what does that mean?

24 A Nobody in or nobody out.

25 Q Did you make sure no one else was in the house at that

1 time?

2 A We did. We did too. There was a bedroom at the back
3 of the residence that appeared to be locked from the
4 inside. We were able to make entry.

5 Q Okay. Do other officers start showing up at the
6 house?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And so you made a call to investigators at this point
9 that y'all had located a deceased individual?

10 A Well, I notified the sergeant at the time. I believe
11 she made notifications to investigations.

12 Q And that would be Sergeant Christina Morgan?

13 A Correct.

14 Q Okay. But, ultimately, investigators started showing
15 up?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Including Investigator Woodcock.

18 A Correct.

19 Q And Ryant.

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. Did you advise them about your findings with
22 that back door?

23 A Correct. I did.

24 Q Okay. What did y'all decide to do at that point?

25 A At that point -- there is a -- there's a room that's

1 at the exterior or at the rear of the residence. There was
2 a ladder that we found there. During our sweep of the --
3 of the house that allowed me to step up to look inside of
4 where that window was or to get close enough.

5 we simply pulled that ladder to the back of the house.
6 I climbed up on top of it. When I got to where the air
7 conditioner was, it was still on. Located the exhaust out.
8 I could smell an odor, detect an odor, consistent with that
9 of decomposition as well.

10 At that time we removed the seal basically from the
11 window sill to the air conditioner off to the side where I
12 was able to observe another body inside that residence or
13 inside that room.

14 Q So y'all haven't found Mr. Glenn at this point. So
15 you go around and look through the air conditioner, that
16 little cording thing on the side.

17 A Yes.

18 Q You moved that and were able to observe into the room.

19 A Yes.

20 Q And at that point you found a second body.

21 A I did.

22 Q Okay. And you informed the investigators that were
23 with you.

24 A I did.

25 Q Can you look at that video in front of you? And it's

1 state's exhibit what?

2 A Nineteen.

3 Q Nineteen. Did you have a body-worn camera at the time
4 that you responded to this house?

5 A I did.

6 Q Okay. In fact, did you make multiple videos?

7 A I did.

8 Q I think you made ten in total.

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. And have you reviewed your videos?

11 A I have.

12 Q Do they fairly and accurately depict the scene as you
13 remember it that day?

14 A They do.

15 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
16 offer State's Exhibit 19 into evidence.

17 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

18 THE COURT: It's admitted.

19 (Body-worn-camera video of Jeremy Drake marked State's
20 Exhibit No. 19.)

21 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

22 Q So that's when you located Mr. Booker?

23 A Yes.

24 Q In the second video you go and locate Mr. Glenn?

25 A Yes.

1 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

2 Q Is that Lieutenant Metz talking to you?

3 A Yes. It is.

4 Q And that's when you located the second body?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And that's inside the locked bedroom?

7 A Correct.

8 Q Just to identify. Who were those two officers when we
9 first -- observed that first video?

10 A That was Officer Michael Smith and Officer Kathryn
11 Davis.

12 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
13 you.

14 MR. SNYDER: I just have a couple.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. SNYDER

17 Q In your investigation you were made aware that Ronald
18 Glenn was the owner of this house, correct?

19 A I believe it was mentioned to me at some point during
20 the investigation, yes.

21 Q But, regardless, you understood it was operated like a
22 boarding house where rooms were rented out to different
23 individuals.

24 A Later on in the investigation, yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. And when you discovered Mr. Glenn's body, he

Ronnie Horn
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 was naked from the waist down, correct?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Thank you.

4 MR. HUNTER: May the witness be excused?

5 THE COURT: He may be. Thank you.

6 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

7 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
8 call Investigator Ronnie Horn.

9 RONNIE HORN, having been first
10 duly sworn, testified as follows:

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

12 Q Took me a second to find your report.

13 Please state your full name for the record.

14 A Ronnie Horn.

15 Q And how are you employed?

16 A Employed as an investigator with the Spartanburg
17 Police Department.

18 Q How long have you been in law enforcement?

19 A On the civilian side since 1989.

20 Q Military before that?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Okay. Can you give a brief overview of your law
23 enforcement experience?

24 A United States Air Force Security Police. Transitioned
25 to civilian law enforcement in 1989 starting with the

1 Spartanburg Police Department. 1995, transferred over to
2 the sheriff's office. Retired there in 2016 -- November.
3 And then Chief Thompson hired me with the Spartanburg
4 Police Department January of 2017.

5 Q Okay. So you've already retired from law enforcement
6 and come back to work the second career of law enforcement.

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q So how many? How many years is that?

9 A I don't know -- 36 maybe. Something like that.

10 Q So this is not your first death investigation.

11 A No, sir. It's not.

12 Q You weren't the lead on this investigation.

13 A I was not. No.

14 Q July of 2021, what was your title?

15 A Investigator.

16 Q Okay. And did you respond out to [REDACTED] winsmith?

17 A I did, yes, sir.

18 Q Okay. And why was that?

19 A Based off the information I received, there was a
20 deceased body at that residence. So myself and
21 Investigator woodcock responded out there.

22 Q Okay. When you got out there, what did you do?

23 A When we got out there we made entry into the home.
24 Officers were still inside. And we went to or I went to
25 the -- I guess what would be the -- middle bedroom of the

1 residence to where we found Mr. Booker.

2 Q And that was in that first video that we showed. That
3 was the middle bedroom?

4 A That's correct, yes, sir.

5 Q Okay. What did you observe around Mr. Booker?

6 A Well, it was a bedroom. So there was a lot of stuff
7 in there. But I took notice to a backpack, a black one,
8 that was partially open. I could see some contents in it.
9 Yes.

10 Q What else was in the room? Just kinda describe what
11 you saw about the body.

12 A Well, there was, like, clothing, I think. What I can
13 remember, there was like a wallet setting on the dresser
14 across the room from -- I guess his head was up here, feet
15 here, and then the wallet was over on the back side.

16 Q Can you describe the body?

17 A It looked like to me, I assumed, to be a lot of blood
18 on the floor. There was a bed that would have been
19 immediately to the left up against the wall. There was
20 also, I took notice, to a bunch one of blood splatter along
21 the wall next to the door above the bed.

22 Q I'm going to show you what's been premarked State's
23 Exhibit 29, I believe. Is that a picture of the middle
24 bedroom?

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Is that a picture of the splatter as you saw it that
2 day?

3 A It is. Yes, sir.

4 Q And does it fairly and accurately represent the scene
5 as you remember it that day?

6 A It does. Yes, sir.

7 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
8 offer State's Exhibit 29 into evidence.

9 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

10 THE COURT: It's admitted.

11 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 29.)

12 Q I'm going to show it here on the screen if you could
13 just describe what you're talking about.

14 A So --

15 Q Hold on one second. Let me zoom out a little bit.

16 (Pause.)

17 Q Okay.

18 A Okay. So with what's on the screen there just to the
19 left above the pillow, that's the doorway into the bedroom.

20 Q And that's right here.

21 A That is correct. Yes, sir.

22 Q And that's the door that we saw Officer Drake open.

23 A Correct.

24 Q What else did you observe?

25 A Again, looking at that picture, as I walk in of course

1 the bed is to my left. There's blood all over the pillow
2 and the bed, and of course the blood splatter there on the
3 wall.

4 And just to the other side of the bed, which would be
5 to the right from the pillow, is Mr. Booker laying on the
6 floor. His head is on the direction of where the pillow
7 is. So his head is this way. His feet are toward the
8 bottom.

9 Q Kinda just below where this picture is?

10 A Correct. Yes, sir.

11 Q Did you reach -- you mentioned a bookbag. Did you
12 reach into one of the bookbags in the room?

13 A I did. I reached into it because, again, like I said,
14 it was partially opened. I could see what appeared to be
15 medicine bottles to me. So, not knowing who this person
16 is -- and I couldn't sit there and say who that is -- I
17 reached in suspecting, obviously, that the medication
18 bottles would have a name. So I grabbed one out, and it
19 had Mr. Booker's name on it.

20 Q Okay. Did you also find a wallet in the room?

21 A I did. The wallet that was across the room. So I
22 made my way around, found the wallet, opened it up, and it
23 was the identification for Mr. Booker.

24 Q Now, obviously, Mr. Booker had a lot of trauma to his
25 face. So were you able to identify him at that time?

1 A I -- honestly, I couldn't have stood there and told
2 you that was him. I could only --

3 Q Was he lying face down too?

4 A Yeah.

5 Q That was not the name that was provided in the welfare
6 check?

7 A What I remember, no, it was not.

8 Q And that was Mr. Ronald Glenn, was that name.

9 A Yes. Correct.

10 Q And at the point where you go into this room, do you
11 know where Mr. Glenn is?

12 A At that time, no, we did not.

13 Q Was there a room in the house that y'all were unable
14 to enter at some point?

15 A Yes. There was a locked bedroom toward the back. If
16 I can remember correctly, if you go toward the kitchen, it
17 was over to the left side. And that door was locked. That
18 was a concern for me.

19 Q Locked in what?

20 A Looked like deadbolt.

21 Q Okay. At that time is that when Officer Drake gets
22 the ladder?

23 A Yes, sir. And that's in the previous video. When you
24 saw them going around to the back side --

25 Q Yeah.

1 A -- that would be the window to his room that was
2 locked.

3 Q Were you informed of what Mr. Drake found in that
4 room?

5 A I was.

6 Q Saw in that room?

7 A Correct. I was.

8 Q Okay. So what do you do at that point?

9 A At that time based off that information, I kicked the
10 door in.

11 Q Take you a few kicks to get the door in?

12 A I don't remember. I like to think only once, but I'm
13 not sure.

14 Q If I told you it took three or four, you'd be okay
15 with that?

16 A Yes, sir. I'm getting older.

17 Q Once you kicked the door in though, what do you
18 observe?

19 A As soon as the door was opened up I saw the body
20 laying on the floor.

21 Q And that would be the body of Ronald Glenn?

22 A That was later determined to be Mr. Glenn, yes, sir.

23 Q Was he, obviously, deceased?

24 A It looked like it to me, yes, sir.

25 Q When you were in the house could you smell

1 decomposition?

2 A I could, yes, sir.

3 Q Approximately how many dead bodies have you been
4 around?

5 A Oh, wow. It's a lot.

6 Q So you understand what that smell is?

7 A I do. It's very distinctive.

8 Q Once you found Ronald Glenn's body, do you instruct
9 all of the officers to do something?

10 A Yeah. We just cleared the house.

11 Q And why were you clearing the house?

12 A At that time Sergeant Kirby, who's a lieutenant now,
13 he was going to get the search warrant. We cleared the
14 house. He was just going to get a search warrant to begin
15 the investigation to carry on with it.

16 Q So based on finding the second body, you know at this
17 point this is a crime scene?

18 A Oh, yeah, most definitely, yes, sir.

19 Q And the city police at that time go and get a search
20 warrant for the house?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q And at that point nobody's entering or going in or out
23 of the house.

24 A No.

25 Q There's plenty of officers down there securing the

1 scene?

2 A That's correct, yes, sir.

3 Q So what do you do? where do you go?

4 A Well, after that I leave that area to go and check. I
5 think it's Bobby Jackson's Electrical, which is a business
6 on the corner. I stopped there first because the intention
7 is to go check the area to see if there's any additional
8 security cameras around the area. Of course I took note to
9 Bobby Jackson because the camera is setting on a corner of
10 the building, winsmith side adjacent to Union Street.

11 Q And, ultimately, that was a dummy camera?

12 A The --

13 Q The one facing winsmith.

14 A As far as I can remember, yeah.

15 Q And I believe that's what Ms. Patty Jackson testified
16 to this.

17 A Yeah.

18 Q But you did note that there were other cameras at
19 Bobby Jackson's.

20 A I did, yes, sir.

21 Q Did you attempt to make contact with them?

22 A I did. I didn't get any response to the door, so I
23 ran a tag through dispatch, and I asked them to provide me
24 with a phone number for that name, and they did give me a
25 number, for which I did call. And I didn't get an answer,

1 so I left a voice mail to call me.

2 Q And at some point did they get back in contact with
3 the police?

4 A They do, yes, sir.

5 Q And provide that video that we've seen?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. Then where do you head?

8 A Then I make my way down Union Street to different
9 intersections to check to see if some of the residents had,
10 like, Ring cameras or any kind of security cameras mounted
11 that would be of any benefit to our investigation.

12 Q Okay. Did you go the School District Seven building?

13 A I did, yes, sir.

14 Q Were you able to locate anything there of interest?

15 A No.

16 Q After there, did you go to the E.M.S. building?

17 A I did, yes.

18 Q And who did you speak with?

19 A I contacted Rodney McAbee at that location.

20 Q It that someone that y'all were familiar with?

21 A I am. I've known Rodney for quite some time.

22 Q Okay. And y'all work with them because they're E.M.S.
23 So even not just with this camera, y'all work with E.M.S.
24 quit a bit on calls.

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Did you request video from E.M.S.?

2 A I did. I asked them for any video coverage they may
3 have that would show that intersection for the area closest
4 to the house.

5 Q Were y'all able to locate a camera that actually
6 showed that area?

7 A We did.

8 Q Okay. When did you ask for video footage for?

9 A I think it was like on a Tuesday. We went back three
10 or four days, I think.

11 Q The Saturday?

12 A Yes. I believe so.

13 Q So, basically, you asked for Saturday, Sunday, Monday,
14 into Tuesday morning?

15 A Correct, yes.

16 Q Tuesday afternoon. That's quite a large period. Were
17 you able to get the video at that point?

18 A No. That was a very large timeframe for them to pull
19 video for. I was informed that it may take a little bit
20 and that it would be a large volume of video.

21 Q Okay. So after you make that request, where do you
22 go?

23 A I leave there, and there's a house across from E.M.S.
24 I think I got it noted in here. Naomi Feletiano.

25 Q Okay. You go to Ms. Naomi's house. Were you able to

1 find any video at her house?

2 A No. None of those cameras were able to provide any
3 kind of video.

4 Q Once leaving her house, do you go to St. Andrew
5 Street?

6 A Yes. Now, we did go to St. Andrews Street. Myself
7 and Captain Hillers and Investigator Ryant.

8 Q Okay. And that was to do a consent search of
9 Ms. Barbara Riaz's apartment?

10 A It was, yes, sir.

11 Q Was there anything recovered during that search?

12 A I don't recall we got anything from there.

13 Q Was a cell phone recovered during that search?

14 A Oh, yes.

15 Q But that was not in Ms. Riaz's apartment. It was in
16 an apartment next to hers?

17 A I'm trying to think back. I know we recovered
18 and being --

19 Q Actually, you recovered multiple cell phones.

20 A Yes.

21 Q And then you go back to the incident location.

22 A I do, yes, sir.

23 Q Okay. And at that point, where do you go?

24 A After the going-back-to-the-house -- let me check my
25 notes.

1 (Pause.)

2 A I went back to the incident location, and there I
3 waited for crime scene.

4 Q And once crime scene was done, you head back to your
5 office?

6 A I do, yes, sir.

7 Q Then on July 12th did you get a call from E.M.S.?

8 A I did get a phone call, yes, sir.

9 Q From who?

10 A Rodney McAbee, I think, was the one that called me
11 about the video being ready. I did go over there, and once
12 I got there to retrieve that video I talked to Josh
13 Kingsmore who actually handed me a hard drive.

14 (E.M.S. hard drive and thumb drive marked State's
15 Exhibit No. 31 for Identification.)

16 Q I'm going to show you what's been premarked State's
17 Exhibit 31. Do you recognize this item?

18 A I do.

19 Q And 21. Do you recognize those items?

20 A I do.

21 Q Again, you requested quite a large amount of video.

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q And how did they have to provide it to you?

24 A They put it on a hard drive. It had a bunch of
25 terabyte on it.

1 Q And what did you do with the hard drive?

2 A Once I got back to the office, I hooked it up to a
3 computer, and I actually placed, downloaded, onto two thumb
4 drives.

5 Q Can you open the evidence package?

6 (Pause.)

7 Q So, basically, the information on the hard drive, you
8 moved to two large storage U.S.B. drives.

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Okay. And, ultimately, downloaded one video, State's
11 Exhibit 21, from those storage devices.

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q So those storage devices have about, what, 72 to 96
14 hours worth of video on them?

15 A Yeah. Probably so. A lot.

16 Q And State's Exhibit -- the C.D. or D.V.D. only has the
17 one 30-minute pulling from those videos?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Okay. And do they fairly and accurately detect the
20 scene from that camera?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
23 offer State's Exhibit --

24 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Twenty-one is from where and 31 is from

1 where?

2 MR. HUNTER: Thirty-one and 21. Thirty-one is all of
3 the videos from E.M.S. It's the hard drive, and two thumb
4 drives. Twenty-one is just one of the files.

5 THE COURT: They're admitted without objection.

6 (E.M.S. video marked State's Exhibit No. 21; E.M.S.
7 hard drive and thumb drive marked State's Exhibit No. 31.)

8 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have,
9 please.

10 A Yes, sir.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. SNYDER

13 Q Just briefly.

14 You discovered Mr. Glenn's body?

15 A Once I kicked the door in, it was laying right there
16 for -- right in plain view.

17 Q Yes, sir. He had no pants on?

18 A I don't think that he did.

19 Q Okay. And this is a small house, correct?

20 A I wouldn't call it small. I think it was a decent
21 size.

22 Q But the bedrooms were all situated very close to each
23 other.

24 A Yeah. It seemed like all the bedrooms were when you
25 go in the front door, they were all toward the left side of

Matthew Davis
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 the home.

2 Q Close together.

3 A I guess you would call it, yeah.

4 Q Thank you.

5 MR. HUNTER: Just one question, Your Honor.

6 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. HUNTER

8 Q But Mr. Booker, Matthew Booker, he was fully clothed
9 when you found him?

10 A Yes, yeah.

11 MR. HUNTER: Nothing further.

12 THE COURT: You may step down.

13 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 MR. HUNTER: May Investigator Horn be excused?

15 THE COURT: He may be.

16 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

17 MR. HUNTER: May we approach?

18 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence
19 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

20 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, the state would call SLED
21 Agent Matthew Davis.

22

23

24

25

1 MATTHEW DAVIS, having been
2 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Please state your full name for the record.

5 A Matthew Davis.

6 Q How are you currently employed?

7 A I'm a special agent with the South Carolina Law
8 Enforcement Division, also commonly referred to as SLED.
9 And I am in the investigations division assigned to the
10 Piedmont Region, which encompasses several counties of the
11 Upstate, in fact, the whole upstate.

12 Q How long have you been with SLED?

13 A I've been with SLED since 2017.

14 Q And prior to SLED that, what was your law enforcement
15 experience?

16 A Prior to that, in 2004 I was hired with the City of
17 Spartanburg, Spartanburg Police Department. I was there
18 until 2008. In 2008 I went over to Spartanburg County
19 Sheriff's Office where I went to investigations and was
20 assigned to violent crimes and other different units within
21 investigations before I left and went in 2017 to SLED.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Davis, you're turning your back to the
23 court reporter. She can't pick you up.

24 THE WITNESS: Okay.

25 THE COURT: You might need to get closer to that

1 microphone too.

2 Q Speak loudly so she can hear you. Okay?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Did you respond out to [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue?

5 A I did.

6 Q And why did you do that?

7 A So, I work -- a lot of the times I'll work at
8 different offices throughout the Upstate, and this
9 particular day one of the places I routinely work out of is
10 Spartanburg Police Department. And I was there when they
11 received a call from patrol asking that they come out to a
12 death at Winsmith Avenue. So I went out to assist.

13 Q So you go out there with investigators?

14 A I did.

15 Q When you got there, what do you -- what do you first
16 observe when you go out there?

17 A When I get there there is roped off -- say roped
18 off -- crime scene tape, an area where they're trying to
19 keep people out of. And I come up, and there's different
20 supervisors. At the time he was a sergeant. He's now
21 Lieutenant Jeff Kirby. And I asked him what he would need
22 as far as assistance from me to help them with this case.
23 And he had identified that Mr. Batson, Marcus Batson, had
24 come up saying that he needed to speak to someone. So he
25 asked if I would speak to him and see what it was, the

1 information that he wanted to provide.

2 Q Okay. And do you recognize that gentleman in this
3 courtroom?

4 A I do.

5 Q And where is he seated?

6 A At the other table right here. Blue shirt.

7 Q And he's the defendant?

8 A Defendant.

9 Q So, on the day, July 8th, you actually interviewed Mr.
10 Batson.

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. And where do you conduct that interview?

13 A At the Bobby Jackson Electrical in their parking lot.
14 That was an area that I had designated to easily pull over
15 to get out and speak with him because that appeared to be
16 an area off to the side where nothing was, wouldn't
17 interfere with the crime scene or anything that was going
18 on. In the parking lot, back of my truck.

19 Q Was the interview audio and video recorded?

20 A Yes. It was.

21 Q Okay. Let me show you State's Exhibit 9. Do you
22 recognize that item?

23 A I do.

24 Q And how do you recognize that item?

25 A It's got my initials on it, and it's titled Marcus

1 Batson, interview with SLED Agent Davis.

2 Q And are those the videos from your interviews with
3 Mr. Batson?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And is it two separate videos?

6 A It is.

7 Q Why is it two separate videos?

8 A It's two separate videos because after speaking with
9 Mr. Batson, I later go up to where all of the city
10 investigators are. And I am briefing their supervision,
11 and there was a question. So I turned to ask Mr. Batson
12 who had come back up to the area. Speak with him. And he
13 started saying some information that he had not told me
14 previously that I felt that he would have. So I activated
15 the body camera again to capture that in real time.

16 Q In fact, doesn't Captain Hillers kinda tell you to
17 activate it?

18 A Yes, yes.

19 Q All right. During your first interview over at Bobby
20 Jackson, what did y'all speak about?

21 A We spoke about just background information as far as
22 what was going on. The only knowledge that I had was that
23 there was a dead body inside the residence at ■■■ WinSmith
24 Avenue. And that was all I knew. So I asked Mr. Batson
25 what, what was his connection, what did he know, what

1 information did he want to provide.

2 Q Okay. And what did you learn?

3 A I learned that Mr. Batson lived at [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue
4 with two people called Robert Glenn and Matthew Booker, Jr.
5 Mr. Batson and Mr. Booker both rented a room from Glenn.

6 Q How much did he pay a week?

7 A Batson told me that he paid \$100 a week for his room.

8 Q Okay. Did Mr. Batson ever tell you who he last saw at
9 the residence?

10 A He did. He told me on the afternoon of July 5th of
11 2021 that he came to Winsmith Avenue to pay his rent and he
12 saw that there was Glenn Booker and a Timothy Geter were at
13 the residence.

14 Q What did he say about Mr. Geter?

15 A Batson said that he did not get along with the Geter,
16 said Geter was bad news and reminded Glenn that Geter had
17 previously robbed him.

18 Q So he didn't like this Tim Geter fellow?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Okay.

21 A He went on to indicate to me too that Glenn was going
22 to allow Geter to stay because he had nowhere to go.

23 Q Okay. Did he inform you if he stuck around or left?

24 A Well, he said he left, that he would come back and pay
25 his rent later that --

1 Q where did he go?

2 A He was going to go to his aunt's house, which was
3 Barbara Riaz, although later I found out that that's not
4 his blood aunt. That's just what he referred to her as.

5 Q Did you learn where Mr. Batson worked?

6 A Yes. He told me that he worked at Bob's Carwash.

7 Q And that's the carwash on East Main Street right
8 across from -- or not East Main. St. John right across
9 from Converse?

10 A Yes, sir. Right there across from Converse College.

11 Q East Main.

12 A Yeah. East Main, St. John, where that all kinda comes
13 together.

14 Q what did he tell you about his work schedule?

15 A Told me that he was unable to work on Monday,
16 July 5th, because it had rained. And then he said Tuesday
17 and wednesday was his normal days off. Said that he was
18 not aware of law enforcement being at his residence until
19 he received a phone call from his cousin.

20 Q When you were speaking to him, again, I think you had
21 stated the only thing you knew that at this time Matthew
22 Booker had been located?

23 A Just that there was a dead body. Later -- I'm not
24 exactly sure whose body it was.

25 Q But the first body.

1 A But there -- there was one body, yes.

2 Q The second one had not been located.

3 A Correct.

4 Q And what was your purpose in interviewing Mr. Batson?

5 A Just to find who's at the residence, what his
6 connection was, when he might would have last seen them,
7 just really casting a wide net not knowing what we were
8 walking into as law enforcement.

9 Q So the only point you know, that he had lived there so
10 he might be a witness.

11 A He could have a witness to something that occurred for
12 later.

13 Q You didn't read him any Miranda rights, did you?

14 A No.

15 Q And why would you not read a witness Miranda rights?

16 A He -- he was not a suspect in anything. He's just a
17 witness, and that's all he was.

18 Q Was he in custody?

19 A No. He's not in custody and was not being
20 interrogated.

21 Q Was he in handcuffs?

22 A No. He was free about, walking around.

23 Q And, in fact, even after your first interview, you
24 walked away and left him there?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. He was free to move about, do whatever he
2 wanted.

3 A Yes.

4 Q Again, he was not a suspect. Nobody was a suspect --

5 A Correct.

6 Q -- at this point.

7 A Correct.

8 Q But, again, you said you turned your camera back on a
9 second time.

10 A Yes.

11 Q Why was that?

12 A Well, I noticed that he was providing information
13 that, based on my roughly 20 years of experience, people
14 would normally, would have said at the beginning or during
15 our first fact-gathering interview with them.

16 Q And does he go on about Mr. Geter?

17 A He does. He goes on to say, to tell us. My summary
18 of it is that he got into it with Glenn about Geter being
19 allowed to stay at the residence. He had told me too --
20 I'm trying to find it -- that Glenn and Geter, he believed,
21 were in a relationship. Let's see.

22 Q But in this interview he admitted that Ronald Glenn
23 was gay to you?

24 A Yes. He did.

25 Q And that -- I believe that Mr. Geter was bisexual.

1 A Yes.

2 Q Okay. And that they were in a relationship and he
3 didn't like that.

4 A Yes.

5 Q Did he know much about Matthew Booker?

6 A No. The only thing he could tell me -- relayed about
7 Booker was that he -- well, he said he didn't know much
8 about Booker or that Booker's wife comes by. And he used
9 the term wife. He didn't know her name. Like I had said
10 before, that Glenn and Geter were in a relationship with
11 each other.

12 Q Did you ever ask him if anybody else had come into the
13 residence when he lived there?

14 A He said that he knew that he had been renting a room
15 there in June of 2021. During that time he observed Geter
16 in the -- what he said was the area three times. He did
17 not know of any other persons that had been inside the
18 residence while he has lived there.

19 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, if I didn't, the state would
20 offer State's Exhibit 9 into evidence.

21 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

22 (Defendant's interview with Matt Davis marked State's
23 Exhibit No. 9.)

24 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

25 Q Picked something up there. What room did he say was

1 Ronnie's room?

2 A The deadbolt.

3 Q The deadbolt-locked room, correct?

4 A Uh-huh.

5 Q So he's already admitted to you that that room would
6 be dead bolt -- dead-bolted?

7 A Yes.

8 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

9 Q Now, is that Captain Hillers telling you to turn the
10 body camera on?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And just for the body camera, there's about a
13 30-second delay before the sound starts?

14 A Correct. That's how ours are set up.

15 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

16 Q Who did Mr. Batson just say was not gay?

17 A Matt.

18 Q Matt. That would be Matthew Booker?

19 A That would be Mr. Booker.

20 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

21 Q So he said at nighttime the only person he had seen
22 coming in was Mr. Jeter?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q He didn't mention any young males coming into the
25 house?

1 A No.

2 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

3 Q He just spoke about a weapon in the house. What did
4 he say was in the house?

5 A I couldn't hear it all the way.

6 Q Would you like for me to replay it?

7 A Yeah, if you could replay it.

8 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

9 Q "Only weapon that I knew of was the bat."

10 A Bat and machete.

11 Q Okay. So he admitted he knew there was a bat inside.

12 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

13 Q Is that Investigator Louis Nelson -- the black guy who
14 just came up?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

17 Q And, ultimately, does he leave that location --
18 Mr. Batson?

19 A Yes. I was told later, he did. I didn't -- I wasn't
20 a part of that. So I don't know for sure when he left, or
21 what.

22 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

23 Q In your video, who is he leaving with?

24 A He's leaving with Investigator Louis Nelson.

25 Q Just briefly. A few more questions, and then I'll be

1 done.

2 Did you take any items down to SLED for D.N.A. testing?

3 A I did.

4 Q Show you what's been premarked State's Exhibit 4. Do
5 you recognize that item?

6 A Yes.

7 Q What is that item?

8 A It's a buccal swab that I signed for and took down --

9 Q Of who?

10 A -- to the lab. It's got, says description, buccal
11 swab. It's got the lab number on it, says item No. 4. I'm
12 trying to find it on there. I probably missed it. Yeah.
13 I think it's covered up.

14 Q Okay. And this is SLED item number what?

15 A No. 4.

16 Q Okay. Would SLED Item No. 4 be the buccal swab from
17 Marcus Batson?

18 A Could be, yes.

19 Q The chain of custody, which you're a part of. Review
20 this real quick starting here at the bottom to the next
21 page.

22 (Pause.)

23 Q So what is State's Exhibit 4, SLED No. 4?

24 A It's going to be Batson's buccal swab --

25 Q Okay.

1 A -- that was taken.

2 Q And did you take that down to SLED to be tested?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And is it in the same or substantially the same
5 condition as you took it?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Let me show you what's been premarked State's
8 Exhibit 7. This one actually says it. What is State's
9 Exhibit 7?

10 A This one is a buccal swab, Timothy Geter.

11 Q And is it in the same or substantially the same
12 condition?

13 A Yes, and it's marked as Item No. 7 for our purposes
14 for our lab.

15 Q Okay. Show you State's Exhibit 6 -- 5 and 6. And
16 what are they?

17 A These look like portions from --

18 Q Do they appear to be sexual assault kits?

19 A -- sexual assault kits.

20 Q And did you take those, both of those, down to SLED?

21 A Yes. There should be some paperwork showing where I
22 signed it and where I also took it and delivered it to the
23 lab. And then I had to sign that I was submitting those
24 items. Speaking of Item 5, Item 6 for us. So that would
25 have been four, five, six, seven the way we enter it into

1 what they call the beast. It gives you the item numbers
2 that you have matched up with the evidence from the agency
3 you're bringing.

4 So that way when our lab gets it, it is their item
5 numbers that they have listed so they know for testing
6 purposes, because it may be a different item number than
7 the item number that the agency has based on how their
8 crime scene collected it verses what they send down for
9 testing.

10 Q So, ultimately, though you took most of the D.N.A.
11 swabs or sexual assault kits down to SLED for testing.

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q And you received those from where?

14 A Spartanburg City Police, their evidence.

15 Q And they're in the same or substantially the same
16 condition as when you received them?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q When you receive them though they don't have those
19 SLED bags on them.

20 A No. They don't. Every time they open them and reseal
21 them, they put these seals on them when it's first taken in
22 by item number. It'll be put on theirs. Sometimes they
23 have to reprint it depending on how they have to take it
24 out. Then everybody has to -- every time somebody opens it
25 and does something with it in our lab, they have to seal it

1 in another area on there and put their initials on there as
2 part of the chain.

3 Q And the sexual assault kit is Item 5, but it also has
4 multiple items within the sexual assault kit?

5 A Yes. Depending on what testing, there can be subsets
6 of it.

7 Q And you don't open that bag when you take it?

8 A No.

9 Q SLED has to open that bag?

10 A Correct. People at the lab open it. We just take it
11 in the packaging that it's in, whether that's collected by
12 us or another agency, and we submit it to them like that.
13 And if -- they're the ones that open it to do any testing
14 or anything in there.

15 Q And why would you take it down to SLED as opposed to
16 one of their officers?

17 A I make a lot more trips down there to the headquarters
18 than they do.

19 Also, we were assisting with this case. So therefore
20 some of the items, I can go ahead and get it down there and
21 we can go ahead and get it in line a lot quicker to be
22 tested, especially in the nature of two people being
23 deceased -- a ball bat and several circumstances that
24 started coming about in the case.

25 Q But there's several things you didn't take. You

1 didn't take the buccal swab from Ed Guthro, Clay Griffin or
2 Rizen? Excuse me. Correct? Or the baseball bat. Those
3 were taken by someone else.

4 A Correct.

5 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
6 you.

7 THE COURT: We'll do the cross after lunch.

8 We're going to break for lunch. I'll ask the jury to
9 remember the caution given. No discussions about the case
10 during the break.

11 Please report to your jury room at 2:30 this
12 afternoon, 2:30 this afternoon.

13 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
14 jury.)

15 THE COURT: Mr. Davis, you can step down, but you
16 cannot discuss your testimony during the lunch break.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: Court is in recess until 2:30.

19 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

20 THE COURT: Are we ready for the jury?

21 MR. HUNTER: The state's ready.

22 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Bring them in.

24 (The following takes place in the presence of the
25 jury.)

1 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

2 As you know, when we recessed for lunch the witness
3 had just undergone his direct examination by the state. So
4 we'll continue with the cross-examination by the defense.

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. SNYDER

7 Q Is it Agent Davis or Special Agent Davis?

8 A Special Agent.

9 Q What's the difference?

10 A Time in law enforcement.

11 Q Okay. Before we broke for lunch you were answering
12 some questions from Mr. Hunter. I want to go back to
13 what you were -- what you provided the Court about a
14 Timothy Geter.

15 During the course of your investigation you learned
16 that Ronnie Glenn would let Mr. Geter stay there because he
17 had nowhere else to go. Is that what you said?

18 A I just wanted to clarify. It wasn't my investigation.
19 I had assisted the city in different things that needed to
20 be done.

21 Q You participated in this.

22 A So, yes, I participated. You talking about when I
23 spoke with Mr. Batson?

24 Q Yes.

25 A And what was your question?

1 Q It's in reference to the Timothy Geter. You learned
2 that he had been staying there occasionally?

3 A That's what Mr. Batson had referred to, that he had
4 been there several times.

5 Q Okay. And that you learned that he was staying there
6 because he essentially had nowhere else to go.

7 A According to Mr. Batson, yes.

8 Q You also learned that Mr. Glenn and Mr. Geter had a
9 romantic relationship, correct?

10 A According to Mr. Batson. I never got to speak to
11 Geter, so I only know what Mr. Batson told me.

12 Q Correct, correct. You -- you were informed that they
13 would actually have sex inside the house.

14 A I don't think he went as far as saying that
15 Mr. Batson -- let's see. The biggest thing was Batson
16 believed that Glenn and Geter were in a relationship with
17 each other. I don't think he specified where they would
18 have a sexual relationship at.

19 Q Okay. But as has been stated numerous times today,
20 Mr. Ronnie Glenn was gay.

21 A That's my understanding.

22 Q Correct. Yes. You also agree that there are
23 different ways that you can -- a person could pay for
24 something, correct, other than money? There's other ways.
25 You can barter. You can trade, correct?

1 A For what?

2 Q For anything of value.

3 A I guess so. It depends if the two parties agree. I
4 don't know.

5 Q Right, right. But it doesn't have to be money that
6 changes the hands for there to be a transaction, so to
7 speak.

8 A I assume not.

9 Q You would also agree that routinely people engaged in
10 sex for money, correct?

11 A That would be illegal.

12 Q But people do it.

13 A Sometimes.

14 Q Prostitution, correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q We saw two separate interviews earlier. In the first
17 interview a woman came up right at the end of what was
18 shown. That was Barbara Riaz, correct?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q And she's an interesting individual. You had an
21 opportunity to speak with Ms. Riaz, correct?

22 A I did.

23 Q And you learned that she would go to Mr. Glenn's
24 house.

25 MR. HUNTER: Objection. Hearsay.

1 THE COURT: Sustained.

2 Q You learned through investigation that this residence
3 operated as a liquor house, correct?

4 A I do not have any firsthand knowledge of any of that.
5 I wasn't privy to anything about what type of house this
6 may or may not have been based on my involvement.

7 Q I pointed to this earlier, but you learned that, I
8 believe from Mr. Batson that, Mr. Glenn allowed Mr. Geter
9 to live there because he had nowhere else to go, correct?

10 A He allowed him to stay because he had nowhere else to
11 go, but I don't think that was specified. That was going
12 to be for the night of the 5th according to Mr. Batson.

13 Q So Mr. Geter did stay there because he had nowhere
14 else to go.

15 A I do not --

16 MR. HUNTER: Objection. No knowledge.

17 THE COURT: Sustained.

18 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

19 Q You don't know what was going on inside that house,
20 correct?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q And you weren't there when any of this happened,
23 correct?

24 A The interviews?

25 Q No. What led to you, to law enforcement, going to the

1 residence.

2 A No. I was not there for the homicide. No.

3 Q Okay. Thank you.

4 THE COURT: You may step down.

5 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
6 call Ed Guthro.

7 EDGAR VICTOR GUTHRO, having
8 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

10 Q will you please state your full name for the record?

11 A Edgar Victor Guthro.

12 Q And where are you employed?

13 A Spartanburg Police Department.

14 Q How long have you been at the Spartanburg Police
15 Department?

16 A Going on 35 years.

17 Q And what have your roles been at the Spartanburg
18 Police Department?

19 A I started out on patrol. Worked in investigations for
20 eight years, forensics for 11 years. And I've been in
21 evidence for the last seven.

22 Q Okay. What are your duties as an evidence technician?

23 A Receiving evidence that people log in and keeping
24 track of it.

25 Q Okay. Describe that process. Let's say I want to

1 bring a piece -- I'm an officer bringing a piece of
2 evidence to you. How does that work?

3 A Well, if we're there at the time, they bring it
4 directly to us. If we are not there, then we have lockers
5 that they log it into, and a drop box, which is essentially
6 an old mailbox that locks. And they take and drop items in
7 or they place them into the lockers that are provided to
8 secure it.

9 Q And what do you do with those items that are either
10 handed to you or placed in the lockers?

11 A I log them into evidence and put them in a place.

12 Q Do y'all use bar codes when you're putting them into
13 evidence?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Explain that process.

16 A When we are scanning items in or out, they have, all
17 our items have, bar codes on them, and we scan that. And
18 it pulls up that item and if it's -- if these have been out
19 to SLED, we scan it sending it out to SLED, and we scan it
20 when it comes back from SLED.

21 Q So they're basically inventory codes for you?

22 A Yes.

23 Q All right. And that stay in the database. That way
24 you know where the items are any given time?

25 A Correct. And we audit and that type of stuff.

1 Q Are you -- who else is down in the evidence room?

2 A Officer Stokes.

3 Q Okay. So if we see a signature for D.B. Stokes, who
4 is that?

5 A That's my partner.

6 Q And what's his name?

7 A Brian Stokes.

8 Q Okay.

9 A He goes by Brian. His real name is Douglas Brian.

10 Q And the two of y'all are responsible for taking into
11 evidence, applying those inventory codes and placing
12 evidence into the evidence room?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Can you explain how secure the evidence room is?

15 A There are four people who have access to that room,
16 and one of those four doesn't have total access. He can
17 only go so far into that room. Our major, Brian and
18 myself.

19 Q Okay. And who is the fourth?

20 A Sergeant Bramalo.

21 Q Okay. And what is one of Sergeant Bramalo's main --

22 A He transports items to and from SLED.

23 Q Okay. In fact, almost all of these items that were
24 sent to SLED, is he the one who brought them back?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. And that's one of his -- main job?

2 A It is.

3 Q Okay. Show you State's Exhibit 2. It's going to be
4 the smaller of the buccal swabs out of the sex assault
5 kits. Do you recognize that item?

6 A Yes. It shows that it was logged in from -- I believe
7 that's Caitlin Wright's signature, and I'm the one that
8 received it.

9 Q But do you understand what that item is?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. What is that item?

12 A It's a buccal swab. This one was actually collected
13 from me because I touched the bag in reference to this
14 case.

15 Q Okay. So I'm not going to bring the bat out, but that
16 big box right there to your --

17 A Yes. I'm the one that put it in that box.

18 Q Okay. Why did you touch the bat?

19 A We had been out of the office and returned to the --
20 to the evidence room. And in the hallway outside our door
21 the bat was stuck with the end of it in a paper bag and
22 just leaning up against the wall.

23 I didn't know what it was until I picked it up to look
24 and see what it was, basically.

25 Q Since it's a biological thing, I don't want you to

1 touch it. Do you recognize that item?

2 A I do.

3 Q Okay. Is that the bat you were speaking of?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Okay. Can you grab that brown paper bag? Do you
6 recognize that item?

7 A This was the bag that the bat was sticking in in the
8 hallway.

9 Q Okay.

10 A Normally there -- if it's an item that's to be
11 processed, it's supposed to be protected, which is why I
12 put it in this for. Maybe a day late and a dollar short,
13 but that's what it's in there for.

14 Q Obviously, that bag -- that bat does not fit in that
15 brown bag.

16 A No.

17 Q And you didn't know at this time that it was a
18 possible weapon in a crime when you touched it.

19 A No, no, sir.

20 Q But you did touch the handle of the bat.

21 A I did.

22 Q And, ultimately, you touching the bat is the reason
23 you had to give a buccal swab?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. And who took that buccal swab?

1 A Caitlin Wright, the forensic officer.

2 Q Okay. Now, I want you to look at State's Exhibit 5 in
3 front of you. Do you recognize that item?

4 A No, because I can't tell what's in it.

5 Q Does it appear to be a sexual assault kit inside?

6 A Yes. It appears like it could be, yes.

7 Q All right. And the reason I want you to look at it --
8 I think five and six if you just want to look at both of
9 those real quick. That original heat-sealed bag on the
10 outside of those, who puts that on?

11 A SLED does it, puts them in these bags.

12 Q Are both of those opened right now?

13 A No, no. This one is not. This one is.

14 Q Okay. Why would one of those be opened?

15 A A lot of times when they come back from SLED and we're
16 trying to log them in, that's the only way we can see what
17 it is and differentiate it from which one's which and that
18 kind of stuff to get it logged in to the correct places.
19 Normally, if we open them, we reseal them. However, this
20 doesn't look like it was.

21 Q So in that one you received it back, opened it, but
22 did not reseal it?

23 A Correct. That's what it appears.

24 Q At that point SLED had already done everything they
25 were going to do with the item?

1 A That's correct.

2 Q And this was just being returned to you?

3 A Yes, just for storage.

4 Q Okay. And, again, it's because you have to get to
5 that inventory code in order to scan it back in?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q And that's something that you have to do often?

8 A Daily.

9 Q Okay. At least daily when you get stuff back from
10 SLED?

11 A Well, no, not daily from SLED, but daily deal with the
12 codes. Often.

13 Q I'll show one more. I'm not going to show you one
14 more.

15 So, again, your main involvement in this case is taking
16 the evidence in. What is your main involvement in any case?

17 A At this point taking in evidence and signing it out
18 when people need to take it somewhere.

19 Q Okay. And you admit it was a mistake to touch the
20 bat, but you didn't know at the time?

21 A Absolutely, yeah.

22 Q Okay. And your D.N.A. was found on the bat?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
25 you.

Barbara Riaz
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 MR. SNYDER: No questions.

2 THE COURT: You may step down.

3 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
4 call Barbara Riaz.

5 BARBARA RIAZ, having been
6 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

8 Q will you state your full name for the record?

9 A Barbara Riaz.

10 Q And how old are you?

11 A Fifty-seven.

12 Q Do you know the gentleman seated in the blue shirt
13 over there?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And what is his name?

16 A Marcus.

17 Q You've got to speak up a little bit.

18 A Marcus.

19 Q Yes. Can you sit up a little bit for us so you can
20 speak in the microphone?

21 A His name is Marcus.

22 Q Marcus what?

23 A I don't know his last name.

24 Q Okay. How long have you known him?

25 A well, before this happened about seven or eight

1 months, something like that.

2 Q who did you meet him through?

3 A Darryl Booker.

4 Q Okay. And how did you come to know him?

5 A From Darryl.

6 Q Okay.

7 A Darryl was a friend of mine. I been knowing Darryl
8 for years.

9 Q Okay. What was the relationship between Mr. Batson
10 and Mr. Booker?

11 A I thought they went together.

12 Q What do you mean by went together?

13 A Sexual.

14 Q So you thought they were a couple?

15 A Yeah.

16 Q Did you help Mr. Batson get a room at Ronnie's place?

17 A Well, I knew Ronnie, and Darryl knew Ronnie, and
18 Ronnie had a room for rent. I had told him about it.

19 Q Okay.

20 A He had met Ronnie, and Ronnie talked to him about the
21 room.

22 Q Okay. And do you know where Mr. Batson was living at
23 the time of this incident?

24 A He was staying with Darryl.

25 Q At the time of this incident.

1 A Oh, when this happened?

2 Q Yes.

3 A He was staying with Ronnie.

4 Q Okay. Did you hang out with Mr. Batson quite a bit?

5 A Yes. I did.

6 Q Okay. Were y'all going together?

7 A No.

8 Q Okay. When did you learn about Ronnie's death?

9 A I don't know quite the date, but we was at the cookout
10 that Sunday on the 4th of July, and this happened like
11 four -- four or five days later, I think it was, when I
12 found out about it.

13 Q When you found out about it, where did you go as soon
14 as you found out about it?

15 A Over there. Straight down to where Ronnie's house was
16 at and everybody was at, was at on the corner.

17 Q And you were here when we saw the end of one of those
18 videos. Is that you walking up to talk to somebody?

19 A I wasn't in here. I was outside.

20 Q You were outside. Okay. Did you end up going and
21 talking to the SLED agent?

22 A Yes. I did.

23 Q Okay. And that was at the Bobby Jackson Electrical
24 Supply parking lot?

25 A Yes.

Barbara Riaz
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

- 1 Q So you were at the cookout on July 4th.
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q What about July 5th? Where were you?
- 4 A At home.
- 5 Q Who was with you, ma'am?
- 6 A Marcus.
- 7 Q Had he been staying at your place for a little bit?
- 8 A Not staying, just coming by.
- 9 Q Staying, coming by. Okay. How long was he at your
- 10 house?
- 11 A Well, he was up there most of that day. He left that
- 12 night and came back and hung out all of that night.
- 13 Q Okay. Into the early morning hours?
- 14 A Yeah.
- 15 Q Okay. Did you ever go to Ronnie's house that night?
- 16 A We went and walked down there one time and got a beer.
- 17 Ronnie had a deep freeze on the back porch. Got a beer out
- 18 of that freezer and back up the road.
- 19 Q Okay. So y'all -- did you go in the house when you
- 20 went there --
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q -- that time?
- 23 A Never.
- 24 Q And y'all went back to your house --
- 25 A Yeah.

1 Q -- on St. Andrews?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q How far is that from Ronnie's house?

4 A It's not -- it ain't -- just about from here to the
5 front of the building.

6 Q Okay. So it's not that very far?

7 A It's not far at all.

8 Q Okay. Did you often go to Ronnie's house?

9 A Yeah.

10 Q Did you go to buy cigarettes and beer --

11 A Yeah. Sure did.

12 Q -- and liquor like everybody else?

13 A Yeah. And we eat. He cooked all of the time.

14 Q But in the early morning hours of July 5th and into
15 July 6th, y'all walked over to Ronnie's house?

16 A That night. No. We stood on the porch that night.
17 That's the night walked there and got that beer.

18 Q If I had a video and showed you it was the morning of
19 July 6th, would you agree to that?

20 A No. I don't know which day it was, but it was one
21 time. We walked over there that night and got the beer.
22 That's the only time I went there.

23 Q Okay. Who was with you?

24 A Him.

25 Q Okay. Where did y'all go after that?

1 A Back to my house.

2 Q Okay. Did he stay at your house that night?

3 A Yeah.

4 Q Did he leave again?

5 A I can't remember what night, which nights he left and
6 which nights Marcus --

7 Q Did he sometimes stay at your house and sometimes --

8 A Yeah. Sometimes he did and sometimes he didn't.

9 Q Okay.

10 A But he didn't stay all of the time, just a couple of
11 times.

12 Q Okay. Did you notice him having anything on July 6th?

13 A Well, he came up there late that night. He had a wad
14 of money and he had a couple of hundred-dollar bills, some
15 twenties, tens, fives and a bunch of ones.

16 Q How did you describe that to the police?

17 A I said it was liquor-house money.

18 Q It was what?

19 A Liquor-house money.

20 Q Okay. Did you know him to carry a lot of cash around?

21 A No. Never.

22 Q You never knew Mr. Batson to carry a lot of cash
23 around?

24 A Uh-uh, no.

25 Q Did you see him with this cash before or after y'all

1 went and got beers?

2 A After.

3 Q After y'all got beers?

4 A After.

5 Q So the next day?

6 A Yeah.

7 Q Did you know anything about Mr. Batson and

8 Mr. Geter's -- or Mr. Glenn's relationship?

9 A No. I thought they was going together.

10 Q You thought they were going together as well?

11 A Messing around, yeah.

12 Q So, I mean, you thought they were in a sexual
13 relationship?

14 A Yeah.

15 Q Now, at some point during this before Ronald's
16 discovery, did you go and spend in some time in a hotel?

17 A Yes. We did.

18 Q And who were you with?

19 A Him and my friend-girl Deb.

20 Q Okay.

21 A Whose in my boy's apartment the next morning. He
22 called Deb. Deb came and picked us up, and we all three
23 went to the room.

24 Q Okay. So that would be on July 6th?

25 A Yes.

1 Q How long did y'all stay at the hotel.

2 A All day from that day to the next morning. The next
3 morning, yeah.

4 Q You go back to your place?

5 A I went back.

6 Q Okay. Where was he?

7 A I don't remember if he went back or not. I don't
8 remember if he went back with us or not.

9 Q Okay. But you and Deb went back?

10 A No. She --

11 Q You said us. That's why I was asking.

12 A She -- what it was, she left before we did because my
13 friend girl Twan came to the motel room, and we got a ride
14 back. We had to bum a ride back.

15 Q Okay. But, again, after the hotel you ended up back
16 at your place at some point?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And is that when you see police the next day?

19 A No. That was the next day.

20 Q The next day. Okay.

21 A Somebody called my phone and said that Ronnie and them
22 had been killed, and we all ran down the street.

23 Q All right. So --

24 A He was at my house then when that -- when they called.

25 Q So the 8th is when they found Ronnie.

1 A Uh-huh.

2 Q The night of the 7th is when you spent the night in
3 the hotel or the --

4 A The 6th or the 7th. I don't remember which day. This
5 has been two years ago.

6 Q I understand. But the money was found on Mr. Batson
7 after the beer run.

8 A After the beer run, yeah. It was -- this was, like, I
9 think it was late that night or the next night one.

10 Q The early morning hours.

11 A Yes, yes, yes.

12 Q I'm going to show you a video.

13 A Okay.

14 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

15 A Yeah. That's me and him.

16 Q Do you recognize those people?

17 A That's me and him.

18 Q All right. And that's on the morning of July 6th?

19 A Okay.

20 THE COURT: Can I clarify something? When you say me
21 and him --

22 THE WITNESS: Me and Marcus.

23 THE COURT: Can you please identify who him and he and
24 she and --

25 THE WITNESS: That's me and Marcus.

1 Q And that's the early morning hours of July 6th?

2 A Okay.

3 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

4 Q All right. And approximately two or three minutes
5 later, who are those two people?

6 A Me and Marcus going back with beer in my hand.

7 Q Okay. What did you get at the house?

8 A Beer, Modelo.

9 Q Okay. Did you go into the house?

10 A No, ma'am, no, sir. He had like a deep freeze on the
11 back porch, and that's where he got the beer from.

12 Q So he went around the house and got the beer?

13 A Yeah.

14 Q He being Mr. Batson?

15 A Yes. Me and Marcus.

16 Q Had you ever bought beer and liquor from Mr. Glenn?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. Did you ever see Mr. Batson in his room?

19 A Once.

20 Q Once. What was he wearing?

21 A A bathrobe.

22 Q A bathrobe. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder
23 may have for you.

24 A Okay.

25

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. SNYDER

3 Q One second.

4 (Pause.)

5 Q Ms. Riaz, this -- this residence is a liquor house?

6 A Well, that's one -- he sold liquor and beer, but it
7 was more like a home to a lot of people because Ronnie
8 cooked, and he was friends with a lot of people.

9 Q That's fine. We'll get there. But he sold liquor out
10 of the house, correct?

11 A Yes, yeah.

12 Q He sold beer out of the house.

13 A Yeah, cigarettes.

14 Q Cigarettes.

15 A Yeah. And cooked.

16 Q No blunts?

17 A No.

18 Q No blunts?

19 A No. No weed, no blunts, no drugs, nothing like that.

20 Q Okay. But he did sell liquor or beer or cigarettes.

21 A Yes.

22 Q And you would go over there to buy liquor or beer --

23 A Yeah, yeah.

24 Q -- and cigarettes?

25 A Sometimes I go over there and sit and drink with him

1 on the porch.

2 Q Okay. The gentleman that just testified, Special
3 Agent Davis, do you remember talking to him?

4 A I wasn't -- I wasn't in here when he testified.

5 Q But do you remember talking to him?

6 A I don't know which one that is.

7 Q The gentleman with the glasses. Do you remember him?

8 A Yeah, yeah.

9 Q Okay. Do you remember answering questions about what
10 happened?

11 A I answered questions, a lot of questions.

12 Q Right, right.

13 A Yes.

14 Q Relevant questions.

15 A Yeah.

16 Q Do you also remember telling him that you couldn't
17 remember details because you were drunk some of those days?

18 A I couldn't remember exactly which days it was because
19 I was drunk some of those days.

20 Q Okay.

21 A That's what I was pertained to. Some of the things --
22 I mean, some of the days I was drunk, so I don't know which
23 days was which.

24 Q Right, right. And most of the time you've gotten
25 alcohol to get drunk from the liquor house.

1 A No, uh-uh. Most of the time he bought it. He went to
2 the store and bought it. A couple of times he went down to
3 Ronnie's and got a half of R & R Cinci or something like
4 that.

5 Q But, anyway, you drank a lot.

6 A Anyway, we was drinking.

7 Q Yeah. What do you know about Timothy Jeter?

8 A I don't know Timothy Geter.

9 Q Okay. But you know -- you said you knew Ronald Glenn
10 well.

11 A Yeah.

12 Q Yeah.

13 A Ronald's a good person.

14 Q And you knew that he was gay.

15 A Yeah.

16 Q And that you knew that he, obviously, he was operating
17 a liquor house.

18 A Yeah.

19 Q And he had young guys coming to his house throughout
20 the day.

21 A Well, I don't know about all of that, young guys
22 coming to the house throughout the day, because I only went
23 down there, like, on Sundays and a couple of times during
24 the week, and be mostly in the evening times.

25 Q When you were drinking.

1 A Yeah. And sometimes I didn't go down there drinking.
2 He cooked all of the time. Sometimes we went down there
3 just to get a plate, because he cooks all the time. It's
4 amazing.

5 Q He operated a boarding house.

6 A Boarding house? I wouldn't call it a boarding house.

7 Q He rented out rooms to his house, correct?

8 A Yeah, sometimes, but he looked out for people that
9 needed him though.

10 Marcus needed somewhere to go. That's why Ronnie let
11 him go, because Darryl and Marcus had got into it, and
12 Marcus put -- I mean, Darryl put Marcus out. That's why he
13 let Marcus come and stay with him.

14 Q Yeah. He -- so he let -- he would let people stay
15 there that had nowhere else to go.

16 A Yeah.

17 Q Right. And they would pay him to stay there.

18 A Yeah.

19 Q Is it fair to say that they stayed there because if
20 they didn't stay there they wouldn't have anywhere to stay?

21 A Well, basically.

22 Q Yeah. It's tough.

23 You said Mr. Batson was in a relationship with a Darryl
24 Booker?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And Ronald Glenn.

2 A I don't know if he was in a relationship with Ronald
3 Glenn, but I know they was supposed to have been, you know,
4 messing around.

5 Q No. I don't know. Can you expand?

6 A Well, I thought they was messing around.

7 Q Like having sex?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay.

10 A Because one time I did go there and he was in the room
11 and he did have a rob on.

12 Q Like they were just having sex?

13 A They -- like he was laying -- he was laying down on
14 Ronnie's bed.

15 Q Had you been drinking that evening?

16 A No. I hadn't.

17 Q Okay. How well did you know Matthew Booker?

18 A I just met him, like, maybe once or twice.

19 Q Did you ever drink with him?

20 A No. But the day -- just the day, the 4th of July, he
21 was sitting on the porch, but he wasn't really drinking.

22 Q Was there a lot of people? He wasn't --

23 A It wasn't no lot of people, just a very few. There
24 was a couple of females, him, Darryl, me and one --
25 probably one other guy. Wasn't no lot of people there that

1 day.

2 Q But y'all were having a good time, right?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Yeah. Enjoying yourself.

5 A Yes.

6 Q Drinking. Yeah.

7 A But Darryl didn't really drink that -- I mean, not
8 Darryl. The Booker man. He wasn't really drinking that
9 much because he was just washing somebody's car out
10 there -- Margie -- Margie Bivens. He was washing Margie
11 Bivens' car.

12 Q Sherod?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Okay.

15 A I remember that much.

16 Q And you lived around there, correct?

17 A Yes.

18 Q How far away did you live?

19 A About from as far as from here to the front door, the
20 front door of the courthouse.

21 Q Oh, the courthouse. Okay. And you used to go -- you
22 would go over there periodically throughout the week?

23 A Yeah.

24 Q To hang out with Marcus?

25 A No. Just go over there to buy cigarettes and maybe

Bianca Hatcher
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 buy something to drink. Marcus used to come up to where I
2 lived at.

3 Q Okay. So, but you would go over there throughout the
4 week --

5 A Yeah, yeah.

6 Q -- to buy cigarettes and get a drink.

7 A Yes. I would.

8 Q Thank you.

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. HUNTER

11 Q Just one question.

12 A Go ahead.

13 Q Prior to this incident were you friends with
14 Mr. Batson?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Thank you.

17 THE COURT: You may step down.

18 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
19 call Bianca Hatcher.

20 May she be excused?

21 THE COURT: She may.

22 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

23

24

25

Bianca Hatcher
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 BIANCA HATCHER, having been
2 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Can you state your full name for the record?

5 A Bianca Hatcher.

6 Q Okay. And how were you employed on July of '21?

7 A I was with the Spartanburg Police Department.

8 Q Okay. What unit were you in?

9 A Forensics.

10 Q Okay. And did you have a chance to go to [REDACTED] Winsmith
11 Avenue in July of 2021?

12 A I did.

13 Q Okay. Do you remember the other forensics techs that
14 went out there with you?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Okay. Who were they?

17 A Sandra Adorno and Caitlin Wright.

18 Q These two ladies sitting here?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Who took most of the pictures that day, do you
21 remember?

22 A I believe it was Sandra.

23 Q Okay. Did you go back and start taking pictures of
24 the middle bedroom?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. And did you collect any evidence from that
2 middle bedroom?

3 A I did.

4 Q I show you what's been premarked State's Exhibit 34.
5 Go ahead.

6 (Pause.)

7 Q Do you recognize the items in that bag?

8 A I do.

9 Q How do you recognize those items?

10 A They were the bedding removed from the middle bedroom.

11 Q All right. Are they in the same or substantially the
12 same condition as you recovered them?

13 A Yes, sir. They are.

14 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this I would offer State's
15 Exhibit 34 into evidence.

16 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

17 THE COURT: It's admitted.

18 (Bed sheets marked State's Exhibit No. 34.)

19 Q What is that item?

20 A Pillowcase.

21 Q Okay. State's Exhibit 29 is already in, but I'm going
22 to show you 29, 30 and 28.

23 State's Exhibit 29. What is that?

24 A It's a photograph of the bed that was in the bedroom.

25 Q And that's the scene as you remember it that day?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay. Do you recognize State's Exhibits 30 and 28 as
3 well?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q All right. What's State's Exhibit 30?

6 A Thirty is a photograph of the victim's body laying in
7 the bedroom. This was after he had been moved, or no.
8 This was before he had been moved.

9 Q Okay. State's Exhibit 28?

10 A Twenty-eight is a photo of the bed that was in that
11 room after the bedding was removed.

12 Q Is that a picture you actually took?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And to 28 and 30. Do they fairly and accurately
15 depict the scene as you remembered them that day?

16 A They do.

17 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
18 offer State's Exhibits 28 and 30 into evidence.

19 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

20 THE COURT: They're admitted.

21 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 28; photograph
22 marked State's Exhibit No. 30.)

23 Q I'm going to put them up on the elmo screen so you can
24 describe them.

25 THE COURT: Do you have extra copies of those so she

1 can have one in her hand?

2 MR. HUNTER: I do not believe I have color copies,
3 Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay. You might have to crane your neck
5 or get up out of your chair and look or whatever.

6 MR. HUNTER: This T.V. will show it.

7 THE COURT: I see it, but she's a long way from it.

8 Q Showing you State's Exhibit 34. Is that the bed cover
9 that you see right there?

10 A Yes. It is.

11 Q Is that the pillowcase from the picture?

12 A It is.

13 Q And what does it appear to be covered in?

14 A A red substance.

15 Q Okay. which is consistent with what?

16 A Human blood.

17 Q Can you explain that picture?

18 A It's a photo of the victim lying in the center of the
19 bedroom face down.

20 Q And, again, this is the middle bedroom?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Okay. One last picture. What is that a picture of?

23 A It's a picture of the same bed that was in the middle
24 bedroom but without the dark bedding cover in it.

25 Q And where did you take this picture, from what angle?

1 A From standing where the door is but perpendicular to
2 the wall.

3 Q Okay. Go back to this picture one second. Did you
4 notice any phones in the room?

5 A Yes. There was one underneath the pillow.

6 Q Was it plugged in?

7 A It was.

8 Q And is that -- is that what this is right here, the
9 plug?

10 A I'm not exactly sure, but I know that appears to be
11 one. I don't know if it was the same one that the phone
12 was plugged into.

13 Q I'll bring it to you so you can see it a little bit
14 better. Does it appear to be plugged into a charging unit?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
17 you.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. SNYDER

20 Q You don't know what happened and left that incident.

21 A I was not present. No.

22 Q Thank you.

23 THE COURT: You may step down.

24 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
25 call Caitlin Wright.

Caitlin Wright
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 CAITLIN WRIGHT, having been
2 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may Ms. Hatcher be excused?

4 THE COURT: She may be.

5 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

6 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

7 Q All right. Ms. Wright, please state your full name
8 for the record.

9 A Caitlin Wright?

10 Q How are you employed?

11 A At the City of Spartanburg Police Department.

12 Q And what is your job title?

13 A Forensic investigator.

14 Q And is that what you currently do?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Is that what you were doing in 2021 as well?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Okay. Did you get involved in this case?

19 A I did.

20 Q Okay. How did you first get involved in this case?

21 A I first got involved by doing the FARO, so took scans
22 of the scene as it was when I was there, and then I took a
23 buccal swabs from Ed Guthro and Clay Risen.

24 Q Can you explain what the FARO machine is?

25 A The -- the FARO ends up taking data points of whatever

1 it sees and to create a 3-D image of the scene as it was.

2 Q Takes a long time?

3 A It does.

4 Q Basically, very expensive camera?

5 A Yes.

6 Q How is it set up?

7 A It's set up on a tripod with a camera or a video that
8 ends up spinning around and capturing all of the data
9 points of what it sees.

10 Q And then it will create a 3-D model --

11 A It does.

12 Q -- with distances and --

13 A It can be, yes.

14 Q And then you can use that 3-D model to calculate
15 distances and --

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Okay. But the second part of what you did is
18 important here. I show you what's been marked State's 2
19 and 3. Do you recognize those items?

20 A Yes.

21 Q How do you recognize those items?

22 A They are the buccal swabs that I collected.

23 Q Collected? who did you collect State's Exhibit 2
24 from?

25 A Two would be Ed Guthro.

1 Q who is No. 3 from?

2 A No. 3 is Clay Risen.

3 Q what is a buccal swab?

4 A A buccal swab is two swabs that collect D.N.A. within
5 the cheeks of the individual for D.N.A.

6 Q Okay. Is that what you did with these two officers?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Do you remember why you had to do that?

9 A I only knew that because Ed touched it before. It was
10 to be an elimination standard.

11 Q And State's Exhibits 2 and 3. You took those items?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Packaged them into the Manila envelopes --

14 A The evidence that would be, yes.

15 Q The evidence envelopes.

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And placed them where?

18 A I placed them into evidence.

19 Q Okay. So that heat-sealed pack is from SLED?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q So when you placed them there and they were -- they
22 had not been messed with?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q You were the last one to see them before they were put
25 in there?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q They were not altered in any way.

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
5 you?

6 MR. SNYDER: I have no questions.

7 THE COURT: You may step down.

8 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may I have a short break?

9 THE COURT: All right. We'll take a short break.

10 I'll ask the jury to please go to your jury room.
11 Don't talk about the case. I'll bring you back shortly.

12 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
13 jury.)

14 THE COURT: We'll be at ease for 15 minutes.

15 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

16 THE COURT: Who is your next witness?

17 MR. HUNTER: Investigator Woodcock.

18 THE COURT: Bring them in.

19 (The following takes place in the presence of the
20 jury.)

21 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state calls
22 Investigator Woodcock.

23

24

25

1 MICHAEL GREGORY WOODCOCK,
2 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Could you please state your full named for the record?

5 A Michael Gregory Woodcock.

6 Q And how are you employed?

7 A I'm with the Spartanburg Police Department.

8 Q Okay. Can you go over your law enforcement
9 experience?

10 A I originally started with the City of Spartanburg in
11 1988. I was on patrol. Then went to investigations and
12 was in there until 2001.

13 Then I went to the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office
14 where I was in investigations until 2018.

15 Then I left there and came back to the city where I've
16 been since.

17 Q Okay. And you were with the city July 8th of 2021?

18 A Yes. I was.

19 Q Did you have a chance to go to [REDACTED] Winsmith?

20 A Yes. I did.

21 Q Okay. Kinda go through your day, what you did that
22 day.

23 A I went with Investigator Horn. I followed him over to
24 Winsmith. We had a call for an unintended death initially,
25 and we were called out by the patrol to investigate.

1 Q Were you there when Mr./Investigator Horn kicked the
2 door in?

3 A Yes. I was.

4 Q Okay. And throughout the day did you just assist the
5 other investigators there?

6 A Yes. I did.

7 Q Interviewing possible witnesses?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Just doing general job duties?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. Right in front you is State's Exhibit -- do you
12 want to tell me the numbers? There should be a red
13 sticker.

14 A Two and three.

15 Q All right. And State's Exhibit 2. What is that?

16 A State's Exhibit 2 is --

17 Q Buccal swab from --

18 A -- a buccal swab.

19 Q From who?

20 A From --

21 Q Should be on the white label.

22 A From Ed Guthro.

23 Q Okay. And No. 3 is one from Clay Risen?

24 A Correct. Clay Risen.

25 Q I'm not going to get it out, but do you see that big

1 box there to your right on the table?

2 A Yes. I see it. Yes.

3 Q And what was that?

4 A Baseball bat.

5 Q Okay. What did you do with the items 1, 2 and 3?

6 A I transported them to SLED for analysis.

7 Q Okay. Were they in the same condition as you got it
8 from the evidence room as you did when you took them to
9 SLED?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay. Did they appear to be tampered with in any way?

12 A No.

13 Q All right. If they had been, would you have taken
14 them to SLED?

15 A No.

16 Q Okay. So those items were in the same or
17 substantially the same condition?

18 A Correct.

19 Q And when you take them to SLED, who do you leave them
20 with?

21 A Whoever the -- the signed technician is.

22 Q So, basically, the evidence technician at SLED.

23 A Right.

24 Q Okay. And you did that with items 1 and 2 and 3?

25 A Correct.

Sandra Denise Adorno
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
2 you.

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. SNYDER

5 Q Investigator, briefly.

6 You said you interviewed some people when you went to
7 the -- that address, correct?

8 A Initially with our duties, yes, sir.

9 Q And you -- you interviewed Melody Booker.

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And she told you that her exhusband had been living
12 there for two months, correct?

13 A That's what I put down, yes, sir.

14 Q Thank you.

15 THE COURT: You may step down.

16 MR. HUNTER: At this time the state would call Sandra
17 Adorno.

18 SANDRA DENISE ADORNO, having
19 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

21 Q Can you please state your full name for the record?

22 A Sandra Denise Adorno.

23 Q And how are you currently employed?

24 A Spartanburg City Police Department.

25 Q Okay. And what is your role at the Spartanburg City

1 Police Department?

2 A Forensics investigator.

3 Q Okay. And how long have you been doing that?

4 A I've been with the forensics for about two years now.

5 Q Okay. What did you do prior to that?

6 A I was on patrol.

7 Q Okay. For how long?

8 A I've been with the department for about 13 years.

9 Q Is that the extent of your law enforcement experience?

10 A Animal services about two years before that. Yes,
11 sir.

12 Q I'll start with you on July 9th. Where did you go on
13 July 9th?

14 A July 9th.

15 Q 2021.

16 A '21. An autopsy.

17 Q Okay. And was that the autopsy of -- was it two
18 autopsies?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Okay. Of Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q As a forensic technician, what is your job when you go
23 to an autopsy?

24 A When I go to autopsy I photograph the body, the
25 clothing that it arrived in, any visible injuries that

1 could be seen.

2 Q Okay. And who is performing the autopsy?

3 A On that day I believe it was Medical Examiner
4 Dr. Wassum.

5 Q All right. Look at the two bags that have the white
6 packaging, those two, correct, State's Exhibits, I believe,
7 5 and 6.

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Okay. Can you briefly explain what those are?

10 A Five is the C.S.C. kit. It's the sexual assault kit.
11 And No. 6 is finger scrapings. No. 6 is C.S.C. kit and --
12 C.S.C. kit. I'm sorry.

13 Q Okay. So they're both C.S.C. kits?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q One for each victim?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And No. 5 is for Matthew Booker?

18 A It's hard to read. But there was one from Mr. Booker
19 and Mr. Glenn.

20 Q Okay. And I know one of those is not opened, correct?
21 The heat-sealed pouch is not open.

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Who initially collects the sexual assault kit?

24 A Dr. Wassum during the autopsy.

25 Q What items can be included in the sexual assault kit?

1 A You can get swabs; you can get D.N.A., scrapings,
2 hair.

3 Q Do you remember what -- which ones he collected at
4 that time?

5 A No, sir, to be honest.

6 Q Okay. But you were there when he collected them?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Okay. Does -- who packages them in that white bag?

9 A He does everything himself. He collects -- we furnish
10 the kit, and he opens it there on the table, and he
11 collects everything right there.

12 Q Okay. And then hands you the kit back.

13 A Yes, sir, after it's been sealed.

14 Q And what do you do with that kit?

15 A I take it into evidence and log it.

16 Q Do you sometimes have to take it into a cold storage?

17 A I give it to evidence, yes.

18 Q Okay. Do you sometimes have to put it in a
19 refrigerator?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. And why do you that?

22 A So it doesn't alter any of the D.N.A.

23 Q Okay. But that's if you have blood and urine.

24 A Uh-huh. Blood, urine.

25 Q But in this case there wasn't any blood or urine,

1 correct?

2 A Right.

3 Q Okay. And, obviously, it's in a different heat-sealed
4 bag, but does it appear to be in the same or substantially
5 same condition as you got it from Dr. Wassum?

6 A Yes. white envelope sealed.

7 Q Okay. what is a blood card?

8 A A blood card is collected by the medical examiner at
9 autopsy, and it is a known standard, D.N.A., from the
10 victim.

11 Q Okay. were blood cards collected in this case?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Okay. Again, who collected those originally?

14 A Dr. Wassum.

15 Q Okay. And where did Dr. Wassum place those?

16 A He collected those and handed them to me and I turned
17 them into evidence.

18 Q Okay. In the sexual assault kit?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Okay. So along with the scrapings that he took and
21 the blood spot card, were all in each individual sexual
22 assault kits.

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. And you observed Dr. Wassum during the autopsy?

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Of both victims.

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q I'm going to take you back to July 8th. On
4 July 8th did you have a chance to go to ■ winsmith?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q why did you originally go to that residence?

7 A I was called for a deceased.

8 Q Okay. Did you start taking pictures of that
9 residence?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Was that before the second body was found?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Okay. Once they found Mr. Glenn's body, what did you
14 do at that time?

15 A We had to stop and go outside, and at that time I
16 believe I was asked to go take photos.

17 Q Of who?

18 A There was a gentleman at the corner electrical
19 business, and I believe it was Mr. Marcus Batson.

20 Q Is that the gentleman seated over here?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q You were taking pictures of the house before the
23 second body was discovered?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q I want to show you what's been premarked State's

1 Exhibit 26. Do you recognize this picture?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. And did you take that picture?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Does it fairly and accurately depict the scene as you
6 remember it that day?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: What number is that photo?

9 MR. HUNTER: Twenty-six.

10 THE COURT: No objection?

11 MR. SNYDER: I thought it was already in evidence.

12 MR. HUNTER: This one is not. Your Honor, at this
13 time the state would offer State's Exhibit 26 into
14 evidence.

15 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

16 THE COURT: It's admitted.

17 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 26.)

18 Q What did you take a picture of?

19 A The trash can that was located in the kitchen.

20 Q Okay. What do you remember being in that trash can?

21 A There were some beer cans and a K.F.C. to-go box.

22 Q Okay. There was a K.F.C. to-go box?

23 A Uh-huh.

24 Q Did it appear to be towards the top of the trash
25 though?

1 A Uh-huh, yes, sir.

2 Q Did you take a picture of the front of the house?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q All right. Prior to this hearing did I show you this
5 picture?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q And does it appear to be the house at four -- ■■■
8 winsmith Avenue?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And it's the same as you remember it that day?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
13 offer State's Exhibit 23 into evidence.

14 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

15 THE COURT: It's admitted.

16 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 23.)

17 Q And what is that picture of?

18 A ■■■ winsmith.

19 Q Who is that gentleman seated to the right over there?

20 A I can't see from here.

21 Q Does it appear to be Investigator Woodcock?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Did you take State's Exhibit 24?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q All right. And does it fairly and accurately depict

Sandra Denise Adorno
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 the scene as you remember it that day?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
4 offer State's Exhibit 24 into evidence.

5 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

6 THE COURT: Admitted.

7 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 24.)

8 Q And what does that show us?

9 A I believe that's the side of ■ winsmith.

10 Q And that is the window that the officers went into?

11 A Uh-huh. I believe so.

12 Q And you were there when they -- you took pictures of
13 the middle bedroom along with Ms. Hatcher?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay. And does State's Exhibit 27 fairly and
16 accurately depict the scene as you remember that day?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
19 offer State's Exhibit 27 into evidence.

20 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

21 THE COURT: Admitted.

22 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 27.)

23 Q What are we looking at here?

24 A You're looking at the pillow cases, bedsheets for the
25 middle room.

1 Q Okay. From the middle room?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Where does the blood, the red substance, appear to be
4 pooling?

5 A You've got --

6 MR. SNYDER: Objection. She can't testify to that,
7 Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Well, you can tell what location of the
9 bed if you know.

10 A Uh-huh. There's -- you've got the blood, what appears
11 to be blood, on the pillow and on the floor.

12 Q One final picture. Ultimately, did you go back into
13 the house after the search warrant was executed?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay. Did you take a picture of Mr. Glenn's room?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Okay. Does State's Exhibit 35 fairly and accurately
18 depict the scene as you remember it that day?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q And what is that a picture of?

21 A The far back room of Mr. Glenn.

22 Q Where are you standing when this picture was taken?

23 A Standing in the doorway.

24 Q Do you remember if he had any pants on?

25 A I don't believe so.

1 Q Okay.

2 THE COURT: What number is this photo?

3 MR. HUNTER: State's Exhibit 35.

4 Your Honor, we offer State's Exhibit 35 into evidence.

5 THE COURT: I see it.

6 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

7 THE COURT: It's admitted.

8 (Photograph marked State's Exhibit No. 35.)

9 Q The SLED envelope right there in front of you, that
10 would be State's Exhibit 7?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay. The envelope inside, did you take that?

13 A Buccal swab, yes, sir.

14 Q Okay. I know we've already heard this, but what is a
15 buccal swab?

16 A A buccal swab is a sterile Q-tip swab that you insert
17 one on each side of the cheek to collect the D.N.A. from
18 inside the mouth.

19 Q Okay. And did you collect Item No. 7?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Who did you collect that from?

22 A Timothy Geter.

23 Q Timothy Geter?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q What did you do with the buccal swab after you

1 collected it?

2 A Took it over to evidence and entered it.

3 Q And that's the brown evidence bag you put it in?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And that appears to be in the same or
6 substantially the same condition?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Does not appear to be tampered with?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q If it had been, would you have taken it into evidence?

11 A No, sir.

12 MR. HUNTER: Beg the Court's indulgence, Your Honor.

13 (Pause.)

14 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder has for you.

15 A Yes, sir.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. SNYDER

18 Q I just have a couple. That gentleman in that last
19 picture, who is that?

20 A Mr. Glenn.

21 Q I'm sorry?

22 A Mr. Glenn.

23 Q That was Mr. Glenn. And he did not have pants on. Is
24 that what you said?

25 A I can't remember. I don't believe so.

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 Q Okay. But you just went out to that residence to take
2 a picture, correct?

3 A I went to document the crime scene, yes, sir.

4 Q And you had no knowledge as to what happened leading
5 up to those individuals' deaths.

6 A No, sir. I wasn't present.

7 Q Thank you.

8 THE COURT: Step down.

9 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
10 call Investigator Nelson.

11 LOUIS MACEO NELSON, SR.,
12 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

14 Q Please state your full name for the record.

15 A My name is Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.

16 Q I didn't know your middle name.

17 How long have you been in law enforcement?

18 A I've been in law enforcement for 30-plus years.

19 Q All right. Can you briefly describe your career?

20 A I began my law enforcement career in Chester, South
21 Carolina, with the Chester Police Department. I was on
22 patrol for several years, and I worked my way to sergeant.
23 And I was then put into the criminal investigations
24 division. I was there for seven years. Seven years with
25 the Chester County Sheriff's Office where I was the

1 narcotics commander, I was the lieutenant over our
2 narcotics division.

3 And I've been here in Spartanburg for roughly,
4 approximately, 15 or 16 years with the Spartanburg Police
5 Department where I worked primarily in investigations for a
6 majority of that time.

7 Q Were you an investigator in July of 2021?

8 A I was. I was in investigations.

9 Q Did you have a chance to go to [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue?

10 A I responded out to a death-investigation call.

11 Q Okay. At that address?

12 A At [REDACTED] Winsmith, correct.

13 Q Did you speak with someone there?

14 A I did.

15 Q And who did you speak with?

16 A I spoke with the defendant Mr. Marcus Batson.

17 Q And this was on what day?

18 A That would have been on July the 8th.

19 Q So the day that the bodies were discovered.

20 A Correct.

21 Q Okay. When you got there and spoke with Mr. Batson,
22 what did y'all decide to do?

23 A After speaking with Mr. Batson -- it was a rather warm
24 day. So I didn't want to continue to speak to him because
25 the crowd was gathering and getting larger. So I asked him

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 if he would accompany me to city hall so that we could
2 speak.

3 Q And did he do so?

4 A Yes. He agreed. He agreed to go with me freely and
5 voluntarily.

6 Q Okay. whose car did he ride in?

7 A He rode in my vehicle, which was a blue Ford Explorer,
8 unmarked unit.

9 Q Okay. where did he ride?

10 A He rode in the passenger seat directly beside me.

11 Q what did you know about the case at the time that you
12 brought him to city hall?

13 A Nothing other than it was a death investigation. It
14 was still in the very initial stages of the investigation.
15 So there wasn't a lot of information that we had at that
16 particular time.

17 Q who appeared to have the most information?

18 A Mr. Batson, based on what I found out at the scene,
19 was a resident or lived at that residence off and on. So I
20 was interested in speaking with him.

21 Q when you brought him back to the police station, was
22 he handcuffed?

23 A No. He was not handcuffed.

24 Q was he in custody whatsoever?

25 A No. He was not.

1 Q And after your interview with him was he allowed to
2 leave?

3 A Yes. He was.

4 Q Okay. Did you force him to come to city hall?

5 A No. I asked him and he agreed. He agreed to come
6 with me.

7 Q Okay. Did you read him his constitutional rights?

8 A I did not.

9 Q And at that point why did you not do that?

10 A I didn't read him his Miranda warnings or his rights
11 because at that time he was not under arrest and he was not
12 considered to be even a person of interest at that time.

13 Q Okay. So there was no custodial interrogation which
14 required Miranda rights.

15 A No.

16 Q Okay. And is that commonplace for when you're
17 speaking to witnesses after something like this?

18 A It is very common. That's -- that's the norm that we
19 don't have to advise them of their rights because we just
20 want to conduct an interview with them.

21 Q This wasn't an interrogation?

22 A No, it wasn't an interrogation.

23 Q In fact, did you have any suspects at this time
24 including Mr. Batson?

25 A I wasn't aware of any suspects. And Mr. Batson, all

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 we knew was that he lived at the residence. And I just
2 wanted to find out if he could provide any information.

3 Q As to what had happened?

4 A As to what had happened.

5 Q Okay. When you were about to pull off did he ask you
6 anything?

7 A I believe as we're about to pull off Mr. Batson asked
8 me if he was in any trouble.

9 Q What did you tell him?

10 A I told him that he wasn't in any trouble. No.

11 Q Okay. When y'all get to city hall, where do you go?

12 A At city hall our investigations division is located
13 upstairs. We have an interview room upstairs. So we went
14 upstairs to an Interview Room 2, and we sat down.

15 Q Okay. Where did you learn Mr. Batson lived?

16 A I learned during our conversation that Mr. Batson did
17 reside at [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue.

18 Q Who did he live there with?

19 A Mr. Glenn. And I think the second resident was a
20 Mr. Booker.

21 Q Did he know Mr. Booker's last name at that time?

22 A I don't think he did, no. I don't think he did.

23 Q Did he call him Matt?

24 A Yes. I believe that's correct. Yes, sir.

25 Q Who is Indy Kaur.

1 A Say that -- I'm sorry?

2 Q who is Indy Kaur?

3 A Indy Kaur?

4 Q Yes.

5 A Could you spell that for me?

6 Q Indy at your office. who is Indy?

7 A Oh, Indy. Oh, okay. Indy is -- she is our -- for the
8 lack of a better term, she is our phone guru. She is the
9 technician that downloads data from the cell phones when
10 we're conducting an investigation.

11 Q And did she provide Mr. Batson a water during your
12 interview?

13 A I believe she did, yes, sir.

14 Q I'm sorry. I didn't realize you didn't know her last
15 name.

16 A Oh, I know her last name, but the Indy threw me off.

17 Q So you learned that he was living there. Where did he
18 say he was prior to coming in to interview with you?

19 A He stated, I believe, that he was at Ms. Riaz -- with
20 Ms. Riaz -- Reaz -- Riaz -- Barbara.

21 Q Ms. Barbara Riaz's house?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. All right. Did you learn how he was able to
24 move into the [REDACTED] winsmith residence?

25 A I think it was through an association with Ms. Riaz

1 and Mr. Glenn or someone that resided at [REDACTED] winsmith. She
2 kind of put them together.

3 Q Did you show a picture of Mr. Glenn from, I believe --

4 A I believe it was a --

5 Q -- a D.M.V. picture?

6 A Yes, sir. I believe it was the D.M.V. photograph.

7 Q Okay. And he identified that picture as Ronald Glenn?

8 A Yes. He did.

9 Q When did he state he left the residence?

10 A Batson stated that he left the residence on Monday
11 between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

12 Q And who was there when he left the residence?

13 A Ron was -- Ron was there, and I believe he stated that
14 a Timothy Geter.

15 Q Okay. So, again, he's stating that Timothy Geter was
16 there when he left?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Did he state that was the last time he saw Ron alive?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q So he told you that Monday afternoon is the last time
21 he saw Ron alive.

22 A That's correct.

23 Q Okay. Did he speak about the deadbolt on Ronnie's car
24 or Ronnie's room?

25 A He did. He spoke about a deadbolt.

1 Q what did he say?

2 A He spoke about the fact that Ron had a deadbolt on his
3 bedroom and closet door.

4 Q And why would he do that? why would he have a
5 deadbolt?

6 MR. SNYDER: Objection. This is speculation.

7 Q why did Mr. Batson say he had a deadbolt?

8 THE COURT: Yes. Overruled if it's what Mr. Batson
9 stated.

10 A Mr. Batson -- Mr. Batson explained to me that Ron sold
11 beer and cigarettes and he kept his money in a box or a
12 little gray box with a receipt book in his regular money.

13 Q How much -- sorry.

14 A So he wanted to keep --

15 Q Sorry. I didn't mean to cut you off.

16 A That he wanted to keep his room secure.

17 Q Did you learn how much Mr. Batson was paying Mr.
18 Glenn?

19 A One hundred dollars a week. He stated that he paid
20 him \$100 a week for rent.

21 Q So, again, did you go over the day starting from
22 July 5th on with Mr. Batson?

23 A I did.

24 Q And what did he say he was doing on the 5th?

25 A On the 5th, which was a Monday night, Batson stated

Louis Maceo Nelson, Sr.
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1 that he went by the house and took a shower, changed
2 clothes and left around 2:00 or 3:00 p.m.

3 Q And what about the 6th?

4 A On the 6th, which was Tuesday, Batson stated that he
5 called Ronnie, but there was no answer, around 11:00 a.m.
6 He said that he rode by and saw Tim Geter on the front
7 porch.

8 Q And what about the 7th?

9 A And on the 7th -- that was the next day, Wednesday --
10 Batson said that he had no contact with Ronnie or made no
11 calls to him.

12 Q And on the 8th.

13 A On the 8th, which was Thursday, he was -- he was going
14 by today to pay his rent when he arrived at the house.

15 Q So on the 8th he shows up at the house, and that's
16 when you speak to him?

17 A Yes, sir. That's correct.

18 Q Okay. Did he tell you anything about Ronnie's
19 homosexuality?

20 A He did. He stated that Ronnie told him that he and
21 Geter -- referring to Timothy Geter -- they were involved
22 in a sexual relationship and they had a past together.

23 Q Did he ever admit that he was involved in a sexual
24 relationship --

25 A No.

1 Q -- with Mr. Ronnie Glenn?

2 A He did not. He never admitted that to me, not during
3 the interview.

4 Q What did he claim about Mr. Ronnie Glenn and drinking?

5 A He stated that Mr. Glenn had started drinking a lot
6 recently, and he also said that Ronnie kept a wooden bat in
7 the kitchen in a corner. He said that he also had an
8 aluminum bat that was outside the house.

9 Q So he mentioned the wooden bat that was kept inside
10 the house.

11 A Yes. He did.

12 Q What did Mr. Batson hate about living in that house
13 according to him?

14 A Mr. Batson stated that he hated hearing the sounds of
15 men having sex with one another during the night while he
16 was trying to sleep.

17 Q Okay. But he never admitted to having sex himself
18 with men --

19 A No, sir. He didn't.

20 Q -- in your interview?

21 A He never admitted anything of a sexual relationship
22 between him and Mr. Glenn. Not to me.

23 Q Okay. At the end of the interview do you ask him to
24 provide a buccal swab?

25 A Yes, yes. I do.

1 Q Let me show you what's been premarked State's
2 Exhibit 12. Do you recognize that item?

3 A Yes, sir. This is a consent authorization that we
4 use.

5 Q Okay. What were you asking for consent for?

6 A I was asking Mr. Marcus Batson for consent for a
7 D.N.A. buccal swab, to obtain a D.N.A. sample from his --
8 the interior of his cheeks.

9 Q Did you sign the form?

10 A Yes. I did.

11 Q Did he sign the form indicating his consent?

12 A Yes. He did.

13 Q And that's State's Exhibit 12?

14 A Yes, sir. That's correct.

15 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
16 offer State's Exhibit 12 into evidence.

17 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

18 THE COURT: It's admitted.

19 (Consent to search for D.N.A. marked State's Exhibit
20 No. 12.)

21 Q Can you just read what the form says?

22 A "Spartanburg Police Department. Consent to search
23 authorization. Before any search is made you must
24 understand your rights. You may -- number one, you may
25 refuse to consent to a search and may demand that a search

1 warrant be obtained prior to any search of the premises
2 described below. Number two, if you consent to a search
3 anything of evidentiary value seized in the course of the
4 search can and will be used in court against you."

5 And then it's -- "I" and there's a blank -- and I
6 inserted his name, "Marcus Danta Batson, having read the
7 above statements and being fully aware of my rights, do
8 hereby consent to a search without warrant by officers of
9 the Spartanburg Public Safety Department of the following:
10 Marcus Danta Batson, date of birth 2/7/1989, a black male,
11 social security number 4" --

12 Q You don't need to read his social security number.

13 A Okay. "Buccal swabs to obtain D.N.A. sample from the
14 left and right interior cheeks. I hereby authorize the
15 said officers to seize any article which they may deem to
16 be of value as evidence. This statement is signed of my
17 own free will without any threats or promises having been
18 made to me. Person giving consent." And it is signed by
19 Marcus Batson, and I was the witness. And it is dated 8
20 July '21 and with the time being 1610 hours, which is
21 4:10 p.m.

22 Q And did you collect a buccal swab from Mr. Batson?

23 A I did.

24 Q Okay. And is that State's Exhibit 4 that's been
25 setting there in front of you?

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1 A Yes. This is it.

2 Q Okay. And after you collected the buccal swab, what
3 did you do with it?

4 A I took the buccal swab and placed it in a sterile
5 cartridge. Both ends were sealed with red evidence tape
6 and dated. The information was written on it, who the
7 person was that the buccal swab was obtained from. And it
8 was placed in this evidence envelope.

9 Q The one inside that heat-sealed bag?

10 A Yes. It's the Manila envelope. And it was placed
11 inside this envelope, and it was sealed with red evidence
12 tape on the flap, and it was dated, and I signed it as the
13 person being the one who sealed it. And then I filled out
14 the chain of possession and then it was dropped in our
15 evidence box.

16 Q So that's your neat handwriting there on the front?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Okay. So you received consent to get a buccal swab
19 from Mr. Batson.

20 A I did.

21 Q All right. And that is the buccal swab you received.

22 A Yes, sir. This is it.

23 Q And turned into evidence.

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q And ultimately sent down to SLED.

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay. Now, when you were doing your interview with
3 Marcus did you write a very short statement?

4 A I believe so.

5 Q Show you State's Exhibit 13.

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q What is that form?

8 A This form is just a statement. It's a statement form
9 that we utilize.

10 MR. SNYDER: Objection. That's not in evidence, is
11 it?

12 MR. HUNTER: We are about to put it in.

13 MR. SNYDER: What he just showed the jury.

14 Q Did you file out that form?

15 A I did.

16 Q Okay. At the end of the form is there a statement
17 made that you wrote in your handwriting? You don't need to
18 read it, but is there one?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. Who signed that form?

21 A The signature of the person providing the statement,
22 which is Marcus Batson, and the signature of a witness,
23 which is myself.

24 Q Okay. So you wrote the statement, but who was the
25 statement for?

1 A It was for Mr. Batson, Marcus Batson.

2 Q And he was given a chance to review that statement?

3 A Yes.

4 Q What number is that on the red on the front?

5 A Thirteen.

6 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
7 offer State's Exhibit 13 into evidence.

8 MR. SNYDER: One second, Judge.

9 (Pause.)

10 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

11 THE COURT: It's admitted.

12 (Statement of defendant marked State's Exhibit No. 13.)

13 Q Can you read your handwriting from here to the end of
14 statement?

15 A Yes, sir. "The statement of Marcus Batson was
16 recorded by the L3 digital system in Interview Room 2 while
17 at city hall in reference to the ongoing death
18 investigation at [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue located within the
19 corporate city limits of Spartanburg, South Carolina, on
20 July the 8th of 2021. Marcus Batson" -- paragraph two --
21 "Marcus Batson has stated that he is in no way involved in
22 this death investigation. End of statement."

23 Q So his statement that he adopted was that he was in no
24 way involved in the deaths of Matthew Booker and Ronald
25 Glenn.

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q And that was his statement to you the day the bodies
3 were discovered.

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
6 you.

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. SNYDER

9 Q One second.

10 (Pause.)

11 Q Investigator Nelson, now, this residence was a liquor
12 house, correct?

13 A That's what I've been -- that's what I have heard
14 today. I didn't know that.

15 Q Right. And a liquor house is essentially where
16 someone sells beer and liquor, is that correct?

17 A That's correct, yes, sir.

18 Q And he was -- and Ronald Glenn was selling beer,
19 liquor and cigarettes.

20 A I cannot attest to that personally, but that's the
21 testimony that's been laid out. So I think so.

22 Q Correct. And Ronald Glenn was also renting out rooms
23 in this residence?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q He rented a room to Mr. Batson?

1 A That's what Mr. Batson explained to me.

2 Q Mr. Booker.

3 A I -- when I was -- when I was speaking with

4 Mr. Batson, I was not aware of his name, so.

5 Q Okay.

6 A So based on what everyone else has said that's --

7 that's what I'm going off of, yes.

8 Q You said Mr. Geter had also been staying there.

9 A According to Mr. Batson, yes, sir.

10 Q Okay. And you were -- became aware that Ronnie was
11 gay?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q And that he was having sex with Mr. Geter inside of
14 that house.

15 A Yes, sir. That's what Mr. -- what your client told
16 me, yes.

17 Q Right.

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q And made Mr. Batson uncomfortable.

20 A Yes, sir. That's what -- yes, sir.

21 Q Because he said he could hear it.

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q And you went inside that house, correct?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q You never went inside?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Okay. But you went to the house from the outside.

3 A I -- yes, sir. I think as far as I got was the
4 sidewalk.

5 Q Right. It was a smaller house.

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q You also agree that for a lot of men talking about
8 having sex with other men is an uncomfortable subject,
9 correct?

10 A I guess that will be dependent upon the individual.

11 Q Right. I have no more questions.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. HUNTER

14 Q Everything that you learned about Tim Geter was from
15 who?

16 A Mr. Marcus Batson.

17 Q Thank you.

18 THE COURT: You may step down.

19 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may we approach?

20 THE COURT: Yes.

21 MR. HUNTER: May Investigator Nelson be excused? I
22 think he has an event to go to.

23 THE COURT: He may. Yes.

24 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

25 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence

1 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

2 THE COURT: The next witness will be lengthy perhaps,
3 so we'll recess for the afternoon.

4 Keep in mind no discussions, no media exposure, no
5 research, no investigations.

6 Have a good evening. Report to your jury room at
7 9:30 in the morning, 9:30 in the morning. Have a good
8 afternoon.

9 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
10 jury.)

11 THE COURT: All right. Any matters to address before
12 we recess?

13 MR. HUNTER: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

14 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Court's in recess until 9:30 in the
16 morning.

17 END OF PROCEEDINGS SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

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Dr. John Wassum
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 (Proceedings September 27, 2023)

2 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
3 jury.)

4 THE COURT: Any matters to address before the jury is
5 brought in?

6 MR. HUNTER: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

7 MR. SNYDER: Nothing from us.

8 THE COURT: All right. Who is the next witness?

9 MR. HUNTER: Dr. Wassum.

10 THE COURT: Bring the jury in, please.

11 (The following takes place in the presence of the
12 jury.)

13 THE COURT: Good morning.

14 As you know, when we recessed yesterday the state was
15 still in the midst of their presentation. So we'll
16 continue with that presentation this morning.

17 MR. HUNTER: May it please the Court. Dr. Wassum.

18 DR. JOHN WASSUM, having been
19 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

21 Q Can you please state your full name for the record?

22 A Dr. John Wassum, W-A-S-S-U-M.

23 Q Okay. Can you tell us about your education experience
24 starting in undergrad?

25 A I went to undergraduate for a bachelor of arts and

1 history at Davidson College. Then I went to Old Dominion
2 University in Norfolk, Virginia, to do all my prerequisites
3 for sciences in order to apply for medical school, which I
4 did at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk,
5 Virginia.

6 After that I did a four-year residency in anatomic and
7 clinical pathology at the Medical University of South
8 Carolina in Charleston. And I stayed there an extra year
9 for a forensic pathology fellowship.

10 Q During your four-year anatomical and clinical
11 pathology residency, is that where you specifically
12 learned -- go from med school learning about everything to
13 specifically about pathology?

14 A It was.

15 Q What is pathology?

16 A Pathology is generally the study of disease. The
17 pathologist in the hospital setting takes things like
18 surgical specimens, biopsies, any fluids drawn like blood.
19 So they're in charge of basically taking those tissues and
20 samples and coming up with diagnostics on them. So talking
21 about what kind of tumor you may have, all the way to all
22 of the general lab work that you might get.

23 Q And in that you also learn about autopsies in forensic
24 pathology a little bit?

25 A That is a general part, mostly focused on the medical

1 based on the hospital based autopsies, seeing what natural
2 diseases may have occurred that led to the decedent's
3 death.

4 Q And then after your four-year residency you actually
5 go into a specific fellowship?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q And what does that entail?

8 A So that was specifically for forensic pathology,
9 forensically based autopsies, so things that occur that are
10 not attended by a physician. So deaths at home where death
11 is not obvious -- accidents, suicides, homicides, things of
12 that nature.

13 Q How many autopsies have you performed?

14 A About 3,000.

15 Q Okay. Are you board certified in any specialties?

16 A I am.

17 Q And what are they?

18 A Anatomic, clinical and forensic pathology.

19 Q And what does it mean to be board certified?

20 A So we have a national organization much like every
21 specialty does that is in charge of determining the
22 curriculum that gets us through the anatomic and clinical
23 residency.

24 There's a forensic aspect too, but we have to meet
25 requirements during our training, and then we take board

1 exams. And then every quarter we do followup board
2 questions on line. And then every two years we're required
3 to do approximately 70 hours of continuing medical
4 education.

5 Q I was going to ask next. What type of continuing
6 medical education do you take since graduating from medical
7 school?

8 A So there are online courses that are provided by
9 different pathology organizes. There are conferences that
10 we can go to. And then quarterly we have about 15
11 questions that we have to take to maintain our board
12 certifications.

13 Q All right. And since becoming board certified have
14 you continued along those education lines and are you
15 continuing to be board certified?

16 A I am.

17 Q In all of those fields?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
20 offer Dr. Wassum as an expert in clinical pathology.

21 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

22 THE COURT: He is to qualified.

23 Q Now, we're here today for the deaths of Matthew Booker
24 and Ronald Glenn. Did you perform their autopsies?

25 A I did.

1 Q And what date did you perform the autopsies on?

2 A The 9th of July 2021.

3 Q Okay. Do you know which autopsy you performed first?

4 A That on Matthew Booker.

5 Q Okay. Mind if we start with him since he was the
6 first one that you did?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Did you come to any diagnosis on Mr. Booker?

9 A I did.

10 Q And what did you find?

11 A I found blunt trauma to the head and then some natural
12 disease involving the heart.

13 Q Did the natural disease involving the heart have
14 anything to do with his death?

15 A Not in my opinion.

16 Q Okay. What trauma to the head? Can you describe what
17 you found?

18 A For this decedent there were a line of abrasions and
19 contusions from the right side of the jawline towards the
20 ear. And that's what we could see externally.

21 So internally once we reflect --

22 Q When you say reflect, what do you mean?

23 A So to look at the skull, the outside of the skull, we
24 have to peel the scalp forward. So once we do that, I was
25 able to see hemorrhage underneath all this. There was

1 bleeding associated with the bruises and then a depressed
2 skull fracture. So on the outer table of the skull we
3 could tell the fracture was pushed in.

4 Q And how big was that skull fracture?

5 A I don't know that I marked if you don't mind if I look
6 at my report.

7 Q That's fine if you want to look at your evidence of
8 injuries.

9 A So that was 3 inches.

10 Q And did that skull fracture radiate anywhere else?

11 A It did. Once we were -- removed the top of the skull
12 and the brain we could see that that fracture continued on
13 through the base of the skull, so below the brain.

14 Q Okay. Was that skull fracture consistent with being
15 hit by a blunt object?

16 A It was.

17 Q Would it be consistent with being hit with a baseball
18 bat?

19 A Could be.

20 Q Okay. Also, in the autopsy do you remove some fluids
21 for toxicology?

22 A Yes.

23 Q All right. Did Mr. Booker -- his toxicology report
24 come back with anything?

25 A It came back with ethanol.

1 Q Okay. why would ethanol be in his body?

2 A You can have it from drinking alcoholic beverages. In
3 this case both of these decedents had some early evidence
4 of decomposition changes. So with that there are
5 bacteria and things that live in your body naturally, and
6 after death they can become more active and can actually
7 generate ethanol themselves.

8 So it could be antemortem usage or postmortem
9 production by bacteria at that small of a level.

10 Q And based on the amounts found were you able to give
11 an opinion as to where that came from?

12 A It could be a mix or either.

13 Q Okay. And what was the level?

14 A It was 40 milligrams per deciliter, which is about
15 .040 on like a breathalyzer.

16 Q .04 on a breathalyzer?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Like less than a .08 that we all hear about with
19 D.U.I.

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Okay. And based on your exam of Mr. Booker -- you've
22 talked about early decomposition. I want to talk about
23 that for both of them. What is early decomposition that
24 you're talking about?

25 A So as soon as you die, you know, your body, your

1 immune system, kind of works in conjunction with some
2 bacteria that live in your gut that help us digest things.
3 But as soon as you die those can kinda start overgrowing.
4 And there are natural changes that occur if the body is not
5 embalmed or refrigerated immediately.

6 The muscles can tense up within the first 24 hours,
7 but that will eventually go away. The blood settles in the
8 body with gravity. So however the person is found, blood
9 should be at the lowest level. And eventually that can get
10 to a point where it's out in the vessels and it's fixed, is
11 the terminology. You can't press on the skin and make it
12 go away because it's fixed into the tissues.

13 But, then again, bacteria start to produce gases and
14 things that can cause some skin blistering, skin slippage
15 on the outside surfaces and some discoloration of the skin.

16 Q Were you able to observe discoloration of the skin and
17 skin slippage on both victims?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Did that indicate that obviously they had been
20 dead for a while before you got to them?

21 A Right. It seems like more than 24 hours.

22 Q Okay. Just one more quick question about Mr. Booker.

23 Could you please show on your face where the skull
24 fracture would have happened and then radiated to?

25 A So there are multiple bones that make up your head.

1 In my report I say that right parietal and temporal. So
2 that's basically the right side near the ear. So that
3 pattern of wound kinda was along the right jawline to the
4 ear. So that skull fracture was kind of above the ear.

5 Q And where did it radiate to?

6 A So it goes through the base of the skull, so basically
7 behind your eyes. There's a bony plate, and it went
8 through that part of the skull.

9 Q All the way to the other side of his face?

10 A Basically, through just the bottom of the skull.

11 Q Okay. Went to the other side?

12 A Both sides, yes, sir.

13 Q All right. So it was a pretty significant injury.

14 A It was.

15 Q What type of movement would he have been able to make
16 after having that type of injury?

17 A So the cause of death there would be the hemorrhage
18 into the skull, so basically blood between the brain and
19 the inside of the skull, which would lead to brain
20 swelling. And so that's compression of the brain and the
21 spinal cord.

22 With that kind of blow, it's possible that he could
23 have moved. It could have been immediately debilitating.
24 I can't say at that time.

25 Q But it's a severely debilitating injury.

1 A It could. It could cause concussion, loss of
2 consciousness immediately before death.

3 Q Okay. Were you able to form an opinion to a
4 reasonable degree of medical certainty as to the cause and
5 manner of death?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q And what was your opinion?

8 A The cause of death is blunt trauma of the head, and
9 the manner of death is homicide.

10 Q Let's move to Mr. Glenn, or actually one more
11 question. Mr. Booker. How old was he?

12 A Mr. Booker is 56 years old.

13 Q And height and weight?

14 A He is 69 inches tall, so 5'9" and 199 pounds.

15 Q All right. Now, Mr. Glenn.

16 Let's start with those same questions. How old, height
17 and weight?

18 A Seventy-three years old, as told to me, and he was
19 68 inches tall, 5'8" and 176 pounds.

20 Q So he was smaller than Mr. Booker.

21 A Appears to be.

22 Q About 20 pounds and an inch.

23 Describe how you started the autopsy with Mr. Glenn.

24 A So for autopsies in general once we receive them,
25 they're generally sealed by the coroner. We'll document

1 that seal, open it and take pictures as is, so like remove
2 nothing. we'll take all of the pictures there. Then we'll
3 remove and document the clothing.

4 In these cases we did sexual assault examinations
5 before we did any cleaning and saved and packaged those
6 specimens and then document any external injuries. we'll
7 do the internal examination and look for natural disease in
8 the organs and any sign of injury internally.

9 Q And, again, with Mr. Glenn, did you find any trauma to
10 the head?

11 A I did.

12 Q What did you find?

13 A He also had blunt trauma of the head, multiple
14 different locations. You could see impact sites around the
15 head. And he also had blunt trauma to the chest.

16 Q So Mr. Booker's was consistent with one large hit and
17 Mr. Glenn had multiple sites?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Can you describe those sites?

20 A So about the head he had two kind of faint abraded
21 contusions. So abrasion is kinda like a rough patch on the
22 skin. So like it's basically friction induced versus
23 contusion being some impact. So there's a combination of
24 that on the left side of the head, on the forehead, and
25 then immediately behind the left ear.

1 And then there are five more significant blunt trauma
2 sites that actually created lacerations, which is from
3 blunt trauma. So a laceration is a cut in the skin, but
4 it's from heavy pressure versus a sharp-force entry like a
5 sharp blade would cut the skin. This is from impact, so
6 kind of crushing the skin between the bone and whatever
7 object is causing that trauma.

8 So he had those basically starting behind, a little
9 above and behind, the right ear all the way across the back
10 of his scalp.

11 Q Okay. And the other injuries that you spoke about,
12 the abrasions, they were more on the left side of this?

13 A They were. They were on the left forehead and
14 immediately behind the left ear.

15 Q But the larger impact sites were on the right side and
16 in the back of the head.

17 A They were.

18 Q Okay. Did he have any skull fractures?

19 A He did.

20 Q Can you describe those?

21 A So there were several unlike the first case where
22 there's an obvious depressed single site. There were
23 multiple along the right and back side that had radiating
24 fractures between them and less of a depressed single site
25 like the previous case.

1 Q And, again, on this one was there also a toxicology
2 report done?

3 A There was.

4 Q And what was the result of that?

5 A For this one he had ethanol as well, had 62 milligrams
6 per deciliter, and he had some prescription medications --
7 Gabapentin and Diltiazem there are in their appropriate
8 levels.

9 Q What is Gabapentin?

10 A It's a neuropathic drug. So people that have diabetic
11 neuropathy and maybe some anxiety issues, it can be used
12 for those the same as the -- well, the Diltiazem. It's a
13 benzodiazepine. It's typically used for anxiety.

14 Q What do they do?

15 A They operate in the central nervous system and calm
16 the nerves for the Gabapentin and decrease anxiety for the
17 Diltiazem.

18 Q And, again, his level was 62 milligrams per --

19 A Deciliter.

20 Q -- deciliter for the ethanol.

21 A Right.

22 Q Which on a P.A.C. level would be --

23 A .062.

24 Q .06. And, again, that can be caused by drinking or
25 decomposition.

1 A That's correct.

2 Q Let me show you what's been marked State's Exhibits 5
3 and 6. Now, you previously mentioned taking sex assault
4 kits from the victims.

5 A That's correct.

6 Q All right. And State's Exhibit 5 is a sexual assault
7 kit from, I believe, Mr. Booker.

8 A I can't really see through these packages.

9 Q Do those appear to be the sexual assault kits that you
10 took?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q When you do a sexual assault kit, what -- what
13 procedure do you follow?

14 A So the kits come with a variety of different
15 collection devices. We will do swabs of the oral cavity,
16 the external surfaces of the penis through the urethra of
17 the penis and the anus.

18 We'll also do combings and collection of pubic hair if
19 it's present and then collection of fingernail scrapings if
20 the fingernails were long enough for that.

21 Q And what is a blood card?

22 A A blood card is a specially designed piece of paper
23 that preserves D.N.A. when blood spots are added. So
24 samples from the decedent are added to that card.

25 Q And did you attempt to take the penile swabs, oral

1 swabs, rectal swabs from both victims?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. And fingernails scrapings from both victims?

4 A Correct.

5 Q And I believe pubic hair was only found on one victim.

6 I believe Mr. Glenn. Did you take that as well?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And did you do blood cards for both victims?

9 A Yes. Submitted the blood cards for the D.N.A.

10 comparison.

11 Q Okay. And so all of those items were then packaged by
12 you?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And placed into those bags?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Do you remember who you provided those bags to?

17 A I do not but it should be -- sorry -- yeah. To Sandra
18 Adorno of the Spartanburg City Police Department.

19 Q That's Ms. Adorno back here. Is she usually one of
20 the ones that's at your autopsy for the city?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Okay. So you provided both sexual assault kits to
23 her.

24 A I did.

25 Q And you're the one who actually did the swabs of the

1 penis, inside the penis, orally, rectally, fingernail
2 scrapings and pubic hair of Mr. Glenn?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And did the blood card as well.

5 A Yes.

6 Q And those were provided to Ms. Adorno.

7 A Yes.

8 Q Now, as to Mr. Glenn, were you able to come to an
9 opinion to a reasonable degree of medical certainty as the
10 cause and manner of death?

11 A I did. It's blunt trauma of the head and the manner
12 is homicide.

13 Q And all of the injuries -- or actually I forgot to ask
14 about one injury. Mr. Glenn had an injury to his chest as
15 well. Can you describe that?

16 A He did. Because of the lividity he had anterior
17 lividity, so he passed away in a prone position and the
18 blood settled there.

19 we didn't see any external injuries, but when we
20 pulled the skin back he had a contusion in the center of
21 his chest, up over his left collarbone and on the anterior
22 or the front side of his right shoulder. And that
23 contusion actually had a fracture of the sternum or the
24 breastplate in the center.

25 Q And all of his blunt force injuries, were they

1 consistent with being hit by a baseball bat?

2 A Yes, especially the ones that created lacerations.

3 Q The ones on the head?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And he had multiple ones.

6 A He did.

7 Q And they, based on where they were lined, is it your
8 opinion that those were likely separate strikes from a
9 blunt injury or blunt object?

10 A So, yes. For Mr. Glenn I could say that there are
11 seven separate sites of impact.

12 The abrasions on the left side are less clear, how
13 they would come to be. You know, any sort of blunt trauma
14 could cause those. But the ones with the lacerations are
15 consistent with blunt trauma with an object.

16 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
17 you.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. SNYDER

20 Q I don't have many.

21 The solicitor went into it a little bit, but Mr. Glenn
22 was much younger than Mr. Booker, correct?

23 A Right.

24 Q He's also much smaller, correct?

25 A He's probably about 20 pounds lighter.

1 Q There is some discussion about the ethanol level could
2 have resulted from decomposition or alcohol intake.

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q The ethanol level that would have resulted from
5 alcohol intake would have gone down over time, correct?

6 A It should not change after death.

7 Q So you said the bodies were there for at least 24
8 hours.

9 A Right.

10 Q So the alcohol intake would -- so for breathalyzer,
11 after 24 hours that number goes down.

12 A Sure, because your body is actively metabolizing the
13 ethanol.

14 Q But it's your testimony that because of the resulting
15 death that they would have stayed the same.

16 A So the things that you consume before death generally
17 stay at a relatively preserved level after death within the
18 body fluids. And ethanol especially might go up because
19 the different bacteria and yeast that live, and you can
20 produce ethanol. So they shouldn't go down.

21 Q Okay. Either way, based on your results you could
22 tell there was more of a struggle with Mr. Glenn than there
23 was with Mr. Booker.

24 A I'm not sure if I can comment on a struggle, but there
25 are definitely more impact sites.

Bailey Haynes
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 Q Okay. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

3 MR. HUNTER: May Dr. Wassum be excused?

4 THE COURT: He may be.

5 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

6 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
7 call Bailey Haynes from SLED.

8 BAILEY HAYNES, having been
9 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

11 Q Good morning. Can you please state your full name for
12 the record?

13 A Bailey Haynes.

14 Q And where are you employed?

15 A I'm currently employed at the South Carolina Law
16 Enforcement Division, otherwise known as SLED.

17 Q And how long have you been there?

18 A I've been at SLED since June of 2020.

19 Q Okay. And what is your title?

20 A Since May of this year I've been a forensic scientist
21 for the firearms department. Before that I was a forensic
22 technician for the evidence control department.

23 Q Okay. And in July of 2021 you were the forensic
24 technician for the forensics department?

25 A For the evidence control department, that is correct.

1 Q Okay. And forensics is a part of that.

2 A That's correct.

3 Q Okay. As part of the -- your job duties do you intake
4 evidence in July of 2021?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Okay. You have State's Exhibits 5 and 6 right there
7 beside you. Is your name on those items?

8 A Yes, sir. They are.

9 Q And why is your name on those items?

10 A When sexual assault kits get submitted to the lab,
11 they are submitted in an outer packaging. In this
12 particular scenario they were submitted in a rectangular
13 cardboard box.

14 In order for us to determine whether or not there was
15 any cold evidence in that rectangular box, we would open
16 the outer packaging in order to separate those, that
17 potential, quote, evidence from the D.N.A. evidence that
18 you see.

19 So in this particular case my name is on both
20 heat-sealed pouches because I opened the outer packaging
21 and I repackaged it in this heat-sealed pouch.

22 Q And, ultimately, in this case was there any cold items
23 submitted for cold storage?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Okay. But why do you do it for items that need cold

1 storage? what could possibly happen?

2 A Sexual assault kits, there can be blood and urine
3 collected, and there's no way for us to know unless we open
4 the box. And that potential blood or urine needs to be
5 refrigerated per toxicology standards. So we have to
6 separate the two because, one, they get routed to a
7 different department than D.N.A., and, two, they need to be
8 stored in a different way.

9 Q But, ultimately, you didn't have to do that in this
10 case.

11 A No, sir.

12 Q And as a forensic technician -- or excuse me -- as in
13 the evidence intake did you also happen to take in State's
14 Exhibit 1?

15 A Can you tell me what the SLED item number is, please?

16 Q I believe it's No. 1 as well. I tried to match them
17 up. would you like a copy of the chain of custody?

18 A No, sir. I have one. Thank you.

19 Q Okay.

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Okay. You did take that in?

22 A Yes, sir. I did.

23 Q And what do you do when you take an item that's not a
24 sexual assault kit?

25 A Whenever a piece of evidence is submitted to the lab

1 it is given a unique SLED bar code label that travels with
2 the evidence as it travels throughout the lab.

3 Q And you did that for multiple items in this case?

4 A Yes, sir. I did.

5 Q Definitely five, six and one.

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q That's State's Exhibit 3 should also be SLED Item 3.
8 Did you take that in?

9 A Yes, sir. I did.

10 Q Okay. State's Exhibit 2, which would be Ed Guthro's
11 buccal swab, did you take that in?

12 A Yes, sir. I did.

13 Q Okay. Item 3. Same with Item 4, Mr. Batson's buccal
14 swab?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q You've already stated five and six.

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Same with Item 7, Mr. Tim Geter's buccal swab?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Okay. And that appears to be it.

21 Now, again, when you take these buccal swabs, since
22 they are sexual assault kits, what do you do with them?

23 A Just like Item No. 1 here. When the evidence gets
24 logged into the lab, it gets assigned a unique SLED bar
25 code label, which has a unique item number associated with

1 that piece of evidence.

2 Q And then you just place it in your evidence storage
3 until it's ready to be tested?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q And is that what you did with all of these items?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q But the reason your name is on the bags of sexual
8 assault kits is because you had to repackage them to make
9 sure there was no cold storage in the sexual assault kit?

10 A That is correct.

11 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have for
12 you.

13 MR. SNYDER: I have no questions.

14 THE COURT: You may step down.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

16 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
17 call Courtney Thompson with SLED.

18 COURTNEY THOMPSON, having been
19 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

21 Q Good morning, Ms. Thompson.

22 A Good morning.

23 Q Can you please state your full name for the record?

24 A Courtney Thompson.

25 Q And where are you employed?

1 A I'm employed with the South Carolina Law Enforcement
2 Division, also referred to as SLED, in the D.N.A. casework
3 department.

4 Q All right. And how long have you been with SLED?

5 A I have been with SLED almost 11 years.

6 Q Okay. What's your education experience?

7 A My educational background is that I have a bachelor's
8 in science and forensic science and biology from Southern
9 Wesleyan University.

10 Q Okay. And what is your current title at SLED?

11 A My current title at SLED is that I am a D.N.A.
12 analyst.

13 Q That's not what you were doing in July of 2021?

14 A That is correct. In July of 2021 I was a forensic
15 serologist with the D.N.A. casework department.

16 Q What is serology?

17 A Serology is the identification of different bodily
18 fluids mostly for the purposes of D.N.A. analysis.

19 So in D.N.A. analysis the most useful body fluids that
20 are commonly tested are ones that are, we expect, high
21 amounts of D.N.A. to be located in them. And that
22 typically includes blood, semen and saliva.

23 And I can examine items of evidence for potential body
24 fluids, as well as take collections for other types of
25 D.N.A. evidence that may be left behind from somebody

1 potentially handling or wearing an item, as well as hair.

2 Q And what type of training and experience did you have
3 to have in order to be able to do this?

4 A I was in training for about a year under a D.N.A.
5 analyst and an evidence processing technician who were
6 previously qualified to train me in all of the areas of my
7 expertise, which was in evidence handling, testing,
8 maintaining chain of custody, as well as report writing and
9 courtroom testimony.

10 Q Specifically, at SLED when you're dealing with D.N.A.
11 and serology, what do you do?

12 A Specific to SLED and with serology and D.N.A., my role
13 is to examine items of evidence that have been submitted
14 from various agencies across the state in order to try and
15 collect any potential evidence, D.N.A. evidence, from those
16 items and then prepare that evidence, which could come in
17 the form of a cutting or potentially a swab from that item.
18 And I prepare that evidence for the D.N.A. analyst for it
19 to continue on into the laboratory analysis.

20 Q And how many times have you done that?

21 A At this point I have handled probably a thousand or
22 more items of evidence.

23 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
24 offer Courtney Thompson as an expert in forensic serology.

25 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

1 THE COURT: She is so qualified.

2 Q Let's go ahead and start with the first item, Item
3 No. 1. Do you recognize that item?

4 A Yes. I do recognize this item. It contains the label
5 on the exterior that has the correct SLED lab number and
6 the item number associated with this, with this particular
7 case. And my initials and date are on tape that I placed
8 on the exterior of the packaging after I was completing,
9 after I've completed my processing.

10 Q Can you show me where your initials are? Show the
11 jury.

12 A This piece of tape, as well as a tape here. And then
13 another tape at the far end have my initials and the date
14 that I sealed the item after I finished processing.

15 Q When you processed the bat, what did you do?

16 A This bat came in with requests for collections of
17 blood and touch.

18 Touch D.N.A. is usually referred to as D.N.A. that
19 could be left behind by somebody handling an item.

20 And so for this particular case I opened up this item,
21 which was a bat, and examined it first for any potential
22 bloodstains.

23 If I see any stains of interest, I will test them.
24 And I have a test that is -- it doesn't confirm the
25 presence of blood, but it can indicate that blood may be

1 present and that further testing is needed on that
2 particular stain.

3 And so I tested some areas on the stain -- sorry --
4 some items, the areas on the back, and did, in fact, have
5 some positive results come from my test.

6 So I collected swabs from the top of the bat, which
7 were presumptively positive for the presence of blood.

8 And then in order to collect any D.N.A. that may be
9 left behind by touching the item, I also collected swabs
10 from the handle of the bat and --

11 Q What part of the swabs that you speak of?

12 A Swabs are just a -- in our lab they are a sterile
13 wooden stick that's wrapped in cotton. It looks very
14 similar to a Q-tip.

15 Q Okay. Very similar to what probably a lot of us got
16 tested for COVID, struck in our throats. That's what they
17 look like?

18 A Yes. That's what they look like.

19 Q Okay. And you take that swab, and the swab,
20 specifically Item 1, how did you swab that?

21 A So, specifically, with Item 1, based on the type of
22 item that it was, I selected two swabs. That is the method
23 of collection that would have been best suited for this
24 item.

25 I moistened one of the swabs with sterile water and

1 swabbed all of the areas of the top of the bat that may
2 have contained any potential bloodstains and then followed
3 behind it with a sterile dry swab. And this is just the
4 most efficient method of collection for this particular
5 item.

6 After the swabs are collected I allow them to dry
7 before packaging them, and then I moved to the handle of
8 the bat where I also used a moistened swab that had been
9 moistened with sterile water and then followed it with a
10 dry swab behind it in all areas of the handle of the bat
11 and allowed those swabs to also dry prior to packaging them
12 up.

13 Q And then you packaged them up, and what do you do with
14 them?

15 A After they are packaged, I then prepare them for
16 D.N.A. analysis, and for preparation for D.N.A. analysis
17 the entire swab is not needed in order to go forward with
18 the laboratory portion. And so I use a pair of cleaned and
19 sterilized scissors and I cut a very small part of the
20 swabs off of my original creation, the original swabs I
21 took.

22 I take that portion and I place it into a sterile tube
23 and label the tube with the SLED lab number and the item
24 number and then seal those tubes back into the packaging so
25 that they can be transferred to a D.N.A. analyst for

1 further analysis.

2 Q All right. And that package there in front of you on
3 top of that, State's Exhibit --

4 A Says State's Exhibit 8.

5 Q Eight. Is that SLED items 1.1 and 1.2?

6 A Yes. It is SLED Items 1.1 and 1.2. And SLED Item 1.1
7 are swabs from the top of the bat and SLED Item 1.2 are
8 swabs from the handle of the bat.

9 Q Okay. So you take the swabs. You then cut it, place
10 it into the tubes, place it, and then send it on to D.N.A.
11 for their analysis.

12 A That is correct.

13 Q Okay. And those tubs that we see actually in the
14 package are not the tubes that you used, correct?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q Okay. The specific tubes.

17 A That's correct. Those tubes that are in the packaging
18 now, they -- the sample that I forward to the D.N.A.
19 analyst is consumed during analysis. So that portion of
20 that swab no longer exists. And the tube that remains are
21 the remaining portion of any D.N.A. that may be left over
22 from the end of the analyst procedures in the lab.

23 Q But it's the same type of tube.

24 A Yes. It looks similar.

25 Q And so you did that with State's Exhibit 1 -- 8?

1 A Yes. That is correct.

2 Q Those are the swabs from the bat. And you placed it,
3 and at that point it would have gone a D.N.A. analyst.

4 A Yes.

5 Q And do you know who the D.N.A. analyst on this case
6 was?

7 A Yes. The swabs traveled to a location within our
8 D.N.A. department that's known as prepped for D.N.A., which
9 is a secure spot inside the D.N.A. laboratory, where then
10 the D.N.A. analyst Sarah Zapata was able to take them and
11 place into her custody.

12 Q Now, there are a few buccal swabs, comparison
13 standards, SLED 2 -- or excuse me -- SLED 2, 3, 4 and 7.
14 And that's also going to be State's Exhibits 2, 3, 4 and 7.
15 What do you do with the comparison standards for the buccal
16 swabs?

17 A For each of the those buccal swabs, they were taken
18 into my custody and then prepared for D.N.A. in the same
19 manner that I explained preparing the swabs from the bat.
20 So just a small portion of the swabs were taken off of
21 the -- from the swab by cutting it and placed it into a
22 sterile tube. And then I sealed, resealed, the evidence
23 and sent it on for laboratory analysis.

24 Q And, again, it was sent to the prep for D.N.A., the
25 secure room?

1 A Yes. It was.

2 Q Okay. So, basically, it's the same thing as SLED's
3 Item 1.1 and 1.2, State's 8. It's just you didn't take
4 these swabs.

5 A That's correct. I didn't do any type of analysis. I
6 simply opened them and prepared them for the D.N.A.
7 analyst.

8 Q Let's talk about State's Exhibits 5 and 6, which is
9 also SLED 5 and 6.

10 Now, what did you do with State's Exhibits 5 and 6 or
11 SLED 5 and 6?

12 A So SLED Item 5 is the sexual assault kit from Matthew
13 Booker. And these items come packaged into a larger
14 envelope, and within that larger envelope contain
15 individual envelopes that have the collections from the
16 different areas that the swabs that were collected off of
17 the body.

18 And so those individual sets of swabs are then given a
19 new item number by me because they each receive a different
20 type of treatment and analysis in the lab.

21 So they were then given names associated with where
22 they were selected from. And so for Item 5, I created Item
23 5.1, oral swabs; 5.2, rectal swabs; 5.3, which was
24 miscellaneous collection swabs from the penis; Item 5.4,
25 which were fingernail scrapings. And then I further broke

1 down the fingernail scrapings into left and right hand
2 fingernail scrapings. And then Item 5.5, which was a dried
3 blood spot from Matthew Booker.

4 Q And you were able to determine that those items,
5 fingernail scrapings, were penis, rectum. They were
6 identified as such when you got them. So that's why you
7 described them as that?

8 A That's correct. The outer packaging on each of these
9 individual envelopes does indicate the location of
10 collection, and so based on the swabs being in that
11 particular envelope is how I then named them whenever I
12 received them.

13 Q And then you do the same thing with them as you did
14 with the other buccal swabs that you received? How did you
15 prep those?

16 A That is correct. So after I have inventoried all of
17 the items inside of the sexual assault kit, I then will
18 take them into, first, an alternate light source, which can
19 just be a light that helps identify any bodily fluids that
20 might be giving off any type of fluorescence.

21 And the reason for this is that particularly semen is
22 a fluorescent material, and so it can aid in cutting and
23 choosing what sections of the swab to cut, if necessary.

24 So the oral swabs, rectal swabs and penile swabs were
25 taken and used under an alternate light source to see if

1 there's any particular locations that I should focus on in
2 cutting. And then those swabs were all cut and prepared
3 for D.N.A. by being placed into a sterile tube.

4 The fingernail scrapings, the collection materials are
5 provided inside of the envelopes, and so they come with a
6 paper that's labeled L and R for left and right hand.

7 And within each paper there's a plastic kind of stick
8 that is used to actually scrape under each finger. And so
9 that entire tip of a scrapper is actually what we forward
10 for D.N.A. analysis. So I cut the tip of that scrapper off
11 and place it into a tube for D.N.A.

12 And then for the dried blood spot from the victim,
13 that is just cutting a portion of the paper that has the
14 dried blood on it and also placing it into a sterile tube.

15 Q And as, specifically, with SLED Item 6, State's 6,
16 there's one other item in that sexual assault kit. What
17 was that?

18 A In SLED Item 6, in addition to the oral swabs, rectal
19 swabs, penile swabs and fingernail scrapings, there was a
20 collection of pubic hair combings. And the pubic hair
21 combings are evaluated by me in order to determine if any
22 hair meets the criteria for D.N.A. analysis.

23 And what that means is that I must examine the hairs
24 that are in the pubic hair combings for any type of root
25 material. The root material is what contains the D.N.A.

1 that we need in order to do any type of D.N.A. analysis in
2 our lab.

3 And so if the root is not present on a hair, it is not
4 suitable for D.N.A. analysis. And so I will only select
5 hairs that may potentially have any root material to go
6 forward for D.N.A. analysis.

7 Q And did you separate that hair into two separate SLED
8 numbers?

9 A Yes. So I was able to send for two hairs that I
10 identified as having root material present, and they became
11 Items 6.5.1 and 6.5.2.

12 Q And, again, the same with the oral scrapings and all
13 the other fingernail scrapings -- oral, rectal, penile,
14 fingernail scrapings, blood spot. You prepped those for
15 D.N.A., and you send them on to the D.N.A. department
16 through the secure room.

17 A Yes. That's correct. I prepared it in the similar
18 fashion that I explained Item 5, the sexual assault kit
19 from Matthew Booker. And then when I'm done, I sealed up
20 the pouches that contained all of these collections, and my
21 tubes inside. Placed them into the secure location in the
22 D.N.A. department. And then they eventually were
23 transferred into the D.N.A. analyst Sarah Zapata's custody.

24 Q And so you've done that with all of the items that we
25 have spoken about.

1 A Yes. That is correct.

2 Q And your name is on some of the bags. why?

3 A My name is on some of the bags because I created,
4 specifically, the swabs that came from the bat.

5 My name is on the exterior of that piece of pouch
6 because I created that pouch. I created the swabs within
7 that pouch.

8 And so when we create an item in the lab, it must be
9 contained in secure housing to travel throughout the lab.
10 So I created that pouch in order to ensure that those swabs
11 were protected and were traveling in an appropriately
12 sealed pouch throughout the analysis.

13 And then any of the items that came through me before
14 they reached the D.N.A. analyst would have been opened and
15 then resealed by myself either by taping them shut if it
16 was an envelope, or if it was a heat-sealed pouch, all of
17 the heat-sealed pouches contain my initials and the date
18 that reseal the evidence to ensure that none of the
19 evidence was opened in between the time that I had finished
20 it and then moved it into the location in the D.N.A.
21 department where it was awaiting analysis.

22 Q So while State's Exhibit 5 is open now, when you were
23 dealing with it, it was sealed within that pouch, I assume,
24 when you took it to the D.N.A. room.

25 A Yes. When I received the evidence from the evidence

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1 control department the -- all items are evidence were
2 sealed.

3 Q Okay. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may
4 have.

5 MR. SNYDER: I don't have any questions.

6 THE COURT: You may step down.

7 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, may she be excused?

8 THE COURT: She may be.

9 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

10 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
11 call Sarah Zapata.

12 SARAH ZAPATA, having been
13 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

15 Q Good morning.

16 A Good morning.

17 Q Please state your full name for the record.

18 A Sarah Zapata, Z-A-P-A-T-A.

19 Q And how are you currently employed?

20 A I am an analyst in the D.N.A. casework department at
21 the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, commonly known
22 as SLED.

23 Q And how long have you worked for SLED?

24 A I have been at SLED for a little over eight years.

25 Q Okay. Kind of give your growth in SLED, your job

1 titles.

2 A I've always been a D.N.A. analyst since I started in
3 2015.

4 Q Okay. So unlike Courtney, you started out as a D.N.A.
5 analyst.

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. What is your educational experience?

8 A I have a bachelor of science in forensic science from
9 the Pennsylvania State University.

10 Q What type of continuing education do you do?

11 A So we are required always to stay abreast of things
12 that are developing in the D.N.A. field. So we will do
13 that by attending conferences or receiving training any
14 time we are bringing any kind of new technology or
15 technique online. And then in order to actually implement
16 that in our laboratory, we have to be tested to prove that
17 we can appropriately use the new technique or technology
18 before we can actually apply it to casework.

19 Q And you've been doing that every year for the last
20 eight years?

21 A Yes.

22 Q How many D.N.A. analyses have you done?

23 A Several hundred cases. I don't have an exact number
24 but...

25 Q What -- what is D.N.A.?

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Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 A D.N.A. is a chemical that is found throughout your
2 body, and it is unique to you as an individual unless you
3 have an identical twin.

4 Q And how is D.N.A. analysis performed?

5 A So in our laboratory once we have an item of evidence,
6 whether it has been prepared by a serologist or we as the
7 analyst, cut a portion of the swab and prepare it for
8 ourselves.

9 We take the items of evidence through four main
10 laboratory steps.

11 The first step is extraction. So that is when we are
12 trying to isolate any D.N.A. that may be on that portion of
13 the swab or the cutting or the fingernail scraping from the
14 item itself so that we will have just the D.N.A. and the
15 reagents in that little tube that was pointed out earlier.

16 Once we have the D.N.A. isolated, then we want to
17 determine approximately how much D.N.A. do we actually have
18 in the sample, because you want to be able to target the
19 appropriate amount for the next step, which is called
20 amplification.

21 And that kind of works like a chemical copy machine,
22 so we are targeting a specific -- specific areas of the
23 D.N.A. that is what will make up your D.N.A. profile.

24 And so we target those areas showing amplification and
25 just make lots of copies of those specific areas so that

1 the D.N.A. profile can be detected by our final instrument.

2 And then once we have generated that data, we'll
3 evaluate it according to our protocols, make sure that it
4 is suitable for interpretation. And if it is, then we will
5 make any comparisons that are necessary, calculate a
6 statistic and prepare a report.

7 Q Okay. How many times have you been qualified as an
8 expert in forensic D.N.A. analysis?

9 A I believe 22.

10 Q Okay. All in the State of South Carolina?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And you were also certified as an expert in the
13 Murdaugh trial, weren't you?

14 A Yes. I was.

15 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
16 offer Sarah Zapata as an expert in forensic D.N.A.
17 analysis.

18 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

19 THE COURT: She is so qualified.

20 Q All right. What is a comparison standard?

21 A A comparison standard is a known standard from an
22 individual, and that can be blood or a buccal swab, which
23 is just a swab from inside someone's mouth to collect their
24 saliva. And that swab is taken from a known person, and we
25 use it to compare to any D.N.A. profiles developed from

1 evidence samples.

2 Q Were you provided comparison standards in this case?

3 A Yes. I was.

4 Q Let me go ahead and just all of the D.N.A. right in
5 front of you so we can -- you didn't actually touch the
6 bat, correct?

7 A No. I did not.

8 Q Okay. We'll leave that then.

9 This is from the comparison standards. Can you tell me
10 about State's Exhibit to SLED -- actually, State's
11 Exhibit 2, 3, 4. Go ahead -- 7 -- 5, 6, 7 and 8. Do you
12 recognize these items?

13 A Yes. I do.

14 Q And how do you recognize these items?

15 A They all have our SLED laboratory number and the
16 container number or the item number, as well as my initials
17 and date on the seal from when I sealed it back.

18 Q And all the packages were sealed, still sealed, except
19 for State's Exhibit 5, is that correct?

20 A State's Exhibit 6.

21 Q State's Exhibit 6?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. And State's Exhibit 6. When you were done
24 doing your analysis and testing, was that bag sealed when
25 you sent it back to be sent to the Spartanburg Police

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1 Department?

2 A Yes. My latest seal is from January 19th of 2022,
3 which would be when I packaged it for return.

4 Q So that package has only been opened after you've
5 already done your analysis.

6 A Correct.

7 Q Okay.

8 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
9 offer State's Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 into
10 evidence.

11 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

12 THE COURT: They are admitted.

13 MR. HUNTER: Thank you.

14 (Buccal swabs from Ed Guthro marked State's Exhibit No.
15 2; buccal swabs from Clay Risen marked State's Exhibit No.
16 3; buccal swab from defendant marked State's Exhibit No. 4;
17 C.S.C. kit from Matthew Booker marked State's Exhibit No. 5;
18 C.S.C. kit from Ronald Glenn marked State's Exhibit No. 6;
19 buccal swabs from Timothy Geter marked State's Exhibit No.
20 7; swabs from bat marked State's Exhibit No. 8.)

21 Q Let's look at 2, 3, 4 and 7, and those are the
22 comparison standards. What do you do with comparison
23 standards?

24 A So just like I explained the D.N.A. procedures earlier
25 for the evidence, we take these standards through those

1 same procedures in order to develop a D.N.A. profile from
2 the standard that we can then use to compare to the unknown
3 profiles from the evidence.

4 Q And when you do this comparison, do you calculate a
5 statistic?

6 A Yes.

7 Q All right. How do you calculate that?

8 A So the kind of statistic that we calculate is called a
9 likelihood ratio. We use a software program called STRmix
10 and in order to calculate that ratio.

11 The first part of the STRmix comparison is looking at
12 the D.N.A. profile of the evidence and kind of breaking it
13 down into the potential contributors to that profile.

14 So a profile can be a single source of just D.N.A.
15 from one individual, or it can be a mixture. So D.N.A.
16 from multiple individuals.

17 So first we'll determine if this profile is suitable for
18 comparison according to our protocol. If it is, then what
19 is the number of contributors to that profile.

20 And then we'll make comparisons individually with each
21 standard that was submitted in the case to the evidence
22 profile.

23 If it's something simple like a single-source profile,
24 we can make that comparison visually and then only
25 calculate a statistic for any individuals that can't be

1 visually excluded from that profile.

2 If it's a mixture, then we'll make comparisons to all
3 of those individuals in order to calculate the statistic.

4 As far as the actual statistic, the way that it's
5 calculated is, given the D.N.A. profile, the evidence, we
6 are looking at two possible scenarios that could best
7 explain that D.N.A. profile. It sounds very complicated,
8 but you make these kinds of comparisons in your day-to-day
9 life all of the time.

10 So, for example, if there is a toddler and a baby in a
11 room and there's a plate of cookies and you step outta the
12 room and you come back and all the cookies have been eaten,
13 that is your result. Right. The cookies were eaten. So
14 your two explanations would be, scenario one, the toddler
15 ate the cookies, or, scenario two, the newborn ate the
16 cookies.

17 There's an obvious explanation that better fits the
18 fact that the cookies were eaten. Right?

19 So what STRmix does is it puts the two scenarios on
20 either side of kinda like a seesaw, and it will give more
21 weight to the scenario that has the better explanation of
22 the D.N.A. profile.

23 Q And even though STRmix does that, you still have to
24 visually go in and do your own calculations, correct?

25 A We make our own comparisons first and then use the

1 STRmix software in order to actually calculate the
2 statistic to give weight to that comparison.

3 Q So go back to the standards for a minute. With the
4 standards are you -- you're just trying to develop a single
5 D.N.A. profile?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And did you do that in State's Exhibits 2, 3, 4 and --
8 obviously, actually through 5, 6 and 7. Start 2, 3, 4 and
9 7 which are the buccal swabs.

10 A Correct. And then 5.5 and 6.6 were the standards
11 submitted as part of the sexual assault kits.

12 Q So those would be the standards of the victims,
13 Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn?

14 A Correct.

15 Q So you were able to develop D.N.A. profiles on all of
16 those standards.

17 A Correct.

18 Q And that's ultimately what you use when you're
19 comparing to the other items that you received from the
20 Spartanburg Police Department.

21 A That's correct.

22 Q Okay. Let's start with State's Exhibit -- I believe
23 it's -- 8, the swabs from the bat.

24 A Okay.

25 Q Okay. And this is going to be generally for all of

1 them. Once you receive an item from the D.N.A. secure
2 room, what do you do?

3 A So I will take the item into my custody. When it's
4 time to begin analysis, I will open the packaging. I will
5 check that the item description matches what it's supposed
6 to be in our system. So make sure that the item that was
7 prepared is the item that I, in fact, have. And then if it
8 has already been prepared, then I will take that tube that
9 has been cut by the serologist and then take it through
10 those laboratory procedures that I explained earlier to
11 develop the profile.

12 Q And did you do that with SLED Item 8 -- or excuse
13 me -- State's Exhibit 8?

14 A Yes. I did.

15 Q SLED's Item 1 and 1.1 and 1.2.

16 A Yes.

17 Q And Ms. Thompson had created the cuttings on that one.

18 A Correct.

19 Q And once you've done your analysis, what were your
20 results?

21 A For Item 1.1 to start?

22 Q Correct.

23 A Okay. Item 1.1, a D.N.A. profile suitable for
24 comparison, was developed. I was able to make visual
25 exclusions to several standards. So Ed Guthro, Clay Risen.

1 Is that how you say it?

2 Q Risen.

3 A Risen. Marcus Batson, Matthew Booker and Timothy Lee
4 Geter are excluded as contributors.

5 Q Again, 1.1 is what?

6 A The swabs from the top of the wooden bat.

7 Q And not the handle but from the top.

8 A From the top. It's the area that was presumptively
9 positive for blood.

10 Q And so Ed Guthro, Clay Risen, Marcus Batson and
11 Matthew Booker and Timothy Geter were excluded as
12 contributors to the top of the bat.

13 A Correct.

14 Q Okay. What was your proposition set for that?

15 A So the proposition set is just the -- those two
16 scenarios that I explained earlier.

17 This D.N.A. profile was interpreted as single source.
18 So our first scenario on one side was Ronald Glenn
19 contributed the D.N.A. profile. And in order to make the
20 comparison you always have to account for an unidentified
21 person, right, because we're just looking at this one
22 person being compared.

23 So the other side is always going to be an
24 unidentified, unrelated individual contributed the D.N.A.
25 profile. And the result of that comparison is the D.N.A.

1 profile is approximately 56 septillion times more likely if
2 Ronald Glenn contributed the profile than if an
3 unidentified, unrelated individual contributed the profile.

4 Q So you're basically looking at the seesaw, one side is
5 Ronald Glenn and one side is an unknown, unidentified
6 person.

7 A Correct.

8 Q And it is 56 septillion times more likely that his
9 D.N.A. was at the top of the batch than an unidentified
10 person?

11 A So we always base it on the D.N.A. profile itself. So
12 the D.N.A. profile is approximately 56 septillion times
13 more likely if Ronald Glenn contributed the profile than if
14 an unidentified, unrelated individual contributed the
15 profile.

16 Q And how big is septillion? How many zeros after?

17 A After the 56 there are 24 zeros.

18 Q Okay. And that's the top of the bat.

19 A Correct.

20 Q All right. And did you also do it for the swabs from
21 the handle of the bat, SLED's Item 1.2, which is also
22 State's Exhibit 8?

23 A Yes. I did.

24 Q Okay. And can you please tell me what your results
25 are for that?

1 A So for Item 1.2 the D.N.A. profile was interpreted as
2 a mixture originating from four individuals. When the
3 items in this case were submitted we were also given -- two
4 of the standards were from individuals who were --

5 Q Yeah. Let me. Keep going.

6 A Okay. who were part of the investigation for
7 elimination purposes.

8 Q And when you're asked to have any elimination
9 standard, what do you?

10 A So an elimination standard is typically submitted in a
11 case where based upon the case circumstances or scenario
12 there is reason to believe that an individual who is not
13 relevant to the investigation of the case may be present on
14 the items.

15 Q Police officers in your --

16 A It can be police officers or, for example, if
17 someone's vehicle is stolen and then recovered, we might
18 get an elimination standard from the person who owns the
19 vehicle because we are looking for D.N.A. that is not from
20 that person.

21 And so in this scenario, because I had some standards
22 from individuals involved in the collection of the item, I
23 first made comparisons to those individuals.

24 So my first proposition set is the comparison of Ed
25 Guthro to the handle of the bat. So for that scenario,

1 like I explained earlier when making comparisons to one
2 person, we have to account for the other people with an
3 unidentified, unrelated individual.

4 So scenario on this site is Ed Guthro, and three
5 unidentified related individuals contributed to the mixture
6 versus four unidentified unrelated individuals to the
7 mixture.

8 And the result of that comparison is the D.N.A.
9 profile is approximately 380 trillion times more likely if
10 Ed Guthro and three unidentified, unrelated individuals
11 contributed to the mixture than if four unidentified,
12 unrelated individuals contributed to the mixture.

13 Q Okay. And that would be consistent with his testimony
14 that he did handle the bat.

15 A Correct.

16 Q I know you weren't here yesterday, but that was the
17 testimony he gave.

18 A Correct. That was the information that I had at the
19 time, my analysis, yes.

20 Q But you didn't stop there.

21 A No. So now once we have made that comparison to the
22 person who we are expecting to be in the profile, we can do
23 something called conditioning.

24 So it's kind of like if you're making a puzzle and you
25 set up all of the edges of the puzzle first and now you

1 have all of the middle pieces left over. So we can just
2 make comparisons to these other individuals in the mixture
3 and not accounting so much for the person that we already
4 know for reasonable reasons is contributing to that
5 profile.

6 So the next thing I did was examine the profile
7 telling the software that Ed Guthro is contributing to the
8 mixture. And then I made comparisons to each other
9 individual standard with Ed Guthro contributing to the
10 mixture.

11 Q So you made the comparison to the D.N.A. profile that
12 you had developed for Clay Risen, Marcus Batson, Ronald
13 Glenn, Matthew Booker and Timothy Geter.

14 A Correct.

15 Q And what were your results?

16 A Okay. So for all of those the scenario is Edgar
17 Guthro, the person of interest, and two unidentified,
18 unrelated individuals versus Ed Guthro and three
19 unidentified, unrelated individuals. That's the comparison
20 that we're making.

21 So for the comparison with Clay Risen the D.N.A.
22 profile is approximately 3,900 times more likely if Ed
23 Guthro, Clay Risen and two unidentified, unrelated
24 individuals contributed to the mixture than if Ed Guthro
25 and three unidentified, unrelated individuals contributed

1 to the mixture.

2 Q Now, we'll continue on there, but since that's a
3 smaller number than the ones that we've been dealing with,
4 do you have a verbal wording that is used when you have
5 numbers, your likely ratio is lower versus higher?

6 A Yes.

7 Q So what is your verbal wording?

8 A So there is a table on the back of our report just to
9 help explain what some of these numbers mean. So one would
10 be an uninformative statistic. Two to 99 would be weak
11 support. 100 to 900 and nine -- 9,999 would be moderate
12 support; 10,000 to 999,999 would be strong support. And
13 then anything greater than a million would be very strong
14 support.

15 Q So if you -- if we hear a number that's over a
16 million, that's very strong support in your proposition
17 than that D.N.A. profile is present on that item.

18 A Correct. And this would fall. Sorry?

19 Q Go ahead.

20 A For Clay Risen, that would fall within our moderate
21 support category.

22 Q Would that likely mean that if he testified he touched
23 it, not as much of his D.N.A. was present on the bat?

24 A Correct. That's possible.

25 Q Before I go to the third one, were you able to exclude

1 anybody from the handle of the bat?

2 A Matthew Booker and Timothy Lee Geter were excluded as
3 contributors to the mixture under those propositions.

4 Q So Mr. Booker and Timothy Lee Geter were excluded from
5 touching the handle of the bat.

6 A They are excluded as contributors from the swabs of
7 the handle.

8 Q All right. And now to the third person, Mr. Batson.
9 What were your results there?

10 A The D.N.A. profile is approximately 1.5 quadrillion
11 times more likely if Ed Guthro, Marcus Batson and two
12 unidentified, unrelated individuals contributed to the
13 mixture than if Ed Guthro and three unidentified, unrelated
14 individuals contributed to the mixture.

15 Q So that's to the handle of the bat with Marcus Batson.
16 How many zeros after the 1.5?

17 A Fifteen.

18 Q So that would fall under the very strong support that
19 his D.N.A. profile was found on the handle of the bat.

20 A It's very strong support that he is included as a
21 contributor.

22 Q Included as a contributor.

23 As far as Ronald Glenn, what were your findings?

24 A The D.N.A. profile is approximately 49 million times
25 more likely if Ed Guthro, Ronald Glenn and two

1 unidentified, unrelated individuals contributed to the
2 mixture than if Ed Guthro and three unidentified, unrelated
3 individuals contributed to the mixture.

4 Q Okay. And that's 49 million?

5 A Yes.

6 Q I think we all know what a million is. So, again,
7 very strong support that he is a contributor, along with Ed
8 Guthro, compared to -- or Ed Guthro and three unidentified
9 individuals.

10 A Strong support for him as a contributor.

11 Q And so, basically, when you did your analysis you came
12 out that this was a mixture of how many people?

13 A Four individuals.

14 Q Okay. But on the handle -- or excuse me -- on the top
15 of the bat your mixture was only --

16 A It was a single source profile.

17 Q Single source. Okay.

18 A Profile.

19 Q And so when you do your analysis, I mean, how many
20 have they gone up to mixtures contributing?

21 A The maximum that we will enter is four individuals.

22 Q Okay. So just to go back swabs. The swabs from the
23 top of the bat -- excuse me -- swabs from the top of the
24 bat there is 56 septillion times more likely that Ronald
25 Glenn contributed to that profile than unrelated

1 individuals.

2 A The D.N.A. profile is approximately 56 septillion
3 times more likely. We always want to -- we always want to
4 focus on the D.N.A. profile itself, not on the standard.

5 Q Yes. So 56 septillion of them.

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. And that's where the -- Ms. Thompson testified
8 that she took the swab that presumptively tested positive.

9 A Correct.

10 Q And then the handle, again, there's four likely
11 contributors to the mixture.

12 What was Marcus Batson's D. -- the D.N.A. profile was
13 how many more likely if Ed Guthro and Marcus Batson's D.N.A.
14 were present as opposed to Ed Guthro and the three
15 unidentified individuals?

16 A The likely ratio for Marcus Batson was 1.5
17 quadrillion.

18 Q Quadrillion.

19 Now, let's move to State's Exhibit 5.

20 A Okay.

21 Q What do you do when you receive a sexual assault kit?

22 A So similar to the other items, I will open it, make
23 sure that the item descriptions, item numbers match what is
24 in our system, and then take any samples that have been
25 prepared and move forward with the D.N.A. analysis.

1 Q And Item No. 5 is actually broken down into multiple
2 different items?

3 A Correct.

4 Q Okay. And what was SLED Item 5.1?

5 A 5.1 were the oral swabs.

6 Q And that's from which victim?

7 A Sorry. Item 5 is the sexual assault evidence
8 collection kit for Matthew Booker. So all of the items
9 that are five point something else are from that kit from
10 Matthew Booker.

11 Q Okay. And so SLED Item 5.1 is the oral swabs.

12 A Correct.

13 Q And did you do an analysis on those swabs?

14 A I did.

15 Q What was your result?

16 A The D.N.A. profiles developed are attributable to
17 Matthew Booker.

18 Q Was there any foreign D.N.A. found through your
19 analysis on the oral swabs?

20 A No. Any time we say the D.N.A. profiles are
21 attributable to someone, we're using that wording when it
22 is something like a sexual assault kit or an intimate item
23 where the sample is being taken off of an individual's
24 body, and so we are expecting their D.N.A. to be present on
25 their own body. So we don't need to calculate a statistic

1 for them because we know that their D.N.A. should be on
2 their body.

3 Q But you're still doing the analysis to see if there
4 are any other possible mixtures within that.

5 A Correct.

6 Q And as far as 5.1., the oral swab, was there any
7 foreign D.N.A. located?

8 A No.

9 Q That's the oral swab.

10 A Correct.

11 Q What was 5.2?

12 A 5.2 were the rectal swabs.

13 Q Of Matthew Booker.

14 A Yes.

15 Q And, again, since this was an intimate object or
16 intimate item, you were expecting to have Matthew Booker's
17 D.N.A. on that.

18 A Correct.

19 Q And through your analysis, what was your result?

20 A The D.N.A. profiles developed are attributable to
21 Matthew Booker.

22 Q Okay. And, again, for his rectal swabs, was there any
23 foreign D.N.A. located?

24 A No.

25 Q 5.3. What is that described as?

1 A Miscellaneous collection swabs, penile, also for
2 Matthew Booker.

3 Q And, again, the same analysis was done?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And what was your result?

6 A The D.N.A. profile developed is attributable to
7 Matthew Booker.

8 Q So on SLED Item 5.3 was there any foreign D.N.A. found
9 on the penile swabs of Matthew Booker?

10 A No.

11 Q 5.4. Separated into two items?

12 A Yes. 5.4.1 is left-hand fingernail scrapings from
13 Matthew Booker; and 5.4.2 are right-hand fingernail
14 scrapings for Matthew Booker.

15 Q And you did analysis of both of those items?

16 A I did.

17 Q Okay. And the result was the same for both items?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And what was the result?

20 A The D.N.A. profile developed is attributable to
21 Matthew Booker.

22 Q There was no foreign D.N.A. on any of those, either of
23 those two items.

24 A Correct.

25 Q Okay. So that's the complete sexual assault kit that

Sarah Zapata
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 you received from Mr. Booker?

2 A Yes. Those were all his.

3 Q And the only D.N.A. profiles you would have developed
4 are attributable to Matthew Booker.

5 A Correct.

6 Q State's Exhibit 6. That is a sexual assault kit from
7 who?

8 A From Ronald Glenn.

9 Q Again, 6.1 for SLED is what?

10 A The oral swabs.

11 Q What was your result for Ronald Glenn's oral D.N.A.
12 analysis?

13 A The D.N.A. profiles developed are attributable to
14 Ronald Glenn.

15 Q Was there any foreign D.N.A. found during your
16 analysis?

17 A There was no foreign D.N.A. developed.

18 Q Okay. 6.2, rectal swabs from Ronald Glenn. What was
19 your result?

20 A The D.N.A. profiles developed are attributable to
21 Ronald Glenn.

22 Q 6.3. What is that described as?

23 A Miscellaneous collection swabs, penile. Also from
24 Ronald Glenn.

25 Q And your result on that one?

1 A The D.N.A. profile developed is attributable to Ronald
2 Glenn.

3 Q There was no other foreign D.N.A. found on his rectal
4 or attributed on his rectal swabs.

5 A There was no foreign D.N.A. developed, no.

6 Q He also had fingernail scrapings?

7 A Yes.

8 Q 6.4 was the fingernail scrapings both of them together
9 and separating the 6.4.1, was the left fingernail
10 scrapings?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Were you able to do an analysis on those?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And what did it show?

15 A So for 6.4.1 the D.N.A. profile was interpreted as a
16 mixture originating from two individuals. In this case,
17 like I said before, because it is an intimate sample, we
18 are expecting Ronald Glenn's D.N.A. to be present on his
19 own fingernail scrapings. So we treated it similarly to
20 how we talked about the Ed Guthro sample on the bat except
21 we don't have to calculate a statistic first in order to
22 put him on either side of the seesaw.

23 Q And that's because you know that his D.N.A. is going
24 to be present on his fingernail scrapings.

25 A Correct. I do make that comparison first to make sure

1 that I can assume him on his own fingernails, yes.

2 Q Were you able to exclude anybody from his left
3 fingernail scrapings?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And who were they?

6 A Ed Guthro, Clay Risen, Matthew Booker and Timothy Lee
7 Geter, Jr. are excluded as contributors.

8 Q So of the samples provided, the standards provided to
9 you, Ed Guthro, Clay Risen and Matthew Booker and Timothy
10 Lee Geter are excluded on his left fingernail scrapings.

11 A Correct.

12 Q All right. And what did your analysis show to the
13 left-hand scrapings?

14 A So for the left fingernail scrapings the D.N.A.
15 profile was interpreted as a mixture originating from two
16 individuals. Ronald Glenn as contributing to the mixture.

17 So for the comparison to Marcus Batson the two
18 scenarios are Ronald Glenn and Marcus Batson on one side
19 and Ronald Glenn and an unidentified, unrelated individual
20 contributed to the mixture on the other side.

21 And the result is the D.N.A. profile is approximately
22 40 quintillion times more likely if Ronald Glenn and Marcus
23 Batson contributed to the mixture than if Ronald Glenn and
24 an unidentified, unrelated individual contributed to the
25 mixture.

1 Q So on your seesaw, you have very strong support
2 because it's over a million --

3 A Uh-huh.

4 Q -- that Ronald Glenn and Marcus Batson contributed to
5 that profile versus Ronald Glenn and an unidentified
6 individual.

7 A Correct.

8 Q And, again, that's quintillion?

9 A Forty quintillion.

10 Q How many zeros after the 40?

11 A Eighteen.

12 Q So a large number.

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did you do the same with the right fingernail
15 scrapings?

16 A Yes.

17 Q I know we've kinda done this already, so were you able
18 to exclude anybody from the right fingernail scrapings?

19 A Yes. So the right fingernail scrapings, just like the
20 left, were interpreted as a mixture originating from two
21 individuals, again, with Ronald Glenn contributing to the
22 mixture. And I was able to visually exclude Ed Guthro,
23 Clay Risen, Matthew Booker and Timothy Lee Geter as well.

24 Q So of all the standards you received, you were able to
25 exclude everybody at that time except for Mr. Batson.

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1 A Correct.

2 Q And then you did an analysis and a comparison. And
3 what were your results?

4 A So the scenarios were set up just the same way as for
5 Item 6.4.1, and the D.N.A. profile is approximately 50
6 octillion times more likely if Ronald Glenn and Marcus
7 Batson contributed to the mixture than if Ronald Glenn and
8 an unidentified, unrelated individual contributed to the
9 mixture.

10 Q So same thing, that seesaw. You have very strong
11 support that if Ronald Glenn and Marcus Batson's D.N.A.
12 contributing to the profile compared to Ronald Glenn and an
13 unidentified individual.

14 A The profile is approximately 50 octillion times more
15 likely if Ronald Glenn and Marcus Batson contributed to the
16 mixture than if Ronald Glenn and an unidentified, unrelated
17 individual contributed to the mixture.

18 Q And how many zeros is octillion?

19 A It is 27 zeroes after the 50.

20 Q So, again, under your wording that y'all have is very
21 strong support.

22 A Correct.

23 Q I just want to go back to your original analogy of
24 it's kind of like cookies in a kitchen with a toddler and a
25 baby. Why do you use that analogy?

1 A It's just kinda easier to get people to understand
2 what it is that we're doing. You know, most people don't
3 have to think about these kinds of situations and numbers.
4 And so that's just everyone knows what kids are like.
5 Everyone knows that babies cannot crawl off a chair and go
6 get some cookies.

7 And so the D.N.A. profiles are not quite that obvious.
8 That's why we need to use software and actually calculate a
9 statistic but just so that we can better explain, you know,
10 what is it that the software's actually doing, and that
11 we're basing it off of the fact that the cookies were eaten
12 or that this is the D.N.A. profile that was developed when
13 we're making our comparison.

14 Q Just so we're clear, from the swabs from the handle of
15 the wooden bat, what was your result as it relates to
16 Marcus Batson?

17 A The D.N.A. profile is approximately 1.5 quadrillion
18 times more likely if Ed Guthro, Marcus Batson and two
19 unidentified, unrelated individuals contributed to the
20 mixture than if Ed Guthro and three unidentified, unrelated
21 individuals contributed to the mixture.

22 Q And on the sexual assault kits for the oral swabs,
23 rectal swabs, penile swabs of both Ronald Glenn and Matthew
24 Booker, outside of their own D.N.A., there was no foreign
25 D.N.A.

1 A There was no more D.N.A. developed.

2 Q Developed. And I think I skipped over one item on 6.5
3 because they actually had an extra item in Mr. Glenn's
4 sexual assault kit. What was that?

5 A So 6.5 were the pubic hair combings. And as I
6 explained earlier, two hairs were forwarded from the pubic
7 hair combings, which were Items 6.5.1 and 6.5.2.

8 Q And what were the results?

9 A For both of those items the D.N.A. profile developed
10 is attributable to Ronald Glenn.

11 Q Okay. And what were the results for any foreign
12 D.N.A.?

13 A So, yeah, there was no foreign D.N.A. that was
14 developed from those items.

15 Q So from the pubic hair combings, oral, penile, rectal
16 for both victims there was no foreign D.N.A.

17 A There was no foreign D.N.A. developed.

18 Q No foreign D.N.A. developed, only the D.N.A. of the
19 individuals who the swabs were taken from.

20 A Yes.

21 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have.

22 MR. SNYDER: I have no questions.

23 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

24 MR. HUNTER: May they drive back to Columbia, Your
25 Honor?

Chindar Ryant
Direct examination by Mr. Hunter

1 THE COURT: They may.

2 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

3 THE COURT: We'll take a break. I'll ask the jury to
4 please go to your room. Do not discuss the case. I'll
5 bring you back shortly.

6 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
7 jury.)

8 THE COURT: Who is your next witness going to be?

9 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, we have two more. It's
10 Ms. Ryant and Mr. Reece.

11 THE COURT: All right. We'll take 15 minutes.

12 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

13 THE COURT: Are we ready for the jury?

14 MR. HUNTER: The state is ready, Your Honor.

15 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: Bring them in, please.

17 (The following takes place in the presence of the
18 jury.)

19 THE COURT: All right. The jury is present. You may
20 continue.

21 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
22 call Investigator Ryant.

23

24

25

1 CHINDAR RYANT, having been
2 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q Good morning.

5 A Good morning.

6 Q Can you please state your full name?

7 A Yes. My name is Chindar Ryant.

8 Q Can you spell that out for the court reporter, please.

9 A It's C-H-I-N-D-A-R. Last name is R-Y-A-N-T.

10 Q And can you go over your law enforcement experience?

11 A I started with Spartanburg Police Department in
12 December of 2013. When I started I was on patrol for about
13 five years, and then I transitioned over into
14 investigations.

15 Q And how long have you been in investigations?

16 A About five years roughly.

17 Q And how were you employed in July of 2021?

18 A I was in C.I.D. as well and an investigator.

19 Q C.I.D. what is that?

20 A Criminal investigation division.

21 Q Okay. And were you assigned the case that we're here
22 for today?

23 A I was.

24 Q When did you head out to [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue?

25 A I was notified by Sergeant Powell that we had two

1 individuals in a home on winsmith Ave. And once he
2 contacted me, that's when I headed over.

3 Q Okay. So by the time you got there, you had to wait
4 for the search warrant?

5 A I did.

6 Q Okay. So unlike some of these other officers, you
7 were a little bit later to the scene?

8 A Correct.

9 Q Okay. Once you made entry into the house, can you
10 describe what you saw?

11 A So upon entry into the house, there are three bedrooms
12 on the -- when you walk in from the front door, you have
13 three bedrooms on the left side of the home.

14 You walk into a living room. Then you have a kitchen.

15 In the middle bedroom I discovered a male face down
16 who was obviously deceased, and in the rear bedroom I
17 discovered another male. Well, I noticed another male that
18 was obviously deceased.

19 Q So, again, the layout of the house, all the bedrooms
20 are on the left side.

21 A Correct.

22 Q And you walk into a living room.

23 A Yes.

24 Q And then there's the dining room.

25 A Uh-huh.

1 Q And then there's the kitchen.

2 A Correct.

3 Q And then on the left side, you have bedroom one,
4 bedroom two, and then a bathroom, and bedroom three in the
5 back of the house.

6 A Correct.

7 Q So you discovered the body in the middle bedroom. And
8 whose body was that?

9 A We later determined that was Matthew Booker.

10 Q Could you smell anything when you went in the house?

11 A I did. I smelled an odor of decomposition.

12 Q Is that something you had smelled before?

13 A I have. I've smelled it a number of times.

14 Q Did you go into the last bedroom, the third bedroom?

15 A I did.

16 Q What did you observe?

17 A I observed Mr. -- who was later determined to be Mr.
18 Ronald Glenn in the bedroom.

19 Q How was he clothed?

20 A He had on a shirt. He was lying face down, and he had
21 nothing on from the waist down.

22 Q Were his feet wrapped in anything?

23 A They were. They were wrapped in a sheet.

24 Q The bed sheet from the bed?

25 A Correct.

1 Q Was he very closely -- on the floor very close to the
2 bed?

3 A He was.

4 Q Who showed up to the residence while y'all were
5 searching the residence?

6 A So the defendant, Mr. Marcus Batson, approached -- I
7 believe it was Agent, Special Agent -- Matt Davis while we
8 were outside.

9 Q And, again, who was tasked to be the lead investigator
10 on this case?

11 A I was the lead investigator on it.

12 Q So any information that officers receive, they're
13 supposed to pass that on to you.

14 A Yes.

15 Q And do you receive any information from there, from
16 Mr. -- from Mr. Batson's area with Special Agent Davis?

17 A That day I believe he told me that he had spoken with
18 him and he lived at the residence. So he was trying to get
19 information as to who the decedents were at the time
20 because we didn't know who they were.

21 Q All right. In his interview with Special Agent Davis
22 and his interview with Investigator Nelson that same day,
23 they were basically around the same information.

24 A Yes.

25 Q And you were able to get those reports at some time

1 during this investigation?

2 A I was.

3 Q Okay. Who did you interview on that day?

4 A So on that day I interviewed Ms. Barbara Riaz, and I
5 believe I may have spoken to some of the decedent's family
6 members. But at city hall I interviewed Barbara Riaz.

7 Q Well, one thing you know -- I just -- how did Mr.
8 Batson describe Mr. Geter?

9 A So Mr. Batson said that Mr. Geter was a black male.
10 He described him as having facial hair and that he was
11 smaller than myself and Investigator Reece in size.

12 Q And they smoked crack. I think we heard that as well.

13 A He referred to him as a crackhead, I believe.

14 Q Okay. After you spoke with Barbara, what did you do?

15 A We -- Barbara allowed us to search her apartment or
16 her home to see if we could find any clothing or any cell
17 phones or anything in her home. So we searched her. She
18 allowed us to -- she gave us consent to search her home.

19 Q Do you find anything of evidentiary value in her home?

20 A We did not.

21 Q And, ultimately, did you learn that they went to a
22 motel at some point?

23 A I did.

24 Q Okay. And did you go out to the motel?

25 A I did.

1 Q Were you able to find any evidence that's pertinent to
2 this case at that time in the hotel?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Did Mr. Batson identify exactly who Timothy Geter was
5 to police at some point?

6 A He did.

7 Q Okay. Were y'all able to locate Mr. Geter?

8 A We did.

9 Q Where did you find him?

10 A I found him at his place of employment -- Smoking
11 wings.

12 Q Okay. And did you interview Mr. Geter?

13 A I did.

14 Q And, ultimately, did the city police collect a buccal
15 swap from Mr. Geter?

16 A We did.

17 Q And that was the Mr. Geter that he identified as -- as
18 we've all heard being present at the house on Monday,
19 July 5th?

20 A Yes, sir. It was.

21 Q Did you go out and interview some other possible
22 witnesses in the neighborhood?

23 A I did.

24 Q Did you interview a Scottie Allen?

25 A I did.

1 Q Did you interview Ms. Kitty?

2 A I did.

3 Q And, again, Mr. Turner?

4 A Yes.

5 Q We just heard from, the two-door down.

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did you interview a Mr. Darryl Booker?

8 A I did.

9 Q At some point were you the one that submitted the --
10 not submitted -- actually take the stuff to SLED, but
11 submitted the request for SLED D.N.A. testing?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And when did you receive the results from that?

14 A If I can refer to my notes, I could tell you.

15 (Pause.)

16 A So we received the analysis on July 29th of 2021.

17 Q And that's the analysis that Ms. Zapata just testified
18 to.

19 A Yes, sir. Correct.

20 Q And you'd already received the video from E.M.S. at
21 this time?

22 A I did.

23 Q As well as the videos from Bobby Jackson?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. In interviewing all of the specific people you

1 interviewed, as well as other officers.

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q All right. What did you decide to do with your
4 warrants based on that evidence?

5 A Based on the evidence we had, we had enough to get a
6 warrant for his arrest for murder for Mr. Booker, as well
7 as Mr. Glenn.

8 So once the warrants were in hand, we picked
9 Mr. Batson up from his place of employment, and he was
10 taken to city hall where he was -- where he was
11 interviewed.

12 Q Where was he working?

13 A He was at Bob's Carwash.

14 Q That's right there at the intersection of St. John and
15 East Main?

16 A East Main Street, yes.

17 Q When he came in at that time, he was arrested,
18 correct?

19 A He was.

20 Q All right. And when you brought him in, he was in
21 handcuffs.

22 A He was.

23 Q Okay. Were his rights read to him at that time?

24 A They were.

25 Q By who?

1 A Investigator Reece.

2 Q And did he sign a waiver form indicating that he
3 understood his rights and he waived them?

4 A He did.

5 Q You were present for that.

6 A I was.

7 Q And who interviewed Mr. Batson that day?

8 A So it was Investigator Reece and myself. Investigator
9 Reece took primary. He took lead on the interview, but I
10 was present.

11 Q And you were present throughout the entire interview,
12 correct?

13 A I was.

14 Q I show you what's been premarked State's Exhibit 36.
15 Do you recognize that item?

16 A I do.

17 Q Okay. And what is that item?

18 A It's the interview from Mr. Batson.

19 Q And it's broken up into three clips?

20 A Correct.

21 Q It was quite a lengthy interview.

22 A It was.

23 Q Okay. A couple of hours?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. And does that interview -- does that fairly and

1 accurately depict the scene as you remember it that day?

2 A It does.

3 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
4 offer State's Exhibit 36 into evidence.

5 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

6 THE COURT: It's admitted.

7 (Third interview of defendant marked State's Exhibit
8 No. 36.)

9 Q I'm going to wait and play it with Investigator Reece,
10 but I'm going to ask you a few questions.

11 A Uh-huh.

12 Q Did you speak to Marcus Batson about Darryl Booker?

13 A I did.

14 Q What did he say as far as his relationship with Darryl
15 Booker?

16 A Mr. Batson stated he had a sexual relationship with
17 Mr. Booker, Darryl Booker, and that he lived with him for a
18 bit before moving in with Mr. Glenn.

19 Q He said he would have sex with Mr. Booker but he was
20 not in a relationship with Mr. Booker?

21 A Correct.

22 Q How did he describe Ronnie and Glenn -- Matthew Booker
23 during most of the interview?

24 A As far as their -- what do you mean by that?

25 Q Their relationship. Throughout most of the beginning

1 of the interview.

2 A So from what he was saying he didn't approve of their
3 lifestyle.

4 Q No, no. Excuse me. Ronald Glenn and Matthew Booker.

5 A You said what did he say about them?

6 Q Yeah. What did he say about them, not together, but
7 what did he say about Ronald Glenn?

8 A That he was the one that allowed him to stay in the
9 home.

10 Q Did he have any animosity toward Ronald Glenn
11 according the beginning of his interview?

12 A As far as his, him, being gay, yes.

13 Q But otherwise?

14 A Not that I can recall, no.

15 Q And what about Matthew Booker?

16 A I don't recall him saying anything about having
17 animosity towards him.

18 Q Did he describe them as his friends?

19 A Yes.

20 Q When y'all interviewed Mr. Batson, did you have the
21 D.N.A. results at that point?

22 A We did.

23 Q Did you ever tell him the exact results of the D.N.A.
24 test?

25 A We did.

1 Q At the point of interview did you tell him the exact
2 results of the D.N.A. results?

3 A Not the exact results, no.

4 Q Just that you had D.N.A.

5 A Correct.

6 Q At some point does Reece leave the interview and allow
7 you to talk to him briefly by yourself?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Getting towards the end of the interview, who does he
10 admit he had started having sexual relationships with?

11 A He admitted that he was sleeping with or having sexual
12 relations with Mr. Glenn, Ronald Glenn.

13 Q So, again, at the beginning of the interview, the
14 first hour, does he ever admit that he killed Ronald Glenn
15 and Matthew Booker?

16 A He does not.

17 Q In fact, he's adamant that what?

18 A He's repulsed by gay sex.

19 Q But he's adamant about the killing, about what,
20 towards the killing of Matthew Booker?

21 A That he did not have anything to do with it.

22 Q And the same as his July 8th interview with Agent
23 Davis and Louis Nelson.

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q He had nothing to do with their murders.

1 A Correct.

2 Q Does that change at the end of the interview?

3 A It does.

4 Q What does he say towards the end of the interview?

5 A So towards the end of the interview Mr. Batson begins
6 to get a little emotional. He goes on to say that he did,
7 in fact, kill both gentlemen with a bat because he was
8 tired of being raped by both men.

9 He stated that he had woken up and discovered that one
10 of the decedents had their penis in his mouth and the other
11 had his penis in his anus. So he was just tired of being
12 raped by both men, so that's what prompted him to assault
13 them and ultimately killing them with the bat.

14 Q And this was after you had told him that you had
15 D.N.A. evidence placing him there.

16 A Yes.

17 Q But, again, at that time he didn't know the specifics
18 of your D.N.A. evidence, correct?

19 A Correct.

20 Q That was not the only rape story he gave though, is
21 it?

22 A No.

23 Q Did his version change over time even in that short
24 period of the interview?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Did you specifically ask him where Matthew Booker was
2 when he had the bat?

3 A I did.

4 Q And what was his answer?

5 A He stated that Mr. Booker was coming towards him.

6 Q Not laying in his bed, but he was coming towards him.

7 A Correct.

8 Q The first part of the interview, did y'all ask him if
9 he'd ever touched the -- if he'd dropped the bat out beside
10 the dumpster?

11 A We did.

12 Q Did he admit it at that time?

13 A No.

14 Q When did he admit it? After you showed him, what did
15 he admit that he had done with the bat?

16 A So the videos. We had pictures from the video that
17 was captured from E.M.S., as well as the electrical store.

18 Once we showed him those pictures of himself he
19 identified himself as being the person in those pictures,
20 and then that's when he had -- that's when he said that he,
21 in fact, discarded the bat.

22 Q So it's only after you confronted him with the
23 evidence that you had that he would admit that he discarded
24 the bat.

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Up until that point he had never discarded the bat at
2 that place.

3 A No.

4 Q Two questions.

5 When you searched -- did you help search Marcus
6 Batson's room?

7 A I did.

8 Q Were there any clothes discovered that could have been
9 worn during this incident?

10 A No.

11 Q And did you help search Ronald Glenn's room?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Based on what you heard from Mr. Batson, where did
14 Mr. Glenn keep his money?

15 A Kept his money in a safe, some sort of a locked safe.

16 Q Did y'all recover something that looked like that in
17 the room, or did there appear to be a register in the room?

18 A I believe so.

19 Q Did you recover any money from Ronald Glenn's room?

20 A We -- no. We did not.

21 Q All right. Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may
22 have for you.

23

24

25

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. SNYDER

3 Q You just began your testimony by stating that in this
4 house the three bedrooms were off to the left, correct?

5 A Correct.

6 Q And so they were all pretty close to each other.

7 A They were.

8 Q Okay. You also said you interviewed Barbara Riaz.

9 A I did.

10 Q How did that go?

11 A It went well.

12 Q I mean, was she drunk?

13 A No.

14 Q Okay. When Mr. Glenn was discovered, he only had a
15 shirt on, correct?

16 A Correct.

17 Q The solicitor touched on this briefly. Through your
18 investigation you determined that Mr. Batson had no clothes
19 on at this time, correct?

20 A That he had no clothes on?

21 Q Right.

22 A I did not determine that.

23 Q But you couldn't find any clothes.

24 A I couldn't find any clothes that had, you know, blood
25 or anything on them in his room.

1 Q Right. And he told you he didn't have any clothes on.

2 A I don't recall.

3 Q But you determined that there were no clothes found
4 that could have been worn during this incident, correct?

5 A Not in the home.

6 Q You also learned that there was a lot of foot traffic
7 in and out of this house, correct?

8 A I did not.

9 Q Did not?

10 A I did not, did not learn that, no.

11 Q Do you have your report with you?

12 A Yes. I do.

13 Q Do you mind refreshing or looking over page four of
14 that report?

15 A Which paragraph?

16 Q Towards the bottom, second to the bottom.

17 A From July 30th of 2021?

18 Q Correct.

19 A Would you like me to read it?

20 Q If you would like.

21 A I see the paragraph you're referring to. What about
22 it?

23 Q Now that you read that paragraph, do you remember
24 hearing about a lot of foot traffic in and out of the
25 house?

1 MR. HUNTER: Objection. Hearsay, the testimony she
2 heard.

3 MR. SNYDER: Through investigation of my client.

4 THE COURT: Sustained.

5 Q You said that Mr. Batson said he had a sexual
6 relationship with Mr. Booker?

7 A Darryl Booker.

8 Q Yes. I'm sorry.

9 A Yes, yes, sir.

10 Q You ultimately asked him why he lied about the
11 incident. What did he say?

12 A Say that again. I'm sorry. I couldn't understand
13 you.

14 Q You asked him about lying about the incident.

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Why did he lie about being gay?

17 A If you'll allow me to refer to my notes, I'm assuming
18 you're talking about Mr. Darryl Booker.

19 Q I'm talking about Mr. Batson right now.

20 A Right. His relationship with Mr. Booker?

21 Q Yes. And he -- yes.

22 A If I recall correctly, I believe Mr. Batson stated he
23 didn't want people's business to be out there.

24 Q Right.

25 A Is that what you're referring to? Okay.

1 Q And homosexuality and being gay is a sensitive subject
2 for a lot of people, correct?

3 A It depends on the person.

4 Q Mr. Batson said that he and Ronnie Booker were trading
5 oral sex?

6 A Correct.

7 Q Now, let's go back to the question I asked earlier and
8 hopefully my last question. Go to the very last paragraph
9 of your report. Please go over that real quick.

10 The same section -- the same section that I was just
11 referencing, just the last paragraph in that section.

12 A Okay.

13 Q Now, let me ask you again.

14 Based on your interview with Mr. Batson you determined
15 that he -- or he said that he was not wearing clothes when
16 this happened, correct?

17 A So Mr. Batson stated -- and I'm reading directly from
18 my report here. "Mr. Batson was asked what he did with the
19 clothes he was wearing when he killed both men, and he
20 stated he placed them in his room, then later stated he was
21 not wearing clothes."

22 Q And you never found clothes that could have been used
23 in this incident.

24 A I did not.

25 Q Thank you.

1 MR. HUNTER: Just a few.

2 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. HUNTER

4 Q I think you said he and Ronald, Ronnie Booker, were
5 doing sexual acts, but there is no Ronnie Booker. Ronald
6 Glenn and Marcus Batson --

7 A Ronald Glenn.

8 Q -- were in a relationship, were having a sexual
9 relationship.

10 A Correct.

11 Q Darryl Booker and Marcus Batson had a relationship.

12 A Correct.

13 Q Matthew Booker, in fact in Mr. Batson's words, was not
14 gay.

15 A Correct.

16 Q And, again, you learned that he didn't have clothes on
17 from who?

18 A From Mr. Batson.

19 Q But he also said he placed them in his room, is that
20 correct?

21 A He did.

22 Q So he gave multiple stories.

23 A Correct.

24

25

1 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. SNYDER

3 Q You have heard that Matthew Booker was not gay. You
4 don't know Matthew Booker was not gay.

5 A Based on the testimony --

6 Q You don't know.

7 A -- I don't -- I can't say because I didn't know him
8 personally.

9 Q Thank you.

10 MR. HUNTER: May she be excused?

11 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

12 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

13 THE COURT: Let me see y'all just a minute.

14 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence
15 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

16 MR. HUNTER: At this time the state would call
17 Investigator William Reece.

18 WILLIAM REECE, having been
19 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

21 Q Please state your full name for the record.

22 A It's William Reece.

23 Q Okay. And please go over your law enforcement career.

24 A I began my law enforcement career in 1996 coming
25 straight from the military. From '96 until present I've

1 been employed by the Spartanburg Police Department and in
2 investigations probably since 2013.

3 Q What's your current job at the C.I.D.?

4 A Currently, I'm an investigator in reference to kind of
5 an intelligence side for real-time crime.

6 Q Okay. But in July of 2021, what was your -- what were
7 your job duties?

8 A I was a senior investigator.

9 Q Were you tasked to help Investigator Ryant in this
10 case?

11 A I was.

12 Q Did you go to the scene the day the bodies were
13 discovered?

14 A I did.

15 Q Outside that did you take a supportive role for
16 Investigator Ryant?

17 A I did.

18 Q And what was the main thing that you took part in?

19 A Basically, well, the interview was more of the main
20 part, but I assisted with anything she needed.

21 Q Okay. But as far as report writing and the big parts
22 of this case, you were the other one in the room with
23 Investigator Ryant during the interrogation.

24 A Correct, correct.

25 Q When he initially came into the room was he

1 handcuffed?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. Did y'all remove those handcuffs?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Did you give him -- did you read him his
6 constitutional rights?

7 A I did.

8 Q I'm going to show you what's been premarked State's
9 Exhibit 14. Do you recognize that item?

10 A I do.

11 Q And how do you recognize that item?

12 A It's going to be the preinterrogation waiver, my
13 handwriting and also my signature.

14 Q Who else's signature is on there?

15 A Mr. Batson, Marcus Batson's, signature is also on
16 here.

17 Q What rights were read to him?

18 A Do you just want me to read them?

19 Q Yes. Go ahead.

20 A Basically, "You have a right to remain silent."

21 This says, "Anything you say can and will be used
22 against you in a court of law. You have a right to -- to a
23 lawyer or talk to a lawyer or have one -- have a lawyer
24 present while you're being questioned."

25 Says, "If you can't afford to hire a lawyer, a lawyer

1 will be appointed free of any cost to represent you before
2 any questioning begins. And you have a right to stop
3 answering questions at any time."

4 Q And you read that sheet to Mr. Batson.

5 A I did.

6 Q And did he initial beside the rights?

7 A Yes, sir. He did.

8 Q Okay. And did he sign the bottom of the form
9 explaining that he understood his rights?

10 A He did.

11 Q All right. Does Mr. Batson speak the English
12 language?

13 A He does.

14 Q Did he appear educated enough to understand the rights
15 that you asked him?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Okay. Did you provide or coerce him or put him under
18 duress to give this interview or interrogation?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Was there any physical contact made with Mr. Batson?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q Was he given water during the interview?

23 A He was.

24 Q And the interview lasted for how long?

25 A A little over two, like two and a half, hours, I

1 believe.

2 Q At any time in this interview did he invoke his right
3 to remain silent?

4 A He did not.

5 Q At any time in this interview did he invoke his right
6 to a lawyer?

7 A He did not.

8 Q Okay.

9 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state would
10 offer State's Exhibit 14 into evidence.

11 MR. SNYDER: No objection.

12 THE COURT: It's admitted.

13 (Preinterrogation waiver form marked State's Exhibit
14 No. 14.)

15 MR. HUNTER: Publish to the jury?

16 THE COURT: You may.

17 MR. HUNTER: May I approach with Mr. Snyder?

18 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence
19 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

20 Q So that state's exhibit is the one that you actually
21 provided to Mr. Batson.

22 A It is.

23 Q And that's his handwriting that he understood his
24 rights.

25 A Correct.

1 Q In fact, he signs again at the bottom of the form at
2 the end of the interview.

3 A Correct.

4 Q Who was present with you in the interview room?

5 A Investigator Ryant.

6 Q Did you ask him if he killed Ronald Glenn and Matthew
7 Booker?

8 A I did.

9 Q And what was his answer at the beginning of the
10 interview?

11 A He denied it.

12 Q Okay. Did he deny it the entire, almost the entire,
13 interview?

14 A He did.

15 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

16 Q That's the first part of the interview.

17 A It is, yes, sir.

18 Q And it continued on for about two and a half hours?

19 A It does.

20 Q Did you have access to the Bobby Jackson Electrical
21 videos?

22 A We had actually screen shots from the videos.

23 Q Okay. But it's from the videos.

24 A Yes.

25 Q They haven't seen all the videos yet. It's from the

1 videos that were given by Patricia Jackson?

2 A Correct. I've looked at all of the videos.

3 Q Okay. You made screen shots from those videos.

4 A Correct.

5 Q I think Barbara identified herself in one of those
6 videos.

7 A She did.

8 Q Did you show those screen shots to Mr. Batson?

9 A I did.

10 Q Did he identify himself in those screen shots?

11 A He did.

12 Q And did you make a little video analysis timeline of
13 those videos?

14 A I did.

15 Q Do you have that there with you?

16 A I have a copy. Yes.

17 Q Just since we have to look at times, I want to be
18 exact.

19 Now, when you showed him these screen shots from the
20 Bobby Jackson Electrical video, he identified himself in
21 every single one, correct?

22 A He did.

23 Q Okay. And that includes the first one at around
24 1:39:01?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And that's on the morning of July 6th?

2 A Correct.

3 Q When was the second one?

4 A It's also July 6th around 4:10.

5 Q Okay. Is that the video where he and Ms. Riaz walk,

6 what appears to be, to [REDACTED] and then back in the video

7 shortly there later?

8 A Correct.

9 Q Okay. Is there a third video at Jackson Electrical?

10 A Yes. That was at 4:13, is when they walk back.

11 Q I believe that's on that same video.

12 A It is.

13 Q So the next one. What's the next video that he

14 identifies himself?

15 A The next one would have been 05:22.

16 Q No. The next Jackson Electrical after he's walked

17 back to St. Andrews.

18 A Okay. Look here.

19 Q Is it four --

20 A Yeah. 4:28.

21 Q And he identifies himself in that one?

22 A He does.

23 Q Is Ms. Riaz with him in that one?

24 A No. She's not.

25 Q What type of shoes is he wearing?

1 A At the 4:28. He's wearing sandals at 4:28.

2 Q Now, the last Jackson Electrical video, when does he
3 identify himself approximately?

4 A Around 5:22 a.m.

5 Q And at which direction is he traveling in that one?

6 A He's walking from Winsmith over toward Ms. Riaz's
7 home.

8 Q Okay. And you asked him to identify himself in that
9 screen shot from that video.

10 A Yes.

11 Q And he does, in fact, identify himself.

12 A He did.

13 Q You didn't tell him you also had E.M.S. video at the
14 time, did you?

15 A I did not.

16 Q At that time.

17 A Correct.

18 Q You later confront him that you also have E.M.S. video
19 from around that time.

20 A Right.

21 Q Did he admit to you at the beginning of the interview
22 that he had dumped the bat at the dumpster?

23 A At the beginning of the interview, no.

24 Q In fact, for a while, what's his only connection to
25 the bat?

1 A He knew it was in the home.

2 Q Okay. And that he had possibly moved it in June?

3 A Correct.

4 Q But he doesn't admit that he dumped the bat for most
5 of the interview.

6 A Correct.

7 Q Do you confront him with the E.M.S. video?

8 A I do.

9 Q Okay. At that point does his story change?

10 A It does.

11 Q What does he say had happened?

12 A At that point he admitted to actually placing the bat
13 inside the garbage can at Bobby Jackson's.

14 Q But, again, even at that point does he admit to
15 killing Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn?

16 A He does not.

17 Q What does he say, why he placed it at the trash can?

18 A His reason was he -- he saw the bat and was in the
19 yard and it was bloody, had blood on it, and he was afraid
20 when Mr. Glenn got up he would be upset about a bloody bat
21 being in his yard. So he picked it up and put it behind
22 the garbage can.

23 Q Who did he say he was visiting at that time?

24 A I believe it was Ms. Riaz.

25 Q Well, no, no. When he was at -- on Winsmith. He

1 didn't state he was at the house. where did he state he
2 was going?

3 A I'm trying to see which time talking with --

4 Q The last, the last video. Did he ever speak about a
5 cousin?

6 A He did. He said he was further down on winsmith
7 visiting with a cousin but wouldn't give the cousin's name.

8 Q Or did he give the name of Quan?

9 A I think it was a Quan.

10 Q Did he ever give a last name?

11 A No.

12 Q And this was his cousin?

13 A Correct.

14 Q Okay. Did you ever find a Quan that lived down the
15 road?

16 A Did not.

17 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, I have a few more questions,
18 but there's going to be lots of video involved. So I don't
19 know if you'd like to break for lunch.

20 THE COURT: well, let me see y'all just a minute.

21 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence
22 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

23 Q Show you State's Exhibits 20 and 21. Do you recognize
24 these videos?

25 A I do.

1 Q Okay. And are they the Bobby Jackson and E.M.S.
2 videos?

3 A Correct.

4 Q The screen shots we were talking about?

5 A Yes.

6 Q I first show you the first video on Jackson Eletric.

7 MR. SNYDER: I don't believe those are in evidence.

8 THE COURT: Let me see y'all.

9 (Bench conference held off the record in the presence
10 of the jury but out of the hearing of the jury.)

11 Q Again, I'm going to show you State's Exhibit 20, the
12 videos from Jackson Eletric. I don't think anybody has
13 seen them at this point. But these are the videos you took
14 still shots from?

15 A Correct.

16 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

17 Q Who did Mr. Batson identify that as?

18 A As himself.

19 Q At that point looks like he's walking towards St.
20 Andrews.

21 A He is.

22 Q At what time?

23 A It's 01:39, I think, or six. Yeah. 1:39.

24 Q And those people walking up there in the right corner
25 heading down, who did he identify them as?

- 1 A Mr. Batson identified himself and Ms. Riaz.
- 2 Q what kind of shoes is he wearing?
- 3 A Sandals.
- 4 Q They come back in the video. what did they state --
- 5 what did he state he was doing at this time?
- 6 A Went over and got a beer from the back porch with
- 7 Ms. Riaz.
- 8 Q So, again, three minutes later, same two individuals?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q And he identifies himself?
- 11 A He did.
- 12 Q In this video, what time is this one?
- 13 A Looks like 0427 at the top, and he identified himself.
- 14 Q Now 4:28?
- 15 A Yeah. Correct.
- 16 Q And, again, this is on the -- kinda the night of the
- 17 5th into the morning of the 6th, be the morning of the 6th.
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q Okay. At this time he's by himself?
- 20 A He is.
- 21 Q And, again, he identified himself.
- 22 A He did.
- 23 Q Was he carrying anything at that time?
- 24 A No.
- 25 Q And in the last video, what time does he identify

1 himself?

2 A 0522.

3 Q Is he carrying anything?

4 A He is.

5 Q Here in about 20 seconds. Again, in this video where
6 is the dumpster?

7 A It's just outside camera view on the left side of the
8 screen. It's like right underneath the screen this way.

9 Q What shoes is he wearing in this one?

10 A Tennis shoes.

11 Q So he went from flip-flops and now has tennis shoes?

12 A Correct.

13 Q Appears to be carrying something?

14 A He did.

15 Q He identified himself in this video.

16 A He did.

17 Q And, again, at this point you haven't confronted him
18 with the E.M.S. video?

19 A I have not.

20 Q Did he state he had anything to do with the bat prior
21 to you confronting him about the E.M.S video?

22 A He did not.

23 (Pause.)

24 Q What are we looking at?

25 A This is E.M.S. headquarters, their camera across from

1 the Bobby Jackson Electric. The blue building across the
2 way is the Bobby Jackson Electric. The brown garbage can
3 to the bottom right is the garbage can he put this in.

4 Q So ■■■ winsmith is kind of in the center just a little
5 bit right behind that tree?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And this -- the timestamps actually on this match,
8 correct?

9 A Correct.

10 Q We see someone stopping beside the dumpster?

11 A Correct.

12 Q Okay. What was recovered there beside the dumpster?

13 A The baseball bat.

14 Q And, ultimately, did he identify himself as the person
15 who dumped the baseball bat?

16 A He did.

17 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, the next video is about an
18 hour.

19 THE COURT: Okay. We'll break for lunch. We'll
20 resume with the balance of the examination this afternoon.

21 Remember not to talk about the case. Have a good
22 lunch. I'll see you at 2:00 o'clock, 2:00 o'clock this
23 afternoon. Have a good lunch.

24 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
25 jury.)

1 THE COURT: You can step down from the stand, but
2 don't discuss your testimony during the break.

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Court is in recess until 2:00 o'clock.
5 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

6 THE COURT: Ready for the jury?

7 MR. HUNTER: The state is ready, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Bring them in.

9 (The following takes place in the presence of the
10 jury.)

11 THE COURT: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

12 As you know, when we recessed the witness was
13 undergoing direct examination. So we'll continue with that
14 this afternoon.

15 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HUNTER

16 Q Your interview with Mr. Batson was approximately two
17 and a half hours long?

18 A It was.

19 Q Okay. We'll fast forward a little bit and play for
20 you. Okay?

21 A Okay.

22 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

23 Q Before I go any further, again, what was his story at
24 this time?

25 A That he wasn't involved in it, basically.

1 Q He had no involvement whatsoever.

2 A Correct.

3 Q I'm going to fast forward just a little bit.

4 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

5 Q What is he describing right there?

6 A He's referring to the video where he's holding a bunch
7 of material in his hand and was asking where he's gotten it
8 from.

9 Q And that's the last video from Bobby Jackson
10 Electrical?

11 A It is.

12 Q Where he appears to have something, and walking, in
13 his hand?

14 A Correct.

15 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

16 Q So at that point he admitted to having a sexual
17 relationship with Darryl Booker?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Did he admit at that point that he had any
20 sexual relations with Ronald Glenn?

21 A He did not.

22 Q Okay. Later on does he change his tune?

23 A He does.

24 Q Okay.

25 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

1 Q Stop it there for a second and just ask you a few
2 questions.

3 So at this point he's admitted to having put the bat
4 beside the can.

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q All right. And this is at around 1409, so 2:09 in the
7 afternoon.

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q And from two hours previous had he put the bat there?

10 A No.

11 Q It wasn't until after you showed him the pictures and
12 told him that you had a video, someone placing him there.

13 A Correct.

14 Q Okay. He still at this point, still says he doesn't
15 know that's the murder weapon, correct?

16 A Correct.

17 Q Skip forward a little bit.

18 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

19 Q Up until the point where he's confronted that there's
20 physical evidence linking him to Ron, had he ever mentioned
21 a sexual relationship with him and Ronald?

22 A He did not.

23 Q In the July 8th interview as you were standing there
24 in the video, did he mention it then?

25 A He did not.

1 Q At any time up until he's confronted with the possible
2 evidence, has he ever mentioned it to the police?

3 A He did not.

4 Q What does he do next once he's confronted with it
5 though?

6 A He -- he will admit to that.

7 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

8 Q Why did he need money at that time?

9 A I don't recall. I think it was to pay his rent from
10 what I understand.

11 Q But he didn't have any money. Is that what you took
12 from that statement?

13 A Yes.

14 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

15 Q Now, as I play this last video clip, when you're
16 interviewing someone, what type of emotions are you trying
17 to connect them with?

18 A Just honesty, empathy, trust. Basically, we're here
19 just to get the truth.

20 Q Okay. So when you tell someone that you believe what
21 they're saying, what are you really doing?

22 A Basically, is showing that trust, that empathy. I
23 mean, you're telling me, I'm believing what you're saying.
24 Not necessarily does it mean I believe what you're saying
25 as is you're telling me that you didn't do something. I

1 have evidence showing completely opposite of such. I may
2 say I believe what you're saying, but that's not
3 necessarily the case.

4 Q And did you do that in this instance?

5 A Oh, I did, yeah.

6 Q Basically, trying to have a connection --

7 A Correct.

8 Q -- with Mr. Batson. Okay.

9 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

10 Q So that story he just told you there, when he woke up
11 Ron was doing what?

12 A He said he was giving him oral sex when he woke up.

13 Q And his finger was where?

14 A In his anus.

15 Q That's what he told you this time.

16 A Correct.

17 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

18 Q He just asked about the position of Matthew Booker
19 when he was hit?

20 A Correct.

21 Q What was his answer?

22 A He said he come toward him.

23 Q He was up and coming towards him?

24 A Correct.

25 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

1 Q Now he's stating what?

2 A That he did it because he snapped and basically
3 because he was being assaulted by both males.

4 Q Okay. He stated he went into the room, into Ron's
5 room, and was drinking liquor?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And that they now both shut the door and came and
8 attacked him?

9 A Right.

10 Q Is that different from being asleep and woken up --

11 A Completely.

12 Q -- as he initially stated?

13 A Correct.

14 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

15 Q So, again, now do we have another version?

16 A Correct.

17 Q And what is that?

18 A That one was he woke up -- and I'm sorry. I am trying
19 to remember the last name.

20 Q Booker.

21 A Mr. Booker had his penis in his mouth but then he ran
22 in his room and laid down.

23 Q And not that Ronald was sucking his dick with a finger
24 in his ass?

25 A Correct, correct.

1 Q Okay. So that was another story about the rape.

2 A Right.

3 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

4 Q On the day that the bodies were found, did you go into
5 the house?

6 A I did.

7 Q Okay. To your memory and knowledge was there any
8 blood found outside of the bedrooms, or did you observe
9 anything that appeared to be blood outside of the two
10 bedrooms?

11 A I did not.

12 Q But the amount of blood in the two bedrooms, how would
13 you describe that?

14 A It was a tremendous amount of blood.

15 Q And who confessed to murdering Ronald Glenn and
16 Matthew Booker?

17 A That would be Marcus Batson.

18 Q Please answer any questions Mr. Snyder may have.

19 CROSS-EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. SNYDER

21 Q Investigator Reece, I don't have many questions. I
22 think that video covers a lot of it.

23 You broke my client down. Congratulations. I could
24 tell that was a very difficult thing. To bring out the
25 handcuffs at the end were a nice touch.

1 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, I object. Is there a
2 question here?

3 THE COURT: Let's don't narrate what was testified to,
4 but you can ask him questions about it.

5 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

6 Q So we saw a video of Marcus walking around the
7 residence, around the electrical supply store, E.M.S.,
8 correct?

9 A Yes, sir. He was in the parking lot.

10 Q But he lived at that residence. That in and of itself
11 is not unusual.

12 A Correct. He lived close by.

13 Q He didn't have a car.

14 A Not that I'm aware of.

15 Q Right. I'm just going to kind of go back over some of
16 the things that were -- that were discussed in that
17 interview.

18 Now, obviously, Marcus said that he had been -- this
19 wasn't a one-night thing, correct?

20 A I'm sorry? What was the question?

21 Q The molestation wasn't a one-night thing. He said
22 this happened previously.

23 A He didn't.

24 Q Okay. Said that he was having sex with Mr. Glenn to
25 keep from getting evicted from the house, correct?

1 A Yeah. He did make that statement. Yes, sir.

2 Q And that's -- that's similar to what we heard
3 regarding Timothy Geter, correct?

4 A Which -- which -- which statement we talking about?

5 Q The gentleman that didn't have anywhere else to go.
6 So he stayed there occasionally but was also known to have
7 sex with Mr. Booker.

8 A That was never confirmed, sir. No.

9 Q Okay. And the solicitor brought to your attention how
10 Marcus said that Mr. Booker was coming at him, correct,
11 when right before this incident happened?

12 A Yes. That's what he -- what Marcus said on the video,
13 yes, sir.

14 Q Okay. But before and after that statement Marcus said
15 that Mr. Booker had already gone to his room, correct?

16 A He had mentioned that he had went to his room.

17 Q But it's obvious. He was very emotional in that
18 interview towards the end.

19 A Talking about Mr. Batson?

20 Q Yes.

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q I'm sorry. I was pointing. Yes. And in your report
23 you used the word enraged. You said that he became
24 enraged. Was that an accurate way to describe it?

25 A From the evidence, yes, sir, that's very accurate.

1 Q Thank you.

2 In fact, in your report and during the interview, I
3 mean, he said that -- that he hit Ronald Glenn several times
4 and then went to Mr. Booker, correct?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Immediately. One and then the other.

7 A I don't remember the timeframe.

8 Q That's fair enough. But in your report -- I can't
9 remember if it was discussed in the interview or not --
10 actually, I'm pretty sure it was -- he said that -- that
11 Mr. Booker had actually -- had gotten into his bed when
12 just before Mr. Batson entered that room.

13 A In my report, sir? I am not sure that's my report.

14 Q Well, you said -- asked Mr. Batson was Mr. Booker
15 laying in his bed when he hit him with the bat, and he said
16 yes.

17 A He was saying he was in Mr. Glenn's bed.

18 Q Okay. I'm just reading the report, and it looks like
19 he's referring to Matthew Booker was in his own bed.

20 However, but we can all agree that -- that he was very
21 emotional towards the end of that interview, correct?

22 A That he had moments of emotion through the whole
23 interview, yes, sir.

24 Q Right. And just in general, that's a right difficult
25 thing for -- for most men to -- to mention.

1 A what would be the in-general, sir? which question?

2 Q In general being molested and having sexual encounters
3 like that with other men is sometimes hard for some men to
4 communicate.

5 A I would -- I would not know.

6 Q Okay. But there were some conflicting statements, and
7 the solicitor and yourself even indicated so much.
8 However, due to his emotional state, it probably wasn't
9 very easy to keep everything together. I mean, when -- I'm
10 sure when you've been very emotional sometimes you weren't
11 thinking clearly, correct?

12 A I would have to ask which statement are we talking
13 about.

14 Q Some statements that were contradicted around whether
15 they were both in the room at the same time, whether one
16 left the room and went to his bedroom. I mean, everything
17 wasn't clear, but due to his emotional state that would
18 explain why.

19 MR. HUNTER: Objection. No personal knowledge of his
20 emotional state.

21 THE COURT: Sustained.

22 Q I don't have personal knowledge, but, as you just
23 said, it's clear that he was emotional towards the end of
24 that interview.

25 A Yes, sir. You can see on the video.

1 Q Yes. And he -- and in that interview Marcus said that
2 he snapped, correct?

3 A He did.

4 Q And then you used the word enraged.

5 A The evidence shows that it was --

6 Q Okay.

7 A It was more than just snap.

8 Q Okay.

9 MR. SNYDER: I have no more questions.

10 MR. HUNTER: Just two questions or three questions,
11 Your Honor.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. HUNTER

14 Q When Ms. Ryant asked him if Mr. Batson was up when he
15 hit him with a bat, his answer was yes.

16 A Yes.

17 Q And if you want to look at the last sentence of the
18 second to last paragraph of your report, did you ask him if
19 Mr. Booker was in bed when he hit him? And what was his
20 answer then?

21 A Yes. He was in bed.

22 Q I think that was the point Mr. Snyder was -- he was in
23 bed when you asked him.

24 A Correct.

25 Q Which is inconsistent with what he said to her.

1 A Right.

2 Q And, finally, in June of 2021 or July of '21, do you
3 know of any reports of criminal sexual conduct or rape that
4 were ever made by Mr. Batson?

5 A I do not.

6 Q Thank you.

7 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. SNYDER

9 Q Just one last point of what the solicitor just
10 indicated.

11 Going back, it says was laying in the bed. We can all
12 agree that he was in a bed when he was hit, correct --
13 Matthew Booker?

14 A Mr. Booker. Yes.

15 Q Okay.

16 THE COURT: You may step down.

17 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, at this time the state rests
18 its case.

19 THE COURT: That's all of the testimony and evidence
20 to be offered by the state, at least in their case in
21 chief.

22 Before we go any further I've got matters I'll need to
23 address with the lawyers.

24 Once I address those, I will bring you back to
25 continue. Do not yet discuss the case.

1 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
2 jury.)

3 THE COURT: Any motions or other matters to address?

4 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

5 At this time the defense would like to move for a
6 directed verdict based on the fact that there is a lot of
7 conflicting testimony, and there was never any evidence to
8 dispute that this wasn't done once my client snapped and
9 therefore would be a defense of murder.

10 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, in the light most favorable
11 to the state I believe we presented a case that has enough
12 evidence and testimony.

13 In fact, in his opening he admitted that his client
14 did, in fact, kill these individuals, and that is a
15 question that should go to the jury.

16 THE COURT: It's most definitely a jury issue. There
17 is sufficient evidence for them to consider. So your
18 motion for a directed verdict is denied.

19 Any others?

20 MR. SNYDER: Not at this time.

21 THE COURT: Have you talked with Mr. Batson about his
22 right to testify, or not?

23 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir. We have, and I probably would
24 like some additional time just to go over that.

25 THE COURT: All right. We'll take 15 minutes. You

1 talk to him about it.

2 we'll be at ease for 15 minutes.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

4 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Snyder, did you talk to
5 Mr. Batson about his right to testify?

6 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Has he indicated to you a preference?

9 MR. SNYDER: He has. He does not wish to testify.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Batson, Mr. Snyder says you and
11 he have talked about your right to testify, or not. He
12 says you've made a decision not to testify. Is that right?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Have you had plenty of time to think about
15 that decision?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Do you understand that any time you're
18 charged with a crime and your case comes to trial you
19 always have an absolute right to remain silent? You don't
20 have to say anything; you don't have to make any statement;
21 you don't have to testify.

22 You never can be required to make any statement or
23 answer questions that might tend to prove your own guilt.
24 So you always have an absolute right to remain silent when
25 you're charged with a crime. And when you come to court

1 and the case goes to trial, you have to make that decision
2 whether you want to testify and provide this jury with any
3 additional information, or not. But it's simply your
4 choice. It's up to you.

5 Did Mr. Snyder explain to you that if you were to take
6 the witness stand and testify that you would have to answer
7 not only your lawyer's questions but you'd also have to
8 answer the prosecutor's questions even if the responses to
9 those questions might tend to prove you guilty of a crime
10 the state claims you committed?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I understand.

12 THE COURT: And do you understand that if you make the
13 decision not to testify that I will instruct the jury at
14 your request, as I've already told them, that they can't
15 hold that against you in any way? They can't consider it
16 in any fashion in their decision as to your guilt.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Have you and Mr. Snyder discussed the
19 advantages and disadvantages of testifying, as well as not
20 testifying?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: And do you know what those advantages and
23 disadvantages are?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor. I know what
25 they include.

1 THE COURT: And have you had plenty of time to reflect
2 upon your decision about whether or not you'll testify?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I understand.

4 THE COURT: And have you reached one?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: And what decision have you reached?

7 THE DEFENDANT: I'm not going to testify, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Is that a decision that you made of
9 your own free will and accord?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Has anybody forced you or pressured you
12 into that decision?

13 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Has anyone even suggested that that's what
15 you ought to do?

16 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: You made that decision on your own?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: And you're satisfied with it?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Do you have any questions you need to ask
22 me about it?

23 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Do you need to talk to Mr. Snyder about it
25 any more?

1 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Do you understand that even if you don't
3 testify you still have a right to call any other witnesses
4 you wish to or introduce other evidence?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I understand that.

6 THE COURT: Do you have any other witness or other
7 evidence you'd like to introduce?

8 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. You can be seated.

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir. Thank you.

11 THE COURT: Bring the jury back, please.

12 (The following takes place in the presence of the
13 jury.)

14 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, as you know, the
15 state has rested or concluded with their presentation. So
16 we'll proceed with any additional to be offered by the
17 defense.

18 MR. SNYDER: The defense actually rests in this case.

19 THE COURT: All right. That is all of the testimony
20 or the other evidence to be offered in the trial of the
21 case; and therefore what remains to be done are the
22 lawyers' final summations, after which I'll provide you
23 with the instruction on the law and after which you'll
24 begin with your deliberations.

25 We don't have time to get all of that done this

1 afternoon, so we'll begin in the morning at 9:30 at which
2 time we'll conclude with the lawyers' final summations, my
3 instruction on the law and then your deliberations.

4 So keep in mind during the overnight recess you still
5 can't talk about the case because it's not been concluded.
6 So we will conclude in the morning beginning at 9:30. Have
7 a good evening. I'll see you in the morning at 9:30.

8 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
9 jury.)

10 THE COURT: Do either have any instruction requests?

11 MR. SNYDER: I would respectfully request the charge
12 for voluntary manslaughter.

13 MR. HUNTER: I have no objection to that, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Voluntary manslaughter will be
15 included in the instruction. Any others?

16 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

17 MR. HUNTER: None from the state, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. HUNTER: Nothing other than your normal in a
20 murder case, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. Any other matters we need to
22 address before we recess?

23 MR. SNYDER: I have one matter. I would just like to
24 renew the earlier motion I made for a directed verdict
25 based on the same rationale.

1 MR. HUNTER: Our argument is the same as it was, Your
2 Honor. I believe that the jury has enough to make a
3 decision and it should go to the jury based on the light
4 most favorable to the state and the evidence that we
5 presented at this time.

6 THE COURT: All right. That makes three of us. My
7 ruling is the same.

8 Court is in recess until 9:30 in the morning.

9 END OF PROCEEDINGS SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

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1 (Proceedings September 28, 2023)

2 (The following takes place outside the presence of the
3 jury.)

4 THE COURT: Any matters to address before the jury is
5 brought in?

6 MR. HUNTER: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

7 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Bring them in.

9 (The following takes place in the presence of the
10 jury.)

11 THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

12 As you know, the evidence is in, so you're going to
13 now hear from the lawyers. After that I'll give you the
14 instruction. Then you'll begin deliberations.

15 So please give the lawyers your attention now as they
16 give you their final summations.

17 MR. HUNTER: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Hunter.

19 MR. HUNTER: On the night of July 5th into the morning
20 of July the 6th, 2021, at [REDACTED] Winsmith Avenue here in the
21 City of Spartanburg, Marcus Batson took this bat. Inside
22 that residence he took this bat and he bashed the head in
23 of Ronald Glenn who had five lacerations, skull fractures,
24 a sternum fracture, and he killed him with this bat.
25 Again, five distinct hits to the head, all to the right

1 side or the back of the head. Five times.

2 (Whereupon, Mr. Hunter hit the railing with the bat.)

3 MR. HUNTER: And another on in the sternum.

4 He took the money that he had from selling beer,
5 cigarettes, liquor, and he went into the room of Matthew
6 Booker, Matthew Booker who had already plugged up his cell
7 phone and had already gone to bed, was laying on the bed.
8 And he took this bat and with one swing crushed his skull,
9 a three-inch skull fracture that radiated around the base
10 of the skull.

11 You heard Dr. Wassum say that would have debilitated
12 him, likely would have lost consciousness, concussion and
13 died as a result of Marcus Batson hitting him with this
14 bat.

15 Now, after I get done with this closing argument and
16 Mr. Snyder gets done with his, the judge is going to tell
17 you the laws of this state, because you are the sole trier
18 of the facts. You receive the facts and you receive the
19 evidence. The judge tells you what the law is, and then
20 you apply that law to the facts that you've heard and seen
21 this week to come up with your verdict.

22 Now, some of the things he's going to go over is
23 reasonable doubt, how it's my job, the state's job, to
24 prove to you beyond a reasonable doubt that he, in fact,
25 murdered Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn.

1 what I have to do is leave you firmly convinced,
2 because there's very few things in this world that can be
3 proven without a doubt but I -- if I firmly convince you
4 that he murdered them, you must return a verdict of guilty.

5 You'll hear about presumption of innocence, how at
6 this point he is presumed innocent, but once you get back
7 into that jury room, based on the evidence that you've
8 heard, that presumption of innocence can be stripped away
9 and that he can be found guilty.

10 You'll hear about direct evidence versus
11 circumstantial evidence. He'll describe those. He'll also
12 describe witness credibility, and what he will tell you
13 about witness credibility is that you may believe all of
14 what a witness says, some of what a witness says or none of
15 what a witness says.

16 What that means is that you can believe some of
17 Mr. Batson's statements from that video, all of
18 Mr. Batson's statements from that video, or none of
19 Mr. Batson's statements from that video. But that's up to
20 you. That's where you get to use your common sense.

21 You've heard the facts; you've heard all of the
22 testimony; you've heard all the witnesses. You get to take
23 your common sense and apply it to this case.

24 These are a little sweaty, so I'm going to take them
25 off.

1 Now, we watched the video with SLED Agent, Special
2 Agent, Matthew Davis, when he first interviewed Mr. Batson
3 on July 8th of 2021 after the bodies were discovered.

4 There's a literary term called a red herring, and it
5 actually started back in the early 1800s when people were
6 training their dogs for hunting to follow the scents of
7 fox, deer or whatever else you were hunting. And what they
8 would do is they would take the scent of herring, and when
9 you -- herring is a fish. It's a silver-grayish fish. But
10 when you smoke it at high temperatures, it gives off the
11 red hew. And it's a pretty stinky fish.

12 And what they would do is while the dogs were learning
13 how to hunt the animal, they would take the red herring
14 smell along the trail of the animal to try to distract the
15 dog from the smell of the fox, smell of the deer, smell of
16 whatever animal they were hunting. So red herring is
17 something that is used to try to distract you from the
18 truth.

19 It's now used mostly in literary film, T.V. One of
20 the biggest ones that I can remember is that movie "The
21 Sixth Sense" with Bruce Willis where the little kid can see
22 dead people. And the whole movie you're thinking that
23 Bruce Willis is trying to help him understand how he can
24 see dead people, when the truth of the matter is Bruce
25 Willis is the one that's dead. And he doesn't realize it.

1 So it's the red herring throughout the movie. You don't
2 realize the truth. They try to distract you from the truth
3 to have that big ending.

4 He actually provides two red herrings in this case --
5 Mr. Batson does. The first one, Timothy Lee Geter. You'll
6 hear multiple times in all of the interviews mention that
7 Timothy Lee Geter was the last person he saw with
8 Mr. Batson, even though he later admitted that he went back
9 to the house with Mr. Batson, and he's seen on the video
10 going to and from the house multiple times that morning.

11 But he brings up Timothy Lee Geter multiple times. He
12 was there, I don't like him, they were in a relationship,
13 he's robbed him before, I didn't want to be around him.
14 That's what he said.

15 Yet Investigator Ryant went and interviewed Mr. Geter
16 and actually got a buccal swab, D.N.A., from Mr. Geter.

17 We heard Agent Sarah Zapata from D.N.A. say Timothy
18 Geter was excluded as a contributor from the top of the
19 wooden bat. Timothy Lee Geter was excluded as a
20 contributor to the handle of the bat and that there was no
21 other foreign D.N.A. found on any of the sexual assault
22 kits, including Mr. Timothy Geter.

23 In fact, during her testimony never once did she say
24 Timothy Geter contributed to any mixture of any D.N.A. in
25 any of the evidence in this case, because the fact is

1 Mr. Geter wasn't there. Mr. Geter is a red herring to
2 confuse the police from searching the truth.

3 The only evidence that ever suggests Mr. Geter was
4 there are the words of Mr. Batson.

5 Richard Turner testified the last people he saw on
6 that porch, Marcus Batson and Ronald Glenn.

7 Melody Booker later that night on the 5th, the last
8 person she saw was her husband Matthew Booker, Ronald Glenn
9 and Marcus Batson. No Timothy Geter. He's a red herring.

10 The second red herring he wants to talk about is the
11 alleged rape and sexual relationship he had with Mr. Glenn.
12 And, again, this is where D.N.A. is very helpful to our
13 case.

14 He states multiple times that he was being raped by
15 Mr. Glenn, raped over and over in the few weeks leading up
16 to this incident, not once filing a police report stating
17 that he just had nowhere to go, he was homeless, if he
18 didn't let it keep happening he was going to be homeless.

19 But yet in the interview -- and I'll show you the
20 clip -- he admits that he could have gone to his sister's
21 house in Cowpens but it was too far from his job.

22 So he'd rather be raped multiple times by this man
23 than move to Cowpens? That's ridiculous. It's a red
24 herring.

25 They performed the sexual assault kit on both Matthew

1 Booker and Ronald Glenn, and the results of that sexual
2 assault kit as to the oral swabs of Matthew Booker, single
3 source D.N.A. of Matthew Booker, no foreign D.N.A. found.

4 As to the penile swabs, no foreign D.N.A. found; as to
5 the rectal swabs, no foreign D.N.A. found; as to the
6 fingernail scrappings of Mr. Booker, no foreign D.N.A.
7 found.

8 The only D.N.A. that they were able to discover that
9 contributed to the swab that they had was of Matthew
10 Booker. Nothing from Mr. Batson. But yet he woke up with
11 Mr. Booker's penis in his mouth. Again, all we have is his
12 word. The evidence says that that didn't happen.

13 And then he look at the D.N.A. evidence of Ronald
14 Glenn. Oral swabs, Ronald Glenn's D.N.A. Nobody else's.
15 Rectal swabs, same thing. Penile swabs. That's both swabs
16 on the outside and inside of the penis. Just Ronald Glenn.
17 No foreign D.N.A. located on the swabs; no mixture like in
18 the bat where there's multiple D.N.A. found. Just Ronald
19 Glenn. And Ronald Glenn -- they also had the pubic hair.
20 Same thing. Pubic hair of Ronald Glenn. Nobody else. He
21 was raped multiple times and raped the night that they
22 died, but no D.N.A. was found on those bodies.

23 Use your common sense. The only D.N.A. that's alleged
24 to be found from Mr. Batson on Mr. Glenn, on his
25 fingernails, underneath the fingernails. What is someone

1 going to do if you're coming at them with a bat? He's
2 going to defend himself. He even says on the video he hit
3 him a couple of times. He's going to defend himself.

4 That's the reason we have the fingernail scrappings
5 where I believe the -- 40 quintillion times more likely if
6 Ronald Glenn and Marcus Batson contributed to the mixture as
7 opposed to two unidentified, unrelated individuals.

8 So, again, that million standard is where they say
9 very strong support, and it works 40 quintillion. Eighteen
10 zeros after the 40. That's pretty strong support that his
11 D.N.A. was under those fingernails. And the same with the
12 other fingernails. That was 50 octillion, 27 zeros.

13 Throughout this entire interview with Investigator
14 Davis -- excuse me -- Agent Davis, Investigator Nelson,
15 Investigator Reece -- he stated he had nothing to do with
16 this crime. In fact, on the day that they were discovered
17 Marcus Batson has stated that he is no way involved in this
18 death investigation. His own statement signed right here,
19 he is no way involved.

20 I'm going to show some clips from the video, some of
21 the lies that he tells and continues to tell. And this is
22 where credibility comes in because you heard Mr. Snyder get
23 up in opening statement and say his client killed them.
24 You heard that.

25 Morning hours of July 5th into the morning hours of

1 July 6th. After he woke up on July 6th, he didn't call
2 police. July 7th, didn't call police. July 8th, didn't
3 call police.

4 Only after Sharon Porter and Ms. Kitty went to the
5 house and couldn't find them and the police had to go in
6 where they found the bodies did he show up.

7 The next 22 days he denied ever being involved in
8 this, and it wasn't until he kept getting caught with his
9 lies that he would then change his story to try to admit
10 why his D.N.A. would be on the bat, why he would be on the
11 video, why he would have been in the house at that time.
12 He only tells those lies when he's caught with evidence.

13 Let me play these videos and take a drink of water so
14 I don't keep coughing on you.

15 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

16 MR. HUNTER: Before I play the last few clips I just
17 want to point a few things out from those statements.

18 Again, multiple times, I had nothing to do with the
19 murder. It's in more colorful language than that. He had
20 nothing to do with it. That's what he was telling the
21 police, and that's been his statement the whole time,
22 nothing to do with it.

23 He never touched that bat other than moving it in the
24 kitchen in June, but then he is confronted by Investigator
25 Reece with the videos, the videos that he's already

1 identified himself as being the person in the video.

2 And that Bobby Jackson video shows him walking from
3 winsmith to the house at around 5:23. And that E.M.S.
4 video at the same time from the opposite direction shows
5 the person that's walking in that parking lot throwing
6 something beside the dumpster. And it is not until he's
7 confronted with that evidence that he then starts changing
8 his story again.

9 Then it's I found the bat in the yard and so, yes, I
10 did pick it up and I did throw it away beside the dumpster.

11 well, you heard another clip where he's asked if he's
12 ever been beside that dumpster. Denies it. He lies the
13 entire time.

14 He tells you that the porch light is on when he walked
15 by. Take a look at State's Exhibit 23. Pass it around. I
16 want you to look if there is a porch light on.

17 (Pause.)

18 MR. HUNTER: Thank you.

19 Now, after he's lied all of this time in the video
20 they go and they put the chains around the waist because
21 they're about to take him back to jail. And they asked if
22 he has any remorse, and this is the final chance he had to
23 say something.

24 He's been confronted about the videos. They told him
25 that we have physical evidence linking you to Mr. Glenn.

1 And that's when he starts saying that he had been raped
2 multiple times while staying at that residence.

3 He didn't have anywhere to go, even though he had a
4 sister living in Cowpens would take him in by his own
5 admission. And on that night he states that Matthew Booker
6 raped him and that Ronald Glenn raped him. Matthew Booker
7 whose own wife got up there and said he was not homosexual,
8 he was impotent.

9 And we've already heard the D.N.A. results from his
10 sexual assault kit. The only D.N.A. on Matthew Booker was
11 Matthew Booker's.

12 And when he starts talking about the rape that alleged
13 to have happened that night, he gives three different
14 versions, and I'm going play the three different versions
15 for you right now.

16 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

17 MR. HUNTER: So his first story was that he woke up to
18 Ronald Glenn giving him oral sex with a finger in his
19 rectum. But, again, was there any D.N.A. found on Ronald
20 Glenn's oral swab? None.

21 Second story, same night. This time he's sitting in
22 the chair drinking some liquor when Matthew Booker and
23 Ronald Glenn come in the door, shut the door and start
24 fucking with him. That's different from waking up to
25 having someone performing oral sex on you.

1 And then third he states that he was asleep on
2 Ronald's bed when he wakes up to Matthew Booker putting his
3 penis in his mouth with Ronald Glenn putting his penis in
4 the rectum of Mr. Batson.

5 Three different stories all within a few minutes of
6 each other from the same night, all because he's been told
7 that they have physical evidence linking him to the murder.
8 He didn't say that on July 7th -- excuse me --
9 July 8th when he talked to the officers.

10 Now, once he's told this physical evidence he has to
11 make up a story that puts physical evidence of him there,
12 but police and SLED were smart enough to do the assault
13 kits which showed none of his D.N.A. on any of the victims,
14 places where you would normally expect D.N.A. to be found
15 during a sexual incident.

16 And there's one final clip I'm going to play for you,
17 and it's when Ms. Ryant actually asked him -- excuse me --
18 Investigator Ryant asked Mr. Batson where Matthew Booker
19 was when he hit him. And she asked him that because she
20 knows the evidence is pretty clear that he's laying on his
21 bed because there is a void spot right where a head would
22 be where there's no blood. There's what appeared to be
23 blood on the wall right above where a head would be.

24 That's why she asked that question. She wants to know
25 what his answer would be to see if it can align with the

1 evidence that they have. So the evidence doesn't lie, but
2 people do. And you'll hear his answer was that Matthew
3 Booker was up and coming at him -- up and coming at him.

4 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

5 MR. HUNTER: "He was up coming towards me." That's
6 what he said he did when he hit Mr. Booker. This picture
7 and the one that's pointed back there is a picture of
8 someone that's up and coming towards you when you have a
9 baseball bat? I submit to you it is not. He took that bat
10 just like I did to this box to Mr. Booker's head while he
11 was asleep in the bed.

12 Now, part of a murder case that y'all hear on T.V.
13 that everybody wants to know is motive. I don't have to
14 prove a motive to you, but it's also nice to understand
15 maybe why someone would do something like this.

16 And we heard in this interview that he didn't have any
17 money, and we knew from testimony from everybody -- and Mr.
18 Snyder brought this out multiple times -- that this was a
19 house where you could go buy liquor or beer and cigarettes
20 so that you didn't have to go to the store.

21 This is a place where he charged them a hundred
22 dollars a week or four hundred dollars a month to live.
23 And he kept receipts and he kept a cash register in the --
24 not a full register like at a gas station but some place to
25 keep the money in his room.

1 The last question I asked Investigator Ryant at the
2 end of direct examination is when y'all searched the room
3 was there any money recovered from Ronald Glenn's room, and
4 her answer was no, no money recovered.

5 And if you remember from that last video from Bobby
6 Jackson, remember he's changed shoes at this point. He's
7 no longer wearing sandals. He's wearing shoes, and he's
8 carrying a jacket with something in the jacket.

9 He tells the officer that it's from meeting his cousin
10 Quan and that he had some shoes with him and that's what he
11 was carrying, but we know that's a lie because then later
12 on he admits to killing them. So that Cousin-Quan story
13 never happened. He didn't meet his cousin Quan. That was
14 another red herring, another lie to try to avoid the truth
15 of the matter, and the truth of the matter is that he
16 murdered Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn.

17 Now, the judge is going to give you three choices for
18 a verdict. That's going to be a verdict for murder, a
19 verdict for voluntary manslaughter, or not guilty. So I
20 need to explain to you what the difference is between
21 murder and voluntary manslaughter.

22 Now, Judge Cole is going to do this as well. So if
23 the explanation of mine conflicts with his, you go with
24 his, because he is the law. He is the judge. He is the
25 one who explains the law. And you put his law to your

1 facts to come up with a verdict.

2 But murder is the killing of another with malice
3 aforethought. South Carolina does not have a premeditated
4 murder statute. It does not mean that it had to be
5 premeditated, planned out.

6 All we have is murder, voluntary manslaughter,
7 involuntary manslaughter. Other states have first degree
8 murder, second degree murder, third degree murder, felony
9 murder. We are not one of those states.

10 So what I have to prove to you is that he killed
11 Matthew Booker and Ronald Glenn, which he's admitted to
12 doing on video, and he did it with malice aforethought,
13 with some evil intent at some point prior to that murder --
14 an evil intent.

15 Voluntary manslaughter is the killing of another upon
16 sufficient legal provocation in the heat of passion.
17 That's where he's trying to get in this video, that he was
18 being raped so he suddenly got enraged and therefore
19 because he was being raped, sufficient legal provocation,
20 that that's why he killed both individuals.

21 But every step of his interview, every step of his
22 interview going back to July 6th, has been a lie. Every
23 step. He didn't touch the bat. Okay. He did touch the
24 bat. Okay. Yes. He used the bat. He didn't go by Bobby
25 Jackson's dumpster. Oh, wait. There's evidence of it.

1 Yes. I did do that.

2 On July 8th when the bodies are discovered he doesn't
3 say that he had anything to do with it. He doesn't say
4 that he was raped. None of it, because at that point
5 there's no evidence that's collected against him.

6 This is not voluntary manslaughter, because you are
7 the sole judge of the credibility of the witnesses, and I
8 submit to you that he's lying about the alleged rape.
9 That's not what the evidence shows; that's not what the
10 D.N.A. shows. He had to come up with some story to cover
11 up the fact that he brutally murdered two people with a
12 baseball bat over a few hundred bucks.

13 Voluntary manslaughter means you believe the rape
14 story and you believe he did it in a heat of passion. That
15 rape never happened. That's not what the evidence shows.
16 We know what the D.N.A. report shows.

17 There's no evidence of anybody's foreign D.N.A. When
18 I say foreign D.N.A., somebody other than the victim,
19 someone other than the standard that they have.

20 When they take a swab of -- penile swab or a rectal
21 swab or an oral swab, she knows that that's an intimate
22 item, so she's expecting to find Matthew Booker's D.N.A. on
23 Matthew Booker's penile swab.

24 Again, one of his stories is that Matthew Booker stuck
25 his penis in his mouth. Saliva. There's D.N.A. in saliva.

1 Not found.

2 His story is that Ronald Glenn stuck his penis in his
3 rectum. They did a penile swab of Ronald Glenn. There's
4 skin cells. There's D.N.A. back there. No foreign
5 substance is found. The only D.N.A. is Ronald Glenn's.

6 That rape didn't happen. It was all a red herring to
7 hide from the truth that he murdered both individuals.

8 The police couldn't get in that house when they first
9 got there. The doors were locked. Deadbolt was locked.
10 who's going to lock a deadbolt? Can you do it from the
11 inside or do you have to have a key? who would have a key?
12 A resident.

13 Based on the evidence that's presented, the videos,
14 the D.N.A. report, the interviews I believe that I have
15 firmly convinced y'all and that you will come back with a
16 guilty verdict for murder for Matthew Booker and for Ronald
17 Glenn. Thank you.

18 MR. SNYDER: Judge, I'm going to play a little bit of
19 that video too. I don't know if you want to take a short
20 break and have me get it ready or...

21 THE COURT: Anybody need a break?

22 (No response.)

23 THE COURT: we'll keep going.

24 (Pause.)

25 MR. SNYDER: Good morning. I apologize. Like I said

1 at the beginning, this is going to be a short trial. It
2 took a little longer than I expected, but we're almost
3 there.

4 The solicitor explained a little bit of the law, and,
5 as he said, the judge is going to give it to them. What
6 the judge tells you is what the law is. If I
7 mischaracterize anything, I apologize, but the judge will
8 provide it to you.

9 Basically, murder is the intentional killing of
10 another person. However, a defense murder is when it's
11 done in the heat of passion. The heat of passion is
12 considered to be voluntary manslaughter, not murder.

13 In law school a common example they always give for
14 heat of passion is a spouse comes home and finds the other
15 spouse in bed with another person, cheated on him, the
16 spouse that just came home, snaps. He becomes enraged and
17 he can't control his actions and he kills the spouse and
18 the cheating person.

19 That's what we have here. The heat of passion can be
20 characterized by provocation to the point of anger or rage
21 such that person loses his or her normal capacity for
22 self-control.

23 And there are circumstances that a reasonable person
24 wouldn't have time to cool off to think about what was
25 happening. He just snaps, become enraged and does bad

1 things. Again, that's exactly what we have here.

2 You heard the words snapped become enraged. It's not
3 the first time. That's what Investigator Reece said
4 yesterday. He told you that's what the situation is.

5 Now, we're going to watch a little bit. The solicitor
6 showed you clips of the interview. I'm going to show you a
7 clip too.

8 This is the portion where Mr. Batson is broken down,
9 gets emotional, explains exactly what happened.

10 I will let the solicitor play it now. Thank you.

11 (Whereupon, the video was played for the jury.)

12 MR. SNYDER: Ladies and gentlemen, that is a man that
13 there was just broken down. I ask you to disregard
14 everything you have heard from him up until that point.

15 He was just -- this is a man that was just being
16 charged with murder. He was broken down at that point, and
17 you can tell it. He was very emotional. He was speaking
18 from the heart.

19 Again, the solicitor wants to talk about inconsistent
20 statements up until that point. And even after that point
21 some of it is not consistent.

22 But, again, this person is being charged with murder.
23 People being charged with crimes, especially something as
24 serious as murder, are not going to admit to everything
25 right away. And of course some things can change. Even

1 after he is broken down, some things were inconsistent, but
2 it was emotional. He admitted he had been drinking. He
3 tells you all of what happened.

4 The investigator throughout the last part of the
5 interview says we believe you, this is lining up with the
6 timeline we have, it's making sense, we believe you now. I
7 mean, that's his job. Look at him. He's no spring
8 chicken. He's been doing this for a long time. He's had a
9 lot of these situations and he can judge character.

10 Now, let's go over what he did say combined with what
11 the other evidence shows, and some of the other testimony.

12 He said the other guys were molesting him. I
13 understand what the solicitor is saying about D.N.A.

14 I don't know what happened in that room, but I do know
15 this. Ronald Glenn had his pants off. He was only wearing
16 a shirt. My client had no clothes on.

17 We've heard all kinds of allegations about different
18 things that were going on in this house at different times
19 with different people. I don't know what happened there,
20 but I do know that my client was completely naked. The
21 homeowner was in the room with no pants on. Something was
22 happening. My client said that things had been happening
23 over the course of weeks.

24 Again, on that night, I don't know what happened, but
25 something was happening that led to him snapping, and he's

1 going into a bit of rage just as the investigator told you.

2 Matthew Booker was in this bed when this happened.

3 The solicitor pointed out the statement where he said that
4 people were -- Matthew was coming at him. I seen that
5 video probably six times and all -- every time I watched it
6 he is a little bit all over the place, but he's pretty
7 consistent saying that he was in the room when he woke up
8 and he left.

9 what do we know about the two individuals? Matthew
10 Booker was the younger guy. Matthew Booker was bigger. So
11 when he left the room, it was just my client and an older
12 individual who was smaller. My client probably saw the
13 opportunity that he had this chance to describe were a lot
14 better, one against an older man without Matthew Booker in
15 it.

16 we heard from the investigator. We saw the interview.
17 My client became enraged. He got into an altercation with
18 Ronald Glenn and immediately went next door and hit Matthew
19 Booker. You heard evidence that this is a small house.
20 All of the bedrooms were next to each other.

21 And one other thing. This appears to be Ronald
22 Glenn's M.O. We heard that he does this -- he did this
23 similar experience with other men. They didn't have
24 anywhere else to go. He let them stay there sometimes, and
25 they would have sex for him. This is what he did.

1 The solicitor was talking about witness credibility.
2 I want to -- I want to mention one witness and their
3 credibility, and that's Matt's exwife Melody.

4 She told you that Matt wasn't gay because he was
5 impotent. I'm sorry. That is not how that works. Even
6 assuming that fact to be true, which we don't know, that
7 doesn't -- that doesn't establish anything.

8 I mean, she also said she was positive that Matt had
9 only been living there for a couple of weeks. Well,
10 Investigator Woodcock told us that she told him just after
11 this happened that he had been there for a full two months.
12 So, we know that she hasn't been telling the truth.

13 I can't stress enough how broken down my client was
14 towards the end of that video. That's -- for a young man
15 admitting to being gay, is a hard thing to do.

16 He had just been through a two-hour interview that
17 almost amounted to an interrogation, and he broke down. He
18 spoke from the heart. He became very emotional.

19 If you consider what he said in that last part of the
20 interview and combine it with everything else you heard
21 this week, his account makes a lot more sense than what the
22 solicitor would like to have you believe.

23 Again, we're not saying those two individuals didn't
24 lose their lives at the hand of my client. But my client
25 snapped in the heat of passion. He -- he did what he felt

1 that he had to do at the time to defend himself.

2 Again, the younger, bigger individual had just left
3 the room. My client saw the opportunity and seized on it.

4 I know there was some talk about premeditation and
5 that's not the law in South Carolina, but if this was
6 over -- what the solicitor would like for you to believe
7 was over some money, it wouldn't involve a naked man with a
8 baseball bat.

9 If you just want money, I mean, it happens every day
10 here in Spartanburg. You just -- would just shoot
11 somebody. That's not what happened here. It was a naked
12 man with a baseball bat. If that doesn't scream heat of
13 possession, I don't know what is, what does.

14 I'm almost done with my last argument.

15 He -- I told you at the beginning this is a sad
16 situation. I'm not sure how you feel about Mr. Batson but
17 I can -- I can't relate. I've never been in that
18 situation.

19 I have people ask me all of the time what would you
20 have done if you were in that situation. I don't know. I
21 would like to think I wouldn't have been in that situation.
22 If this stuff were happening, I would like to have left.
23 But we heard throughout he had nowhere else to go. It was
24 close to his job. He didn't have any money. I'm sorry. I
25 don't know what I would have done, but that is an extremely

1 sad situation all around. It's a sad situation for the
2 people that lost family members; it's a sad situation for
3 the person that was being sexually molested; it's a sad
4 situation all around.

5 But this is not murder. This was provoked in the heat
6 of passion. The investigator told you he snapped. He
7 became enraged. He had no clothes on. He had a baseball
8 bat. This is the most passionate thing I can imagine.

9 I thank you for your time this week. This isn't hard.
10 I wish you good luck with your deliberations, and thank you
11 again for your time this week.

12 THE COURT: Does any juror need a break before I
13 provide you with the instruction?

14 (No response.)

15 THE COURT: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, you of course
16 have heard and seen all of the evidence. You've now heard
17 the final summations provided by the lawyers.

18 So I'm now going to instruct you on the law that's
19 applicable. You'll then be asked to go back and to begin
20 with your deliberations, and through that process and
21 through the exercise of good judgment and common sense
22 conscientiously applied to the testimony and evidence in
23 the case you'll determine the facts, apply the law and
24 arrive at a fair and impartial decision based upon the
25 evidence received and the law that's applicable.

1 It's your prerogative to determine the facts in the
2 case and it's your prerogative to determine the credibility
3 and the believability of any witness testimony or other
4 evidence received during the trial of the case.

5 Again, your sole objective is to simply render a fair
6 and impartial decision based upon the evidence presented
7 and the law that's applicable.

8 As you know in this case, the defendant has been
9 charged with two counts of murder. Those two counts of
10 murder are set forth in indictments.

11 As I told you at the outset, the indictments are not
12 evidence in the case, but they'll be in the jury room with
13 you as you deliberate because they are intended to be used
14 as the verdict forms.

15 Mr. Foreman, you'll see on the back of each indictment
16 on the left-hand side near the bottom is the word verdict,
17 and it's beneath that word that you'll indicate the jury's
18 unanimous decision, whatever that decision is. You'll sign
19 your name as the foreperson. You're the only person --
20 juror -- to sign the verdict form.

21 Now, as to the charges contained in each of those
22 indictments the defendant has entered a plea of not guilty.
23 That plea of not guilty has placed upon the state the
24 burden of proving the allegations made by way of each
25 indictment, the burden of proving each of the essential

1 elements that make up the crimes that are alleged in each
2 of those indictments; and therefore the burden is upon the
3 state to establish the defendant's guilt to the
4 satisfaction of you 12 jurors beyond a reasonable doubt
5 before any verdict of guilty could be returned as to either
6 indictment.

7 You'll be considering the indictments separately as to
8 each. Your verdicts may be the same; they may be
9 different. That, obviously, will depend upon your
10 determination of fact as it relates to the allegations in a
11 particular indictment and then your application of the law.

12 The law that I will provide you and am providing you
13 is applicable to both indictments. The law is the same,
14 but the persons alleged to be the victims are different as
15 to each of the separate indictments.

16 Every person accused of a crime is always presumed
17 innocent of that crime. That presumption of innocence
18 remains with every defendant, as it does with this
19 defendant, from the time that he is placed under arrest and
20 throughout the course of the criminal process and even
21 throughout the course of the actual trial in the case.

22 That presumption of innocence will be with Mr. Batson
23 even as you go back to begin with your deliberations in the
24 case, and that presumption of innocence will be with him in
25 that jury room, and it will be with him forever unless you

1 12 jurors determine that he's no longer entitled to the
2 presumption of innocence.

3 In other words, after you've carefully considered all
4 the evidence received during the trial of the case and
5 after you have determined the material facts that relate to
6 the allegations contained in the indictments and after you
7 have determined the facts and applied the law, if you 12
8 jurors determine that the defendant's guilt as to a
9 particular charge has been proven beyond a reasonable
10 doubt, then he would no longer be entitled to the
11 presumption of innocence as it relates to that charge. But
12 it is only if, unless and until you are satisfied of the
13 defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt that the
14 presumption of innocence would no longer be applicable.

15 Now, the same law that provides that you are the
16 judges of the facts also provides that I am the judge of
17 the law, and that just simply means that nobody's going to
18 tell you how to arrive at your determination of fact in
19 this case. You do that, as I've already stated, through
20 the exercise of good judgment and common sense
21 conscientiously applied to the testimony and evidence
22 received during the trial.

23 So you will determine what the facts are, but you must
24 accept the law as I provide it to you as being the law
25 that's applicable in this case. In other words, you're

1 never to concern yourself with what you thought the law was
2 before you came to serve as a juror this week or what you
3 think the law ought to be.

4 Under your oath as a juror you must accept the law as
5 I provide it to you as being the law that is applicable to
6 this particular case. Then you simply take that law and
7 you apply it to the facts as you 12 jurors determine those
8 facts to be based upon your examination of the evidence.

9 Now, because you are the sole judges of the facts in
10 the case you are therefore necessarily the sole judges of
11 the credibility or the believability of any testimony that
12 has been received the during the course of the trial, and
13 you 12 jurors alone will decide what weight, value and
14 effect to give to any particular witness' testimony. But
15 there are several factors that you should consider in
16 arriving at your evaluation or assessment as to a witness'
17 credibility, and I'll list those factors for you.

18 You should consider the demeanor of the witness. That
19 is how the witness appeared to you while the witness was
20 testifying from that witness stand. Was the witness
21 straightforward in responding to questions, or was the
22 witness hesitant or evasive in responding to questions
23 posed of the witness.

24 Simply put, did the witness appear to you to be
25 telling the truth and to have knowledge of the facts to

1 which that witness has testified.

2 You should also consider whether or not the testimony
3 of a witness is consistent, or is it inconsistent with
4 other testimony or other evidence received during the
5 course of the trial.

6 You should consider how the witness came to know the
7 facts to which that witness has testified. In other words,
8 what was a witness opportunity and ability to perceive the
9 existence of those facts to which that witness has
10 testified, and then what is the ability of that witness to
11 be able to come into court and to accurately recollect to
12 you as to what they have previously perceived.

13 You should also consider any bias or prejudice that a
14 witness might have with respect to the case. In other
15 words, do you find some reason that a witness would come
16 into court and testify one way or another to help one side
17 or the other.

18 You may consider any interest that a witness might
19 have in the outcome of the case if you determine that a
20 witness does have such an interest and you find that that
21 interest would bear upon that particular witness'
22 credibility.

23 You should also consider whether or not the testimony
24 of a witness is strengthened, or is it weakened by other
25 testimony or other evidence received during the course of

1 the trial.

2 As the finders of the fact and as the judges of the
3 credibility of the witnesses you are permitted to believe
4 as much or as little of what a witness has testified to as
5 you deem is appropriate, and so you can believe everything
6 they say, nothing of what they say, or believe some part
7 and reject some other part of a witness' testimony. Again,
8 your sole objective is to simply render a fair and
9 impartial decision based upon the evidence presented and
10 the law that's applicable.

11 Now, as you've heard, the state is required to prove a
12 defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. That doesn't
13 mean that the state has to prove a defendant's guilt beyond
14 all doubt or beyond any possible doubt, but it does require
15 the state to prove his guilt to your satisfaction beyond a
16 reasonable doubt.

17 The term reasonable doubt should be given its plain
18 and ordinary meaning. A reasonable doubt is the kind of
19 doubt that would cause a reasonable person to hesitate to
20 act upon the information provided.

21 A defendant in a criminal trial is entitled to any
22 reasonable doubt that arises from the evidence or lack of
23 evidence in a case, and if, upon any factual issue
24 essential to a finding of a verdict of guilty you have some
25 reasonable doubt as to how that issue should be resolved,

1 it would be your duty to resolve that reasonable doubt in
2 favor of the defendant.

3 There are various forms of evidence such as testimony,
4 photographs, documents, charts and other types of physical
5 exhibits, but there are really only two types of evidence,
6 either or both of which may be used independently or in
7 combination to prove a fact in issue. But the two types of
8 evidence are direct evidence and circumstantial evidence.

9 Direct evidence is the testimony of a person who
10 testifies from actual knowledge of that fact. It is
11 testimony by a person who has perceived the existence of
12 some fact by means of his or her senses, and then they come
13 into court and they testify as to what they have previously
14 perceived.

15 Direct evidence proves the existence of a fact
16 directly, and it does not require any deduction or
17 inference in order to establish the fact.

18 Circumstantial evidence, on the other hand, is the
19 proof of some other fact or set of facts which taken either
20 singly or collectively may prove the existence of a fact in
21 question as a necessary consequence, that is through an
22 inference or by deduction.

23 An inference is simply a deduction of fact that may
24 logically and reasonably be drawn from the proof of some
25 other fact or set facts. In other words, it's a fact not

1 proven by the direct testimony of a witness based upon that
2 person's perception, but it is a conclusion which might
3 reasonably be drawn from the proof of other facts.

4 In other words, you may infer that a particular event
5 occurred or that a particular fact exists based upon the
6 proof of sufficient factual circumstances which would
7 reasonably warrant your arriving at a particular
8 conclusion.

9 And the commission of a crime or any particular
10 element necessary to establish a particular crime may be
11 proven by direct evidence or by circumstantial evidence or
12 by a combination of both types of evidence.

13 The law makes no distinction between the weight or
14 value to be given to direct evidence or circumstantial
15 evidence.

16 However, to the extent that the state relies upon
17 circumstantial evidence in order to establish the
18 commission of a crime or some element of that crime, all of
19 the circumstances proven must be consistent with each other
20 and when taken together point conclusively to the guilt of
21 the accused beyond a reasonable doubt.

22 The burden rests with the state to prove the defendant
23 guilty of a crime beyond a reasonable doubt regardless of
24 whether the state relies upon direct evidence or
25 circumstantial evidence or some combination of both types

1 of evidence.

2 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is proof that leaves
3 you firmly convinced of the defendant's guilt. There are
4 very few things in the world that we know with absolute
5 certainty, and in criminal cases the law does not require
6 proof that overcomes every possible doubt.

7 If, based upon your consideration of the evidence in
8 this case and the exercise of good judgment and common
9 sense, you are firmly convinced that the defendant has been
10 proven guilty of a crime, then you must find the defendant
11 guilty of that particular crime.

12 And if, on the other hand, you think there is a real
13 possibility that the defendant is not guilty of the crime
14 for which he has been charged, then you must give him the
15 benefit of that doubt and find him not guilty of that
16 particular charge.

17 And where a defendant is permitted to consider a
18 greater and a lesser offense pertaining to a particular
19 indictment, which you will be in this particular case, if
20 the jury has a reasonable doubt as to whether the defendant
21 has been proven guilty of the greater offense or of the
22 lesser offense, the jury must resolve that reasonable doubt
23 in favor of the defendant and find him guilty of only the
24 lesser offense, but only if the defendant's guilt as to
25 that lesser offense has been proven beyond a reasonable

1 doubt.

2 Now, in this case, as you know, the defendant has been
3 charged in each indictment with the crime of murder.
4 Voluntary manslaughter is a lesser included offense of
5 murder.

6 It's not actually set out in the indictment, but that
7 doesn't matter. You will be able to consider the crime,
8 crimes of murder as set forth in the indictment, as well as
9 the lesser included offense of voluntary manslaughter.

10 A lesser included offense does not have to be alleged
11 or set forth in an indictment for a jury to be able to
12 consider that lesser included offense.

13 So I'm going to instruct you on the law as it relates
14 to the crime of murder, after which I'll instruct you on
15 the law as it relates to the crime of voluntarily
16 manslaughter.

17 Murder is a statutory offense. It's set forth in
18 Section 16-3-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. And
19 that particular section provides that murder is defined as
20 the killing of any person with malice aforethought, either
21 expressed or implied.

22 In order for you to find the defendant guilty of the
23 crime of murder it would be necessary that the evidence in
24 this case has established to your satisfaction beyond a
25 reasonable doubt that the defendant, Marcus Batson, did

1 commit some act or acts which did proximately cause the
2 death of Ronald Glenn and/or Matthew Booker and that the
3 killing was done with malice aforethought. Malice
4 aforethought is an essential element of the crime of
5 murder.

6 So what is malice aforethought? well, malice as an
7 essential element of the crime of murder is a state of mind
8 connoting an ill will and having the intent to do harm.

9 Intent refers to the state of a person's mind which
10 directs his actions towards a specific object or goal, and
11 intent would include those consequences which represent the
12 very purpose for which an act is done, as well as those
13 consequences which are known to be substantially certain to
14 result, whether actually intended or not.

15 Malice is a technical term importing wickedness and
16 excluding just cause or legal excuse. It is something
17 which springs from depravity, from a heart devoid of social
18 duty and fatally bent on mischief. It is a state of mind
19 indicating an extreme disregard for or an extreme
20 indifference to human life.

21 Malice may be likewise defined as a state of mind
22 which indicates a formed purpose and design to do a
23 wrongful act under circumstances that exclude any legal
24 right to do it.

25 Now, the words expressed and implied malice do not

1 mean different kinds of malice but merely the manner in
2 which malice may be shown to have existed. That is to say
3 either by direct evidence or by circumstantial evidence
4 implying or inferring the existence of malice.

5 Malice may be expressed as where there is an expressed
6 threat to kill or a lying in wait or where the
7 circumstances show directly that the intent to kill was
8 entertained by the killer.

9 Malice may be inferred, though no expressed intent to
10 kill is proven by direct evidence, where the facts and
11 circumstances which have been proven by the evidence in the
12 case satisfy you beyond a reasonable doubt that malice was
13 present in the mind of the defendant at the time any
14 killing took place.

15 The existence of malice may be inferred from the acts,
16 declarations and conduct of the killer, as well as from any
17 other circumstances shown to have existed at the time of
18 the event from which you might reasonably infer the
19 existence of malice as often the state of a person's mind
20 can only be proven by circumstantial evidence.

21 Malice as an essential element of the crime of murder
22 does not necessarily require proof of an ill will or a
23 hatred towards the particular individual who was killed,
24 nor is it necessary that proof of an actual or specific
25 intent to take human life exists. But rather it means a

1 state of mind accompanying conduct signifying a general
2 malignant recklessness and an extreme disregard for or an
3 extreme indifference to human life.

4 The state is required to prove malice, just as it must
5 prove any other essential element of the crime charged, and
6 it is for you 12 jurors to determine whether or not the
7 evidence in this case establishes malice beyond a
8 reasonable doubt.

9 It's also essential that there exist not only malice
10 but also malice aforethought. The law does not require
11 that malice must exist for any appreciable length of time
12 before the commission of an act proximately causing a fatal
13 result. In fact, it may be conceived at the very moment
14 that the fatal act is committed.

15 It is sufficient in the law so long as the state does
16 prove beyond a reasonable doubt both the existence of
17 malice and the commission of an act or acts by the
18 defendant which proximately caused the fatal result.

19 You must determine whether or not malice aforethought
20 existed based upon your consideration of all of the
21 evidence introduced during the trial and any reasonable
22 inferences that might be derived therefrom.

23 Now, while the state must prove beyond a reasonable
24 doubt that a killing occurred accompanied by the element of
25 malice aforethought in order to establish the crime of

1 murder, it is not necessary that the state prove any motive
2 for such a killing, even though there may be some evidence
3 introduced during the trial that relates to that particular
4 issue.

5 Now, as I told you, one who is charged with the crime
6 of murder may be found guilty of the lesser included
7 offense of voluntary manslaughter, even though that lesser
8 included offense is not actually set out in the indictment
9 itself.

10 A jury may find the defendant charged with murder
11 guilty of the lesser included offense of voluntary
12 manslaughter if the jury determines that the evidence in
13 the case warrants such a finding, whether or not that
14 lesser offense is actually alleged or set forth in the
15 indictment. So I'll define for you what is voluntary
16 manslaughter.

17 Voluntary manslaughter is a crime defined in the law
18 as the unlawful killing of another human being which is
19 committed in a sudden heat of passion provoked by a
20 sufficient legal provocation.

21 The law recognizes that sudden heat of passion arising
22 out of exasperation, rage, anger, sudden resentment, fear
23 or terror may for the time being affect the self control of
24 an individual temporarily disturbing the ability to
25 properly reason creating an uncontrollable impulse to do

1 violence and may therefore reduce the crime from that of
2 murder to that of voluntary manslaughter provided that the
3 sudden heat of passion is shown to have arisen from a
4 sufficient legal provocation.

5 The law does not reduce from murder to voluntary
6 manslaughter every homicide that is committed in the heat
7 of passion. It must be the heat of passion justly excited
8 by a sufficient legal provocation. If a sufficient legal
9 provocation does not exist, then the killing, even
10 committed in the heat of possession, is murder and not
11 voluntary manslaughter.

12 The sudden heat of passion aroused by a sufficient
13 legal provocation which may reduce a homicide from that of
14 murder to that of voluntary manslaughter need not dethrone
15 reason entirely or shut out knowledge and volition, but it
16 must be such heat of passion provoked by such acts or
17 circumstances caused by the decedent as would naturally
18 disturb the ability of an ordinary reasonable and prudent
19 person to properly reason rendering his mind incapable of a
20 cool reflection and producing what, according to human
21 experience, may be described as an uncontrollable impulse
22 to do violence.

23 In determining whether an act resulting in the death
24 of another was impelled by heat of passion aroused by a
25 sufficient legal provocation or by malice aforethought, you

1 should take into consideration all of the surrounding
2 circumstances and conditions shown to have accompanied that
3 particular event. And therefore, as I've stated, voluntary
4 manslaughter is an unlawful homicide committed in the
5 absence of malice but in a sudden heat of passion aroused
6 by a sufficient legal provocation, and a sufficient legal
7 provocation being defined as the existence of facts or
8 circumstances as would naturally affect the ability of an
9 ordinary reasonable and prudent person to properly reason
10 rendering the mind incapable of cool reflection and
11 producing what, according to human experience, may be
12 described as an uncontrollable impulse to do violence.

13 Now, as I have previously instructed you, and I
14 emphasize to you, the fact that a defendant during the
15 trial of a criminal case does not take the witness stand
16 and testify during the course of that trial is not a fact
17 or circumstance that the jury may allow to weigh in the
18 slightest degree against the defendant.

19 As I told you, the burden is upon the state to prove a
20 defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. The burden is
21 never upon a defendant or a person accused of a crime to
22 prove that they are not guilty or to prove that they are
23 innocent because in some cases that might not be possible.
24 And therefore you are not to reach any conclusion nor draw
25 any inference from the fact that a defendant does not

1 testify during the trial of the case, nor may that fact be
2 considered by the jury in any way whatsoever or even
3 discussed during your deliberations in this case.

4 Now, Mr. Foreman and ladies and gentlemen, I am not in
5 any way concerned with what your verdicts are, but you are
6 instructed that the verdicts must be unanimous. All 12 of
7 you must be in agreement before any verdict may be rendered
8 and returned to the Court.

9 Now, Mr. Foreman, as I told you, you are going to be
10 tasked with the responsibility of presiding over jury
11 deliberations simply to ensure that those deliberations are
12 carried out in some orderly fashion, but all jurors are
13 expected to participate in deliberations, because, as I've
14 stated, the verdict has to be unanimous. All of you must
15 be in agreement before a decision may be reached.

16 Mr. Foreman, as I've also told you, you'll have the
17 indictments in the jury room. It's on the back of the
18 indictment in the lower left-hand corner that you'll
19 indicate the jury's decision.

20 Now, in this case you're going to have three potential
21 verdict forms to select from.

22 If the state as to a particular indictment has proven
23 the defendant to be guilty of the crime of murder beyond a
24 reasonable doubt, then the verdict form would be guilty.

25 If the state has failed to prove the defendant guilty

Jury charge

1 as to the crime of murder as it relates to a particular
2 indictment, then you may consider the lesser included
3 offense of voluntary manslaughter.

4 If the defendant has been proven guilty of the lesser
5 included offense of voluntary manslaughter beyond a
6 reasonable doubt as to a particular indictment, then the
7 verdict form as to that indictment would be guilty of
8 voluntary manslaughter.

9 If the state has failed to prove the defendant guilty
10 beyond a reasonable doubt as to a particular indictment, as
11 to the crime of murder or the lesser included offense of
12 voluntary manslaughter, then in that event the verdict form
13 would be not guilty.

14 So whatever that decision is, Mr. Foreman, you'll
15 indicate that on the back of the indictment as I've already
16 stated.

17 I also have a verdict form selection, option sheet,
18 and really the purpose of this form is so that you will
19 understand the three verdict forms that you have with
20 respect to each of the two indictments and so that you'll
21 understand what you have to write out on the verdict form
22 as provided.

23 So you'll have this form. You can check it. You can
24 sign your name to it. But whatever the verdict form is as
25 to a particular indictment, you need to write that on the

1 indictment itself, and also sign your name, Mr. Foreman.

2 Now, with respect to this form, as you deliberate you
3 go -- you want to just check it to help you with it, if you
4 mess it up, don't worry about it. Tear it up. Throw it
5 away. I can give you another one of these forms.

6 I don't have another one of these forms. So just be
7 sure when you fill it out, you fill it out appropriately as
8 the jury has determined the verdict to be.

9 During deliberations there may come a time where you
10 have a question about the facts or the evidence in the
11 case. You might even wonder if there's something else out
12 there that you think might help that you'd like to have.

13 Please understand that now that the case is closed no
14 additional evidence can be received. Even if it exists and
15 even if it would be helpful, you can't have it because the
16 case is closed now. So no additional evidence can be
17 received.

18 If, during your deliberations, you have a question
19 about a witness' testimony and you need to have that
20 witness' testimony replayed in whole or in part in order to
21 answer that question, we can make arrangements for that.

22 I don't have transcripts of the testimony, but if you
23 want to rehear a witness' testimony, we'll bring you back
24 into the courtroom, and the court reporter will replay that
25 testimony in its entirety or just in some portion if that's

1 all you need.

2 If at any time you have a question about the law
3 that's applicable, I am permitted to answer those
4 questions.

5 So should you have a question about the law that you
6 need answered, I can give you a complete re-instruction on
7 the law; I can give you simply an explanation or a
8 clarification of the particular point of law if that's all
9 you need.

10 So, Mr. Foreman, if at any time you need to address
11 some matter to me if you'll write it on a piece of paper --
12 if you have a question or your fellow jurors have some
13 issue, write it on a piece of paper, give it to the
14 bailiff. He'll give it to me and I'll respond accordingly.

15 All of the exhibits which have been introduced during
16 the trial will be verified and confirmed by the lawyers and
17 the court reporter and myself, and so everything that was
18 introduced during the trial should be back there.

19 However, if, during deliberations, you think you saw
20 something or something was introduced that you don't have
21 back in the jury room, let us know of that fact. And if it
22 was introduced but for some reason did not go back, we'll
23 find that exhibit so that you'll have everything that was
24 introduced during the trial.

25 I don't know if we have smokers on the jury, but if we

1 do you can smoke during deliberations, but you can't smoke
2 in the courthouse. You have to go outside for that
3 purpose. So if anybody wants to smoke, let the bailiff
4 know, and the bailiff will take you outside for that
5 purpose.

6 But understand deliberations may not be engaged in
7 unless all 12 jurors are present in the jury room so that
8 all may participate.

9 So if at any time a juror is absent for any authorized
10 purpose the deliberations must stop, and they may only
11 resume when all 12 are present so that all can participate.

12 Now, it's probably not lunchtime right now, but I
13 don't know when you like to have lunch. So here's what I
14 tell you. When you go back to begin deliberations if you
15 get to a point in your deliberations where you want to
16 order lunch, we'll do that for you. The clerk will bring
17 back a menu. You'll pick from it. We'll order it, bring
18 it to the jury room so you can have it there.

19 It usually takes about an hour and ten minutes, 15
20 minutes maybe, to get it ordered, prepared and brought back
21 to the courthouse. So just keep in mind as you go back
22 that it takes that time for lunch to be prepared and
23 brought to the courthouse. So let me know when and if you
24 would like to order lunch.

25 I hope that covers everything, but if it doesn't I'm

1 sure one of these lawyers will remind me that I failed to
2 provide you with some information perhaps. And if they do
3 and I think I need to bring you back for that purpose, I'll
4 do so.

5 If I do not need to bring you back for any reason,
6 I'll simply send word by way of the bailiffs that you may
7 begin with your deliberations. In that event he'll bring
8 to the jury room all of the exhibits which have been
9 introduced during the trial.

10 And to you, Mr. Foreman, he'll also bring the verdict
11 forms.

12 I'll ask Mr. Miller and Ms. Massetti -- those were the
13 two alternate jurors. I'll ask you to stay in the
14 courtroom with me now as the 12 jurors go back to begin
15 deliberations when instructed.

16 So the original 12 please go with the bailiff to your
17 jury room. Do not begin deliberations until I send you
18 word to do so.

19 (Whereupon, the jury retired to deliberate at
20 11:35 a.m.)

21 THE COURT: Mr. Miller and Ms. Massetti, as you know,
22 you are alternate jurors, and as an alternate juror you are
23 not permitted to deliberate with this panel because it
24 looks like all 12 of them are able to do that. So that
25 will conclude your service for the trial of the case, and

1 it will also conclude your service for the week. So you
2 won't have to call back or come back any more this week.

3 So I do want to take this opportunity to sincerely
4 thank you for your willingness to serve as jurors this
5 week, and of course for your actual service in the trial of
6 the case.

7 I regret that you can't participate in deliberations,
8 but we do sincerely appreciate your participation and the
9 time and attention that you've given the case during the
10 course of this week.

11 As I say, you will be excused now for the week. The
12 clerk will provide you with information about your pay
13 voucher for service. And if you need a statement for an
14 employer, then they'll also provide you with one of those.

15 And if you want to stay because you're curious as to
16 what the decision might be, you're welcome to do that, but
17 you don't have to. And if you want to stay and the jury
18 decided they want to order lunch, if you're here let the
19 bailiff know. They'll order your lunch too even though you
20 can't eat with them.

21 Do you have a preference about that, about whether you
22 want to stay or not?

23 JUROR NO. 107: I think I'll stay and just hang out,
24 but I can't care for lunch.

25 THE COURT: You don't care for lunch? You don't know

1 where it comes from.

2 JUROR NO. 107: That's true.

3 THE COURT: Well, in any event, if you want to stay,
4 feel free to. Just have a seat in the back somewhere. Let
5 the bailiff know. They'll put you in a location. But
6 thanks again for your help. We appreciate it. You may be
7 excused.

8 (Whereupon, the alternate jurors were excused.)

9 THE COURT: Are there any exceptions taken to the
10 instruction or requests for additions to the instruction by
11 the state?

12 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, no objections, but we did
13 present the three experts, and I didn't hear an instruction
14 about the experts.

15 THE COURT: Well, they were qualified as experts, and
16 I've told them to assess the credibility of the witness.
17 So it applies to an expert, just as it does any other. I
18 don't think it's necessary to give them a separate
19 instruction unless y'all both request it.

20 MR. SNYDER: Judge, I agree with you.

21 THE COURT: All right. I don't think it's -- in this
22 particular case we don't have competing experts.

23 MR. HUNTER: I just --

24 THE COURT: I understand.

25 MR. HUNTER: I'm used to the expert instruction. So I

1 just wanted to make sure.

2 THE COURT: Well, it's often done, and actually the
3 reason it's often done, I think, is because you have
4 competing experts, and so there's a separate instruction
5 about that.

6 In this case, while they were qualified as experts,
7 they're just like any other witness. And I've told the
8 jury how to evaluate witnesses' testimony.

9 MR. HUNTER: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: So I don't think it's critical anyway.
11 And the defendant does not wish a separate
12 instruction?

13 MR. SNYDER: No, sir. I was just going to mention. I
14 know I had a case with Mr. Hunter in the past where a juror
15 had to be replaced in the deliberations. I guess it's too
16 late for that now, but that was my only concern.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you for your concern.

18 Let me ask y'all to verify the exhibits, please.

19 (Pause.)

20 MR. HUNTER: Your Honor, the state has gone through
21 the evidence with the court reporter and the defense
22 attorney here and we are okay with the evidence that is
23 going back.

24 THE COURT: Do y'all have a computer for them to use?

25 MR. HUNTER: I'm going to go upstairs and grab a clean

1 computer at this time.

2 MR. SNYDER: It's okay with me.

3 THE COURT: All right. All exhibits have been
4 accounted for.

5 Send them back. Tell the jury they can begin
6 deliberations. Notify us when they've concluded.

7 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

8 THE COURT: I'm told the jury has reached a decision.
9 Are we ready to receive it?

10 MR. HUNTER: The state is ready, Your Honor.

11 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: All right. Bring them in.

13 (Whereupon, the jury returned to the courtroom at
14 2:10 p.m. to reports its verdict.)

15 THE COURT: Mr. Foreman, have you and your fellow
16 jurors reached a unanimous decision on each of the separate
17 indictments?

18 THE FOREMAN: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: And did you reflect those decisions on the
20 each indictment as requested?

21 THE FOREMAN: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: You signed it and dated it?

23 THE FOREMAN: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: All right. If you will, please hand those
25 forms up by way of the bailiff.

1 You may publish the verdicts.

2 THE CLERK: In the State of South Carolina, in the
3 Court of General Sessions, the State of South Carolina vs.
4 Marcus Danta Batson, in Indictment No. 2022-GS-42-02735 for
5 murder, guilty.

6 In Indictment No. 2022-GS-42-02736, indictment for
7 murder, guilty. Signed by the foreperson this 28th day of
8 September 2023.

9 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, is this your verdict
10 and still your verdict? If so, please raise your right
11 hand.

12 (Whereupon, all jurors responded in the affirmative.)

13 THE CLERK: So say you all.

14 THE COURT: All jurors have responded in the
15 affirmative.

16 Does the defendant wish to have the jury polled?

17 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

18 THE COURT: All right. Are there any other matters to
19 address with the jury present?

20 MR. SNYDER: No, sir.

21 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ladies and
22 gentlemen, for your participation as jurors this week, and
23 of course specifically for the trial of this case.

24 This is the last case that's going to require your
25 participation. So when you are excused you won't need to

1 call back or report back any further this week.

2 If you need information about your pay voucher and/or
3 an employer statement for an employer, let the bailiff
4 know, and the clerk will provide you with that information.

5 I sincerely thank you for your service. I hope it has
6 not posed too much of a hardship on you, and I certainly
7 hope that it has been an educational and a beneficial
8 experience for you.

9 Thank you again for your assistance. You may be
10 excused.

11 (Whereupon, the trial jury was excused.)

12 THE COURT: Are there any other matters to be
13 addressed regarding sentencing by the state?

14 MR. HUNTER: No, Your Honor.

15 I just would like to point out the Johnson family and
16 the Booker family -- if they can stand -- they do not wish
17 to speak.

18 But they wanted to let you know that they are here for
19 the jury's decision.

20 His prior record is a 2019 strong arm robbery. Thank
21 you.

22 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Snyder, the solicitor has
23 indicated that he has a prior history of a common-law [sic]
24 robbery. Is that true?

25 MR. SNYDER: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Any others matters you'd like to present
2 to the Court before sentencing?

3 MR. SNYDER: Briefly, Your Honor.

4 You were here all week. You've heard all about this
5 trial. I don't think there's much that I can add. This
6 two hours and 20 minutes, I believe this was a difficult
7 decision for the jury.

8 Your Honor is aware that two people are deceased, that
9 they were not without fault in this matter. That is our
10 position then and that's our position now.

11 I'd like Your Honor to take that into consideration
12 and sentence Mr. Batson to a concurrent sentencing. And we
13 will ask for the minimum of 30 years. I don't believe he's
14 a man that needs to spend the rest of his life in prison.
15 Thank you.

16 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Batson, you got anything
17 you want to add?

18 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. On Indictments
20 2022-GS-42-02735 and 02736, as to each, wherein you have
21 been found guilty by a jury of the crimes of murder on both
22 indictments, the Sentences of the Court are -- is that you
23 are to be confined to the South Carolina Department of
24 Corrections for the balance of your natural life.

25 Mr. Batson, you have a right to appeal the verdict of

1 the jury and the Sentence of the Court. You must file any
2 notice of your intent to appeal those decisions within ten
3 days of today's date.

4 Mr. Snyder will assist you and advise you in that
5 regard. Thank you.

6 END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD

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CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Linda D. Moffitt, Official Court Reporter for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete Transcript of Record of all the proceedings had and evidence introduced in the trial of the captioned cause, relative to appeal, in the Court of General Sessions for Spartanburg County, South Carolina, on the 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th days of September 2023.

I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel nor interest to any party hereto.

November 20, 2023

s/Linda D. Moffitt

Linda D. Moffitt
Circuit Court Reporter



SPARTANBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

145 W. Broad St. | P.O. Box 1746 | Spartanburg, SC

439
Case Number

C21070201

Rights Waiver

Name: Marcus Batson DOB: [REDACTED] 1989

Address: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]

Statement of Rights

Before any questions are asked of you, you must understand your rights.



Initial	Check	
<u>MB</u>	☒	1. You have the right to remain silent.
<u>MB</u>	☒	2. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law.
<u>MB</u>	☒	3. You have the right to talk to a lawyer and to have a lawyer present with you while you are being questioned.
<u>MB</u>	☒	4. If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, a lawyer will be appointed, free of any costs, to represent you before any questioning begins.
<u>MB</u>	☒	5. You have the right to stop answering questions at any time.

The above rights have been read to me by INY Ruc

I have read the above rights and I understand them fully.

<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
Signed	Witnessed
Date	Date

Waiver of Rights

Fully understanding my rights as they have been explained to me, I wish to waive [give up] my rights and talk to INY W-Ruc in reference to Homicide

I have waived my rights freely and voluntarily, without being threatened or coerced, and without being promised any leniency or reward.

<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
Signed	Witnessed

Date/Time interview began: _____ Date/Time interview was completed: 2:30pm

I have made this statement freely and voluntarily, without being threatened or coerced, and without being promised any leniency or reward.

<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
Signed	Witnessed

WITNESSES

City of Spartanburg

H. G. [Signature]

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2021A4210101564

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill*Danielle Woodward*
Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: JUN 22 2022

VERDICT

*GUILTY**[Signature]*
Foreperson of Petit Jury
Date: 9/28/2023DOCKET NO. **22-GS-42-2735**

The State of South Carolina

County of Spartanburg

Barry Barnette, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUN 27 2022

TERM**THE STATE**
vs.**Marcus Danta Batson**

Indictment for

MURDER

SC Code 16-03-0010, 0020

CDR Code 116

Class FEL-EXM

FILED

2022 JUN 29 AM 10:57

CLERK OF COURT
SPARTANBURG COUNTY
AMY VA. COV

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG)

INDICTMENT

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on JUN 22 2022, the

Grand Jurors of Spartanburg County present upon their oath:

MURDER

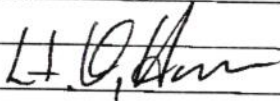
The Defendant, Marcus Danta Batson, did in Spartanburg County on or about July 5, 2021, feloniously, willfully, and with malice aforethought, kill one Ronald Glenn, by beating the victim and the victim died as a proximate result thereof, all in violation of Section 16-3-0010, 0020, Code of Laws of South Carolina, (1976, as amended).

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


 Assistant Solicitor

WITNESSES

City of Spartanburg

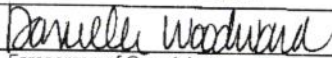


ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2021A4210101565

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill



Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date:

JUN 22 2022

VERDICT

GUILTY

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date: 9/28/2023

DOCKET NO. **22-CS-42-2736**

The State of South Carolina

County of Spartanburg

Barry Barnette, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUN 27 2022

TERM

THE STATE

vs.

Marcus Danta Batson

Indictment for

MURDER

SC Code 16-03-0010, 0020

CDR Code 116

Class FEL-EXM

FILED

2022 JUN 29 AM 10:58

CLERK OF COURT
SPARTANBURG COUNTY
AMY W. COY

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG)

INDICTMENT

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on JUN 22 2022, the
Grand Jurors of Spartanburg County present upon their oath:

MURDER

The Defendant, Marcus Danta Batson, did in Spartanburg County on or about July 5, 2021, feloniously, willfully, and with malice aforethought, kill one Matthew Booker, by beating the victim and the victim died as a proximate result thereof, all in violation of Section 16-3-0010, 0020, 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.


Assistant Solicitor

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG

STATE

VS.

Marcus D. Batson

AKA:

Race: BSex: MAge: 34DOB: 1/8/81SS#: [REDACTED]Address: [REDACTED]City, State, Zip: [REDACTED]

DL#:

SID#

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 22-GS-42-2785AW#: 2021A4210101564Date of Offense: 7/16/21S.C. Code §: 16-3-0010CDR Code #: 0116

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 ☐ PLEADSTO: MURDERIn violation of § 16-3-10 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 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)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:

Solicitor

SC Bar # 77517

Defendant

Attorney for Defendant

SC Bar # 79961WHEREFORE, 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 yearsand/or to pay a fine of \$; ~~provided that upon the service of~~ days/months/years/Time Served and or paymentof \$; 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: ☐ 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. Marwan BadranINDICTMENT/CASE#: 22 -GS- 612 - 2735

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
§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
§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
☐ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	\$500
☐ § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD

TOTAL

\$

12875

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: T. Camp
Court Reporter: L. MorleyPresiding Judge: [Signature]
Judge Code: 2053
Sentence Date: September 20, 2023

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG

STATE

VS.

Marcus Bales

AKA:

Race: B Sex: M Age: 34DOB: 1989 SS#: [REDACTED]Address: [REDACTED]City, State, Zip: [REDACTED]DL#* [REDACTED] SID# [REDACTED]

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 22-GS-42-2736AW#: 2021A42-10101565Date of Offense: 7-16-27S.C. Code §: 16-3-0016CDR Code #: 0116

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 ☐ PLEADSTO: MurderIn violation of § 16-3-10 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 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

 The charge is: ☒ As indicted, ☐ Lesser Included Offense, ☐ Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. [REDACTED] (def.'s initials)
The plea is: ☒ Without Negotiations or Recommendation, ☐ Negotiated Sentence, ☐ Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

[Signature] 77517 [Signature]
 Solicitor SC Bar # Defendant

Chad Snyder
 Attorney for Defendant

7767
 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 yearsand/or to pay a fine of \$; provided that upon the service of days/months/years/Time Served and or paymentof \$; 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: ☐ The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOD.☐ 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. Marcus BurtonINDICTMENT/CASE#: 22 -GS- 42 - 2736

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	\$
§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	\$
§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	\$
☐ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees		\$500	\$
☐ § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund		TBD	\$
TOTAL			\$ 12875

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: T. Camp
Court Reporter: L. MoffittPresiding Judge: _____
Judge Code: _____
Sentence Date: September 20, 2023

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

Jan 02 2025

SC Court of Appeals



Joanna K. Delany
Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

This 2nd day of January, 2025.

RECEIVED

Jan 02 2025

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Spartanburg County

Honorable J. Derham Cole, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

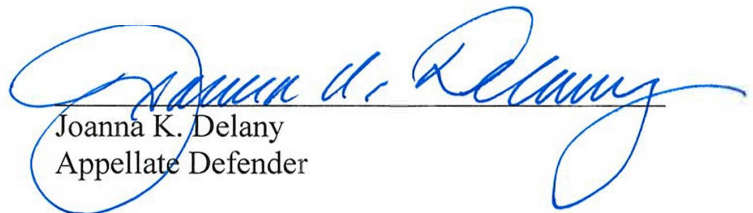
MARCUS DANTA BATSON,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2023-001593

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 R. Brandon Larrabee, Esquire, at the primary e-mail address listed in the Attorney Information System (AIS), this 2nd day of January, 2025.



Joanna K. Delany
Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT