

VOLUME TWO OF TWO

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM MARION COUNTY

D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

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SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

MARCO SIARA SANDERS

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2014-001201

RECORD ON APPEAL

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

**STATE'S EXHIBIT #17-A**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #17-B**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #18**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #19-H**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #19-I**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #19-K**  
**STATE'S EXHIBIT #19-Q**

## BART CAVE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 tattoos.

2 Q: Okay. And if they asked you to look or to enhance it,  
3 you would have done that, would you not?

4 A: Correct.

5 Q: All right. And, in fact, you wanted to accommodate them  
6 in any way that you could to try to assist them in preparing  
7 this for court?

8 A: Correct.

9 Q: Okay. And -- and it's not unusual -- is it? -- for the  
10 prosecutor to ask you to enhance things and to make them  
11 clearer so that you can bring it and present it?

12 A: Correct.

13 Q: Okay. Let me ask you in regards to -- well, let me  
14 rephrase that. I haven't even asked it yet, but let me ask it  
15 this way. In regards to photographs and videos like this,  
16 now, the type of -- of camera that was used or DVR system that  
17 was used -- and I don't even know if that's the right word.  
18 You'll have to help me with that. The box that's used to  
19 record these things in -- what would that be called? The  
20 surveillance box?

21 A: That's the DVR box.

22 Q: Okay. That DVR box is only capable of taking certain  
23 quality pictures? Is that -- would that be fair?

24 A: Correct.

25 Q: All right. And is that because it's a cheaper brand or

BART CAVE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 is it because it's an older model or both?

2 A: It's kind of depending on the manufacturer.

3 Q: Yes.

4 A: It's depending on the -- and pretty much it is I guess  
5 depending on I guess the price of it.

6 Q: All right.

7 A: The more you pay, of course, you can get a higher quality  
8 camera which will be able to zoom in and be a higher, you  
9 know, quality. And, of course, the cheaper ones you get would  
10 be, of course, of lower quality.

11 Q: Okay. All right.

12 MR. WILSON: Bear with me, Judge, one second.

13 Q: Let me ask you did you ever make any kind of case notes  
14 about what you did with this video equipment?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: All right. Let me show you this and just ask you to look  
17 at it and just for the purposes of maybe if you don't  
18 remember. Is that kind of a log of what you had or did?

19 A: That's -- this is the chain from Marion County from where  
20 they -- they brought it to us.

21 Q: Okay. Now -- and --

22 MR. SALEEBY: We have no objection to its introduction,  
23 sir.

24 MR. WILSON: I'm not offering it, but I appreciate that.  
25 Thank you.

BART CAVE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: I'm just wanting to ask you in terms of dates are you  
2 certain about the dates of when you got it and when you gave  
3 it back to them? That's all I'm trying to find out. Are you  
4 certain that it was on the 18<sup>th</sup>?

5 A: No. I'm not certain it was on the 18<sup>th</sup>. It looks like on  
6 here that it came from someone else at SLED and not from me.

7 Q: Okay. So you actually didn't have it on the 18<sup>th</sup> when  
8 they picked it up?

9 A: Correct.

10 Q: Somebody else at SLED had it?

11 A: Correct. It looks like it may have come from the lab.

12 Q: Okay. And so they got it from the lab; they didn't get  
13 it from you. So now, when did -- when was it that you made  
14 the clone?

15 A: On the -- whenever we did the -- I've got an imaging  
16 worksheet here from where we --

17 Q: Okay.

18 A: That would have been on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

19 Q: Okay. So you made it on August -- the clone on August  
20 2<sup>nd</sup>?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: Well, now I'm confused because the video -- the original  
23 was picked up on the 18<sup>th</sup> from SLED by Marion and taken back to  
24 Marion. So you didn't make the clone until they brought it  
25 back?

BART CAVE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 A: Correct. Because on the 18<sup>th</sup>, it was not at my division.  
2 It was over at the lab.

3 Q: Okay. Well, that's -- that was -- my original question  
4 was -- was the clone made before you gave the device back to  
5 Marion to go find a machine that it would play on, and I  
6 thought your answer was that you did. That you had made the  
7 clone first. But now you're telling me that that's not true;  
8 right?

9 A: I didn't receive it until that -- August 2<sup>nd</sup>. That's  
10 whenever it was first brought to me. The 18<sup>th</sup> -- that was when  
11 the lab had it.

12 Q: Okay. So when Marion come and got it on the 18<sup>th</sup>, there  
13 was no clone?

14 A: Correct. That was when they got it from the lab. That's  
15 not my department.

16 Q: That's right.

17 A: That's a different department.

18 Q: Okay. They brought it back on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, and when they  
19 brought it back on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, that's when you made the clone?

20 A: Correct.

21 Q: So you were cloning whatever they brought back on August  
22 2<sup>nd</sup>, not what they gave you or what was brought to SLED on July  
23 the 4<sup>th</sup> or the 5<sup>th</sup> whenever it was first brought?

24 A: Right. That was -- that was at our lab division, which  
25 is not where my office is located.

## BART CAVE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: Okay.

2 A: That was a different department.

3 Q: And do you have any idea what Marion County did with the  
4 device from July 18<sup>th</sup> until August 2<sup>nd</sup> when they brought it  
5 back to SLED?

6 A: No, sir.

7 Q: All right. Thank you, sir.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

9 MR. FLOYD: No questions for this witness, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Any redirect?

11 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. SALEEBY:

13 Q: Mr. Cave, I'm not going to ask you about clone drives and  
14 hard drives because I, quite frankly, don't know much about  
15 that. I would like to ask you this because I think I used the  
16 terminology which may be confusing, but when we talk about  
17 enhancements, are we talking about distorting or any way  
18 changing or manipulating the images that are on that DVD when  
19 you made these stills?

20 A: No, sir. That was just a way to try and highlight them  
21 and to make it more clear what the item was that we were  
22 trying to focus on.

23 Q: All right. So, for example, State's Exhibit Number 19-K.  
24 That's as good a quality as you could have gotten from that  
25 camera at that time, but the image has not been distorted

## BART CAVE - REDIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 other than the --

2 MR. WILSON: Your Honor --

3 Q: -- highlight here --

4 THE COURT: Hold on.

5 Q: Is that correct?

6 THE COURT: Hold on a minute. Yes? You're got an  
7 objection?

8 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: What's your ground?

10 MR. WILSON: Leading.

11 THE COURT: Restate your question.

12 Q: Other than the highlighted areas, has anything been done  
13 to distort the quality of this picture?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: On State's Exhibit 19-L, other than the highlighting, has  
16 anything been done to distort the image on that?

17 A: No, sir.

18 Q: So when we talk about enhancements, we're talking about  
19 highlighting?

20 A: Correct, sir.

21 Q: All right.

22 MR. SALEEBY: That's all the questions I have, sir.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, anything?

24 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Cave, you may step down. Thank you.

1 MR. SALEEBY: I would ask if he could be excused.

2 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Floyd?

3 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

5 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

6 THE COURT: Sir, you are free to go. You have no further  
7 responsibility under your subpoena. Thank you for being here.

8 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

9 THE COURT: Can the lawyers approach for a minute? While  
10 the lawyers are approaching, ladies and gentlemen, I've been  
11 informed that the Clerk's Office has your lunch here. I'm  
12 going to ask you to step to the jury room and lunch will be  
13 brought in in just a minute. During lunch, do not discuss the  
14 case. My instructions remain the same. Do not discuss the  
15 case.

16 (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 1:06 p.m.)

17 (Whereupon, a bench conference is held off the record.)

18 THE COURT: All right. We'll resume at two o'clock.

19 We'll resume at two o'clock.

20 (Whereupon, there is a break in the proceedings from 1:08  
21 p.m. until 2:08 p.m.)

22 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, can you, Mr. Floyd, and Mr.  
23 Clements approach for a minute, please?

24 (Whereupon, a bench conference is held off the record.)

25 THE COURT: All right. What we discussed up here at

1 sidebar is some issues with -- with Mr. Sanders and Mr. Woods  
2 communicating. My instruction is to Mr. Sanders and Mr. Woods  
3 that the only lines of communication that they have are with  
4 their lawyers only and not with each other. Am I clear about  
5 that, Mr. Sanders? Am I clear about that?

6 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Am I clear about that, Mr. Woods?

8 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Sir?

10 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Okay. All right. I wanted to make sure that  
12 was clear. All right. Anything from the State before I bring  
13 the jury out?

14 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

16 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir. Perhaps. I don't know what order  
17 they intend to call these witnesses, but I know Mr. Saleeby  
18 showed us a -- some guns that -- pictures or photographs of a  
19 gun that I assume that they intend to use as props when the  
20 SLED agent testifies -- the ballistics expert testifies about  
21 shell casings I assume, and I would object to -- to him using  
22 those photographs. No -- no guns were ever recovered in this  
23 case and -- and my concern is that there are two guns on the  
24 -- on the --

25 THE COURT: On the video.

1 MR. WILSON: -- on the video and -- and -- and it -- what  
2 I think -- what I think it does is adds -- I think it confuses  
3 the issue with the jury as to whether or not these guns are  
4 the guns that -- even though I know that we'll explain it to  
5 them that, no, these guns are just props, I just don't think  
6 that it's necessary, first of all, and I have certainly seen  
7 experts testify hundreds of times about ballistics without  
8 using copies or images of the kind of gun that was actually  
9 used. So I just don't think it's necessary, and I think it's  
10 prejudicial to my defendant to -- to allow the use.

11 THE COURT: Well, anything, Mr. Floyd?

12 MR. FLOYD: Your Honor, we would just join in that  
13 objection.

14 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to see how the testimony is  
15 elicited and how it comes out before I make a decision on  
16 whether or not I'm going to allow them to be --

17 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, could we put our position just  
18 for you?

19 THE COURT: Yeah. I'm sorry. Go ahead. Go ahead, Mr.  
20 Saleeby.

21 MR. SALEEBY: What's different from most of the cases  
22 that Mr. Wilson is talking about is in this case we have  
23 pictures, stills and video, of people carrying weapons. We  
24 have evidence that two separate weapons were fired, one a .22  
25 and one a 9mm. There's no prejudice involved, and what Mr.

1 DeFreese will be able to do is talk about the general  
2 appearance of a semi-automatic handgun or the general  
3 appearance of a revolver or where the ammo is stored in the  
4 clip in the butt of a semi-automatic as opposed to a cylinder.

5 I mean I could have asked him to take off his sidearm and  
6 do that, but I didn't think the Court would want me to do  
7 this; so I thought that this would be the most benign way to  
8 do it. And I understand you're reserving your ruling. I just  
9 wanted to let you know what our thinking was.

10 THE COURT: And I apologize for not asking you that  
11 before that, and I'm glad that you put that on the record and  
12 I appreciate you doing so, but I'll see how the line of  
13 questioning goes. And you can certainly ask him questions  
14 referring to those exhibits at the time that you feel  
15 appropriate and move to enter them into evidence, and I'll  
16 make a ruling at that time.

17 MR. SALEEBY: Thank you, sir.

18 THE COURT: All right. Anything else from Mr. Wilson or  
19 Mr. Floyd?

20 MR. WILSON: No, sir, Your Honor.

21 MR. FLOYD: No, sir.

22 THE COURT: Bring me the jury, please.

23 (Whereupon, the jury enters the courtroom at 2:14 p.m.)

24 THE COURT: All right. Madam Forelady and ladies and  
25 gentlemen of the jury, I hope you all had a good lunch and are

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 ready to proceed this afternoon. Solicitor, you are  
2 recognized at this time. Call your next witness, please.

3 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please the  
4 Court. We'd call Investigator -- retired -- Neil Rouse.

5 THE CLERK: Do you solemnly swear or affirm the evidence  
6 you are about to give in the trial of this case will be the  
7 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you  
8 God?

9 THE WITNESS: I do.

10 THE CLERK: Thank you.

11 NEIL ROUSE, being first duly  
12 sworn, testifies as follows:

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

15 Q: Good afternoon.

16 A: Good afternoon, sir.

17 Q: Can you please tell this jury who you are and where you  
18 worked and how long you worked there?

19 A: How long? I'm Neil Rouse. I'm with the Marion County  
20 Sheriff's Office. I've worked for the Sheriff's Office for  
21 seven years, 17 years or so with Mullins Police Department,  
22 and five years with the Dillon County Sheriff's Office.

23 Q: And you're retired now recently from the Marion County  
24 Sheriff's Department?

25 A: That's correct. Twenty-six years.

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 Q: You retired as a detective?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Okay. Were you called out on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, out to Phil  
4 Court road?

5 A: I was.

6 Q: And about the whole investigative team come out there,  
7 did they not?

8 A: That's correct.

9 Q: Okay. Now, when you went out there on the scene when you  
10 got there, can you tell this jury briefly what all you found  
11 there and about what time you arrived?

12 A: I'm not exactly sure what time I arrived. When I  
13 arrived, I went around to the side of the house. I never went  
14 up into the crime scene. I just looked through the door and  
15 walked back around and began to start talking to folks that  
16 were at the scene.

17 Q: Was the crime scene secured by crime scene tape when you  
18 got there?

19 A: Yes, sir, it was.

20 Q: Were there several other law enforcement officers present  
21 on site?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Okay. And you began to talk to some of the neighbors and  
24 friends that were there?

25 A: That's correct.

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 Q: Okay. Did you get any written statements from anybody  
2 having any statements to write down?

3 A: Yes, sir, I did.

4 Q: Okay. Did you get a written statement from Lafayette  
5 Reed?

6 A: I did..

7 Q: Did you get a written statement from Shawn Davis?

8 A: I did.

9 Q: Okay. And after talking to Mr. Reed and talking to Mr.  
10 Davis, what were you interested in looking for?

11 A: After talking to those two gentlemen, I -- my attention  
12 turned to two black males and a white SUV that we were looking  
13 for at that time.

14 Q: Okay. And did you alert the rest of the Sheriff's  
15 Department that's what y'all were looking for?

16 A: That's correct..

17 Q: Okay. Now, the investigation continued on. Were there  
18 more than -- than one possible suspect that was pursued in the  
19 investigation?

20 A: Yes, sir. There were several. Several investigators  
21 talked to different people. I'm not sure exactly who all  
22 talked to who, but there was several people of interest at  
23 that time.

24 Q: And were those leads exhausted --

25 A: They were.

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 Q: -- and ended?

2 A: They were.

3 Q: Okay. Now, did you -- did you participate in getting the  
4 warrants or not?

5 A: No, sir, I didn't.

6 Q: Okay. All right. At some point in time, did you ever go  
7 to SLED for any purposes during this investigation?

8 A: Yes, sir. On September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013, I went up with  
9 Detective Lee to SLED and looked at the video.

10 Q: Now, was that 2013 --

11 A: '12.

12 Q: -- or 2012?

13 A: '12.

14 Q: 2012?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Okay. Did you also go up there for another purpose at  
17 that time -- the second time?

18 A: To pick up evidence from SLED.

19 Q: Okay. So if SLED is not here, how do y'all transport  
20 evidence to SLED?

21 A: Either the -- either the detective or whoever the case  
22 agent is or Mr. Eddie Sawyer will take it.

23 Q: And y'all will go up there and take it and look -- and  
24 drop it off where?

25 A: At SLED headquarters at SLED in Columbia.

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 Q: And when SLED gets finished with evidence, do they  
2 maintain it there from then on?

3 A: No, sir.

4 Q: What do they do with it?

5 A: We take it back. We pick it back up.

6 Q: Y'all pick it back up and take it back?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: So you were doing that quite often in any number of  
9 cases? If you were going to Columbia, you might take  
10 something or bring something back?

11 A: That's correct.

12 Q: Okay. Now, when you went up on September of 2012, did  
13 y'all have anybody arrested for this crime at that time?

14 A: No, sir, not at that time.

15 Q: You sure? In September of 2012, was anyone arrested?

16 A: Yeah. Yeah. We had Tyrell Woods arrested.

17 Q: Okay. And at that time, did you know where Marco Sanders  
18 was? Had he been arrested anywhere else?

19 A: Not that I'm aware of. Not then.

20 Q: No?

21 A: Not at that time. Not that I'm aware of.

22 Q: Could he have been?

23 A: He could have been.

24 Q: Okay. All right. That wasn't your part in the  
25 investigation?

## NEIL ROUSE - DIRECT BY MR. CLEMENTS

1 A: No, sir.

2 Q: Okay. Now, you went to SLED and you knew that Tyrell had  
3 been arrested and you knew that were other warrants out;  
4 right?

5 A: That's correct.

6 Q: Who were the other warrants on?

7 A: Marco Sanders.

8 Q: Okay. When you looked at that video, what, if anything,  
9 made you think the warrants were the right person or the wrong  
10 person?

11 A: I knew it was Marco Sanders from the video.

12 Q: You recognized him on that video?

13 A: That's correct.

14 Q: How -- how long had you recognized -- how long had you  
15 been knowing Mr. Marco Sanders?

16 A: Since December '93.

17 Q: Okay. And how old was he then?

18 A: Twelve years old.

19 Q: Twelve years old? All right. Are you -- do you know any  
20 other people in his family? Know anybody else?

21 A: Yes, sir. I knew about all of his family.

22 Q: Okay. And was that based on being in the community for  
23 as long as you've been?

24 A: That's correct.

25 Q: Okay. All right.

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 MR. CLEMENTS: I beg the Court's indulgence one moment.  
2 Please answer any questions Mr. Wilson or Mr. Floyd may have.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

4 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 CROSS EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. WILSON:

7 Q: Now, Detective Rouse, let's go back to July the 4<sup>th</sup>. You  
8 talked to an individual by the name of Shawn Bart Davis?

9 A: That's correct.

10 Q: Okay. And Shawn Bart Davis is a criminal; right?

11 A: That's correct.

12 Q: There ain't no question about that?

13 A: No, sir.

14 Q: All right. And Shawn Bart Davis -- you took a statement  
15 from him --

16 A: I did.

17 Q: -- at some point on the 4<sup>th</sup> or the 5<sup>th</sup>?

18 A: On the 4<sup>th</sup>.

19 Q: Okay. But then you saw him again on the 5<sup>th</sup>?

20 A: Yes, sir. We were still out there when the time changed  
21 from -- from twelve to one. We were out there at that time  
22 and we come back up and talked to him again.

23 Q: So you saw him. You took a statement from him on the  
24 night of the 4<sup>th</sup>?

25 A: That's correct.

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: Now, was that statement taken at the scene or did y'all  
2 do that down at the police station?

3 A: I took it at the scene.

4 Q: All right. Took it at the scene. And you knew when you  
5 took that statement that he was a criminal and that he was on  
6 probation at the time. You knew that, didn't you?

7 A: No, sir. I didn't know he was on probation.

8 Q: Well, you found out. Well, you could have easily found  
9 out he was on probation if you wanted to; right?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Okay. In fact, on the 12<sup>th</sup>, y'all actually go to his  
12 probation office and meet with him at the probation office?

13 A: No, sir, I didn't.

14 Q: You didn't go?

15 A: No, sir.

16 Q: Well, who went?

17 A: Detective Lee, as far as I know.

18 Q: Okay. And at that time -- well, let me back up. You  
19 took -- when is the first time that you showed a set of  
20 photographs, what we call -- commonly call a line-up -- when  
21 is the first time you showed a line-up to Bart Davis?

22 A: I never did.

23 Q: You never did?

24 A: No, sir.

25 Q: You didn't show him a line-up on July the 5<sup>th</sup>?

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

- 1 A: No, sir, I didn't.
- 2 Q: You talked to him on July 5<sup>th</sup>?
- 3 A: Yes, sir, at the scene.
- 4 Q: Okay. Did you, in fact, not only talk to him, but you
- 5 actually accused him of being one of the culprits in the case,
- 6 did you not?
- 7 A: No, sir.
- 8 Q: Well --
- 9 A: Not that I recall, I don't.
- 10 Q: Let me show you this. Take a look at it. Don't tell me
- 11 what it is. Just take a look at it and see if your signature
- 12 is on that before I show it to the solicitor.
- 13 A: Yes, sir.
- 14 Q: Okay. You recognize that?
- 15 A: Yes, sir.
- 16 Q: Now, does that refresh your memory about whether or not
- 17 you talked to him and actually accused him of being a party to
- 18 all of this?
- 19 A: No, sir, it does not.
- 20 Q: It does not refresh your memory?
- 21 A: It does not say I accused him of anything.
- 22 Q: Well, you read him his Miranda rights telling him he had
- 23 the right to have a lawyer, the right to remain silent. You
- 24 told him that?
- 25 A: That's -- that's protocol. I do that to everybody I talk

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 to in case they say something they shouldn't have said. He'll  
2 be covered and I'll be covered.

3 Q: But you do that --

4 A: That's protocol.

5 Q: Did you do that with Mr. Godbold?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: You read him his Miranda?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Where's his form?

10 A: I don't have it with me.

11 Q: All right. Who else? Who else you did that with?

12 A: I do it pretty much with everybody I talk to.

13 Q: Okay. Now, on the 5<sup>th</sup>, you're aware that there was a  
14 line-up given to him, aren't you? You were aware of that?

15 A: I'm aware of it, yes.

16 Q: And you were also aware that he couldn't pick anybody out  
17 of the line-up. You are aware of that too, aren't you?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: But then on the 12<sup>th</sup>, when he's at his probation office,  
20 y'all go back to him again with another line-up?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 MR. CLEMENTS: Objection, Your Honor. That's been asked  
23 and answered, and he asked him if he saw him on the 12<sup>th</sup> and  
24 he's already answered no, he did not. Now, he's saying y'all  
25 did this, y'all did that.

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

2 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: State your question without stating facts. I  
4 mean I understand your line of questioning. You're certainly  
5 allowed to lead, but don't state facts that aren't in  
6 evidence, please.

7 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Let me ask you this way. Is there any question that on  
9 the 12<sup>th</sup> of July of 2012 a line-up was shown to Bart Davis by  
10 the Sheriff's Office?

11 A: It was.

12 Q: All right. And -- and it was in that time -- it was at  
13 that time that Bart -- that Bart Davis is the one who told you  
14 that Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods were supposed to be the  
15 people?

16 A: No, sir. He didn't tell me anything. I wasn't there.

17 Q: You weren't there? Well, it was after that that you went  
18 and got the arrest warrants?

19 A: No, sir. I didn't get the arrest warrants.

20 Q: Okay. Who got the arrest warrants?

21 A: Detective James Lee.

22 Q: Okay. Is there any question that that arrest warrant  
23 didn't occur until Bart Davis said that those were the two  
24 people?

25 A: That's correct.

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: All right. And do you even know how Bart Davis would  
2 know whether or not they were the two people?

3 A: I wouldn't know how he would know, no.

4 Q: Right. And -- but in spite of that, arrest warrants were  
5 received and these people were arrested. No question about  
6 the fact they were arrested; right?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: All right. Now, other than -- and you say that -- well,  
9 let me go back to the video now. You say that -- that you  
10 looked at the video and that the two people on the video is  
11 Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods; is that right?

12 MR. FLOYD: I object, Your Honor. That's a question -- I  
13 mean he's stating a fact that's not in evidence.

14 MR. CLEMENTS: I object, too.

15 MR. FLOYD: The witness did not say that.

16 MR. CLEMENTS: I object, too. I join in with the  
17 objection.

18 THE COURT: Rephrase your question. The objection is  
19 sustained.

20 MR. WILSON: I'm asking now what did he say.

21 Q: What did you say about who is on the video?

22 A: I said it was Marco Sanders. I didn't know Tyrell Woods  
23 at that time.

24 Q: Very well. So you said that Marco Sanders was on the  
25 video?

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

- 1 A: That's correct.
- 2 Q: And this is -- this is -- and when did you -- when was it
- 3 that you saw the video?
- 4 A: September the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 5 Q: September 18<sup>th</sup> of what year?
- 6 A: 2012.
- 7 Q: 2012. So two months later; right?
- 8 A: Right.
- 9 Q: And after Mr. Sanders had been arrested; right?
- 10 A: I'm not sure when he was arrested.
- 11 Q: All right. His name was -- his picture was put in the
- 12 newspaper -- wasn't it? -- on the 12<sup>th</sup> and on television and
- 13 everywhere else when y'all served that arrest warrant; isn't
- 14 that true?
- 15 A: It could have been. I didn't -- I didn't put it in. I
- 16 don't know.
- 17 Q: Okay. You wouldn't deny that, would you?
- 18 A: No, sir.
- 19 Q: All right. And so everybody in Marion County at that
- 20 point would have known who the suspect was?
- 21 A: Sir, I can't answer --
- 22 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor --
- 23 THE COURT: Hold on. What's your objection?
- 24 MR. CLEMENTS: He's already asked Detective Rouse, and
- 25 Detective Rouse said he didn't know if it was in the paper or

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 not. He didn't put it in there; so how would he know that  
2 everybody in Marion County would know?

3 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

4 Q: Let me ask you, Detective Rouse, and then I'm going to be  
5 through. Did you ever -- did you personally ever have any  
6 conversations with Bart -- Shawn Bart Davis where he told you  
7 that Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods or Marco Sanders or Tyrell  
8 Woods was involved?

9 A: No, sir, I did not.

10 Q: Now, you said that you'd known Marco Sanders since 1993  
11 and he was twelve years old?

12 A: That's correct.

13 Q: Then you know that he has tattoos, don't you?

14 A: Mr. Wilson, I don't -- I didn't look at his -- I don't  
15 look at his tattoos. I look at the face.

16 Q: You don't look at his tattoos?

17 A: No, sir.

18 Q: So you just look at his face and you say that's his face,  
19 but you don't know whether he has tattoos and you've known him  
20 since 1993?

21 A: That's correct.

22 Q: When is the last time you've seen his arms or his hands?

23 A: It's been a long time.

24 Q: How many years?

25 A: Probably four or five years since he's --

## NEIL ROUSE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: Four or five --

2 A: -- since I've seen his arms and hands.

3 Q: Okay. All right. But now, you are privy to his booking  
4 report over at the jail, aren't you? If you wanted to go get  
5 it?

6 A: If I wanted to, yes, sir.

7 Q: Yeah. You could go get it, and you could look at it and  
8 see whether or not there were tattoos, couldn't you?

9 A: I would -- I would -- I could see pictures of his face  
10 too.

11 Q: Okay. Have you made the effort to go over there to see?

12 A: No, sir, I didn't.

13 Q: No. You still haven't, have you?

14 A: No, sir.

15 MR. WILSON: No other questions.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

17 MR. FLOYD: Your Honor, I don't have any further  
18 questions --

19 THE COURT: Any redirect?

20 MR. FLOYD: -- of Mr. Rouse.

21 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, we'd ask that Mr. Rouse be  
22 released from his subpoena.

23 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Thank you.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

25 THE COURT: Any objection to him being released?

26

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd? Mr. Floyd, any objection to him  
3 being excused?

4 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Rouse, you're free to go. You have no  
6 further responsibilities under your subpoena. Thank you for  
7 being here. Call your next witness.

8 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, we're going to call Dan  
9 DeFreese to the stand. He's coming upstairs right now.

10 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings until the  
11 witness enters the courtroom.)

12 MR. SALEEBY: Mr. DeFreese, if you could come around and  
13 stand in front of the Clerk of Court and be sworn in, we'd  
14 appreciate it.

15 THE CLERK: Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the  
16 evidence you are about to give in the trial of this case will  
17 be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so  
18 help you God?

19 THE WITNESS: I do.

20 THE CLERK: Thank you. Have a seat in the witness box.

21 DAN DEFREESE, being first duly  
22 sworn, testifies as follows:

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. SALEEBY:

25 Q: Tell us your name, please, sir?

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: My name is Frank Dan DeFreese. That's D-E capital F-R-E-  
2 E-S-E.

3 Q: Mr. DeFreese, where do you work?

4 A: I work for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in  
5 the forensic services laboratory in Columbia.

6 Q: And do you work in any particular division of the  
7 forensic service laboratory?

8 A: I do. I'm assigned to the department where we do the  
9 analysis of firearm and tool mark evidence.

10 Q: How long have -- or just give me the benefit of your  
11 experience and your training in firearms identification?

12 A: My principle training in firearms identification I  
13 received at SLED. That after my employment, I began a course  
14 of instruction that lasted approximately two and a half years.  
15 I studied with Lieutenant Millard Cate. Lieutenant Cate  
16 established the SLED laboratory when SLED itself was  
17 established in 1947. I also studied under Lieutenant Carl  
18 Stokes. After that period, I began accepting cases for  
19 examination on my own and testifying as to my results.

20 Q: How many years have you been doing it?

21 A: For 47.

22 Q: Forty-seven? Okay. And how many times --

23 MR. WILSON: Your Honor, in order to save time, I would  
24 stipulate that Mr. DeFreese is a very well-qualified expert in  
25 the field of firearms and tool mark identifications, and we

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 would have absolutely no objection to his testimony as an  
2 expert in that field.

3 MR. FLOYD: I have no objection, Your Honor.

4 Q: So 47 years and you started when you were 15?

5 A: I started when I was 20.

6 Q: I was trying to help you out. Tell the members of the  
7 jury what the craft of firearms identification consists of?

8 A: Well, there are many things that we actually do, but  
9 principally we are asked to -- to identify ammunition  
10 components back to the firearms in which they were fired or  
11 with other ammunition components. And by that, I mean fired  
12 bullets and fired cartridge cases to identify them back to the  
13 guns in which they were fired, or there are certain other  
14 things regarding the safety and handling and functioning of  
15 firearms which we also do, but our principle request is to  
16 identify either bullets and cartridge cases with themselves or  
17 back to the firearm that fired them.

18 Q: How do you compare cartridge cases to each other?

19 A: It's done under a comparison microscope which has two  
20 sets of objective lenses, and it permits us to look at two  
21 items at the same time and to manipulate the images of those  
22 two items so that we can see the markings on one side by side  
23 with the markings on the other to see if the same individual  
24 markings are present. And these are markings that are left on  
25 -- for instance, on a cartridge case, they are left by the gun

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 that fired the cartridge case at the time of firing. The same  
2 way with a bullet -- the markings that are left on the bullet  
3 as it proceeds out of the barrel of the gun. By looking at  
4 those markings, it's possible to identify a bullet back to the  
5 gun barrel in which it was fired when the bullet is recovered  
6 in sufficiently undamaged condition.

7 Q: What part of the firearm leaves identifying marks on a  
8 cartridge case?

9 A: On a cartridge case, the breech face is probably the  
10 largest single area. The breech face would be the face of the  
11 bolt or the face of the slide or the recoil plate on a  
12 revolver. It'll be that portion that actually holds the  
13 cartridge into the gun's chamber. Markings are also left by  
14 the firing pin itself firing the pin that projects just  
15 forward of the breech face and strikes the cartridge or the  
16 primer of the cartridge as the case may be, and it leaves an  
17 impression which is sometimes capable of being identified.

18 And in the case of repeating firearms, it's possible  
19 sometimes to identify either the extractor or the ejector  
20 mark, and the extractor is a -- a hook-like mechanism that  
21 grabs the rim of the cartridge and withdraws the cartridge  
22 from the gun. And when the cartridge is sufficiently removed  
23 from the chamber, it's struck by the ejector, which causes the  
24 cartridge case to be pivoted out of the gun and expelled from  
25 the gun.

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 Q: You have in front of you three boxes, from your left to  
2 right, 20-A, B, and C.

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: And I'd like you to take a look at those and, first of  
5 all, tell me whether you've seen them before.

6 A: Yes, sir, I have.

7 Q: And where have you seen them?

8 A: I examined these at our laboratory in Columbia.

9 Q: 20-A, B, and C?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Can you tell us what they are?

12 A: They are three fired 9mm Luger caliber cartridge cases.

13 Q: Can you hold them up and show them so the members of the  
14 jury can see them?

15 MR. SALEEBY: Or if the Court will permit, I'll just put  
16 them in my hand and walk by.

17 Q: Are the other two identical to this one?

18 A: They are. All three are Federal brand 9mm Luger caliber  
19 brass cases. They are fired cartridge cases.

20 Q: That's 20-A, B, and C I believe?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: They are all you said what millimeter?

23 A: 9mm. It's a cartridge known as the 9mm Luger or 9mm  
24 Parabellum.

25 Q: 9mm refers to what for those not familiar with weapons?

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: 9mm refers to the diameter of the bullet. The bullet  
2 itself is approximately 9 millimeters in diameter.

3 Q: Okay.

4 A: It's about 35 ½ calibers.

5 Q: And when you say Luger, what's that mean?

6 A: That's really the name of the cartridge. This cartridge  
7 was first used in the Luger semi-automatic pistol when it was  
8 adopted in 1908, and it's a cartridge that since then it's  
9 been known worldwide as the 9mm Luger in some places and as  
10 the 9x19mm. In others, it's the 9mm Parabellum. They're all  
11 the same cartridge.

12 Q: In terms of standard 9mm ammunition, how common or  
13 prevalent is this out in the trade?

14 A: It's very common. It's probably the most popular or most  
15 widely-distributed pistol cartridge in the world.

16 Q: You examined all three of them?

17 A: I did.

18 Q: And what can you tell us as to whether they were similar  
19 or different?

20 A: I found matching breech face impressions on all three  
21 cartridge cases. I found sufficient individual  
22 characteristics that I could conclude that all three of those  
23 cartridge cases were fired by the same firearm.

24 Q: 20-A, B, and C, which there's been testimony were found  
25 outside the door -- side door of Mr. Rowell's house, were

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 fired by the same weapon?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: It's a 9mm cartridge. Is that a semi-automatic or a  
4 revolver cartridge?

5 A: Most of the firearms chambered for 9mm Luger caliber  
6 cartridges are either semi-automatic or fully automatic, but  
7 there are other firearms that have been made -- other types of  
8 firearms that have been made chambered for 9mm Luger.

9 Q: Are those relatively rare?

10 A: They're relatively uncommon. They're -- they're -- it's  
11 a cartridge particularly well-adapted to semi-automatic and  
12 fully automatic firearms, and they're not well-adapted to  
13 single shots and revolvers.

14 Q: So primarily a semi-automatic weapon cartridge?

15 A: Primarily. There are other types, like there are  
16 revolvers and single shots and rifles. There are --  
17 practically every kind of firearm made can be made in that  
18 caliber, but they're not encountered in the numbers that you  
19 see as semi-automatics or fully automatics.

20 Q: Turn to your right please and look at the item that's --  
21 I believe it's State's Number 30. That's correct?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Have you seen that before?

24 A: I have.

25 Q: Can you tell us what it is?

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: State's Exhibit 30 is a fragment of a .22 lead bullet  
2 that has some traces of copper plating left on it.

3 Q: And when you say that it's a .22, what's that refer to?

4 A: That refers to the bullet's diameter. The bullet is  
5 approximately 22/100ths of an inch in diameter. It's a  
6 smaller diameter bullet than the 9mm bullet.

7 Q: All right. And that's a -- would come from what sort of  
8 a cartridge case?

9 A: Well, this bullet weighs less than the weight of a .22  
10 Short caliber bullet. The .22 Short Rimfire caliber bullet  
11 and the .22 Long Rimfire caliber bullet use a bullet of  
12 approximately 30 grams. The .22 Long Rifle caliber uses a  
13 bullet of between 36 and 40 grams. This bullet is so damaged  
14 that it weighs less than the weight of a Short; so it could be  
15 the residue of either a .22 Short or a .22 Long or a .22 Long  
16 rifle caliber bullet.

17 Q: If a weapon had been produced, would you -- would there  
18 -- was this projectile in such condition that you would have  
19 been able to match it to anything?

20 A: I don't know. This -- this bullet was very horribly  
21 damaged. It has a few marks on it, but very little of the  
22 original markings that would have been placed there by the gun  
23 barrel remain, and if -- if I had been submitted the correct  
24 gun, I don't know whether I would have been able to identify  
25 this bullet back to that firearm or not.

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 Q: No weapons -- no weapon or weapons were ever submitted to  
2 you to compare to either the cartridge cases or the  
3 projectile?

4 A: That's correct.

5 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, can I display this to the jury?

6 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

7 Q: This is a bullet or damaged bullet or bullet fragment.  
8 Is that how you refer to it?

9 A: Yes, sir. It's a bullet fragment.

10 Q: Of course, this would be the item of evidence that Dr.  
11 Tormos testified was taken from the head of Mr. Rowell. Now,  
12 it's a .22 caliber?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: The shells are 9mm?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Could the same weapon have fired both those cartridge  
17 cases and that projectile?

18 A: No, sir.

19 Q: All right. Now, if you would please, Mr. DeFreese, for  
20 those who are familiar with weapons, this may be redundant,  
21 but if you aren't, I would like you to explain to the members  
22 of the jury the difference between the operation -- first, the  
23 operation -- we will talk about appearance -- the operation of  
24 a revolver as opposed to the operation of a semi-automatic  
25 handgun.

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: All right, sir. Semi-automatic handguns and revolvers  
2 are both pistols; they're both handguns. A revolver is a  
3 manually-operated handgun. That is, all the energy that the  
4 mechanism of the gun requires in order to be cocked and fired  
5 is supplied by the shooter. And depending on the kind of  
6 revolver, the shooter either manually cocks the hammer and  
7 then pulls the trigger to fire it, or in the case of what's  
8 known as a double action revolver, a single long pull of the  
9 trigger will cock the hammer and fire the firearm.

10 The principle characteristic of a revolver is a revolving  
11 cylinder that's usually located right in the middle of the  
12 gun. That cylinder has a number of chambers into which  
13 cartridges are placed. A revolver has one barrel, for the  
14 most part, and it shares a common barrel where the rear of the  
15 barrel is not chambered for the cartridge because the cylinder  
16 is.

17 All of the cartridges go there, and during the firing  
18 sequence, the cylinder is rotated to bring it into -- the  
19 chamber into a line-up with the barrel. The hammer will  
20 strike the cartridge causing the bullet to be propelled out of  
21 the cylinder. It jumps a small gap and enters the barrel.  
22 Then the rifling imparts the spin on the barrel and then the  
23 bullet proceeds outward. And the next shot -- the cylinder  
24 rotates up again, the hammer strikes again until all the  
25 cartridges within the cylinder are fired.

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1       Most cylinders hold anywhere between about five and about  
2 nine rounds. Each time the gun is fired, nothing is ejected  
3 from the firearm except the bullet and what's left of the  
4 propellant gases that are behind the bullet.

5 Q:   The stuff that comes out of the end of the barrel?

6 A:   Correct.

7 Q:   What happens to the cartridge cases?

8 A:   The cartridge case remains in the cylinder until it is  
9 manually removed by the shooter. And when all of the  
10 cartridges in the cylinder are expended, then the cylinder is  
11 either opened or the cartridges are ejected from the cylinder.  
12 They have to be manually removed, and they have to be manually  
13 replaced. This could happen anywhere.

14       Whereas in the case of the semi-automatic pistol, the  
15 semi-automatic pistol has one barrel with an integral chamber.  
16 Each time a semi-automatic pistol is fired, a cartridge is  
17 placed in the chamber, the mechanism strikes the cartridge and  
18 causes it to fire. The bullet is propelled out of the barrel,  
19 and then a short time later, the cartridge case, which now has  
20 no bullet and no powder in it, is extracted and ejected from  
21 the firearm, and another cartridge is removed from the  
22 magazine and placed into the chamber to propel it -- to  
23 prepare the gun for the next firing.

24       In the case of the semi-automatic firearm, some of the  
25 energy of the cartridge is used to function the gun. That is,

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 it's used to load the gun and prepare it for the next firing.

2 It's also used to cock the gun.

3       So in the case of a semi-automatic firearm, every time  
4 it's fired the bullet and the propellant gases go out of the  
5 barrel and a cartridge case is extracted and ejected from the  
6 firearm, and then it's prepared for the next shot. In the  
7 case of a semi-automatic, one pull of the trigger for each  
8 shot fired.

9 Q: If any 9mm cartridges, 20-A, B, and C, were fired by a  
10 semi-automatic weapon, they would have been ejected; is that  
11 correct?

12 A: They would have been automatically ejected from the  
13 firearm itself without any action on the part of the shooter.

14 Q: And the ammunition of a revolver is in the cylinder.  
15 Where is the ammunition of a semi-automatic go to be fed into  
16 the firing area?

17 A: In most semi-automatic pistols in popular distribution  
18 today, the ammunition is actually enclosed in a box magazine  
19 that goes into the grip of the pistol. So the shooter's hand  
20 is surrounding the frame -- the grip frame and the magazine is  
21 within that.

22 Q: What would be the difference in the appearance of a  
23 revolver and a semi-automatic?

24 A: Most semi-automatic pistols are relatively flat. Their  
25 thickness from one end to the other is fairly uniform. Some

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 have barrels that stick forward of the slide, but the slide is  
2 pretty much the -- the same thickness from start to finish,  
3 and the slides are usually about as wide as the frames.

4 In the case of revolvers, the principle thing you notice  
5 about a revolver is the cylinder itself, which makes up  
6 usually the central-most part of the gun. And most revolvers  
7 have a grip that's not -- it doesn't have to be oriented with  
8 respect to the -- to the cylinder because nothing is in the  
9 grip except something to hold onto and in some cases the  
10 hammer spring. But it's usually located somewhat farther back  
11 than the cylinder, and the barrels on most revolvers are  
12 fairly small in diameter. That they're usually about the same  
13 diameter as the frame, and the frame on a revolver is not  
14 nearly as wide as it usually is -- as the slide on a semi-  
15 automatic pistol is.

16 Q: Did you at my request -- have you after my request had an  
17 opportunity to view the DVD -- not the -- the disc -- the DVD  
18 of the scene that was reproduced or made at SLED?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: And have you also had an opportunity to view some still  
21 photographs, which I will identify for the Court as State's  
22 Exhibit H, I, K, and Q. I'll just show them to you and ask if  
23 you've had a chance to look at this.

24 A: Yes, sir, I have.

25 Q: I would also ask you if you had the opportunity at my

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1 request to produce some photographs of some generic weapons  
2 not at all related to this case, but that would help you  
3 illustrate your testimony and compare those standard weapons  
4 with what we see in the photographs that were taken off of the  
5 DVD?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, at this point, we would move  
8 into evidence the introduction into evidence of State's  
9 Exhibits 45-A to E for illustrative purposes only, fully --  
10 fully advising the Court and everyone else that these are not  
11 weapons involved in this case. They are photographs of  
12 weapons that would help them show his testimony in a clearer  
13 manner.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, any objection?

15 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: Same objection as stated previously?

17 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

19 MR. FLOYD: Your Honor, I don't have any objections.

20 THE COURT: Without objection from Mr. Floyd and over the  
21 objection of Mr. Wilson, I am going to allow the photographs  
22 admitted into evidence, 45-A through E, for illustrative  
23 purposes only. For illustrative purposes only.

24 Q: Mr. DeFreese, I would ask you would it be easier for you  
25 to show the photographs seated or easier for you to step down

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 in front of the jury?

2 A: Probably easier to step down.

3 Q: All right.

4 MR. SALEEBY: May he, sir?

5 THE COURT: He may. Mr. DeFreese, as you're speaking to  
6 this jury, please make sure that you speak loud enough for my  
7 court reporter to hear down here because your back is going to  
8 be turned to her. Okay?

9 Q: If you would, let's start with 45 so you can just  
10 familiarize the jury with the difference between semi-  
11 automatics and revolvers.

12 A: All right. State's Exhibit 45-A is a picture of the  
13 right-hand side of a Hi Point semi-automatic pistol. This is  
14 the Hi Point model C9 in 9mm Luger caliber. This shows it  
15 with the slide forward or this is what's known as the slide  
16 being in battery. That's the position it would be in if it  
17 had a loaded cartridge in the barrel and the gun were prepared  
18 to fire.

19 Q: You said a 9mm Luger?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: Is that -- would that weapon fire the same projectiles as  
22 20-A, B, and C?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: All right, sir. I'm sorry to interrupt you. Go ahead.

25 A: State's Exhibit 45-B shows that same pistol with the

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1 slide retracted. This is the slide in its rear-most position  
2 or locked in its rear-most position. Every time this pistol  
3 is fired, the slide moves backwards and forwards, and as it  
4 does that when it moves backwards, it expels the fired  
5 cartridge case from the ejection port, which is located about  
6 in the middle of the slide. After it does that, it grabs the  
7 top of the next cartridge that's in the pistol's magazine and  
8 rakes it out of the magazine and forces it into the chamber  
9 and closes so that it looks like the image of State's Exhibit  
10 45-A again.

11 Q: If I fire a semi-automatic and it's working properly,  
12 there's no way the fired cartridge case remains in the weapon;  
13 is that correct? It's automatically ejected?

14 A: If it -- if it's working as it should, each time it's  
15 fired the cartridge case is extracted and ejected. And it  
16 can't fire again until that takes place.

17 State's Exhibit 45-C is the right side of a Harrington  
18 and Richardson .22 Long Rifle caliber revolver. It's also  
19 known as an H&R revolver.

20 Q: Would that weapon fire the same projectile that we have  
21 in State's Exhibit Number 30?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: All right. Please go ahead.

24 A: The revolver in this case has its hammer forward. It's  
25 in its resting position, and if the revolver were loaded, the

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1 shooter could simply make one long pull of the trigger, which  
2 would cause the hammer to be cocked, the cylinder to be  
3 rotated to bring the next cartridge into alignment with the  
4 barrel, and when it was pulled sufficiently, it would drop the  
5 hammer to fire the cartridge.

6 State's Exhibit 45-E shows that same revolver with the  
7 hammer cocked or the hammer manually cocked. This would be  
8 for firing in what's known as the single action mode where the  
9 only thing the trigger does is actually just fire the hammer,  
10 the hammer having been manually cocked by the shooter. During  
11 the cocking sequence, the hammer makes the mechanism  
12 controlling the cylinder bring the next chamber into alignment  
13 with the barrel and prepare it for firing. This would require  
14 a much lighter trigger pull. It requires less effort simply  
15 to make the hammer go forward than it does to cock it and then  
16 drop the hammer.

17 State's Exhibit 45-D shows that same H&R revolver from  
18 the rear. At this point, you can see the rear of the cylinder  
19 and there are nine holes -- nine chambers within the cylinder,  
20 each of which is capable of holding one cartridge. So after  
21 placing up to as many as nine cartridges in this firearm, the  
22 shooter can fire nine bullets. And at that point in time, the  
23 fired cartridge cases have to be manually removed.

24 Q: They would not --

25 A: They would not expel each time it's fired.

## DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 Q: They remain in the cylinder until somebody takes them  
2 out?

3 A: Correct.

4 Q: Now, I'm going to show you two photographs. Keep those  
5 there. But I'm going to show you State's photographs 19-H and  
6 19-Q and ask you to focus on the weapons. If I can hold  
7 these, how would choose to do it? You choose how to do it,  
8 but the areas that are highlighted -- tell us what you can  
9 tell in your expertise about the weapons that you see  
10 highlighted there?

11 A: In State's Exhibit 19-Q, we can see the side or the  
12 profile that is consistent with that of a semi-automatic  
13 pistol such as I am representing in State's Exhibit 45-A.  
14 That's like looking at it from the side.

15 In State's Exhibit 19-H, the pistol is being held in an  
16 upward mode where we can see from the top down, and there  
17 you'll notice the thickness of the pistol is fairly uniform  
18 from front to back, which is also consistent with what you  
19 would see on a semi-automatic pistol such as the one depicted  
20 in State's Exhibit 45-A.

21 So the pistol or the handguns in State's Exhibits 19-H  
22 and 19-Q are consistent and their profile and dimensions would  
23 be a semi-automatic pistol.

24 Q: I will now show you photographs 19-I and 19-K and ask you  
25 if you can render an opinion on those particular weapons using

DAN DEFREESE - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 State's 45-C to E?

2 A: State's Exhibit 19-K shows a handgun with a cylinder  
3 located in the approximate middle of the firearm in the same  
4 way as the handgun depicted in State's Exhibit 45-C. State's  
5 Exhibit 19-I shows the side profile of the frame of the  
6 handgun, which is essentially a similar, if not identical,  
7 side profile to that State's Exhibit 45-C where you see a flat  
8 frame with a central cylinder.

9 Q: And tell us about the barrel or the end of that weapon?  
10 If you could, show that to the jury in either of these two  
11 photographs and tell us what you see there?

12 A: State's Exhibit 19-K shows it very well. There is  
13 something attached to the barrel of the revolver depicted in  
14 State's Exhibit 19-K. Most revolver barrels appear about like  
15 that in State's Exhibit 45-C. That is, they are a long,  
16 slightly tapered, tubular barrel. Something has been attached  
17 to this barrel.

18 Q: In your experience in firearms identification, have you  
19 seen items like that or similar to that before?

20 A: I have. I've seen in essence homemade silencers or  
21 homemade sound reducers that have been attached to firearms in  
22 various fashions.

23 Q: Which look similar to that?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: All right. Thank you, Mr. DeFreese. Have a seat up

## DAN DEFREESE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 there, please, sir, and answer any questions counsel has for  
2 you.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, cross examination.

4 MR. WILSON: I just have a few questions.

5 CROSS EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. WILSON:

7 Q: Let me ask you are you telling us that the two guns that  
8 you saw in those photographs were the two guns that fired the  
9 shots? The three shells that were in the yard and the -- and  
10 the cartridge that you said was badly damaged?

11 A: I'm not saying --

12 Q: Are you saying that those two weapons fired those shots?

13 A: I can't say that they did, but I'm saying they could  
14 have.

15 Q: They could have?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: But you don't know that they did?

18 A: No, sir.

19 Q: You're not testifying that they did?

20 A: I can't tell from looking at a photograph of a gun that  
21 it fired a particular cartridge case.

22 Q: In fact, any 9mm gun -- any 9mm gun could have fired  
23 those shells that were found on that ground? Those three  
24 shells that we're talking about -- any gun that's capable of  
25 firing 9mm slugs?

## DAN DEFREESE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Okay. And there are probably a million of them?

3 A: Certainly.

4 Q: If not hundreds of millions? And with the .22 or the  
5 smaller caliber guns you were saying, you're saying that, as I  
6 understand it, with the -- with the slug that was damaged,  
7 that that slug you couldn't tell whether it -- are you saying  
8 you could tell that it was a .22 or was it a .25 or do we  
9 really know? As it's damaged, can you tell us for a fact that  
10 it was, in fact, a .22 before it became damaged?

11 A: Yes. Yes.

12 Q: All right, sir.

13 A: It was -- it was a .22. It was a .22 of the type loaded  
14 in .22 Rimfire cartridges.

15 Q: Okay.

16 A: But I can't tell because of its reduced weight whether it  
17 once was a .22 Short or a .22 Long or a .22 Long rifle  
18 cartridge from which it was -- was fired.

19 Q: And is that because of the weight of it has changed?

20 A: Yes. Because the weight of it is less than the weight of  
21 a .22 Short.

22 Q: Okay. And is the .22 Short the smallest of the .22  
23 calibers?

24 A: Of the commonly available ones, yes.

25 Q: Okay. Now, is there any way for you to tell us how long

## DAN DEFREESE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 those three -- how long it had been since those three shells  
2 had been fired?

3 A: No. But there was no evidence of, like, severe corrosion  
4 or tarnish or something consistent with extensive exposure to  
5 the weather.

6 Q: Okay.

7 A: But I can't tell.

8 Q: When did you get the cartridges?

9 A: I actually opened the container on July the 9<sup>th</sup> of 2012.

10 Q: Okay.

11 A: That's when I began my examination, and if you bear with  
12 me, I may have -- I probably received it a short period of  
13 time before that. No. Actually, I received the container on  
14 July the -- I received it the first time on July the 9<sup>th</sup>, and  
15 then turned it back over to Sabrina Fellers and her -- you  
16 know, we got it back from her on July the 11<sup>th</sup>.

17 Q: Okay. Now, Sabrina Fellers -- why did you turn it over  
18 to her?

19 A: There was something else that she needed to do to it and  
20 I don't recall what that was.

21 Q: Do you know whether or not these shell casings that  
22 you've identified whether or not they had ever been sent for  
23 fingerprints?

24 A: Since Sabrina had them, I -- she would have been in a  
25 position to do the fingerprint service on them.

## DAN DEFREESE - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: All right. Now, you -- as I've understood it, you  
2 indicated that with the revolver that you would have to  
3 manually take the shell casings out and you would have to  
4 manually put them in?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: So you would have to handle the cartridges in order to  
7 put them in and you would have to handle the cartridges to  
8 take the out?

9 A: Yes, sir. Normally.

10 Q: And with the -- with the 9mm, which is a semi-automatic,  
11 while you wouldn't have to handle the cartridges to have them  
12 ejected, you would have to handle them to put them into the  
13 cylinder before they're ejected?

14 A: You would have to handle them to load the magazine. Yes,  
15 sir.

16 MR. WILSON: I don't have any other questions.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

18 MR. FLOYD: I don't have any questions.

19 THE COURT: Any redirect?

20 MR. SALEEBY: No, Your Honor. We'd call our next  
21 witness.

22 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Thank you.

23 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, I'd ask if Mr. DeFreese can be  
24 excused.

25 MR. WILSON: No objection.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

2 THE COURT: All right. Without objection, sir, you're  
3 excused. You are free to go and have no further  
4 responsibility under your subpoena. Thank you for being here.

5 MR. SALEEBY: I think he's driving our next witness; so  
6 he may have to stay.

7 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings until the  
8 witness enters the courtroom.)

9 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, we'd call Mr. Tom Darnell to  
10 the stand. Mr. Darnell, come on in. If you would, walk to  
11 the front of the courtroom and have the clerk of court swear  
12 you in.

13 THE CLERK: This way, please, sir. Do you solemnly swear  
14 or affirm the evidence you're about to give in the trial of  
15 this case will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but  
16 the truth, so help you God?

17 THE WITNESS: I do.

18 THE CLERK: Thank you. Have a seat in the jury box.

19 THOMAS DARNELL, being first duly  
20 sworn, testifies as follows:

21 DIRECT EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. SALEEBY:

23 Q: Tell us your name, please, sir?

24 A: My name is Thomas Edward Darnell. Last name is spelled  
25 D-A-R-N-E-L-L.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 Q: Mr. Darnell, where are you employed?

2 A: I work at SLED in Columbia in the forensic crime lab.

3 Q: How long have you worked at SLED?

4 A: I've been there -- the first time, I was there about 20  
5 years, and then I actually retired and I've gone back to  
6 working there. I've been back there about two years now.

7 Q: You just can't quit?

8 A: Can't quit.

9 Q: Before you worked at SLED, where did you work?

10 A: I worked at the Richland County Sheriff's Office in  
11 Columbia. I was there for about eight years.

12 Q: What kind of work did you do in Richland County?

13 A: In Richland County, I was a uniformed officer responding  
14 to calls. I also was in the warrant division and did a lot of  
15 the investigations in searching for individuals wanted for  
16 various crimes.

17 Q: When you got to SLED, what division were you assigned to?

18 A: I was in the latent print crime scene department.

19 Q: And how many years?

20 A: I was -- I was at SLED during that time about 20 years.  
21 I think about 17 of that I actually spent in the latent print  
22 crime scene department.

23 Q: Tell us what training you've had in latent print  
24 identification?

25 A: When I first started at SLED, I had to complete an in-

THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 house training program which lasted about -- it took about 18  
2 months. Once I completed that, I had to attend numerous,  
3 numerous courses, take numerous classes in-state, as well as  
4 some out-of-state classes. I had to also attend the FBI  
5 academy in Quantico, Virginia, where I had to complete a  
6 course in latent print processing and comparisons.

7       Once I completed all my training -- and actually, there  
8 -- there also consists of ongoing training. As we go  
9 throughout our career, we continuously go to training to keep  
10 up to speed with the various things that might come about.  
11 And I've been deemed competent by SLED to conduct latent print  
12 examinations.

13 Q:   How long have you been conducting these latent print  
14 examinations at SLED independently without -- without somebody  
15 having to correct or change your work?

16 A:   Probably about -- since the time I was there before and  
17 the time I'm there now, I would say roughly about -- about 18  
18 to 20 years. You know, once we reach a certain level in our  
19 training, once we are deemed competent, then we are able to  
20 conduct examinations independently of someone else's  
21 assistance. So about 18 to 20 years.

22 Q:   And that's what you do all day every day other than  
23 showing up in court?

24 A:   Yes, sir.

25 Q:   Have you been qualified to testify in courts of general

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 sessions in the state of South Carolina?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: And have you been qualified in other courts as well?

4 A: I have.

5 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, we're going to submit that Mr.  
6 Darnell is well-qualified to testify in the area of latent  
7 print identification.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

9 MR. WILSON: I have no objections.

10 MR. FLOYD: No objections.

11 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, this witness has been  
12 submitted as an expert in latent print identification. My  
13 prior charge that I gave to you on expert testimony is the  
14 same for him as well. Okay? Mr. Saleeby?

15 MR. SALEEBY: All right.

16 Q: Mr. Darnell, we see a lot of stuff on television, but I'd  
17 like you to tell us in practical laymen's terms what the craft  
18 of fingerprint identification consists of?

19 A: Basically to start with, we all have fingerprints. You  
20 have a pattern on your fingers -- on the end of your fingers  
21 that only you have. Okay? The patterns might be the same as  
22 the person sitting next to you, but what makes it unique is  
23 that you have individual characteristics within that pattern  
24 that will not be found in any other person. It has never been  
25 found to have -- for there to be two individuals with the same

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 fingerprint.

2       We mentioned in the mentioning of television, and in  
3 television, you know, you always get -- you always leave  
4 fingerprints, you always get prints at crime scenes, and that  
5 doesn't always happen. Fingerprints are primarily -- well,  
6 let me back up. A latent print -- a latent print is a -- is a  
7 chance -- what we refer to as a chance impression.

8 Q:    It is a what?

9 A:    Chance.

10 Q:    A chance?

11 A:    C-H-A-N-C-E. It's a chance impression and, in fact, the  
12 word latent means hidden or invisible.

13 Q:    Okay.

14 A:    Latent is spelled L-A-T-E-N-T. A latent print is simply  
15 the moisture that exudes from the pores in your skin that when  
16 you touch a surface, you may leave a -- leave that pattern  
17 behind or you may not depending on the surface and depending  
18 on how much you're perspiring. But in some cases you get --  
19 you get prints; in some cases, you don't.

20 Q:    How do you go about testing a particular object? What do  
21 you do with that object to try to see if there is a latent and  
22 if you can lift it off?

23 A:    When we collect -- or when we collect evidence to process  
24 for latent prints, keep in mind the word latent means hidden  
25 or invisible. Depending on whether it's a porous item or a

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 non-porous item will determine what technique -- what  
2 technique you might -- you might use. There are -- there are  
3 several different techniques you can use in trying to develop  
4 latent prints. Some techniques you can use one behind the  
5 other.. Some techniques once you use that particular process,  
6 you can't use anything else. Okay?

7       So we have to look at the evidence to determine, first of  
8 all, if it's -- if it's a porous item or if it's non-porous  
9 and determine what's the best way. What's the best chance  
10 I've got of getting a latent print to be able to develop this  
11 hidden print, if you will, to be able to enhance it to where  
12 we can see it?

13       Most -- most commonly, you're probably -- you're probably  
14 familiar with the black fingerprint powder that you see a lot  
15 of times on the -- on the television shows. We use black  
16 powder. We use various chemicals depending on what we're  
17 trying to develop. So there are just a number of techniques  
18 out there to use, and we just try to make -- make the best --  
19 best judgment on what would be the best and what would give us  
20 the chance of getting the best result.

21 Q: Other than the black powder, what might you use?

22 A: Well, we've got various dye stains that we could use. We  
23 use super glue. The super glue fuming technique we use. We  
24 use -- there are blood staining chemicals out there. There  
25 are chemicals that we can use to develop on adhesive sides of

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 tape and that sort of thing. So there's just a number of  
2 things that we could use.

3 We have various light sources, alternate -- what we call  
4 alternate light sources that we have to use those in  
5 conjunction with a fluorescent dye stain basically that --  
6 that the print would actually glow where we could see it. And  
7 in that case, if we developed a print off the light source, we  
8 would use photography to be able to document that latent  
9 print.

10 Q: Mr. Darnell, once you've got this latent, this unknown  
11 print that would come off of some object that was brought to  
12 you, what do you then have to compare it with? The unknown?

13 A: We would get a known fingerprint card. A known  
14 fingerprint card is simply where black ink -- well, this day  
15 and time it's mostly done by digital means, but it's where the  
16 -- where the pattern on your finger is simply recorded onto a  
17 known card and it would have your name on it and your personal  
18 information. And then we would compare the latent print to  
19 the -- using the known card, and whenever we're comparing  
20 those -- those prints to each other, we're looking for the  
21 individual characteristics within those patterns to be able to  
22 determine if that -- if that pattern is unique to that  
23 individual or not. And then once we come to that conclusion,  
24 then we can report our findings as to whether a print was made  
25 by a certain individual or whether it was not made by a

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1 certain individual.

2 Q: In laymen's terms the print card, whether it be done by  
3 ink or digitally, is the known?

4 A: That's correct.

5 Q: And the latent that you get from a scene or from an  
6 object is the unknown?

7 A: Yes, sir. That's correct.

8 Q: All right. I'm going to show you some items one at a  
9 time and ask you if you received these at SLED in the conduct  
10 of -- and were able to use these for comparison purposes.  
11 The first is State's Exhibit Number 40, which has been  
12 testified to was taken by Kukila Stanley at the autopsy of Mr.  
13 Rowell.

14 A: Yes, sir. This -- this is the post-mortem fingerprints  
15 of Mr. Rowell that I examined as part of my examination. It  
16 has my initials on the top.

17 Q: All right. So in addition to third parties, is it  
18 standard operating procedure to do elimination prints that  
19 come from scenes that might belong to the victims?

20 A: That -- that's standard procedure, yes, sir.

21 Q: Next I'll show you State's Exhibit Number 41, which is a  
22 print card with the name of Marco Sanders on it taken here at  
23 the Marion County Sheriff's Department.

24 A: Yes. I can -- this is a -- the known card that I used in  
25 comparing to the latents in this case. It has my initials in

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 the top right-hand corner as well.

2 Q: Yes, sir.

3 A: Go ahead. I'm sorry.

4 Q: State's Exhibit Number 42 is a print card that Mr. Hardee  
5 testified that he took here in this courthouse from Tyrell  
6 Woods. I'll ask you if you can identify that and if you used  
7 it?

8 A: Yes, sir. I can identify these. These are what we refer  
9 to as major case prints. Major case prints would be not only  
10 the fingerprint card but the palm -- palm prints as well. And  
11 this -- this also has my initials in the top right-hand  
12 corner.

13 Q: Now, what I didn't ask I don't believe is when you get a  
14 latent and you get an unknown and a known, what is it you're  
15 looking to to see whether they match or can't match?

16 A: The -- the raised portions of skin on your -- on your  
17 fingers where they form the pattern -- within that pattern,  
18 you have individual characteristics which make it unique.  
19 Okay? You have three basic patterns. You have an arch, you  
20 have a whorl, and you have a loop, and you have variations of  
21 that.

22 But what makes the print unique is that we look for what  
23 we call ending ridges where a ridge will -- will just start  
24 out flowing from one side of the finger and it will just come  
25 to a stop. And then we have what's called bifurcations, a

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1 forking ridge where the ridge is -- it starts out as one ridge  
2 and it splits into two. Or we might have just dots. We might  
3 have a dot that might appear somewhere in that -- in that  
4 fingerprint pattern.

5 So we're looking for those ending ridges, those  
6 bifurcations, the forking ridges, the dots, and different --  
7 and sometimes you have -- you have variations of those three  
8 basic characteristics, but we look for those because that's  
9 what makes the print unique. Okay?

10 We may all -- we may all have a loop or a whorl or an  
11 arch in our -- in our fingers as sitting to the person next to  
12 you, but what makes it unique is those characteristics that we  
13 look for. That makes it unique and that makes it unique to  
14 that individual and that individual alone.

15 Q: At my request, did you prepare a couple of exhibits that  
16 would help you illustrate your testimony?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: All right. I will -- I will bring those up later, but I  
19 just wanted to get that point in. I will ask you if you had  
20 the occasion regarding this particular investigation on or  
21 about I think the 5<sup>th</sup> of July of 2012 to receive a number of  
22 items at SLED to be processed to possibly locate latents?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: And did anybody assist you in going through those items  
25 and worked there with you to see what y'all could produce?

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Well, who?

3 A: That was Agent Fellers. Sabrina Fellers. She actually  
4 worked the crime scene here in Marion County, and then she  
5 returned to SLED with all the evidence that she collected. I  
6 assisted her with the -- with the processing of -- of the  
7 evidence that she collected from the crime scene.

8 Q: Were you able to collect some identifiable prints from  
9 some of the items brought to you?

10 A: Yes, I was.

11 Q: Were you unable to get some identifiable prints from some  
12 other items?

13 A: Yes. That's correct.

14 Q: All right. When you do that, what's your -- what's your  
15 protocol? What's that referred -- what do you call that on  
16 your report?

17 A: The ones that are of no value?

18 Q: Yes.

19 A: We refer to those as no value for identification.

20 Q: And tell the jury what that means?

21 A: No value for identification -- what that means is that,  
22 again, these unique characteristics that I'm looking for, the  
23 ending ridges, the bifurcation, and the dots, I have to have  
24 sufficient clarity. I have to have sufficient clarity and  
25 sufficient detail to be able to compare to be able to say that

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 a print was identified to someone. Okay?

2 The ones that are of no value, what that means is that  
3 there was ridge detail, there was a print there, but there was  
4 not enough detail, not enough clarity for me to be able to  
5 tell that that -- or who that print belonged to. I could only  
6 tell you that the print belongs to someone, but I can't tell  
7 you who. So basically, it just lacks the sufficient clarity  
8 that is needed when I make a comparison.

9 Q: And I use this just for example. This is State's Exhibit  
10 Number 28, which was identified as a DVR player seized at the  
11 scene. Do you recognize that as an item that you tried to get  
12 prints off of?

13 A: Yes, I do.

14 Q: And what was the result of your effort?

15 A: The results when I processed this particular item was  
16 that there were lots of areas of ridge detail or fingerprints  
17 present. I could see that there were some prints. It had  
18 been handled by someone, but they were of no value for  
19 identification. As I stated, that just -- it just wasn't  
20 enough clarity for me to be able to tell whose they were.

21 Q: What's the minimum number of points of identification  
22 that you have to have before you make that call?

23 A: There -- there is no minimum number of points required in  
24 this country. There are some countries in this world that  
25 have a minimum number, but our country does not recognize a

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 minimum number required. That is that the Federal Bureau of  
2 Investigations is that way, and it's also supported by our  
3 International Association for Identification.

4 So basically, there are no set number of points required.  
5 You have to look at the whole print. You look at the whole  
6 print and the clarity and you look at the points that you do  
7 have and use your training and your experience and your  
8 background to be able to make that call.

9 (Whereupon, State's Exhibit Number 27 is shown to the  
10 witness.)

11 Q: This is State's Exhibit Number 20 [sic]. Ms. Fellers  
12 testified there were some papers on the front porch that she  
13 recovered. Did you test that for fingerprints?

14 A: Yes, I did.

15 Q: And what can you tell us? Were you able to make a  
16 comparison with a known set of prints?

17 A: Yes, I was. On this particular item, I developed a  
18 latent print that was identified to -- to Mr. Samuel Rowell.

19 Q: These prints matched the deceased?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: The papers on his porch?

22 A: Correct.

23 Q: I'm getting ready to show you four boxes of Black & Mild  
24 cigars, State's Exhibits 21, 22, 23, and 24. I want you to  
25 take a look at those, please, sir.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: Yes, sir. I recognize each of these by my initials on  
2 the box of cigars.

3 Q: Did you make an effort to lift the prints off of those?

4 A: I did.

5 Q: And what can you tell us about -- were you able to make a  
6 comparison to State's Exhibit Number 21?

7 A: Yes, I did. I developed one print that was identifiable  
8 on State's 21, and that print was identified to Mr. Tyrell  
9 Woods.

10 Q: 21 to Mr. Woods?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: State's Exhibit 22?

13 A: State's 22, yes, sir. Identified Tyrell Woods on that  
14 box of cigars as well on State's 22.

15 Q: One print?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: When you say one print, you mean one finger?

18 A: Yes, sir. One -- one -- one finger, and in that  
19 particular case, it was his left thumb. I'm sorry. I stand  
20 corrected. That was on Marco Sanders. I apologize.

21 Q: Which one is that?

22 A: State's -- the one you just got back. State's 22? Is  
23 that my Item 5?

24 Q: I can't tell.

25 A: It should be on it.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

- 1 Q: You tell me.
- 2 A: That's Item 4. Item 4 is Tyrell Woods. State's 21.
- 3 Q: Is Tyrell Woods?
- 4 A: Yes, sir.
- 5 Q: All right. How about 21?
- 6 A: I'll have to look at it myself here. I'm sorry. State's
- 7 21 is also Tyrell Woods.
- 8 Q: And we have a lot of them here; so I'll try to slow down
- 9 a little bit. State's Exhibit Number 23?
- 10 A: State's 23 is -- is where I had Marco Sanders. State's
- 11 23 I developed one print and it was -- it was the left thumb
- 12 of Marco Sanders.
- 13 Q: And these are cigar boxes?
- 14 A: Yes, sir. On -- on State's 23.
- 15 Q: Marco Sanders?
- 16 A: Yes, sir.
- 17 Q: Take a look at State's 24.
- 18 A: State's 24 I developed one -- two -- three prints on
- 19 State's 24, all three of which were identified to Marco
- 20 Sanders.
- 21 Q: So Mr. Sanders' prints were on 23 and 24, and Mr. Woods'
- 22 prints on 22 and 21, and you say three of Mr. Sanders' fingers
- 23 were on State's Exhibit 24?
- 24 A: That's correct.
- 25 Q: I believe the testimony was they were found in the

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 pillowcase in the living room. State's Exhibit Number 25 is  
2 the Crown Royal which I think was found in the pillowcase.  
3 Did you have occasion to process that box?  
4 A: Yes, I did. This -- State's 25 is actually my Item 13.  
5 I developed -- I have Tyrell Woods identified one time. I  
6 have Tyrell Woods a second time, a third time, a fourth time  
7 -- four times. I have Tyrell Woods four times on State's 25.  
8 Q: So four of his fingers?  
9 A: Yes, sir.  
10 Q: On his hand?  
11 A: Yes, sir.  
12 Q: On this box?  
13 A: Yes, sir.  
14 Q: Mr. Woods. Did you get a cardboard box that came out of  
15 the kitchen area and did you test it for possible prints?  
16 THE COURT: What's that exhibit number?  
17 MR. SALEEBY: Excuse me, Your Honor. It's 26.  
18 THE COURT: Thank you.  
19 MR. SALEEBY: And I think there's a portion cut out of  
20 it. I might have noted it as 26-A.  
21 Q: Tell the jury what -- that might be an illustrative  
22 thing. You might be able to show them how you did what you  
23 did to test this.  
24 A: On this particular item, I did develop a -- one print on  
25 there that was identified to Tyrell Woods, and this is -- this

THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 would be what I was referring to as something that was porous  
2 -- a cardboard box -- and it was sprayed with a chemical that  
3 reacted with the amino acids in the perspiration, and it  
4 turned the print into a purple -- purplish color. And I  
5 developed one print on this box that was identifiable, and it  
6 was identified to Tyrell Woods on this Crown Royal cardboard  
7 box.

8 Q: Mr. Woods. Did you receive a few items of duct tape?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: I'll try to identify them if possible. I think it would  
11 be State's Exhibit Number 31 taken from the head, 49 [sic.]  
12 taken from the feet. I think that's probably your number. I  
13 believe it would be State's Exhibits I think 31 and 33.

14 A: Yes, with these, sir. This is some of the duct tape that  
15 I examined, State's 31 and State's 33, the tape that I  
16 examined and I processed for prints.

17 Q: All right. Did you find some matches there?

18 A: I did.

19 Q: All right. We'll talk about that in a minute. This is  
20 35. I believe this is from the hands. Did you examine that  
21 and were you able to find anything identifiable there?

22 A: On State's 35, the prints that I did develop were of no  
23 value for identification.

24 Q: Not enough detail?

25 A: Not enough clarity and not enough detail.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 Q: All right. Okay. But on these two, 31 and 35 [sic.],  
2 you found something?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: 31 and 33.

5 MR. SALEEBY: 31 and 33. My pardon.

6 THE COURT: Just clarification for the record.

7 Q: What did you find on State's Exhibit 31, the duct tape  
8 from the head of Mr. Rowell?

9 A: I developed one latent print that was identified to  
10 Tyrell Woods on the adhesive side of the tape. I developed a  
11 second print that was identified to Tyrell Woods on the  
12 adhesive side of the tape.

13 Q: All right. Two prints from Mr. --

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: -- Woods?

16 A: Yes, sir. Just those two that were identifiable.

17 Q: Is this -- is this your -- is State's Number 32 for  
18 identification your method of preserving what you actually  
19 lifted?

20 A: Yes, sir, it is.

21 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, we would move this into -- move  
22 for the introduction of this at this time.

23 THE COURT: What's the exhibit number?

24 MR. SALEEBY: Number 32.

25 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Wilson?

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 MR. WILSON: That's the box? Is that what he's -- I have  
2 no objections.

3 MR.. FLOYD: No objection.

4 THE COURT: Without objection, State's Exhibit 32  
5 admitted into evidence.

6 Q: Two prints on this belonging to Mr. Woods?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: All right. Let's talk about State's Exhibit Number 33,  
9 duct tape that came from the feet of Mr. Rowell. Did you  
10 examine that and what did you find?

11 A: I did examine it. I did process it for prints. I have  
12 Tyrell Woods identified on the non -- on the non-adhesive side  
13 of the tape on one print. On a second print, I have him -- I  
14 have Tyrell Woods on the non-adhesive side of the tape. On a  
15 third print, I have Tyrell Woods on the non-adhesive side of  
16 the tape. On the -- on a fourth print, I have Mr. Tyrell  
17 Woods on the adhesive side of the tape. On a fifth print, I  
18 have Tyrell Woods identified on the adhesive side of the tape.  
19 On a sixth print, I have Tyrell Woods identified on the  
20 adhesive side of the tape. And finally, on a seventh -- a  
21 total of seven prints, I found Tyrell Woods identified on the  
22 adhesive side of the tape. So a total of seven different  
23 times I identified Tyrell Woods.

24 Q: Is State's Exhibit 34 for identification what you  
25 preserved of the seven prints of Tyrell Woods that you found

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 on the duct tape that came off the feet of Mr. Sam Rowell?

2 A: Yes, sir. Those are the areas that I developed the  
3 prints on and I packaged them so that we could be able to see  
4 them today, and they're preserved in that box as I -- as I --  
5 as I placed them.

6 MR. SALEEBY: Your Honor, at this time we move the  
7 introduction of State's Exhibit Number 34.

8 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Wilson?

9 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

10 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

11 THE COURT: Without objection, State's Exhibit 34  
12 admitted into evidence.

13 Q: Mr. Darnell, at my request, did you prepare a couple of  
14 exhibits which would assist you in showing how you do what you  
15 do with regard to making identifications?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: I know you said that before; I'll ask you again. I'm  
18 going to show you Number 43 first and ask you if this is  
19 something you prepared to testify from?

20 A: Yes, it is.

21 MR. SALEEBY: We move the introduction of State's Exhibit  
22 Number 43.

23 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Wilson?

24 MR. WILSON: No, sir, I don't have any.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 MR. FLOYD: No objection, Your Honor.

2 Q: I'll show you State's Exhibit Number 44 and ask you if  
3 you can use that to illustrate your testimony?

4 A: I can.

5 MR. SALEEBY: We move the introduction of State's Exhibit  
6 Number 44.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, any objection?

8 MR. WILSON: Other than cumulative. I mean it's already  
9 been testified to.

10 THE COURT: Can I see them?

11 MR. SALEEBY: Both of them, sir?

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. SALEEBY: Thank you.

14 THE COURT: All right. Over objection of defense  
15 counsel, I'm going to allow it to be admitted. They are --  
16 previously admitted Number 43. Each show a known print as  
17 well as a latent print, each of which are for illustrative  
18 purposes. However, on each exhibit they are showing different  
19 portions or different parts of the defendant's print for  
20 illustrative purposes of a known and latent print. Therefore,  
21 I will allow them into evidence.

22 Any objection from you, Mr. Floyd? I didn't hear from  
23 you on it.

24 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Okay. You may continue, sir.

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 MR. SALEEBY: Thank you.

2 Q: Mr. Darnell, tell us what State's Exhibit Number 43 is?

3 MR. SALEEBY: And then with permission of the Court, I'm  
4 asking him to step down so that he can illustrate it closer to  
5 the jury.

6 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Please make sure --  
7 when you're speaking to the jury, you're going to have your  
8 back to my court reporter. Please make sure you speak loud  
9 enough and make sure as you're talking to the jury that  
10 everybody can see. You may step down.

11 (Whereupon, the witness complies.)

12 Q: The first thing I want you to do is tell us what that is?

13 A: State's 43 is a -- what we refer to as simply a charted  
14 enlargement. The charted enlargement is simply prepared so  
15 that I can demonstrate and explain and show you, the jury, how  
16 I reached my conclusion. When I examine the print, which  
17 obviously isn't this large, we have means to enlarge prints  
18 and those kind of things to be able to assist us whenever we  
19 make our comparisons. Basically --

20 Q: First, tell us whose -- who is the known print?

21 A: The known print on State's 43 is Mr. Marco Sanders.

22 Q: And what item did the unknown or the latent come from?

23 A: The latent print came from one of the -- a cigar box that  
24 I previously testified to.

25 Q: Do you know which number it was or your number?

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 A: It was Item 6 was my item that the latent print came  
2 from.

3 Q: Item 6 is State's 24.

4 A: State's 24.

5 Q: That's your 6. All right. I'll get out of your way and  
6 you can tell us what you did?

7 A: Okay. Well, you see a bunch of red lines and red numbers  
8 and you see the labels at the top. The labelled known print  
9 is -- like I said, that's a known print. I know whose print  
10 that belongs to based on the card that I had that had the name  
11 Marco Sanders at the top.

12 The latent print is the latent print that I developed on  
13 the cigar box. Okay? The red lines simply point to any  
14 ridges, the bifurcations -- the bifurcations being the ridges  
15 splitting in two. And I think I may have -- I'm not sure if I  
16 have a dot on this or not, but basically that red line is  
17 pointing to those characteristics that make that print unique  
18 to this individual and this individual alone.

19 Q: Are you looking at these side by side in what's called a  
20 comparison microscope? Or not? I'm sorry.

21 A: Well, I will be using magnification to be able to look as  
22 I do my comparison. We have means of putting it up on the  
23 screen -- on computer screens, and in this case, the quality  
24 was such that I didn't have to -- didn't have to enlarge it  
25 too big. I was able to look using just magnification at my

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 desk.

2       The numbers simply correspond with one of the  
3 characteristics which I have chosen to point out. You see  
4 I've got ten marked. I'm not going to go over all ten. In  
5 fact, there's actually about 20 points in this particular  
6 latent. When compared to this finger, there's actually about  
7 20 points that match up.

8 Q:   There are 20 that match up, but you've only illustrated  
9 ten?

10 A:   I'm only illustrating ten. Keep in mind this is nothing  
11 but a -- just a demonstration. It's just an enlargement so I  
12 can tell you, the jury, and show you, the jury, how I reached  
13 my conclusion.

14       I can take each -- I can take any number and go from -- I  
15 can go from one to seven or one to six, one to -- whichever.  
16 I can start with any number and I will have the same number of  
17 black lines or -- the black lines are the ridges that were  
18 developed. I will have the same number between the two. So,  
19 in other words, I don't have to start with one. I can start  
20 with ten and go backwards if I have to.

21       But just to keep this one relatively simple, if you look  
22 at point number 1, it's what I refer to as an ending ridge.  
23 You can see where the 1 -- the red line is going to the -- to  
24 the black line, and the black line simply comes to a stop.  
25 It's simply a straight line and a straight ridge and it comes

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 to a stop. Again, the number 1 just points to a ridge that is  
2 just a black line that comes to a stop. That's all that one  
3 is showing you. Okay?

4 Now, I'm going to go from 1 to -- let's just skip over to  
5 8. Let's go from 1 to 8, and I've got a total of two black  
6 lines, two ridges between the number 1 point and the number 8  
7 point. And the number 8 is also pointing to an ending ridge.

8 These are the types of things I'm looking for whenever  
9 I'm doing a comparison. If I have -- if I have anything  
10 whatsoever that I cannot explain, if I have a discrepancy  
11 between these two that I cannot explain, then that would lead  
12 me to the opinion that this print was not made by the same  
13 person. In this particular case, there were no discrepancies  
14 whatsoever when I did this comparison.

15 And I've actually got some points unmarked. There are  
16 some points on here that are -- that are clear and that you  
17 can be able to see. If you look just above the 5 -- if you  
18 look just above the 5, I've got a ridge that ends, like a  
19 short ridge here. You have an end here and an end here.  
20 That's also right here, there and there. I didn't -- I didn't  
21 mark that on purpose, and the reason I didn't mark it is  
22 because I didn't want to clog up this chart with a bunch of  
23 red lines and then you wouldn't be able to tell what was what.  
24 So I purposely left some unmarked.

25 Q: Mr. Darnell, since we have two of these and you can make

THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 some of the same points with this one, I'm going to show you  
2 State's Exhibit Number 44 and ask you to use the same sort of  
3 presentation. And I'll move this so they can see it for the  
4 jury. Tell us, first of all, what that is, who is the known  
5 print, and where did the unknown come from?

6 A: State's 44 is another second charted enlargement that I  
7 was asked to prepare, and this particular known print is from  
8 the left thumb of Tyrell Woods.

9 Q: And it came from what SLED item?

10 A: It came from SLED Item 49.

11 Q: And that would be State's Exhibit 34. That's -- that's  
12 the tape from the feet that you made this?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: All right.

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Tell -- and that's Tyrell Woods?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: And that's his thumb print?

19 A: That's correct. It's the left thumb.

20 Q: All right, sir. Go ahead.

21 A: The -- the latent print, again, is from the -- this  
22 particular print is from the non-adhesive side of the tape.  
23 Okay? I developed several prints from both the non-adhesive  
24 as well as the adhesive side. This particular one that I just  
25 chose as the chart was from the non-adhesive side of the duct

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 tape that came from the victim's feet. The known print,  
2 again, is the left thumb from the card that had the name  
3 Tyrell Woods at the top.

4 Same thing. I've got -- I've got a red line and I've got  
5 red numbers all on this chart. I've got ten points marked.  
6 Again, there are actually 20 -- over 20 in this particular  
7 print as well. Again, I didn't want to clog it up with  
8 numbers and lines; so I kind of skipped several.

9 Real quick, right here on number -- if you look at number  
10 9 and number 3. If you look at number 9 and number 3 on both  
11 -- both sides, you'll see what we refer to as an enclosure.  
12 In other words, it's sort of like a -- the ridges start out  
13 from one side and opens up into two. The ridges on the left  
14 side opens up into two and they actually close together. It's  
15 sort of like a circle -- like an island, so to speak. Can  
16 everyone see that?

17 That's 9 and 3. You can see the same -- same shape and  
18 the same pattern on the latent print as well as on the known  
19 print. That's on number 9 and number 3.

20 And also in this particular print, remember I mentioned  
21 about having dots -- what we call dots. There's actually a  
22 dot in this one as well. Number 6 -- number 6 points to a dot  
23 that you can see there on the latent as well as the known  
24 standard. And again, as I'm doing these comparisons, I have  
25 to be able to find that same characteristic in both, and I

## THOMAS DARNELL - DIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 have to be able to count the same number of ridges between the  
2 points to be able to determine that this print was made by  
3 this individual and no other individual, which was true in  
4 this case.

5 Point number 6 is a dot. That's the dot.

6 Q: How many total points of identification did you find?

7 A: This one had -- I've got about 20 on this one.

8 Q: And how many did you mark for the jury?

9 A: I just marked ten.

10 Q: So there are ten others in there that you didn't do to  
11 keep from that being too cluttered?

12 A: That's correct. And again, this is from the non-adhesive  
13 side of the tape from the victim's feet, and this was the left  
14 thumb.

15 Q: All right. I will let you take a seat. I think we've  
16 shown enough of that.

17 (Whereupon, the witness returns to the witness stand.)

18 Q: Did you ever get a roll of duct tape to be able to test?

19 A: No, sir.

20 Q: Did you ever find any identifiable lifts that didn't  
21 belong -- on any of these items or any other items submitted  
22 that didn't belong to either Mr. Rowell, Mr. Woods, or Mr.  
23 Sanders?

24 A: No, I did not. All the prints that I developed that were  
25 identifiable were identified to Mr. Woods, Mr. Sanders, or Mr.

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Rowell.

2 MR. SALEEBY: Thank you. Please answer any questions  
3 counsel has for you.

4 THE COURT: Cross examination, Mr. Wilson.

5 MR. WILSON: Thank you very much.

6 CROSS EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. WILSON:

8 Q: Mr. Darnell, how many -- how many lifts would you say you  
9 considered during this process in which you were analyzing  
10 these latents? How many different latent lifts did you  
11 actually consider?

12 A: Well, when I examined the evidence, I considered -- I  
13 considered everything that I developed.

14 Q: Okay. And you were sent -- you were sent -- from Ms.  
15 Fellers, you were sent multiple latents to review or to look  
16 at and try to compare; right?

17 A: Actually, in this case, all the latents that I looked at  
18 were latents that I developed on items of evidence that were  
19 collected at the crime scene and then were brought to SLED by  
20 Ms. Fellers.

21 Q: Okay. But she brought them to you is what I'm asking.  
22 You didn't go to 125 [sic.] Phil Court and lift the latents  
23 yourself, did you?

24 A: No, sir, I did not.

25 Q: Okay. So somebody brought them to you, whether it was

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Ms. Fellers or whoever it was. These latents were brought to  
2 you and then it was your job to review them. Let me ask you  
3 this. Did you know what kind of establishment this was before  
4 you started doing the lifts?

5 A: No, sir.

6 Q: Okay. Did you find any print anywhere that belonged to  
7 anybody, period, other than Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods and  
8 Mr. Rowell? Any print in that whole house of everything that  
9 was brought to you? Just one?

10 A: Well, I wasn't at the house, but of the items that were  
11 brought to me, the only individuals that I -- that I was able  
12 to identify were Mr. Sanders, Mr. Woods, and Mr. Rowell.

13 Q: In fact, what you say in your report is every other  
14 latent print lift that they tried to make and bring to you was  
15 of no value except for Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods. That's  
16 what you -- that's right?

17 A: That -- that -- that is correct and that -- these are --  
18 these are -- again, these were prints that I -- that I  
19 developed, that I processed, and that I examined, and that I  
20 looked at and made the conclusion that there were a lot of  
21 prints I developed that were of no value. That was a call  
22 that I made and that was a call that I reported on in my lab  
23 report.

24 Q: Twenty-four separate lifts, 8.1 on your list. You got  
25 your list there with you?

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

- 1 A: Yes, sir.
- 2 Q: No value?
- 3 A: That's correct.
- 4 Q: And what was 8.1 from?
- 5 A: It was from a cigar box. Black & Mild cigar box.
- 6 Q: Black & Mild cigar box, print on it you can't identify?
- 7 A: I couldn't identify it to anyone. No, sir.
- 8 Q: And even if you had a comparison you said and even if you
- 9 had a standard, you couldn't match it against anybody?
- 10 A: Right. Because it was -- it lacked sufficient clarity
- 11 and detail to be able to compare it to anyone.
- 12 Q: Same thing with 9.1?
- 13 A: That's correct. Yes, sir.
- 14 Q: And what is 9.1?
- 15 A: 9.1 is off of another cigar box.
- 16 Q: Another cigar box with another print that you can't
- 17 identify. Don't know because there ain't enough clarity?
- 18 A: I have -- there's not enough clarity. I can't tell whose
- 19 it is.
- 20 Q: 13.3 -- what's that from?
- 21 A: 13.3 is a print off of the Crown Royal box. Again, it
- 22 was of no value for identification.
- 23 Q: You can't tell. 13.6?
- 24 A: No value for identification.
- 25 Q: 13.7?

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

- 1 A: No value.
- 2 Q: 13 -- well, 15.1?
- 3 A: No value.
- 4 Q: 15.2?
- 5 A: No value.
- 6 Q: 18.1?
- 7 A: No value.
- 8 Q: 18.2?
- 9 A: No value.
- 10 Q: 25.2?
- 11 A: No value.
- 12 Q: 25.3?
- 13 A: No value.
- 14 Q: 25.4?
- 15 A: No value.
- 16 Q: 25.5?
- 17 A: No value.
- 18 Q: 25.6?
- 19 A: No value.
- 20 Q: 25.7?
- 21 A: No value.
- 22 Q: 25.8?
- 23 A: No value.
- 24 Q: 25.9?
- 25 A: Again, no value.

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: 25.10?

2 A: No value.

3 Q: 39?

4 A: No value.

5 Q: 48.2?

6 A: No value.

7 Q: 48.5?

8 A: No value.

9 Q: 48 -- I'm sorry. 49.4?

10 A: No value.

11 Q: 49.5?

12 A: No value.

13 Q: 49.8?

14 A: No value.

15 Q: No value?

16 A: That's correct.

17 Q: The only prints of value that you found in this whole

18 thing belonged to these two people and nobody else on no other

19 prints --

20 MR. SALEEBY: Is that a question?

21 MR. WILSON: Yes, it is.

22 Q: Is that correct?

23 A: That is correct, but, like, I also identified Mr. Rowell

24 on one particular item. But yes, sir. That -- that would be

25 a correct statement.

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 Q: Now, let me ask you the only -- the only standards that  
2 the State sent you belonged to Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods,  
3 didn't they? And Mr. Rowell?

4 A: Yes, sir. That would be correct.

5 Q: And so even if you had -- which you say you didn't. Even  
6 if you had sufficient ridge detail, you didn't have anybody to  
7 compare them to because you weren't given that?

8 A: Well, the fact that they were of no value meant that I  
9 didn't really need anybody else's cards, and that was the only  
10 -- those were the only cards that I received.

11 Q: Okay. When -- when was it -- when was it -- well, let me  
12 go back. Let me -- let me go back for a minute. Item 39 on  
13 your list --

14 A: Okay.

15 Q: -- was a print from the front door of the house; correct?

16 A: Yes, sir. I got one latent lift from the front door.

17 Q: Okay. And that was of no value?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Okay. And you got number 25 -- you got nine latent lifts  
20 off of the DVR -- the surveillance camera thing that you had  
21 to consider; right?

22 A: Yes, sir. I got nine -- I actually think it's ten.

23 Q: Okay.

24 A: Ten areas of ridge detail that I -- that I was able to  
25 develop and then I had to get those photographed to be able to

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 look at them closer.

2 Q: But not a one of those ten latents on that DVR were you  
3 able to say belonged to either Marco Sanders or Tyrell Woods?

4 A: That's correct.

5 Q: All right. And at some -- let me ask you in regards to  
6 -- I think it's 23 and 24. Let me make sure. 23 and 24 --  
7 State's -- State's Exhibit 23 and 24. Those were the two  
8 packs of cigarettes that you say you found the print of Marco  
9 Sanders?

10 A: On State's 23, yes, sir. That was Marco Sanders. And  
11 State's 24, also Marco Sanders. Correct.

12 Q: All right. And now, when those two Black & Mild cigar  
13 boxes were sent to you, did you find anything else on -- any  
14 latents on those that you could not identify on those two  
15 particular items?

16 A: Nothing else on State's 23. On State's 24, I got the  
17 three that were identified to Marco Sanders.

18 Q: Okay. Any -- any others?

19 A: No, sir.

20 Q: No others?

21 A: Not according to my report, no.

22 Q: Okay. Now, let me ask you if -- if the -- if law  
23 enforcement or SLED or the Solicitor's Office or anyone in  
24 this case has shown you a video of two individuals going into  
25 the house on that day?

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 A: No, sir. I have not seen a video.

2 Q: You weren't asked to look at it?

3 A: No, sir.

4 Q: All right. All right. And let me ask you about prints  
5 in general. If an individual goes into a house where there is  
6 a glass door and they touch that glass door, is it possible  
7 that the print could be left there?

8 A: It is possible. Yes, sir.

9 Q: Okay. And did you receive a print, to your knowledge, or  
10 a latent I should say, to your knowledge, to be compared from  
11 the glass door of Mr. Rowell's house?

12 A: Not to my knowledge. I've got here where I received the  
13 one latent lift that said from front door.

14 Q: The front door?

15 A: From front door. I think that was where I had one that  
16 came in, but that was -- I think that was it.

17 Q: And that was of no value?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Okay. All right. Let me ask you about this. The  
20 solicitor was asking you about this duct tape and -- and --  
21 and I understood you to say you found some prints on it, but  
22 you didn't find Marco Sanders' prints on that?

23 A: No, sir.

24 Q: And if -- if -- if you -- because this has a sticky  
25 substance to it, if you touch it, there is a higher chance

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 that you are going to have your prints on it. Wouldn't that  
2 be fair?

3 A: I think that would be a fair statement. I mean it --  
4 it's -- it's a good chance that you could possibly leave a  
5 print there. It certainly is a possibility.

6 Q: Okay. And -- and what if you're carrying it and holding  
7 it in your hand for a period of time? Would that be likely to  
8 leave a print or a palm print or a thumb print or a hand print  
9 or any kind of print?

10 A: If you're holding tape and --

11 Q: Yes, sir. A roll of tape.

12 A: Like just an unused roll?

13 Q: Yes, sir.

14 A: Depends on how you're -- how you're holding it. You  
15 know, again, latents are left by chance. You know, it's not  
16 like watching CSI where you always get -- you always get  
17 prints, you know, but it is possible. It certainly is  
18 possible, but it just depends on how you hold it and how long  
19 you hold it and how -- again, how you're perspiring because  
20 that's most of what your print is going to be moisture. It's  
21 about 99% moisture. So -- but is it possible? Sure, it's  
22 possible.

23 Q: All right. Now, you weren't present obviously when any  
24 of the prints or the latents were lifted; so you don't know  
25 actually where they were lifted from other than what somebody

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. WILSON

1 marks on a piece of paper and they send to you?

2 A: I -- all I can go by is what was submitted.

3 Q: All right.

4 A: Anything that came from the scene. Yes, sir, that would  
5 be correct.

6 Q: And you don't know how it got there other than when you  
7 got it, you looked at it, and that's what you had?

8 A: Yes, sir. That's correct.

9 MR. WILSON: No other questions.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

11 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 CROSS EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. FLOYD:

14 Q: Good afternoon. How are you?

15 A: Good, sir. How are you?

16 Q: Good. Now, you stated a little earlier that you said you  
17 made the call to declare those items of no value items; is  
18 that correct?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: That was your call?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: Okay. And that was based on your opinion; is that right?

23 A: Yes, sir. And -- but I -- but I might add that we do  
24 have quality control measures in place where all of our case  
25 work is -- is reviewed by a second examiner. That's

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. FLOYD

1 required per policy; so that would have been done in this case  
2 as well.

3 Q: But -- but you make the call on that? You base that call  
4 on your opinion of what you see?

5 A: That's correct.

6 Q: Is that correct?

7 A: Correct. I would make the call. I would render the  
8 results and then, again, a second person -- a second qualified  
9 person would review the work that I --

10 Q: Okay.

11 A: -- that I made the call on.

12 Q: Now, on any given print, some other forensic scientist --  
13 is it possible for them to have another opinion about  
14 something and reach a different conclusion than you?

15 A: Well, I mean, you know, I guess that would -- I guess  
16 that's possible. I mean it depends on -- it depends on the  
17 individual. It depends on what kind of a -- you know, we've  
18 got a hypothetical situation here where we're talking about  
19 it. I don't know what the person's experience level might be.  
20 I don't know what the person's background or training or, you  
21 know, things like that. I mean someone with 20 years of  
22 experience versus someone with two years of experience, you  
23 can very certainly have a difference of opinion. And that  
24 does happen from time to time. We have policies in place to  
25 -- how to deal with that, but -- but based on experience

## THOMAS DARNELL - CROSS BY MR. FLOYD

1 levels, you can certainly -- you can certainly have a  
2 difference of opinion.

3 Q: Certainly. The -- the standard cards that you received  
4 with the prints from Mr. Woods and Mr. Sanders -- did you  
5 receive those directly from the people who collected those or  
6 how did you receive those?

7 A: I received Mr. Woods' major case prints straight from  
8 Scott Hardee.

9 Q: Okay.

10 A: I'm trying to recall. I believe the card on Marco  
11 Sanders may have been logged into SLED evidence downstairs in  
12 our evidence control section, and I would have picked it up  
13 from -- from there in a sealed envelope.

14 Q: And Mr. Woods' prints were delivered directly to you from  
15 Mr. Hardee?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Is that correct?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: All right. Thank you very much.

20 THE COURT: Any redirect?

21 MR. SALEEBY: Just a couple of questions to clarify.

22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. SALEEBY:

24 Q: The items that you've identified prints on, the four  
25 cigar boxes, the Crown Royal, the Crown Royal box, the duct

THOMAS DARNELL - REDIRECT BY MR. SALEEBY

1 tape -- did you, yourself, personally process those items to  
2 see if you could get latents?

3 A: Yes, I did.

4 Q: All right. And is there any doubt in your mind that the  
5 identifications that you made are true and accurate?

6 A: No. There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever.

7 MR. SALEEBY: That's all I have, sir.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, anything further?

9 MR. WILSON: Nothing further, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

11 MR. FLOYD: Nothing further, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Thank you.

13 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

14 MR. SALEEBY: May he be excused, sir?

15 THE COURT: Any objection?

16 MR. WILSON: Without objection, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

18 MR. FLOYD: No objection.

19 THE COURT: Sir, you are excused. You are free to go and  
20 have no further responsibility under your subpoena. Thank you  
21 for being here.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

23 THE COURT: Can the lawyers approach a minute, please?

24 (Whereupon, a bench conference is held off the record  
25 regarding scheduling.)

1       THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, what I am  
2 going to do right now is I am going to excuse you all for the  
3 balance of today. Okay? There are some matters that I need  
4 to take up outside of your presence, and rather than have you  
5 sit back there for a while and it may push us up closer to  
6 five and it's starting to look like there's some additional  
7 testimony, I'm going to let you go for the balance of today.

8       I'm going to ask that you be back up here tomorrow  
9 morning at 9:30 -- at 9:30. During your overnight break, my  
10 instructions remain the same. Do not -- do not discuss the  
11 case at all with anybody. You're to decide -- hold it down,  
12 please. You're to decide this case based solely -- based  
13 solely upon the testimony and evidence that is presented in  
14 this courtroom and nowhere else.

15       Thank you all. I will see you at 9:30 in the morning.  
16 Everybody else remain seated while the jury exits the  
17 courtroom.

18       (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 4:10 p.m.)

19       THE COURT: All right. At sidebar up here, I inquired of  
20 the State as to how many more witnesses they anticipated  
21 calling. The State had indicated to me here at sidebar in the  
22 presence of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Floyd that they did not think  
23 -- that they didn't think they were going to call any more  
24 witnesses. However, they wanted overnight to consider whether  
25 or not they were going to call any more additional witnesses

1 before they rested in this case. Is that correct, Mr.  
2 Clements?

3 MR. CLEMENTS: That's correct, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. In any event, at this time if the  
5 State were to rest tomorrow morning at the outset, there would  
6 certainly be some motions that both defense counsel would need  
7 to make. At that time, it would be the Court's responsibility  
8 to advise the defendants of their right -- their right to  
9 testify and present a defense. Rather than wait until in the  
10 morning to do it, I'm going to do it this afternoon, and I'll  
11 do it again in the morning. The reason I'm doing it in the  
12 late afternoon is to give them the overnight to think about  
13 it, as well as talk about it with their lawyers, if they so  
14 desire, when we do break here for the balance of the  
15 afternoon.

16 Therefore, at this time I'm going to ask if -- Mr.  
17 Sanders, if you would, please stand. Please, sir? Mr. Woods,  
18 if you would, stand. Madam Clerk, would you swear them,  
19 please?

20 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand, please. Do you  
21 solemnly swear or affirm that your answers to the following  
22 questions shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but  
23 the truth, so help you God?

24 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I do.

25 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I do.

1 THE CLERK: Thank you.

2 THE COURT: All right. Sir, you are -- please remain  
3 standing for me. You are Marco Siara Sanders?

4 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: It's Siara.

5 THE COURT: Siara. Excuse me. And you are Tyrell Woods?

6 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I am.

7 THE COURT: All right. At this time, what I am going to  
8 do is explain to you certain of your rights. I'm sure your  
9 lawyers have talked to you about it, but I'm going to advise  
10 you of them as well. If you do not understand anything that I  
11 say, please let me know. If you want me to explain anything  
12 in more detail, please let me know as well. Do you  
13 understand, Mr. Sanders?

14 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I do.

15 THE COURT: Do you understand, Mr. Woods?

16 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: Yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Now, we are about to reach the stage  
18 of the trial where you may present your defense. Let me  
19 advise you that you each have the right to claim the  
20 protections given to you by the Fifth Amendment to the  
21 Constitution of the United States. That amendment states in  
22 part that no person -- no person shall be compelled in any  
23 criminal case to be a witness against himself. This means  
24 that you cannot be required to testify in this case.

25 You have the right to testify on your own behalf.

1 However, no one -- and I repeat no one can make you testify.  
2 This is a personal right and no one can waive this right  
3 except you. If you decide to testify, you will be subject to  
4 the same rules that govern other witnesses and you may be  
5 examined and cross examined on any relevant issue in this  
6 case.

7 In addition, if you have any convictions involving  
8 dishonesty or false statement or for crimes punishable by  
9 imprisonment for more than a year, and this Court determines  
10 that the probative value of admitting this evidence outweighs  
11 its prejudicial effect to you, the prosecutor or the solicitor  
12 will be able to introduce your record to attack your  
13 credibility.

14 If you decide to testify, this decision on your part must  
15 be freely, voluntarily, and intelligently made with knowledge  
16 of the protections given to you by the Fifth Amendment and the  
17 consequences of your decision to testify. If you decide not  
18 to testify, I will instruct the jurors that they cannot --  
19 that they cannot give the fact that you did not testify any  
20 consideration whatsoever and that there is to be absolutely no  
21 prejudice to you because you did not testify.

22 It is left entirely up to you whether or not you testify.  
23 You may talk with your attorney, your family, friends, or  
24 anyone else, but the final decision will be left entirely up  
25 to each of you. Do you understand what I've explained to you,

1 Mr. Sanders?

2 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: With all due respect, Your Honor,  
3 I do not -- I wish to waive my Fifth Amendment rights.

4 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to -- I'm going to give you  
5 the overnight to talk with your lawyer.

6 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I already know I'm not going to  
7 testify.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I'm going to ask you again in  
9 the morning anyway. Okay? Mr. Woods, do you understand what  
10 I've explained to you, sir?

11 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I do.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have any question, Mr. Sanders,  
13 about what I've explained to you?

14 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

16 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: No, sir.

17 THE COURT: All right. What I'm going to do is I'm going  
18 to give each of you the overnight to speak with your lawyers  
19 concerning these rights that I've advised you of, and I will  
20 further question you in the morning. And I know, Mr. Sanders,  
21 that you've indicated that you don't wish to testify, but I'm  
22 going to ask you again in the morning just to make sure.

23 At this time, we are going to break for the balance of  
24 today. Anything from the State before we break, Mr. Clements?

25 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, back last Thursday, you were

1 argued several motions that -- that Mr. Wilson filed on behalf  
2 of Mr. Sanders.

3 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

4 MR. CLEMENTS: And you ruled on the majority of them, but  
5 he had a motion -- he had two motions, but basically he's  
6 moving the same thing but stating it two different ways in  
7 regard to the order of final argument, and I would like to go  
8 ahead and take that up now if we can so we know what we're  
9 going to deal with in the morning.

10 THE COURT: Well, I mean it depends on whether or not  
11 they put up any evidence.

12 MR. CLEMENTS: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: I mean my understanding of the law is is if  
14 they do not put up any evidence, then they get last argument.  
15 If they do put up evidence, for instance if Mr. Woods puts up  
16 evidence, they both forfeit that right --

17 MR. CLEMENTS: Okay.

18 THE COURT: -- as well as if Mr. Sanders puts up  
19 evidence, the State would get to go last in their argument.

20 MR. CLEMENTS: If either one puts up evidence, they both  
21 forfeit?

22 THE COURT: That's my understanding of the law. Mr.  
23 Wilson, do you have anything to the contrary on that?

24 MR. WILSON: No, sir, I do not.

25 THE COURT: I mean I know what your argument was, but do

1 you have anything as far as law to -- and I understand what  
2 you had asked for.

3 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: But I think the law is clear on that, and  
5 certainly respecting your request, but that's my reading of  
6 the law. Anything from you, Mr. Floyd?

7 MR. FLOYD: Your Honor, I believe that to be the case as  
8 well.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MR. CLEMENTS: So if they -- if they decide --

11 THE COURT: If they --

12 MR. CLEMENTS: -- to put up --

13 THE COURT: The State would get the final argument.

14 MR. CLEMENTS: All right.

15 THE COURT: Otherwise, they would if they don't --

16 MR. CLEMENTS: Yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: -- put up anything. All right. I would ask  
18 that the lawyers be back here at nine o'clock in the morning  
19 at the latest. I've told -- asked the jury to be back here at  
20 9:30. Have the defendants back here, please, and I would ask  
21 that you all do today what you did yesterday for about 30  
22 minutes to allow the lawyers to talk with their clients for  
23 about 30 minutes. That's not very long, and I understand  
24 security has been here longer than I've been here all day and  
25 longer than anybody else, but that just gives some additional

1 time for everybody to kind of clear out of here as well. So I  
2 would ask that you all do that for about 30 minutes to allow  
3 them to talk to their lawyers. Okay?

4 All right. Nine -- nine o'clock in the morning for court  
5 personnel. We'll resume at 9:30.

6 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Thank you.

8 (Whereupon, the proceedings adjourn for the day at 4:19  
9 p.m.)

10 MAY 22, 2014

11 (Whereupon, the proceedings resume at 10:03 a.m.)

12 THE COURT: All right. We had broken yesterday  
13 afternoon. The State had asked for the overnight to decide  
14 whether or not they were going to put up any additional  
15 witnesses. We had spoken back in chambers. Myself, Mr.  
16 Clements, Mr. Saleeby, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. Meetze  
17 conveyed to me back in chambers that the State did not intend  
18 to put up any more witnesses. Is that correct, Mr. Clements?

19 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, it is.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. CLEMENTS: And at this point, the State intends to  
22 rest.

23 THE COURT: All right. At this time, Mr. Wilson, Mr.  
24 Floyd, I'm going to allow you to -- since the jury is not in  
25 here and when the jury comes back in here, Mr. Clements is

1 going to rest again in front of the jury, but at this time I  
2 will allow you, followed by Mr. Floyd, to put any motions on  
3 the record that you so desire.

4 MR. WILSON: Your Honor, first I would make a motion for  
5 a directed verdict on the charge of murder, attempted murder,  
6 armed robbery, possession of a weapon in the commission of a  
7 violent offense, and criminal conspiracy on the grounds that I  
8 don't think that the evidence when taken as a whole is  
9 sufficient to submit to the jury. And while there -- I think  
10 there is certainly some evidence, I don't think that when you  
11 look at the -- the actual credibility of that evidence that  
12 it's sufficient to be submitted to the jury. So I would ask  
13 for a directed verdict on those charges on that -- on those --  
14 on that grounds.

15 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Wilson. Anything else?

16 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir. In addition to that, I would also  
17 ask, Your Honor, for a dismissal of the charge of criminal  
18 conspiracy. I know previously I raised that issue with the  
19 Court that that was charged through a direct bill of  
20 indictment that was never served on the defendant and,  
21 therefore, I would submit to the Court that it would be  
22 improper to submit that charge to the jury, and I would ask  
23 the Court to dismiss that charge before submission to the --  
24 before submitting the indictment to the jury.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Wilson. Mr. Floyd?

1 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, we would  
2 also move for a directed verdict on each individual count set  
3 forth in the indictment on the grounds that when you view the  
4 evidence in the light most favorable to the State, Your Honor,  
5 that there is insufficient evidence to submit those counts to  
6 the jury. And also, Your Honor, we would join in the motion  
7 for dismissal of the count of criminal conspiracy.

8 THE COURT: Any argument in response, Mr. Clements?

9 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, in regards to the directed  
10 verdict motion on all charges by both defendants, I think  
11 there's sufficient evidence on all charges to go to the jury.  
12 With regards to the motion on the conspiracy charge being  
13 dismissed as having not been served on the defendant, I was  
14 not aware of any case law or statute that supports that  
15 motion. So, Your Honor, I think that that motion should be  
16 denied as well.

17 THE COURT: All right. As it relates to the -- each  
18 defendant's motion for directed verdict, the trial court --  
19 under the law, State v. Williams, 303 S.C. 274, the trial  
20 court is concerned with the existence or nonexistence of  
21 evidence, not its weight -- not its weight. Furthermore, if  
22 there is any direct evidence or any substantial circumstantial  
23 evidence reasonably tending to prove the guilt of the accused,  
24 then the case should be submitted to the jury.

25 Under State v. Kelsey, 331 S.C. 50, the Court believes

1 based upon the testimony that's been elicited throughout the  
2 trial of this case that there certainly is existence of  
3 evidence reasonably tending to prove the guilt of each of  
4 these defendants as to each of these charges. And, therefore,  
5 the Court believes based upon the facts and testimony elicited  
6 from this stand that the case should be submitted to the jury  
7 as it relates to each of the offenses charged in this case.

8 Furthermore, with regards to Mr. Wilson's motion for the  
9 dismissal of the conspiracy charge which was joined in by Mr.  
10 Floyd, I previously ruled upon that. My ruling remains the  
11 same on that, but your objection, as well as your directed  
12 verdict motions, are so noted for the record. All right.

13 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Now, at this time -- and I had done this  
15 yesterday, and that is question the defendants regarding their  
16 constitutional rights. I am going to go back through those  
17 again and ask them again. I know Mr. Sanders put on the  
18 record he did not want to testify, but we're going to go  
19 through that again because I wanted to give them the overnight  
20 break to make that decision. Okay?

21 Mr. Woods, would you stand, please? Madam Clerk, would  
22 you swear them again, please?

23 THE CLERK: Raise your right hands, please. Do you  
24 solemnly swear or affirm that your answers to the following  
25 questions shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but

1 the truth, so help you God?

2 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I do.

3 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I do.

4 THE CLERK: Thank you.

5 THE COURT: All right. Again, sir, you are Marco Siara  
6 Sanders?

7 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: And, sir, you are Tyrell Woods?

9 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I am.

10 THE COURT: All right. I advised you of these rights  
11 yesterday, but I'm going to go through them again in their  
12 entirety. Okay?

13 Now, at this time, I am going to explain these rights to  
14 you as I explained them to you. At the conclusion of me  
15 explaining them to you, if you do not understand them, let me  
16 know. If you want me to explain anything further at the  
17 conclusion of this, please let me know as well. Do you  
18 understand that, Mr. Sanders?

19 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I do.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

21 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I do.

22 THE COURT: All right. We have now reached the stage of  
23 the trial where you may present your defense. You have the  
24 right to claim the protections given to you by the Fifth  
25 Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which

1 states in part that no person -- no person shall be compelled  
2 in any case -- in any criminal case to be a witness against  
3 himself. This means that you cannot be required to testify in  
4 this case.

5       You have the right to testify on your own behalf.  
6 However, no one can make you testify. This is a personal  
7 right and no one can waive this right except you. If you  
8 decide to testify, you will be subject to the same rules that  
9 govern other witnesses, and you may be examined and cross  
10 examined on any relevant issue in this case.

11       In addition, if you have any convictions involving  
12 dishonesty or false statement or for crimes punishable by  
13 imprisonment for more than one year, and this Court determines  
14 that the probative value of admitting this evidence outweighs  
15 its prejudicial effect to you, the solicitor will be able to  
16 introduce your record to attack your credibility.

17       If you decide to testify, this decision on your part must  
18 be freely, voluntarily, and intelligently made with knowledge  
19 of the protections given to you by the Fifth Amendment and the  
20 consequences of your decisions to testify. If you decide not  
21 to testify, I will instruct the jurors that they cannot --  
22 that they cannot give the fact that you did not testify any  
23 consideration whatsoever and that there is to be absolutely no  
24 prejudice to you because you did not testify.

25       It is left entirely up to you whether or not you testify.

1 You may talk with your attorney, your family and friends or  
2 anyone else, but the final decision will be left entirely up  
3 to you. Do you understand what I've explained to you, Mr.  
4 Sanders?

5 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Yes, I do.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

7 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: I do.

8 THE COURT: Do you have any questions about what I've  
9 explained to you, Mr. Sanders?

10 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

12 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: No.

13 THE COURT: Have you discussed with your lawyer whether  
14 you should or should not testify, Mr. Sanders?

15 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Yes, I have.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

17 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: All right. Do you wish to talk to your  
19 lawyer anymore at this time, Mr. Sanders?

20 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: No, I do not.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

22 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: No, sir, I do not.

23 THE COURT: Sir?

24 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: No, sir.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Do you wish to testify, Mr. Sanders?

1 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: No, sir.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Woods?

3 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: All right. Anything further at this time,  
5 Mr. Wilson?

6 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

8 MR. FLOYD: No, sir.

9 THE COURT: All right. You all may be seated. Thank  
10 you. Now, before I bring the jury out, let me put this on the  
11 record as well, and this is what we've been doing and why we  
12 hadn't started or why we didn't start at 9:30.

13 Myself, Mr. Clements, Mr. Saleeby, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Floyd,  
14 and Mr. Meetze were back in chambers going through the charge  
15 in this case. Each of the lawyers have seen the charge, and I  
16 will at this time -- but certainly will give you an  
17 opportunity at the conclusion of the charge to make any  
18 objections that you believe are necessary, but it's my  
19 understanding after having gone through this charge in its  
20 entirety in chambers that there are no objections at this  
21 time. Are there? But I want it on the record. Any objection  
22 from the State?

23 MR. CLEMENTS: No objections from the State, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

25 MR. WILSON: I have no objections.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

2 MR. FLOYD: No objections, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. One other thing that has not been  
4 discussed -- I mean we discussed it in chambers, but it was  
5 not given to the lawyers for them to view, and that is the  
6 verdict forms. I have instructed my law clerk to do separate  
7 verdict forms for each defendant -- for each defendant. But  
8 as soon as they're available and certainly before they go back  
9 to the jury room, you all will have an opportunity to review  
10 them as well.

11 Now, at this time, I am going to bring the jury out. The  
12 State, from what we previously discussed, is going to rest in  
13 their presence. I am going to instruct them that it's now the  
14 defense -- I'm going to turn to the defense and if you intend  
15 to rest, which you've indicated you are, I'll let you do that,  
16 as well as you, Mr. Floyd.

17 But I want you all to certainly make a note -- I mean you  
18 can do it in the presence of the jury -- that you renew all  
19 your previous motions, each of you, and I will make a point to  
20 state that my rulings remain the same. Okay? And then I will  
21 instruct the jury that we're going into closing arguments and  
22 I'll recognize Mr. Clements, which will be followed by Mr.  
23 Wilson and then Mr. Floyd, and I'll charge them on the law.

24 Anything else before I bring the jury in, Mr. Clements?

25 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

2 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

4 MR. FLOYD: Nothing.

5 THE COURT: All right. Bring me the jury, please, if you  
6 will.

7 (Whereupon, the jury enters the courtroom at 10:15 a.m.)

8 THE COURT: Good morning, Madam Forelady and ladies and  
9 gentlemen of the jury. I appreciate your patience back there  
10 this morning. I greatly appreciate you all being back here  
11 this morning when I asked you to be here. We are now prepared  
12 to continue with the trial of this case. I am going to  
13 recognize you, Mr. Clements.

14 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor. If it please the  
15 Court, at this stage the State would rest.

16 THE COURT: All right. All right. Ladies and gentlemen,  
17 the State has rested its case, and now at this time I'm going  
18 to turn it over to defense counsel. Mr. Wilson, you're  
19 recognized, sir.

20 MR. WILSON: Your Honor, at this time the defense for  
21 Marco Sanders would rest.

22 THE COURT: Well -- and also note for the record prior to  
23 you resting that you're renewing all prior motions --

24 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: -- at the end of the State's case, as well as

1 at this time.

2 MR. WILSON: I am. That is correct.

3 THE COURT: And the Court's rulings remain the same on  
4 those issues. Mr. Floyd?

5 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor. At this time, Your  
6 Honor, we would rest on behalf of Tyrell Woods.

7 THE COURT: All right. Certainly, again renewing your  
8 motions at the conclusion of the State's case and now as well;  
9 correct?

10 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: And the rulings of the Court remain the same.  
12 All right. Ladies and gentlemen, you have heard all the  
13 testimony that's going to be presented in this case. At this  
14 time -- at this time, we are going to move into closing  
15 arguments. The State -- Mr. Clements -- I assume Mr. Clements  
16 is going to do closing arguments for the State -- will open,  
17 followed by Mr. Wilson on behalf of Mr. Sanders and either Mr.  
18 Floyd or Mr. Meetze on behalf of Mr. Woods.

19 I will remind you all, ladies and gentlemen, that closing  
20 arguments is not evidence in this case. It is not evidence in  
21 this case. At the conclusion of the closing arguments, ladies  
22 and gentlemen, I will then charge you on the law applicable to  
23 this case.

24 At this time, Mr. Clements, you are recognized for  
25 closing argument.

CLOSING ARGUMENTS

MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please the Court. Good morning.

THE JURY: Good morning.

MR. CLEMENTS: As I told you when we first met on Monday, I am Ed Clements, and with Dudley Saleeby, we represent the State of South Carolina. We had the burden of proof in this case. And we have reached the end here where are going to give you a summation of what we believe the facts have shown in this case that we presented for you to judge. You are the judge of the facts in this case, as Judge Brown is the judge of the law.

I want to talk to you a little bit about the law and what these charges are, but the law is not what I tell you it is. Neither will the law be what Mr. Floyd or Mr. Wilson tell you, unless what we tell you agrees with what Judge Brown charges you with. He is going to give you the law.

Now, the law in this case, these charges, the first thing you got to think about is murder. Sam Rowell was shot in the head with a .22 bullet, his body was taped up in his home, and he was robbed there. The judge is going to tell you murder is when you kill someone with malice aforethought. You can infer from the circumstances and the facts that malice is there, and I submit to you that these facts certainly tell you that it's murder when someone is bound up with duct tape and executed.

1       Also, you've got to look at the law of attempted murder.  
2 Eddie Godbold went up to see his friend and knocked on the  
3 door and got response and walked by the side door and heard  
4 his friend, Sam Rowell, say, "Eddie, they're trying to rob me,  
5 open the door." And he goes to the door, the door flies open,  
6 and somebody start shooting at him and he runs. He's shot at  
7 three times with a 9mm. They attempted to murder him. We  
8 believe the facts will bear that out, and listen carefully to  
9 the law as Judge Brown charges it to you.

10       Burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree is when you break into someone's home  
11 armed with a weapon and either enter or remain there when it's  
12 dark in the nighttime, and we have both of those sets of facts  
13 here. We have two individuals who were armed, as you saw on  
14 the video. You saw Marco and Tyrell walk into that home with  
15 two pistols, one with a revolver and one with a 9mm, and they  
16 remained in here until it was dark. So they had an intent to  
17 commit a crime as they were stacking up items to steal and  
18 they killed Sam Rowell when he got home. So those are the  
19 facts. Listen carefully to that law on burglary 1<sup>st</sup> and apply  
20 that law to those facts.

21       Armed robbery. Simply when you go and you take something  
22 away from someone while you're armed with a weapon and you  
23 take their personal property away. It doesn't matter whether  
24 you keep it very long or not. Well, the facts in this case  
25 show that Sam Rowell was found on the floor of his home taped

1 up with all of his pockets pulled out except for I believe the  
2 left front. The remaining pocket were all pulled out as you  
3 will see and have seen in the pictures and heard the  
4 testimony. And they took things out of his pockets.

5       How do we know that? Because he always carried a wallet.  
6 That's what his friends and family said and that wallet was  
7 never found, but the contents of his wallet were found out on  
8 the corner of Wahee and Foxworth where Tyrell and Marco threw  
9 those out the window probably as they rode by after they took  
10 the money and things they wanted to keep. So those elements  
11 of armed robbery, listen to the law as Judge Brown gives it to  
12 you and apply those facts and you'll see we have armed robbery  
13 here.

14       Possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent  
15 crime. You saw them on the video. You saw Marco go in there  
16 with the roll of duct tape and the gun and had the little  
17 homemade silencer it looks like on there. It looks like a  
18 bottle like this taped onto the barrel. And you saw him wave  
19 -- in the video, you saw him wave Tyrell to come up, and  
20 Tyrell comes up and he's got the 9mm, and when they walk in  
21 the door, Tyrell is like that right behind Marco, and you see  
22 them go in that home armed and they're breaking in and they  
23 have the intent to commit a crime.

24       That's what burglary is and you're going to hear about  
25 that. And armed robbery -- you're going to hear about that

1 and they robbed him and they took those items from him and  
2 they shot him and killed him. Those three things are violent  
3 crimes and when they had the weapon in their possession while  
4 they committed those three violent crimes. Those are the  
5 facts that I want you to apply to the law of possession of a  
6 weapon during the commission of a violent crime when Judge  
7 Brown gives you the instructions on that law.

8       And then we have conspiracy. Conspiracy is basically  
9 where you got two people that agree to do some criminal act  
10 together and they have a scheme or a plan that they execute.  
11 And you saw that on the video when you saw Marco, the uncle,  
12 wave Tyrell up to follow him in, and they had that plan and  
13 they acted together and you saw them as they had their stance  
14 and they went in. They weren't sure if anybody was going to  
15 be there, but they checked at that time you saw the video or  
16 see the pictures where Tyrell went up and knocked on the door.  
17 The uncle sends the nephew over there to make sure no one is  
18 there after the Expedition rolls by and then they leave and a  
19 few minutes later, you know by the time on video, they come  
20 back and that was their plan they had agreed together to do.  
21 So when you listen to the law on conspiracy Judge Brown  
22 charges you with, judge those facts. Look at those facts and  
23 relate them to that law, and we've got the crime of  
24 conspiracy.

25       Now, the judge is going to charge you on some other

1 aspects of the law and he's going to talk about the  
2 credibility of the witnesses. And that just means  
3 believability. Can you believe it? You know, did they have  
4 the position and were in a spot to see what they say they saw?  
5 Did they hear what they say they heard? Did they know what  
6 were talking about? Were they consistent?

7       You judge them by their demeanor. You saw them on the  
8 witness stand and you heard what they testified to and it's  
9 what you believe that they said is credible or not, and the  
10 judge is going to tell you you can believe all of what a  
11 witness says or none of what a witness says. The judge is  
12 also going to tell you that you can believe part of what a  
13 witness says. You know, if you think, well, they got that  
14 wrong or they're confused on that, you can believe part of  
15 what they say and some of it you can say, well, maybe they're  
16 not being truthful about that. That is what you do when you  
17 judge the facts and you judge the credibility of the  
18 witnesses. That is your duty and that is your job to do.

19       Experts. They are a little bit different than regular  
20 lay witnesses. They can give you their opinion. Because of  
21 their experience, because of their training, because of their  
22 education, they can offer an opinion in their particular field  
23 of study or employment. And you heard from experts. Listen  
24 to the law the judge gives you on that and apply that to those  
25 facts and apply that to the testimony you heard from the

1 experts about fingerprints and about guns and about other  
2 things, and you judge that. And again, that's what you judge  
3 it to be. I'll tell you my opinion in my closing summation as  
4 Mr. Wilson and Mr. Floyd will, but it's your job to judge  
5 those witnesses and their credibility. An expert, police,  
6 layperson, that's for you.

7 Now, that's all I'm going to tell you about the law other  
8 than the law is as he gives it to you. Not as I think it is,  
9 not as you think it is, not as the defense counsel thinks it  
10 is, not as we think it should be. We've got to take it as it  
11 is and Judge Brown is going to give you that law.

12 Now, let me talk to you a little bit about this  
13 situation. This is not a "what happened." We all know what  
14 happened. That's clear. This is about who did it, and the  
15 first thing I want to point out to you -- now, I beg your  
16 indulgence a moment as I set up this diagram for you to see  
17 and then I'm going to take it down. I'm going to make just a  
18 couple of points on that.

19 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings.)

20 MR. CLEMENTS: And I appreciate you bearing with me on  
21 this. Y'all have been so attentive through this entire trial,  
22 and we appreciate that and the defense appreciates that  
23 because both the State and these defendants deserve your full  
24 attention, and you've given it and I thank you for that.

25 This is State's Exhibit Number 1, and I wanted to just

1 remind you -- I mean I think the testimony was this is a dead-  
2 end road, but you can see it here on this diagram that's in  
3 evidence. This is Phil Court. This is where Sam Rowell  
4 lived. And this is Sandy Land Road. There's only two ways in  
5 and out of there. You come in Sandy Land Road and then you --  
6 it dead-ends into Phil Court. Right there is where Sam Rowell  
7 lived. And that comes from Highway 9. Or you can come off of  
8 Highway 9 and you turn on Phil Court and there's a dead-end  
9 there. One way in on Phil Court and one way in and out on  
10 Sandy Land Road. Those are the only two ways to get to Sam's  
11 house. If you go further, it's a dead-end.

12       Wahee and Foxworth up here. That's where the cards  
13 belonging to Sam Rowell were found and his driver's license.  
14 You could either leave his residence and turn here and go down  
15 Sandy Land or go down Phil Court. Now, Lafayette Reed told  
16 you he went down Phil Court. He went all the way up here to  
17 the T-Mart trying to find where they went and he didn't see  
18 them.

19       Well, we know that when they left, he said they turned on  
20 Sandy Land Road, they went here, and evidently they at some  
21 point in time ended up here at Foxworth and Wahee. So the  
22 most logical, quickest route would have been for them to leave  
23 here, turn on Highway 9, turn on Foxworth Road, and follow it  
24 all the way up here to this intersection to get back close to  
25 Marion.

1        Now, this is in evidence. The other two diagrams are in  
2 evidence. I encourage you if you need to to take these back  
3 in the jury room with you and look at them and study them.  
4 We've got the two maps, this one and the close-up, and we've  
5 got the diagram that was made by SLED Officer Fellers of Mr.  
6 Rowell's residence. So I invite you to take those back and  
7 study them if you need them. Thank you, Mr. Saleeby.

8        Well, as I said, it's a "who did it." And we've got a  
9 video that shows it, and you're welcome to watch that and you  
10 can see it again as many times as you want. We have the  
11 equipment here ready if you request to see it. But it shows  
12 two persons and two guns and a roll of duct tape, and that's  
13 what you need to focus on in my opinion. Those two faces,  
14 those two guns, and that roll of duct tape, and we've got a  
15 few witnesses that I want to talk to you about.

16        Eddie Godbold. He was there. He went to see his friend.  
17 His friend didn't answer the door. He came out, heard the  
18 voice, and then went to the door, and then the gun started  
19 shooting. And what did he say? He ran, not to his car  
20 because you could see that from that side door. He went  
21 around the corner and hid on the steps and waited until  
22 everything got quieted down.

23        And he was a very important part of what happened, the  
24 reason being is because when he got there, that's when those  
25 two men panicked, rushed away, left the two bags -- the two

1 pillowcases they had been using as bags that they took off of  
2 Mr. Rowell's bed that they put in the cigars and put in the  
3 Crown Royal and put in other stuff. They left those.

4 And what did they leave there in that bag with those  
5 cigar boxes? Fingerprints. You heard testimony from this  
6 witness stand about those fingerprints and whose fingerprints  
7 those were. And you've got several prints of Marco on a  
8 couple of cigar boxes. You've got several prints of Tyrell on  
9 a Crown Royal box, on a cigar box, all that went in that  
10 pillowcase so they could tote it off, and most importantly,  
11 all over that duct tape -- all on the sticky side of that duct  
12 tape.

13 Now, ladies and gentlemen, there ain't but one way for  
14 your fingerprints to get on the sticky side of the duct tape.  
15 That means you've got to be pulling it off and using that to  
16 tape something up. And Tyrell was using that duct tape and  
17 rolling it off to tape up Sam Rowell. He taped up his ankles,  
18 taped up his feet, and then ultimately, after Sam cried out to  
19 Eddie to help him, stuffed underwear in Sam's mouth and taped  
20 up his head. There's no way on earth for those fingerprints  
21 to get on that sticky side of that tape except that Tyrell  
22 handled that tape.

23 Now, the defense may get up and legitimately ask, well,  
24 why wasn't Marco's fingerprints on that tape? Well, you  
25 remember Mr. Saleeby asked the SLED agent did you ever receive

1 a roll of tape, and he said no. We just got the tape off the  
2 body. When Marco was handling that roll of tape when he was  
3 walking in that house, you can see him on the video. He was  
4 holding that in his left hand, and he was holding that on the  
5 inside of the roll. And if we had the inside of that roll, it  
6 could have been tested, and we don't know what it would have  
7 shown. Maybe nothing because you don't always get  
8 fingerprints, but maybe Marco's fingerprints were on it. But  
9 we know he was holding it inside the roll and on top.

10 Now, I would submit to you when they started pulling that  
11 tape off and putting it on Mr. Rowell that that got rid of  
12 Marco's thumbprint on that roll, but it left Tyrell's and we  
13 have his fingerprints on the inside of the tape, the sticky  
14 side, and we have it on the outside of the tape.

15 Now, I believe as the prosecutor for the State that the  
16 person that had the revolver, that had the .22, was Marco  
17 Sanders. We believe the video shows that. We believe Marco  
18 Sanders, being the uncle, that he was in charge. That he was  
19 calling the shots, so to speak, and that Tyrell Woods, who is  
20 much younger, his nephew, was following in behind Marco and  
21 probably doing what Marco said.

22 And if you look at all these facts, what makes sense is  
23 that Marco had the gun on Sam Rowell and said tape him up.  
24 Here's the tape, Tyrell. So Tyrell tapes him up and wraps up  
25 his feet and hands. And why did they need to do that, you

1 know, if they were going to keep him there? I don't know.  
2 Were they going to leave him there or were they going to take  
3 him away and shoot him somewhere else? Well, we don't know.  
4 But they didn't want to leave all that evidence, but they got  
5 interrupted by Eddie.

6 So Tyrell is taping up Sam and he hears Eddie out there  
7 and Sam calls out to him. So Tyrell with a 9mm -- we saw him  
8 walking in the door with a 9mm. He shoots out and shoots at  
9 Eddie and misses him. And the 9mm shells get ejected like Mr.  
10 DeFreese said. Three shots Eddie heard; three shells got  
11 ejected out; one right by on the concrete and then two out on  
12 the grass a little further. It goes with what we know about  
13 Tyrell. He had the 9mm.

14 Now, after that, Eddie hid. He waited a few minutes and  
15 everything was quiet. He kind of snuck back to his car, but  
16 what else was going on at that time? We know that down the  
17 road -- State's Exhibit 5-D. A little bit down the road from  
18 Sam Rowell's house, there's a tree. And State's Exhibit 5-E,  
19 looking back on just a little bit on the side of the tree, we  
20 heard about there's a cut there, a little dirt road area off  
21 the main dirt road, and that's looking back at Sam's house.  
22 And I think Lafayette said there is the side door right there.  
23 Well, that's where he had to go to turn around to pursue that  
24 white SUV.

25 So what happened when Eddie came up and they lost sight

1 of him and they didn't know if he ran to a phone to call the  
2 police and deputies were going to come swooping down on them?  
3 They didn't know. All they knew was they had to get out of  
4 there.

5 So this white SUV, State's Exhibit 19-A that you saw,  
6 it's pretty clear that's an Expedition on that picture. They  
7 probably parked down there by that tree because you know the  
8 time sequence. They knocked on the door; nobody came. They  
9 went. Several minutes passed, about the time it would have  
10 taken to go down the road. And you saw them pass by. Go down  
11 the road and park by that tree and make their way up running  
12 across the field and come up to Sam's door with their guns and  
13 their duct tape.

14 So after Eddie came, they knew they needed to get out of  
15 there. So Marco with the .22 -- we heard from the pathologist  
16 it was a contact -- near contact wound. He put his gun right  
17 there on Sam's head, helpless and taped up, mouth taped up,  
18 hands taped up, feet taped up, completely and totally  
19 helpless, and Marco executes him. The only thing that Sam had  
20 is he knew who he was looking at and he would have told who it  
21 was had he lived, but they didn't let him live. They shot him  
22 and they took off.

23 And in their haste, what did they do? How did they  
24 really mess up? They left the pillowcases with all the items  
25 they were going to steal and their fingerprints all over them.

1           Now, Mr. Wilson I imagine is going to get up here -- I  
2 would if I was him -- and say you got all these items, you  
3 heard me with Mr. Darnell talking about this item no value for  
4 identification, this item no value for identification, blah,  
5 blah, blah, blah, blah. You can't say that that was from  
6 Marco Sanders or Tyrell Woods' fingerprints that you couldn't  
7 identify. No, he couldn't, but you know what else he can't  
8 say? He can't say that those smudged or not enough ridge  
9 detail or whatever it was that made them be unable to be  
10 identified, he cannot say that those fingerprints weren't  
11 Marco Sanders or weren't Tyrell Woods. But there were plenty  
12 of other fingerprints right there with them that he matched  
13 up.

14           So if you hear that after I sit down, I'd submit to you  
15 respectfully Mr. Wilson is a great attorney, but sometimes the  
16 best attorney in the world all he can do is blow smoke. So  
17 I'm telling you that's smoke. He may say Marco Sanders could  
18 have been there anytime. Tyrell Woods could have been there  
19 anytime.

20           You heard him ask all these questions trying to make it  
21 look like Mr. Rowell had this juke joint there at his house,  
22 and all the responses that I heard were, well, you know, they  
23 used it for events like family reunions or people would rent  
24 it out for weddings or whatever. I never heard anything from  
25 this witness stand, not questions mind you, but any witness

1 from this witness stand under oath. I never heard anybody  
2 tell you that's a juke joint and people are in and out of  
3 there all the time.

4 So if he says the fingerprints could have been put there  
5 any time because we don't know how long they last, that is  
6 true, but what you have that you've brought to this courtroom  
7 with you that we depend on is your common sense, your  
8 experience, your good judgment, and I invite you to exercise  
9 your common sense and your good judgment and your experience  
10 and say that argument doesn't make any sense. They got their  
11 fingerprints on there because they were loading those things  
12 in that pillowcase. You know?

13 We know when they were there because we saw them on the  
14 video walk in with their guns, with their duct tape, and  
15 that's when they started gathering up the loot and they left  
16 those bags. And you've got the pictures here and I could go  
17 through all of them with you, but I will go through and I'll  
18 show you a couple here. I don't want to belabor this.

19 13-A. They got the stuff stacked up there ready to take.  
20 They had the fingerprints on the Crown Royal box.

21 13-B. There's the pillowcase there.

22 13-D.

23 13-E. What do you see in that pillowcase? Crown Royal  
24 box. Tyrell's fingerprints on cigar boxes. You got cigar  
25 boxes with Tyrell's fingerprints and Marco's fingerprints. A

1 lot of other items in there.

2 On 13-F, Axe hygiene kits, things that make you smell  
3 good.

4 And here is State's Exhibit 13-G, the recorder. You  
5 heard about that. They tried to get fingerprints off of that.  
6 No value for identification. It could have been smudged. It  
7 could have been not enough detail, but they just weren't  
8 enough that they could identify. Well, we cannot say to you  
9 that the fingerprints there that they couldn't identify -- I  
10 can't tell you that was Marco Sanders' fingerprints on there,  
11 but I can't tell you it was not. I cannot tell you that it  
12 was Tyrell Woods' fingerprints on here, but I cannot tell you  
13 it was not. But it's right there in proximity on the couch  
14 with the pillowcases. On a couch was this video recorder.  
15 They were all in close proximity.

16 And you heard from the witnesses that Mr. Rowell always  
17 kept this at the foot of his bed. And you heard that the  
18 entrance that was probably used to get into the house was the  
19 two windows in Mr. Rowell's bedroom. They were raised partway  
20 up. Dust was displaced. You know, you get dusty windowsills,  
21 and if somebody crawls in, they're going to wipe some of that  
22 dust off. And you saw the blinds in the pictures I believe  
23 pulled down and tied to the side.

24 And you saw the evidence of where this was cut off the  
25 monitor to be carried away. Well, it didn't get carried away,

1 and what did that result in? It gives us this, and this tells  
2 us exactly who did it. You've got State's Exhibit 19-A.

3 You've got an Expedition -- white Expedition riding by that  
4 house at 7:28:27. What do we know about a white Expedition?

5 Well, Lafayette Reed said a white Expedition almost ran  
6 him off the road and it couldn't have come from any other  
7 direction or any other place because there was not an entrance  
8 in the direction it came from. That was a dead-end. You saw  
9 that on the map. He was coming by Sam's house about to turn  
10 in to check on Sam, and that car was already on that road, and  
11 what did he say? All of a sudden, lights came on.

12 And I submit to you those lights came on because Marco  
13 and Tyrell had run back to that Expedition after Eddie  
14 startled them and they shot Sam and ran. They knew they had  
15 to go. They took his wallet and whatever else money they got  
16 off of him and whatever else they might could have held in  
17 their hands, but they weren't able to come up and take their  
18 Expedition back up to the house and load up the stuff they  
19 left.

20 But they ran to that Expedition and they got in and they  
21 backed out onto that road. They didn't have their lights on.  
22 Pulled out and all of a sudden said we got to go and they cut  
23 the lights on and they floored it, and they went by and they  
24 almost ran Lafayette off that road, and then they took off and  
25 they went on Foxworth Road, and they got to Foxworth and Wahee

1 and threw Sam Rowell's stuff out as they went.

2 But here, 19-B, riding past.

3 19-C. You got Tyrell there going up to check and see if  
4 anybody's there. You saw him on the video knock on the door.  
5 Nobody answered.

6 Here he is knocking. 19-D.

7 Here he is in 19-E walking away -- walking back to the  
8 Expedition. And that was at 7:37:36.

9 At 7:48:14, we got this still photograph where Marco --  
10 there he is. And you remember seeing on the video he's doing  
11 this, waving at Tyrell to come on.

12 And Mr. -- Mr. Wilson's made all kind of questions and  
13 issue about tattoos. Tattoos. That -- that's really just  
14 fluff. If he had tattoos or not, it doesn't make any  
15 difference. You can't see his left arm on that video well at  
16 all at any time other than only his hand, and it's far enough  
17 away and he's dark-skinned enough that you might can't see  
18 those tattoos. You know?

19 But look closely at that video. Do tattoos matter to  
20 you? If you really think it's an issue, which I don't -- I  
21 just think it's blowing more smoke. I thought I saw a tattoo  
22 on the shoulder because I can see the right side and I'm not  
23 real sure, but look at that and see if you think tattoos had  
24 to be an issue. The left arm -- he's walking and you see his  
25 hand, but you don't really see his arm out.

1        So, you know, that's neither here nor there. You can  
2 look at his face. You can look at his build. You can look at  
3 his size. And you can say that's Marco Sanders. I'm sure  
4 once you saw the video the first time, you went, whoa, there  
5 they are.

6        You got Neil Rouse, who knew Marco for a long time. He  
7 saw that video. I think he said it was, like, September 18<sup>th</sup>  
8 or something when he went up to SLED and he saw it. He didn't  
9 see anything that changed his mind for him to go back to  
10 Marion County Sheriff's Office and say we got warrants on the  
11 wrong man. You know, we better call New York or New Jersey to  
12 let him go. We got the wrong man. No. He didn't do that.  
13 He saw him and said that's Marco.

14        So they were able -- after he got arrested in New York,  
15 they were able to transport him back. Charlie Watson  
16 transported him back you heard from Justina Hayes and checked  
17 him in. I think it was like November 18<sup>th</sup> -- November 19<sup>th</sup>. I  
18 can't remember exactly, but I think it was the 18<sup>th</sup> of  
19 November. He got checked in and she took his fingerprints,  
20 and I think the date is on the card so check that out if I'm  
21 wrong. I think it's the 18<sup>th</sup>. It could have been the 19<sup>th</sup>,  
22 but check the card out and check it. Okay?

23        But here he is and you can see that gun and that homemade  
24 silencer in his hand right there on State's Exhibit 19-G, and  
25 then there's that roll of duct tape. He's holding it in his

1 hand. And you really don't get close enough to see tattoos,  
2 but you can look at the video and it might show that tattoo.  
3 I think I saw it on the video, but I cannot see it on the  
4 pictures. I can tell you that.

5 State's Exhibit 19-H. There he is walking up, and here  
6 comes Tyrell with the 9mm right there.

7 Here's State's Exhibit 19-I. And before he walks up,  
8 there you see what Mr. Darnell talked about taped onto that  
9 gun and that it was a revolver. He could tell it was a  
10 revolver.

11 And there, 19-J, we highlighted that duct tape in his  
12 hand. Same duct tape that taped Sam Rowell up.

13 State's Exhibit 19-K. There he is waving the gun. Come  
14 on, Tyrell. Come on. We've got to hurry. Nobody's here. We  
15 got to get in so we can get out.

16 State's 19-L. There he is. You can see the duct tape.  
17 You can see his face. You can see his build. You can see  
18 that gun.

19 State's 19-M. And as you heard testimony, as you zoom in  
20 on these things, the pixels on it aren't quite as clear on  
21 this, but that video is a lot clearer. You remember what that  
22 video looked like. Look at that video.

23 I'm going to skip a couple of these. Y'all can take them  
24 back in the jury room and look at them as long as y'all need  
25 to look at them.

1 State's Exhibit 19-D. There's Tyrell and there's the  
2 9mm.

3 The last one I want to show you -- 19-R. There they are  
4 going in the house. They got a plan. Marco is going in the  
5 door and Tyrell has got his back-up. They didn't think  
6 anybody was there, but they knocked on the door and checked  
7 earlier. But they may not be sure.

8 Well, all this evidence you can take back in the jury  
9 room with you and look at it, and you can look at these  
10 pictures of Sam Rowell and see exactly what they did to him.  
11 You know, we believe he came in the back door because that's  
12 where his shoes were. He took off his shoes, walked around in  
13 socked feet, and got himself a cup of coffee.

14 And then -- this is State's Exhibit 11-A. There's his  
15 feet with no shoes. And then they jumped him.

16 State's Exhibit 11-B. Pockets being turned out where  
17 they robbed him.

18 State's Exhibit 11-C. Pockets pulled out where they  
19 robbed him.

20 State's Exhibit 11-D is a rope of duct tape where they  
21 secured him where they could handle him.

22 State's Exhibit 11-E. There he is shot, and they had  
23 moved him and turned him over to check him out.

24 State's Exhibit 11-F is what they did after he cried out  
25 to Eddie for help. They stuffed his underwear in his mouth.

1 And you saw pictures where he had underwear that looked  
2 similar on his -- in his bedroom. They grabbed it and taped  
3 him up, and there's a closer view -- State's 11-G. What a  
4 horrible way to go, to be helpless, bound up, and then be  
5 executed by being shot in the head.

6 Now, there's one piece of law that's going to be most  
7 important in this case maybe than some of the rest. As y'all  
8 think about who did what, we believe that they had a plan that  
9 they executed together, and we believe Tyrell is the one that  
10 bound up Sam and we believe Marco is the one that shot him.

11 Well, let me tell you about the most important bit of the  
12 law. Not that any of it is unimportant; it's all important.  
13 But to me, I really want you to listen carefully to all the  
14 law the judge gives you. And he's going to talk about  
15 something called accomplice liability. The hand of one is the  
16 hand of all. That's what that means.

17 And that is when two people do something together and  
18 they agree to do something together that they're both  
19 responsible for what each other does because they're doing it  
20 together. They're doing it together.

21 If Mr. Saleeby and I decided, man, we're going to go rob  
22 a store over here, and we go to Martin's store and I pull the  
23 gun out of my pocket and I shoot Mr. Martin over there at the  
24 store. Who's guilty of the murder? According to the law in  
25 South Carolina, both are because Mr. Saleeby -- I talked him

1 into going over there with me to do it and we were going to  
2 rob that place together, and you can naturally think that out  
3 of an armed robbery, somebody might wind up getting shot and  
4 killed, and you're part of it, you're guilty. The hand of one  
5 is the hand of all. That is the law and Judge Brown is going  
6 to tell you about that.

7 So everything that Marco did on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, in the  
8 commission of these crimes, everything he did Tyrell Woods is  
9 guilty of. By the law of South Carolina, the hand of one is  
10 the hand of all, and they did it together. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012,  
11 everything that Tyrell Woods did in the commission of those  
12 crimes, Marco Sanders is guilty of. The hand of one is the  
13 hand of all, and they did it together. They did it together.

14 I'm about to be done and I appreciate your attention.  
15 I've just got a few more things I want to remind you of, but  
16 my mind is not near as good as all twelve of your minds.  
17 Y'all remember everything that came from this witness stand.  
18 And if it didn't come from this witness stand, it's not  
19 evidence. If it's just questions, it's not evidence. It's  
20 the answers from this witness stand that are the facts you  
21 judge.

22 They went out to the scene that night, law enforcement  
23 officers, several of them, and responded as quickly as they  
24 could. And one came. And then a couple'more. And then some  
25 more. And then the investigators came and they talked to the

1 people out there. And after they talked to those people, all  
2 they knew -- all they had to go on is we're looking for a  
3 white SUV. Two black males at least because Eddie said Sam  
4 said they are robbing me.

5 You kept hearing Mr. Wilson keep trying to confuse him  
6 about -- well, how many was there? There's one? There's two?  
7 You know? And we cleared that up. He said there was two  
8 there because Sam said "they." When you say "they", that  
9 means more than one. So at least two.

10 Well, they went back and they started spreading the word  
11 throughout law enforcement we're looking for a white SUV.  
12 We're looking for two black males. Well, Mr. Rouse said that  
13 was all the information they had to go on. And you heard that  
14 JJ, Mr. Nichols, talked to James Lee just a couple days after  
15 that, and he talked to him and he said, man, I saw -- on July  
16 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day before, I saw them over there at Martin's Exxon  
17 station. I saw Marco Sanders driving a white Expedition with  
18 Tyrell with him. And he's known him for years, and he told  
19 them that so they started looking at them.

20 Mr. Wilson wanted to make a big, big to-do out of JJ  
21 Nichols wrote a statement way on down the line in August. JJ  
22 didn't remember when it was. I had to show it to him to say  
23 does that refresh your recollection. Oh, yeah. It was  
24 August. That's when I wrote it. Well, why did you write it?  
25 Well, James came and said, you know, y'all wanted me to write

1 it. And James testified that it was we asked them to get JJ  
2 to do a report or write a statement of what he told James so  
3 we had something in writing. But he told him before July 12<sup>th</sup>.  
4 He told him I saw them driving so they started looking.

5       They went to Tyrell's mother and talked to her. And what  
6 did James Lee say? After he talked to her, we went back and  
7 started looking at a Valerie Commander who was supposed to be  
8 his girlfriend -- Tyrell's girlfriend. They ran DMV and sure  
9 enough, she has a white Ford Expedition. They go to check it  
10 out and look at it, you know, and Scott Hardee -- he processed  
11 that car and looked at it and collected swabs and did other  
12 things and said, well, a lot of these things they just weren't  
13 tested.

14       All right. Here comes the smoke. You hear about they  
15 didn't test that and they should have tested this and they  
16 should have -- you know. Well, we already knew that Tyrell  
17 and Marco had been in that car because they verified that with  
18 Valerie Commander that they had had use of her car and had had  
19 it. So we already knew that.

20       So if they had wasted the resources to go test all that  
21 stuff that was collected that Scott Hardee said it wasn't  
22 processed, and it came back Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods and  
23 we presented it here in the courtroom, guess what the defense  
24 would have said. Of course, it's going to be there. They had  
25 use of her car. Tyrell and Valerie were boyfriend and

1 girlfriend. So we didn't waste time with that. So don't pay  
2 attention to that smoke screen. Okay? Because that's just  
3 that.

4 But they had an SUV and they had two people driving it  
5 and they checked it out. And you heard they talked to another  
6 individual at Probation and Parole, and after talking with  
7 him, they went and got warrants on the 12<sup>th</sup>. James said he got  
8 a warrant for murder on Marco and a warrant for murder on  
9 Tyrell. And then on the 16<sup>th</sup>, he went and got the remainder of  
10 the warrants.

11 Now, they continued to investigate and they continued and  
12 they kept working. James even went and bought a unit, which  
13 is what the company told him to do, so that they could see  
14 what was on that video because it had been damaged by Marco  
15 and Tyrell. And when they got it and they went and they  
16 looked at it, what did they see? They saw Marco Sanders.  
17 They saw Tyrell Woods. They knew them. They had known them.  
18 If it had been somebody else, they'd have gotten an  
19 investigator to find out who it was, but when they saw it,  
20 they went, "We've got the right men."

21 We had all this other evidence. We had enough for  
22 warrants. We got the warrants, but we continued to look into  
23 it and make sure. And we made sure because we made sure we  
24 checked that video and saw what was on that video. And if you  
25 don't do anything else, if you've got some time, look at that

1 video and it is clear that it is Tyrell Woods and Marco  
2 Sanders. The arrest warrants are confirmed. Their minds were  
3 not changed.

4 And we brought it to you. We've brought you the  
5 fingerprints. We've brought you the testimony. We've brought  
6 you the video. We've brought you the still photographs and  
7 other pictures. And we've presented to you the facts because  
8 we have the burden of proof, and we embrace that burden.  
9 We're happy to embrace that burden. Just like on the first  
10 day I told you Marco had on a long-sleeved white shirt and I  
11 told you he was clothed with the presumption innocence just  
12 like that white shirt, and it was my job and Mr. Saleeby's job  
13 to remove it.

14 And we have, and now it's up to you to take the facts  
15 that comes from this evidence and this witness stand, not from  
16 what I say, not from what Ralph Wilson says, and not from what  
17 Scott Floyd says, but what these sworn witnesses say and this  
18 evidence and these fingerprints and these photos and this  
19 video. And then listen to the law from Judge Brown and then  
20 it's your duty to bring back a verdict that speaks the truth.

21 And the verdict in this case that speaks the truth is  
22 that on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Marco Sanders shot Sam Rowell in the  
23 head and he killed him with malice aforethought and he's  
24 guilty of murder, and that Tyrell Woods participated with him  
25 in concert with him together, and he's guilty of murder. And

1 that Marco Sanders and Tyrell Woods took Sam Rowell's wallet  
2 and things out of his pockets and stole from him and committed  
3 burglary 1<sup>st</sup> and they're guilty of burglary 1<sup>st</sup> and they're  
4 guilty of armed robbery and they're guilty of possession of a  
5 weapon, a 9mm and a .22, during the commission of those  
6 violent crimes, and they're guilty of conspiracy.

7       Sam Rowell didn't deserve that. I don't know that anyone  
8 would ever deserve that, to be executed like that and bound in  
9 duct tape in your own home, the place where you're supposed to  
10 be most comfortable, most secure, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July when we  
11 celebrate and recognize the inalienable rights that our  
12 creator endowed us with: life, liberty, and the pursuit of  
13 happiness. And Sam Rowell's life was taken and his liberty  
14 was taken and his pursuit of happiness was destroyed by Marco  
15 Sanders and Tyrell Woods, and he didn't deserve it, but,  
16 ladies and gentlemen, he deserves justice and we ask that you  
17 give it to him.

18       THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, you're recognized.

19       MR. WILSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

20       THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

21       MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

22       THE COURT: Let her get out of here before you start, if  
23 you don't mind.

24       MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

25       THE COURT: So it won't interrupt you.

1 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, the deputy clerk of court exits the  
3 courtroom.)

4 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.

5 MR. WILSON: All right. Thank you.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, let me start by saying that I know  
7 we've now been here four days, and I said to you at the outset  
8 that I know when you got your summonses to come to court and  
9 to participate in this jury process that you probably were  
10 concerned about having to come down here and sit all week away  
11 from your families, away from your home, away from your jobs,  
12 and listen to a bunch of lawyers go at it back and forth, but  
13 I also told you how important this process is. And it is true  
14 it is important. It is important to both the State of South  
15 Carolina, it's important to Marco Sanders, and it's important  
16 to Mr. Woods.

17 I also said to you that you stand between the State of  
18 South Carolina and a defendant. You're it. You are justice  
19 in Marion County. You represent justice. You have no friends  
20 to reward. You have no enemies to punish.

21 Let me also say there is no question somebody murdered  
22 Mr. Rowell. That is not the issue here. Nobody is  
23 disagreeing with that. Nobody is saying that Mr. Rowell was  
24 not murdered. That's not what we're here about. What we're  
25 really here to determine is whether or not Marco Sanders

1 participated in the murder of Mr. Rowell.

2       Now, the solicitor said to you that it was the 4<sup>th</sup> of  
3 July, and we were celebrating life, liberty, and the pursuit  
4 of happiness. All good words and all famous words, but there  
5 is another word that he left out. Justice. Because we should  
6 also be looking for that. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of  
7 happiness are hollow words unless there's justice and  
8 fairness. And the framers of our Constitution also had  
9 justice. They made sure, and they set up this whole system of  
10 the jury system and the court system so that justice would be  
11 a part of the American way and a part of life, and it's  
12 something that we are to take seriously.

13       Also at the outset when we were talking and His Honor was  
14 giving you the preliminary remarks when you were first seated  
15 as jurors, and he was telling you that if you make an  
16 erroneous finding of fact that that really is almost  
17 impossible to correct. If His Honor makes a ruling and it's  
18 wrong, the Supreme Court or somebody else will deal with that.  
19 If I make an error, His Honor will straighten me out and get  
20 me back on track.

21       You are the sole judges of the facts. You are the sole  
22 judges. The twelve of you left will decide what the facts are  
23 in this case.

24       Now, I want to start by talking about a word that you  
25 heard throughout this trial -- presumption of innocence. What

1 does that mean? Well, it means this. That every defendant  
2 who is charged with any crime is presumed to be not guilty of  
3 that crime, and that until and unless the State of South  
4 Carolina can bring you some evidence through witnesses and  
5 exhibits and bring them in this courtroom, not what somebody  
6 says on the street, not what they read somewhere that's in the  
7 newspaper what people said, but that they can bring witnesses  
8 who satisfy you beyond a reasonable doubt that, in fact, the  
9 accused -- and in this case, my client, Marco Sanders --  
10 committed a murder. And in this case, specifically committed  
11 the murder of Mr. Rowell.

12       Probably the only thing that the State and I agree on  
13 thus far is that this case is about who did it. So let's talk  
14 about who did it.

15       There are only two things that the State contends connect  
16 Marco Sanders to this case. Two things that they contend.  
17 One, they say they have a video, which you have seen. And  
18 two, they say we have two cigar boxes where his prints are on  
19 the two cigar boxes. Those are the two things that they say  
20 connect Marco Sanders to this crime. So let's talk about  
21 those two things.

22       First, let's talk about the video. You've seen the  
23 video. I've seen the video. The only thing you can tell from  
24 that video is yes, there are two black men on that video.  
25 That's it. You look at that video and you look at the

1 defendant who is sitting there -- been there all week long --  
2 and I promise you there are a hundred men or a thousand men in  
3 Marion County that fit that very description of those -- of  
4 one of those men going in there.

5 Now, I assume based on what the solicitor has said that  
6 he's saying that the taller dark male is supposed to be Marco  
7 Sanders. And they could have just as easily brought you any  
8 other tall, dark male and said, okay, he fits the description  
9 because any male six foot, 200 pounds or 220, would probably  
10 fit that description. You cannot see that video well enough  
11 to tell who is there, which is why -- which is why they  
12 brought two police officers in here to say, oh, well, we  
13 looked at the video and we saw him.

14 Well, ladies and gentlemen, if it's Marco Sanders on that  
15 video and if that video is clear enough, you would know for  
16 yourself. You don't need somebody to tell you who was on  
17 there. The only reason that they had them to try to tell you  
18 who is on there is because they know that you can't figure it  
19 out by looking at it for yourself. That's why they had those  
20 two officers come in and tell you that. Did you hear anybody  
21 else say that other than the two police officers who were  
22 responsible for arresting Marco Sanders and putting him in the  
23 jail in the first place before they had the video?

24 So what are they going to now say? They've already had  
25 them arrested, they've already put them in jail, and then they

1 get a video and it's the right man on there and say, oh, well,  
2 that's him. What else are they going to say? Oh, no, well,  
3 we got the wrong guy. We done arrested the wrong guy and  
4 brought him back here so now we've got to start all over  
5 again. No. Oh, yeah, we know that's him. Of course, that's  
6 what they're going to say.

7 You look at that video. Find the tattoo on that video of  
8 the -- of the black man that goes into that house first. Find  
9 one. Just one tattoo. It doesn't exist.

10 Another thing about the whole black man that goes into  
11 the house first, that's the man that's carrying the roll of  
12 tape. Okay? That man is carrying the roll of tape. Now, if  
13 Marco Sanders is the man carrying the roll of tape, you will  
14 see on the video that that man's hand is all around that tape.  
15 Did you hear one piece of evidence, one bit, who says Marco's  
16 DNA was on that tape? That his fingerprints were on that  
17 tape? Not one.

18 Now, if he is the guy, which the State is trying to get  
19 you to believe, that has the roll of tape bringing it into the  
20 house, if he's got it in his hand carrying it, his hand --  
21 that man's hand is wrapped all around that whole roll of tape.  
22 The solicitor says, well, we didn't find a roll of tape so we  
23 couldn't get the underside of it. No. But what we do know is  
24 this. What we do know is this. Somebody peeled off that roll  
25 of tape because they wrapped it around Mr. -- Mr. Rowell's

1 feet and hands and mouth.

2        So if Marco Sanders had handled that tape, then his --  
3 then when they tore it off, that piece would have gone onto  
4 Mr. Rowell. And so when they're doing all this DNA work and  
5 they're doing all of this fingerprinting work, Mr. Marco  
6 Sanders' fingerprints were going to be on that tape. His  
7 fingerprints are not on the tape because he wasn't there. He  
8 didn't do it.

9        You're going to have the video. You can ask for it and  
10 you can watch it. It's in -- it's into evidence. You can  
11 watch it as much as you want and you can look at it. And  
12 you've had the opportunity to see this defendant sitting over  
13 there. Look at him and look at that video. Find those  
14 tattoos on that video. Because you can't change that. You  
15 either have tattoos or you don't, and once you get them,  
16 they're there. You can't make them go away just because  
17 you're on TV or on video.

18        What happened here is this. There was a rush to judgment  
19 by the State in this case. They had some criminal guy who was  
20 charged with something else who was at his probation office  
21 who told them, oh, yeah, it must be Marco Sanders and -- and  
22 -- and Tyrell Woods or somebody. So what do they do? They  
23 just -- nothing else. At that point, they had absolutely  
24 nothing else. Nothing. There are no fingerprints. There's  
25 no video. There is nothing. The only thing that they admit

1 that there was this criminal who told them, well, that's who I  
2 think it was, and they don't even bring that criminal in here  
3 to tell you that he told them that. And then they, based on  
4 that, go out and get arrest warrants and arrest Marco Sanders  
5 and put him in jail. Everything else followed from there.

6 Now, let's talk about the white car. And you remember I  
7 asked Ms. Fellers, who was the SLED agent who collected a lot  
8 of that stuff, about what she collected and what she did with  
9 it. She had all of these things that she had sent to SLED  
10 that she collected from this white car, the white car that  
11 they claim was being driven in this incident.

12 Now, there are cigarettes in the car. There's cigars in  
13 the car. Cigar boxes in the car. All kinds of stuff in this  
14 car. I read you a whole list of stuff. Not one single piece  
15 of that was ever tested by SLED to determine whether Marco  
16 Sanders was ever in that white car. Not one piece.

17 And you heard every one of those experts say, oh, yeah,  
18 yeah, yeah, if we -- if you touch a window, we can get a  
19 fingerprint off that. Or if you touch the steering column, if  
20 he's driving that car, you know, and he puts his hand on that  
21 steering column, will you be able to get DNA from that? Will  
22 you be able to get fingerprints from the door or from the  
23 window? Oh, yeah, yeah, you can get them. Not one print of  
24 Marco Sanders from that car. Not a single one. Not a single  
25 piece of DNA from Marco Sanders on that car. Nothing.

1           Then -- then what happens? Let's go -- let's talk for a  
2 minute about the white car some more because there is no  
3 question that there is a white car on the video. So it would  
4 just seem to me -- and I know I'm not the brightest fellow in  
5 the world, but it would just seem to me that if you're wanting  
6 to connect the person to the car that you would want to find  
7 whatever evidence is in the car. They even went to the  
8 trouble of actually getting a search warrant, going and  
9 searching the car, taking pictures of the interior of the car,  
10 doing all of these things with the car, and then they don't  
11 have it tested.

12           Well, why not? Maybe because they didn't want the  
13 results. I don't know why they didn't do it. I'm not privy  
14 to that. Neither was Marco Sanders. We don't get a say in  
15 that. That's what the State chose to do for whatever their  
16 reasons.

17           Now, let's talk about the cigar boxes. They said, oh,  
18 well, yeah, okay, Mr. Wilson, but we got -- we got two cigar  
19 boxes with fingerprints on them, and those two cigar boxes  
20 were found in the home of Mr. Rowell. Well, when did those  
21 prints get on those boxes? When? May? June? July? Who  
22 knows?

23           Folks, this is a -- you call it whatever you like -- juke  
24 joint, club, lounge. It doesn't matter. Party house. I  
25 don't care what you call it. People are in and out of there

1 buying stuff, liquor, beer, cigarettes, whatever it is that  
2 they were selling out of that place. In and out of there.  
3 Buying stuff. Selling stuff. Selling liquor. Even -- even  
4 Mr. Goldbold and Mr. Reed, all -- everybody who testified, oh,  
5 yeah, yeah, yeah, they have people -- 40 -- 30 -- 40 -- 50  
6 people in there at a time.

7 But you know what's the amazing thing? Think about this  
8 for a second. The amazing thing is everybody admits that this  
9 was a party house, but not a single print -- not a single  
10 print found in that house other than they say Marco Sanders.  
11 Not a single print. There were 29 prints on -- on the DV --  
12 on the DVR alone. Or nine. I take that back. Nine on the  
13 DVR alone. Well, we can't identify none of them. There are  
14 prints all over the place, but they can't identify a single  
15 print of any other person.

16 You find that incredible? In fact -- in fact, there was  
17 only one print found of Mr. Rowell who lived there. That was  
18 probably by accident. Not a single print of another living  
19 individual was found in that house.

20 You see, the defendant, Marco Sanders, has no burden of  
21 proof. He doesn't have to prove to you anything. The State  
22 has to do that. They have to prove to you beyond a reasonable  
23 doubt that Marco Sanders participated in the murder of Mr.  
24 Rowell. And, folks, they have not done that. They have not  
25 done that. There is no proof here to convict Marco Sanders of

1 anything. Two prints on a cigar box when you're running a  
2 commercial business selling stuff to any and everybody who  
3 comes and goes is not proof of murder. It's not.

4 His Honor will tell you that you have to look at each of  
5 these cases separately because these are separate defendants.  
6 And if one participates, that doesn't mean necessarily the  
7 other one participated. It does not mean that. And just  
8 because the State charges someone, it doesn't mean that that  
9 person is guilty.

10 Whenever I do a closing argument, I always sit down and I  
11 think of ten other things that I wish I had said, but you've  
12 heard all of the evidence, you've seen the video, and you've  
13 heard all of the witnesses. There are twelve of you, and the  
14 twelve of you collectively are much smarter and have a much  
15 better memory than what I have, and I just ask you to trust  
16 your own instincts and your own judgment about what happened.

17 As I said earlier, you have no friends to reward. You  
18 have no enemies to punish. You have but one responsibility --  
19 to find the verdict that speaks the truth. And really, you  
20 know, when I think about it and look at it, really you ask  
21 yourself, well, who's on trial? Well, really the State is on  
22 trial. The State is on trial because the State is the one who  
23 is responsible to prove something to you. So what you're  
24 really judging is whether the State has met its burden,  
25 whether or not they have proven their case beyond a reasonable

1 doubt.

2       That's what you're really judging. Have they brought you  
3 proof that satisfies you as an honest juror who is seeking the  
4 truth beyond a reasonable doubt? Have they left you firmly  
5 convinced based on everything that they have presented that,  
6 in fact, Marco Sanders is guilty? And the answer will be no.  
7 They have not done that job. They have not brought you  
8 sufficient evidence, and Marco Sanders should not be  
9 convicted.

10       You know, the thing about justice is is that for a long  
11 time when I was growing up, you know, as a boy over in Horry  
12 County, I always thought that justice meant, you know, the  
13 police, and it meant the judges, and it meant the lawyers, but  
14 there's nothing further from the truth actually. It's really  
15 the hearts and the minds of the citizens. You. That's really  
16 where real justice is. That's really where real truth is  
17 because you are the fact-finders of our system, and we simply  
18 ask you to truly try the issues in this case between the State  
19 of South Carolina and Marco Sanders, and to render a verdict  
20 that speaks the truth, a verdict of not guilty as to all these  
21 charges. Thank you so much.

22       THE COURT: All right. Mr. Floyd, you're recognized,  
23 sir.

24       MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor. Good morning, ladies  
25 and gentlemen.

1 THE JURY: Good morning.

2 MR. FLOYD: You know, I was kind of fortunate in this  
3 trial because of the order of things and the questions of  
4 witnesses. I got to follow behind Mr. Ralph Wilson here, who  
5 is such an excellent lawyer, and he does such a fine job of  
6 cross examination so I didn't really have to do that much work  
7 with the witnesses because he had already gotten to them by  
8 the time I got to it. And I tried not to re-plow the same  
9 ground, so to speak, that he went over and did the  
10 examination, and I'm going to try as much as I can to avoid  
11 doing that in closing with y'all today, but if I cover points  
12 that he's already been over, I'm just trying to be thorough.

13 Of course, we've heard the term reasonable doubt several  
14 times in this trial and, of course, that's just the kind of  
15 doubt that would cause a reasonable person to hesitate to act.  
16 That's what reasonable doubt is defined as. I want to talk to  
17 you about the evidence and submit the reason why I believe  
18 that certainly there's ample reasonable doubt in this case,  
19 and that you should find Mr. Tyrell Woods not guilty of these  
20 charges.

21 Over the last few days, I think we heard from -- I don't  
22 know -- 19 or 20 witnesses. I didn't keep a full count, but I  
23 think it was somewhere around there, give or take one or two,  
24 and most of those people were witnesses who might have  
25 assisted at the scene in some capacity. The 9-1-1 operator

1 might have taken a phone call. They might have secured the  
2 scene and assisted with the initial investigation, collected  
3 evidence, but they played very limited defined roles and, of  
4 course, those -- those folks didn't really have any personal  
5 knowledge of who might have been involved in these particular  
6 crimes that we're dealing with in this -- this trial.

7       Now, the closest thing that we have to an eyewitness in  
8 this case is Mr. Eddie Godbold, and he testified that on that  
9 evening of July the 4<sup>th</sup>, he went over to Mr. Rowell's house and  
10 went to a side door and heard Mr. Rowell call for help. He  
11 was standing there and heard gunshots, perceived he was being  
12 shot at, and wisely got himself away. But, of course, he  
13 couldn't see who was in the house. He couldn't describe them.  
14 He couldn't be sure how many people were inside. So he didn't  
15 really identify anyone.

16       And the other witness we had that was in close proximity  
17 to that residence at the time was Mr. Lafayette Reed. Now, he  
18 was Mr. Rowell's neighbor, and he stated he heard gunshots.  
19 Shortly thereafter, he was almost hit by a speeding white SUV,  
20 and he actually thought it was an Escalade or a Navigator at  
21 first I believe he testified, and then actually got out his  
22 car and tried to chase it down, but in spite of that, he  
23 couldn't identify anybody. He didn't know how many people  
24 were in there. He couldn't describe them. He couldn't tell  
25 if they were male or female or whatever.

1        So both of those statements were turned over on July the  
2 4<sup>th</sup>, which was actually the evening of the occurrence, and we  
3 know from testimony of Detective James Lee that the arrest  
4 warrant for Mr. Woods on the murder charge was issued just  
5 eight days later on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July. So really what evidence  
6 other than two people who couldn't identify anyone did the  
7 State have at the time?

8        The only thing we can be sure of from the testimony that  
9 we heard is that on July the 5<sup>th</sup> this probationer named Shawn  
10 Davis was shown a photo line-up and he failed to identify  
11 anybody in that first line-up he was given, but then on July  
12 the 12<sup>th</sup> of 2012, he was shown two other photo line-ups and  
13 supposedly picked out Mr. Tyrell Woods and Mr. Marco Sanders.  
14 But we don't really know the circumstances that he made that  
15 identification. We don't know what basis he made it on, and  
16 the reason we don't know is because even though they used his  
17 information to issue warrants, the State didn't call him to  
18 testify. I mean we're only left to -- to wonder and  
19 speculate.

20        And we also heard testimony from Detective Lee and former  
21 Deputy Nichols that Nichols had reported to Detective Lee  
22 within a few days after July the 4<sup>th</sup> that he had seen Marco  
23 Sanders driving a white SUV around. In fact, I think right  
24 across the street from here, right across from the courthouse.  
25 And I believe he identified that as a white Ford Expedition

1 trimmed in gold. He said that Tyrell Woods was a passenger in  
2 that vehicle I believe.

3 When he actually made the statement we don't actually  
4 know that because, unfortunately, no one who was doing the  
5 investigation wrote it down. They didn't make a record of it.  
6 So once again, we're left to speculate about that, but we know  
7 he didn't give a written statement about it until August the  
8 23<sup>rd</sup>, which is -- I don't know -- probably six or seven weeks  
9 after July the 24<sup>th</sup> -- I mean July the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

10 But just assuming Deputy Nichols was right about that and  
11 giving him the benefit of the doubt and say he did see them in  
12 a white SUV, what does that really mean to prove this case? I  
13 mean we all know from personal experience from driving or  
14 being passengers in cars, you know how prevalent SUVs are in  
15 any community around here. I'm sure we can drive around  
16 Marion today and we would see God knows how many SUVs driving  
17 around and, of course, white is a very popular color for any  
18 car or any type of automobile.

19 But -- but just based on that information, law  
20 enforcement went on July 27<sup>th</sup> of 2012 -- after they developed  
21 information that there was a white SUV belonging to that lady  
22 named Valerie Commander, they went out there to I believe  
23 Wateree Correctional Institute, and they collected all the  
24 evidence Mr. Wilson referred to later out of that car to  
25 forensically test to supposedly try to tie that car to Mr.

1 Woods or Mr. Sanders apparently. Once again, those tests  
2 weren't done. I don't believe that car was ever forensically  
3 tied to either one of these individuals.

4 And certainly there's really no evidence that that  
5 particular SUV was even tied to the crime scene. We don't see  
6 plate numbers on that video of the car that was actually on  
7 the scene, and we don't know what Ms. Commander's plate  
8 numbers were. We don't have any evidence that they went out  
9 there and tried to collect tire tracks off of that SUV or  
10 anything of that nature to try and match that particular car  
11 that they claim they saw Mr. Woods in with that crime scene.  
12 It just wasn't done.

13 So really what other evidence does that leave us with in  
14 the case? And, of course, we come down to the video and, of  
15 course, everyone has seen the video. You've all seen it.  
16 I've seen it. Everyone in the courtroom I believe has seen  
17 the video. But we do see a white SUV pull up near the  
18 residence. That's one of the first things we see when we  
19 watch the video and when it's pulling into view. You can look  
20 at it. You can look at the video and look at the trim on that  
21 vehicle. See if it has gold trim. I think you'll find that  
22 it doesn't, but I think you'll find that the testimony was the  
23 SUV that Deputy Nichols claimed that he saw Mr. Woods in was a  
24 gold-trimmed SUV. It doesn't even match what's shown on the  
25 video.

1       And, of course, the State claims that Tyrell Woods I  
2 believe was -- their contention is he's the person wearing the  
3 dark shirt in the video and on the photographs that they've  
4 showed you. When the two individuals are actually entering  
5 the residence, guns in hand, they're saying he's second in  
6 line. But, you know, I want you to watch that individual on  
7 that video and see if you can see his face. I don't believe  
8 you can really see his face.

9       But I tell you what you can see on that video about that  
10 individual. You can see his skin tone. You can see that very  
11 well. He's wearing a short-sleeved shirt and you can see his  
12 neckline and something on the side of his face. Look at his  
13 skin tone. Look at Mr. Woods. He's sitting right there. The  
14 person you see in that video is significantly lighter-skinned  
15 than Mr. Woods, who is sitting right here in front of you.  
16 It's easy enough to look at and I invite you all to look at  
17 that video. Check that out because that will show you whoever  
18 that was is not Mr. Tyrell Woods.

19       Now, what we finally get to is the fingerprint testimony  
20 that was given by Mr. Thomas Darnell and, of course, Mr.  
21 Darnell gave his opinion that there were a number of  
22 fingerprint samples that he lifted that belonged to Tyrell  
23 Woods, and then that was his opinion and that's what his  
24 testimony is is his opinion. He gave -- he was sent samples  
25 from the tape and the cigarette boxes. He was sent palm

1 prints and fingerprints. He was sent Mr. Woods' fingerprints  
2 and Mr. Sanders' fingerprints and Mr. Rowell's fingerprints  
3 and that was it. And so that's what he compared everything  
4 to.

5       You saw what he -- as an example what he showed you he  
6 compared was a partial print, but regardless, he says he did  
7 tests and it was his opinion that some of those fingerprints  
8 belonged to Tyrell Woods. And he says he has a scientific  
9 basis for the opinion and certainly he's entitled to do that  
10 because he's qualified as an expert, but, you know, just  
11 because someone is qualified as an expert witness, that  
12 doesn't make his word the undisputed truth.

13       We don't have to believe everything an expert says just  
14 because they say it. I mean he said himself on the stand, you  
15 know, there were other experts in his field, other people who  
16 do what he does, and they might disagree with him on the  
17 identity of any particular fingerprint because science, even  
18 though it is science, is not always an exact thing. You know,  
19 there's differences of opinion in the world of science.

20       I mean you can have one individual suffering a set of  
21 symptoms go to two different doctors and one doctor says that  
22 one illness is causing these symptoms and one doctor will say,  
23 no, it's something else. They might even prescribe you  
24 completely different medications. It's a matter of opinion.  
25 Two people with the same education, the same background, can

1 reach different conclusions.

2 I mean, you know, we have all kinds of, you know,  
3 scientific theories that we all just from our general  
4 knowledge know about. You know, we have the evolution, man-  
5 made global warming, and those things are set forth by  
6 scientists based on what they believe is scientific opinions,  
7 but lots of people don't believe that. They don't have to.  
8 And in the same vein, we don't have to take Mr. Darnell's word  
9 as the absolute truth in this case.

10 But we just ask you to please review all the evidence in  
11 this case and review it carefully and consider it carefully,  
12 and we hope that you reach the conclusion, as we believe you  
13 should, that Mr. Tyrell Woods is not guilty of these charges.  
14 Thank you very much for your attention.

15 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, everybody  
16 in the jury okay? Does anybody need a break? We've been  
17 going for about an hour and a half. Okay. I've indicated one  
18 of you may need a break there. Because my charge is going to  
19 take about 25 -- 20 to 30 minutes as well.

20 So what I am going to do before I give you the charge,  
21 I'm going to ask you to step -- let you step to the jury room.  
22 Do not -- do not discuss the case. I'll get you back out here  
23 in just a minute. Okay?

24 (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 11:48 a.m.)

25 THE COURT: All right. We'll stand down for just a few

1 minutes. If you need to go to the bathroom, you better go now  
2 because once I start my charge, you will not be allowed to  
3 leave this courtroom.

4 Mr. Wilson, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. Clements, if y'all want to  
5 look at these verdict forms?

6 (Whereupon, there is a break in the proceedings from  
7 11:49 a.m. until 12:07 p.m.)

8 THE COURT: All right. Anything from the State before I  
9 bring the jury back out for my charge?

10 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

12 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

14 MR. FLOYD: Nothing, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Bring me the jury, please, sir.

16 (Whereupon, the jury enters the courtroom at 12:09 p.m.)

17 CHARGE ON THE LAW BY THE COURT

18 THE COURT: All right. Madam Forelady and ladies and  
19 gentlemen of the jury, it is now my duty as the trial judge  
20 under the constitution of this state to charge and instruct  
21 you on the law applicable to this case. It is your duty as  
22 jurors to accept and apply the law as I will now state it to  
23 you. Furthermore, it is your exclusive duty to decide all the  
24 issues of fact in this case, and to determine the effect,  
25 value, weight, and truth of the evidence.

1 Both the State and the defendants have a right to expect  
2 that you will carefully consider and evaluate the evidence and  
3 apply the law of this case to it, so that in the end both the  
4 State of South Carolina and the defendants will receive a fair  
5 and impartial trial. I want you to understand that when I use  
6 the word defendants, I refer to Mr. Marco Sanders and Mr.  
7 Tyrell Woods.

8 The charges alleged in the indictment are: murder; armed  
9 robbery; burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree; attempted murder; possession of a  
10 firearm during the commission of a violent crime; and  
11 conspiracy.

12 To these charges, the defendants have entered pleas of  
13 not guilty. These pleas of not guilty places the burden of  
14 proof on the State to prove the guilt of the defendants to  
15 you, the jury, beyond a reasonable doubt.

16 I charge you that there are two different defendants in  
17 this case, each of whom is charged with the offenses as  
18 previously stated. The case of each defendant and the  
19 evidence and the law concerning that defendant should be  
20 considered separately and individually. Your verdict does not  
21 have to be the same for both defendants.

22 The fact that you may find one defendant guilty or not  
23 guilty should not control your verdict as to the other  
24 defendant. Where more than one person is charged with a  
25 crime, if the evidence warrants it, you may convict one and

1   acquit the other, or you may acquit both, or you may convict  
2   both. It will depend upon your view of the testimony and  
3   evidence. You must take each defendant and consider the  
4   evidence as to that defendant and my instructions to you on  
5   the law. You will then write a separate verdict of guilty or  
6   not guilty for each individual defendant.

7       Now, as I mentioned previously, the indictment in this  
8   case alleges six separate and distinct offenses against each  
9   defendant. You must decide each charge separately on the  
10   evidence and the law applicable to it, uninfluenced by your  
11   decision as to any other charge. The defendants may be  
12   convicted or acquitted on any or all of the offenses charged.  
13   As stated previously, you will be asked to write a separate  
14   verdict of guilty or not guilty for each charge alleged in the  
15   indictment as to each defendant.

16       I remind you that the fact the defendants were arrested,  
17   charged, and indicted in this case, is not evidence in this  
18   case and cannot be considered by you as evidence of guilt in  
19   this case, nor does it create any presumption or inference of  
20   guilt. The indictment is simply the formal written instrument  
21   which contains the charges made against the defendants. It is  
22   the formal document by which this case is brought into this  
23   court.

24       It is vital to understand that the defendants are  
25   presumed under the law to be innocent of these charges. The

1 defendants have no obligation to prove their innocence. It is  
2 a fundamental rule of our law that a defendant, irrespective  
3 of the seriousness of the charges against him, is always  
4 presumed innocent of the crimes for which he is charged,  
5 unless and until his guilt has been proven by evidence that  
6 satisfies you, the jury, beyond a reasonable doubt.

7       The presumption of innocence is not a mere legal theory  
8 or a legal phrase. The presumption of innocence is very  
9 important, and you need to understand that this presumption  
10 accompanies the defendants from the time of their arrest and  
11 appearance in this court and continues with the defendants  
12 even after you retire to the jury room to deliberate. In  
13 other words, the defendant receives the benefit of the  
14 presumption of innocence until the very end of this trial,  
15 when you, the jury, will deliberate upon the evidence and  
16 decide whether the State has proven their guilt beyond a  
17 reasonable doubt.

18       Now, what is a reasonable doubt? A reasonable doubt is  
19 the kind of doubt that would cause a reasonable person to  
20 hesitate to act. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is proof  
21 that leaves you firmly convinced of the defendant's guilt.  
22 There are very few things in this world that we know with  
23 absolute certainty, so in criminal cases the law does not  
24 require proof that overcomes every possible doubt. However,  
25 if, based on your consideration of the evidence, you are

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

6 Jurors, please understand that reasonable doubt may arise  
7 from evidence which has been presented in the case or from the  
8 lack of evidence in the case. It is your responsibility to  
9 determine whether or not reasonable doubt exists as to the  
10 guilt of the defendants.

11 I charge you that the defendants are entitled to every  
12 reasonable doubt arising in the whole case. If, upon any  
13 issues of fact essential to conviction and a verdict of  
14 guilty, you have a reasonable doubt as to how that issue  
15 should be resolved, it would be your duty to resolve that  
16 reasonable doubt in favor of the defendants.

17 Now, during this trial, you and I have had separate  
18 duties to perform. As the trial judge, it is my  
19 responsibility to preside over this trial, and I also have the  
20 duty to rule upon the admissibility of the evidence offered  
21 during the process of this trial. In that regard, you are to  
22 consider only the competent evidence before you, and you are  
23 to disregard from your mind any testimony ordered stricken  
24 from the record of this case during the progress of the trial,  
25 if there was any. And you are to consider only the testimony

1 which has been presented from this witness stand, together  
2 with any exhibits admitted into the record of this case and  
3 any stipulations of counsel made into the record.

4 Furthermore, I have the additional duty to charge you on  
5 the applicable law of this case and in that regard, I am the  
6 sole judge of the law of this case. It is your duty to accept  
7 and apply the law as I state it to you. If you have any  
8 preconceived ideas as to what the law is, or what the law  
9 ought to be, and it does not agree with what I tell you the  
10 law is, you are obligated under your oath to abandon these  
11 preconceptions because you are sworn to accept the law  
12 precisely as I state it to you.

13 Now, in this trial, you, ladies and gentlemen, are the  
14 sole and exclusive judge of the facts, and I am the judge of  
15 the law. Do not infer that I have any opinion about the facts  
16 in this case from anything I have said during the course of  
17 this trial in ruling upon the admissibility of evidence or  
18 otherwise, or from anything that I say during the course of  
19 this charge to you. In this regard, the law simply does not  
20 permit me to have an opinion about the facts. As jurors, it  
21 is your duty alone to determine the effect, value, weight, and  
22 truth of the evidence presented during the course of this  
23 trial.

24 Now, in determining what the facts in this case are, you  
25 must judge the credibility, which simply means the

1 believability, of the witnesses and the value of weight to be  
2 given to their testimony. You alone must decide the force,  
3 effect, and truth of the testimony.

4 Now, in making this decision there are many things you  
5 may, and should, take into consideration, such as the  
6 appearance and manner of the witness on the stand, a  
7 characteristic often referred to as the demeanor of the  
8 witness. Was the witness forthright or hesitant? Was the  
9 witness' testimony consistent or did it contain discrepancies?  
10 What was the ability of the witness to know the facts about  
11 which he or she testified? Did the witness have a cause or  
12 reason to be biased and prejudiced in favor of the testimony  
13 that he or she gave? Was the testimony of the witness  
14 corroborated or made stronger by other testimony and evidence  
15 or was it made weaker or impeached by such other testimony and  
16 evidence.

17 As jurors, please understand you have the right to  
18 believe a small portion of a witness' testimony and discard  
19 the larger portion or vice versa. You may believe all of a  
20 witness' testimony or none. You may believe the testimony of  
21 a single witness against that of many witnesses or the other  
22 way around.

23 In exercising your mental processes and attempting to  
24 decide the truth, the law simply requires that you exercise  
25 your good judgment, your common sense, your sense of logic and

1 reason, and your experiences in life. You then apply these  
2 attributes to the evidence and apply the law as I state it to  
3 you, and thus arrive at a verdict.

4 Now, there are two types of evidence which are generally  
5 presented during a trial, direct evidence and circumstantial  
6 evidence. Direct evidence is the testimony of a person who  
7 claims to have actual knowledge of a fact, such as an  
8 eyewitness. It is evidence which immediately establishes the  
9 main fact to be proved.

10 Circumstantial evidence is proof of a chain of facts and  
11 circumstances indicating the existence of a fact. It is  
12 evidence which immediately establishes collateral facts from  
13 which the main fact may be inferred. Circumstantial evidence  
14 is based on inference and not on personal knowledge or  
15 observation.

16 The law makes absolutely no distinction between the  
17 weight or value to be given to either direct or circumstantial  
18 evidence. Nor is a greater degree of certainty required of  
19 circumstantial evidence than of direct evidence. You should  
20 weigh all of the evidence in the case. If, after weighing all  
21 the evidence, you are not convinced of the guilt of the  
22 defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, you must find the  
23 defendant not guilty.

24 Now, there have been evidence -- or there has been  
25 evidence presented that witnesses have made prior statements

1 which were not consistent with the witnesses' present  
2 testimony. You may use this evidence to decide whether to  
3 believe the witness. You may also use evidence of the earlier  
4 contradictory statements to determine the truth of those  
5 statements. It is up to you to decide whether to believe the  
6 earlier statements or the testimony given at trial.

7 If a witness is shown to have knowingly testified  
8 untruthfully concerning any material matter, you may consider  
9 this in determining whether to trust the witness' testimony as  
10 to other matters. You may reject all testimony of that  
11 witness or give all or part of the testimony the weight you  
12 think it deserves.

13 Now, ladies and gentlemen, during the course of this  
14 trial, you heard the testimony of police officers. Please  
15 understand that the testimony of a police officer is not  
16 entitled to more weight than that of any other witness. You  
17 are the sole judges of the credibility of a witness, and you  
18 are not to give more weight to a police officer's testimony  
19 solely because he or she is a police officer. Rather, you  
20 should judge an officer's testimony by the same standards that  
21 you apply to all other witnesses.

22 In this case you also heard the testimony of individuals  
23 who were qualified as experts. The rules of evidence  
24 ordinarily do not permit witnesses to testify to opinions or  
25 conclusions. An exception to this rule exists for witnesses

1 we call expert witnesses. A witness who, by education and  
2 experience, has become an expert in some art, science,  
3 profession, or calling may state an opinion as to a relevant  
4 and material matter in which the witness claims to be an  
5 expert, and may also state the reasons for the opinion.

6 You should consider any expert opinion received in  
7 evidence in this case and, like any other evidence, give it  
8 the weight that you think it deserves. If you decide that the  
9 opinion of an expert witness is not based on sufficient  
10 education and experience, or if you conclude that the reasons  
11 given in support of the opinion are not sound, or that the  
12 opinion is outweighed by other evidence, you may disregard the  
13 opinion entirely.

14 Furthermore, an expert witness' testimony is to be given  
15 no greater weight than that of other witnesses simply because  
16 the witness is an expert. Further, you are not required to  
17 accept an expert's opinion, even though it is not  
18 contradicted.

19 Now, I instruct you and I emphasize to you all, ladies  
20 and gentlemen, that the fact that the defendants did not  
21 testify is not a factor to be considered by you in any way in  
22 your deliberations and in your consideration on the question  
23 of their guilt or innocence. It must not be considered by you  
24 in any manner whatsoever.

25 A defendant has the constitutional right to remain

1    silent, and the assertion of this right must not be considered  
2    by you in your deliberations. I repeat, under your oath, you  
3    are to draw no conclusion whatsoever from the fact that the  
4    defendants in this case did not testify. The fact that the  
5    defendants did not testify should not even be discussed in the  
6    jury room. The burden of proof, as I have stated to you, is  
7    on the State. The defendants are not required to prove their  
8    innocence. The burden of proof remains on the State to prove  
9    guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

10        Now, in order to establish criminal liability, criminal  
11    intent is required. For example, the mental state required to  
12    be proven by the State for a particular crime might be  
13    purpose, intent, knowledge, recklessness, or criminal  
14    negligence. Criminal intent must be proven by the State  
15    beyond a reasonable doubt. Criminal intent is always a matter  
16    that must be determined by the jury from the circumstances  
17    surrounding the situation.

18        There is no way to prove intent to a mathematical  
19    certainty. There is no way that medical science can dissect a  
20    person's brain and determine what the person had in mind. So  
21    the law says that criminal intent may be inferred from the  
22    circumstances shown to have existed. This is how you make a  
23    determination of whether or not the element requiring intent  
24    was present. It is not necessary to establish intent by  
25    direct and positive evidence, but intent may be established by  
26    inference in the same way as any other fact by taking into

1 consideration the acts of the parties and all the facts and  
2 circumstances of the case.

3 Criminal intent is a mental state, a conscious  
4 wrongdoing. It is up to you to determine what each defendant  
5 intended to do based on the circumstances shown to have  
6 existed.

7 Criminal intent can arise from action or a failure to  
8 act. It may arise from negligence, recklessness, or an  
9 indifference to duty or to consequences that is considered by  
10 the law to be the equivalent of criminal intent.

11 Now, an issue in this case, ladies and gentlemen, is the  
12 identification of the defendants as the individuals who  
13 committed the crimes charged. The State has the burden of  
14 proving identity beyond a reasonable doubt. You must be  
15 satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of the accuracy of the  
16 identification -- excuse me -- of the defendants before you  
17 may convict them.

18 Identification testimony is an expression of belief or  
19 impression by a witness. You must determine the accuracy of  
20 the identification of the defendants. You must consider the  
21 believability of each identification witness in the same way  
22 as any other witness. You may consider whether the witness  
23 had an adequate opportunity to observe the offender at the  
24 time of the offense. This will be affected by things like how  
25 long or short a time was available, how far or close the

1 witness was, the lighting conditions, and whether the witness  
2 had the chance to see or know the person in the past.

3       Once again, I instruct you the burden of proof on the  
4 State extends to every element of the crime charged, and this  
5 specifically includes the burden of proving beyond a  
6 reasonable doubt the identity of the defendants as the  
7 individuals who committed the crime. If, after examining the  
8 testimony, you have a reasonable doubt as to the accuracy of  
9 the identifications, you must find the defendants not guilty.

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

17       For example, two people can be guilty of a larceny or  
18 stealing of farm equipment, valued at more than \$2,000, when  
19 two go to the scene and only one drives the equipment away.  
20 If two or more people are together, acting together, assisting  
21 each other in committing the offense, the act of one is the  
22 act of all or, as it is sometimes said, the hand of one is the  
23 hand of all.

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

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

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

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

1 thereto with the person aiding and abetting by some overt act.

2 Intent means intending the result which actually occurs,  
3 not accidentally or involuntary. Intent may be shown by acts  
4 and conduct of the defendant and other circumstances from  
5 which you may naturally and reasonably infer intent. The  
6 State must prove these elements beyond a reasonable doubt.

7 Now, the defendants are charged with the murder of Mr.  
8 Sam Rowell. The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt  
9 that the defendants killed Mr. Rowell with malice  
10 aforethought.

11 Malice is hatred, ill will, or hostility towards another  
12 person. It is the intentional doing of a wrongful act without  
13 just cause or excuse and with an intent to inflict an injury  
14 or under circumstances that the law will infer an evil intent.

15 Malice aforethought does not require that malice exists  
16 for any particular time before the act is committed, but  
17 malice must exist in the mind of the defendant just before and  
18 at the time the act is committed. Therefore, there must be a  
19 combination of the previous evil intent and the act.

20 Malice aforethought may be express or inferred. These  
21 terms, express and inferred, do not mean different kinds of  
22 malice but merely the manner in which malice may be shown to  
23 exist. That is either by direct evidence or by inference from  
24 the facts and circumstances which are proved. Express malice  
25 is shown when a person speaks words which express hatred or

1 ill will for another or when the person prepared beforehand to  
2 do the act which was later accomplished; for example, lying in  
3 wait for a person or any other acts of preparation going to  
4 show that the deed was within the defendant's mind would be  
5 express malice. Malice may be inferred from conduct showing a  
6 total disregard for human life.

7 The defendants are also charged with armed robbery. In  
8 order to prove this offense, the State must first prove beyond  
9 a reasonable doubt that the defendants took personal property  
10 from the person or presence of another person. Property is in  
11 the presence of a person if it is within the person's reach,  
12 inspection, observation, or control so that the person could,  
13 if not overcome with violence or prevented by fear, keep  
14 possession of the property.

15 The State must also prove beyond a reasonable doubt --  
16 excuse me -- that the defendants carried the property away  
17 intending to permanently deprive the owner of the property and  
18 to keep the property for the defendants' own use. The  
19 slightest removal of the property or the complete possession  
20 of the property, even for an instant, by the defendants is  
21 sufficient to show the taking and carrying away of the  
22 property. The taking and carrying away of the property must  
23 have been done with violence or by putting the owner of the  
24 property in fear of violence.

25 Finally, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt

1 that the defendants were armed with a deadly weapon during the  
2 robbery. A deadly weapon is any article, instrument, or  
3 substance which is likely to cause death or great bodily harm.  
4 Whether an instrument has been used as a deadly weapon depends  
5 on the facts and circumstances of each case.

6 The following are examples of instruments which may be  
7 deadly weapons: a pistol, a shotgun, a rifle, a dirk, a  
8 dagger, a knife, a sling shot, metal knuckles, a razor,  
9 gasoline, a fire bomb or a Molotov cocktail, and lighter  
10 fluid. A gun may be a deadly weapon even if it is not  
11 operating.

12 The defendants are also charged with first degree  
13 burglary. The State must first prove beyond a reasonable  
14 doubt that the defendants entered a dwelling without consent.

15 A dwelling is any building or portion of a building in  
16 which a person ordinarily sleeps. A building constructed as a  
17 dwelling that has never been occupied cannot be considered a  
18 dwelling for purposes of burglary. But a building is a  
19 dwelling even if the residents are temporarily absent from the  
20 building.

21 Now, in order to prove that the defendants entered the  
22 dwelling, the State does not have to show that the defendants'  
23 entire body entered the dwelling. The smallest entry is  
24 sufficient. It may be any part of the body, such as a hand or  
25 foot, or even an instrument, such as a hook or other

1 instrument. In addition, the State does not have to prove  
2 that force was used to gain entry. If a person enters a  
3 building by using deception, artifice, trick, or  
4 misrepresentation to get consent to enter, this is an entry  
5 without consent.

6       Next, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that  
7 the defendants intended to commit a crime, either a felony or  
8 a misdemeanor, at the time of the entry. The mere entry into  
9 a dwelling without consent is not burglary. If the intent to  
10 commit a crime is formed after the entry, it is not burglary.  
11 On the other hand, if the defendant intended to commit a crime  
12 at the time of the entry, it is a burglary even if the intent  
13 was abandoned after the entry. It does not matter that the  
14 intended crime was not completed. Intent may be shown by acts  
15 and conduct of the defendants and other circumstances from  
16 which you may naturally and reasonably infer intent.

17       Finally, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt  
18 that when entering, while in the dwelling, or when fleeing,  
19 the defendants or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon  
20 or explosive. A deadly weapon is an article -- is any  
21 article, instrument, or substance which is likely to cause  
22 death or great bodily harm. Whether an instrument has been  
23 used as a deadly weapon depends on the facts and circumstances  
24 of each case.

25       As stated before, the following are examples of

1 instruments which may be deadly weapons: a pistol, a shotgun,  
2 a rifle, a dirk, a dagger, a knife, a sling shot, metal  
3 knuckles, a razor, gasoline, a fire bomb or Molotov cocktail,  
4 and lighter fluid. A gun may be a deadly weapon even if it  
5 is not operating.

6 Now, the defendants are also charged with the attempted  
7 murder of Eddie Godbold Jr. Now, in order to prove this  
8 crime, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the  
9 defendants attempted to kill Mr. Godbold Jr. with malice  
10 aforethought, either express or implied.

11 Malice is as I have explained earlier in this charge.  
12 Furthermore, malice aforethought may be express or inferred as  
13 I have also explained earlier in this charge.

14 If facts are proved beyond a reasonable doubt sufficient  
15 to raise an inference of malice to your satisfaction, this  
16 inference would be simply an evidentiary fact to be considered  
17 by you, the jury, along with the other evidence in the case,  
18 and you may give it the weight you decide it should receive.

19 A specific intent to kill is not an element of attempted  
20 murder, but there must be a general intent to commit serious  
21 bodily injury. Intent means intending the result which  
22 actually occurs, not accidentally or involuntarily. Intent  
23 may be shown by acts and conduct of the defendant and other  
24 circumstances from which you may naturally and reasonably  
25 infer intent.

1 Evidence of the character of the act, the character of  
2 the instrument used, the manner in which it was used, the  
3 purpose to be accomplished, and the resulting wounds or  
4 injuries, if any, may be considered in determining the intent  
5 with which the act was committed. Intent may also be inferred  
6 when it is demonstrated that the defendants voluntarily and  
7 willfully commit an act, the natural tendency of which is to  
8 destroy another's life.

9 Now, the defendants are also charged with possession of a  
10 weapon during the commission of, or attempt to commit, a  
11 violent crime. The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt  
12 that the defendants were in possession of a firearm or visibly  
13 displayed what appeared to be a firearm during the commission  
14 of a violent crime. A firearm means any machine gun,  
15 automatic rifle, revolver, pistol, or any weapon which will,  
16 is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a  
17 projectile.

18 In order to find the defendants guilty of possession of a  
19 weapon during the commission of a violent crime, you must  
20 first find the defendants guilty of either committing a  
21 violent crime or attempting to commit a violent crime.  
22 Murder, armed robbery, and burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree are violent  
23 crimes. The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that  
24 the weapon furthered, advanced, or helped in the commission of  
25 the crime.

1        Now, the defendants are also charged with conspiracy.

2        The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the  
3        defendants combined with one another for the purpose of  
4        committing an unlawful act or of committing a lawful act by  
5        unlawful means.

6        There must be a mutual understanding, agreement, or  
7        common intention and plan. Mere passive knowledge of or  
8        consent to the criminal conduct of another is not enough to  
9        make a person a conspirator. There must be guilty knowledge  
10       and participation.

11       Similarly, the mere fact that the defendants may have  
12       associated with each other or met with one another and  
13       discussed common aims and interests does not necessarily  
14       establish proof of the existence of a conspiracy or that the  
15       defendants were involved in a conspiracy.

16       On the other hand, it is not necessary that the agreement  
17       be a formal one, or that it be in writing, or that the persons  
18       hold a meeting and expressly state the terms of the common  
19       plan, or that the agreement be stated in words between them.  
20       The agreement of a criminal conspiracy may come into being  
21       through an implied, mutual understanding. The willful,  
22       intentional, and knowing adoption by two or more persons of a  
23       common plan is sufficient. No overt act needs to be shown to  
24       establish a conspiracy. A conspiracy may be shown by  
25       circumstantial evidence and the conduct of the parties.

1        Now, in order to convict the defendants of conspiracy,  
2 the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt not only that  
3 the defendants knew of the unlawful conduct, but that the  
4 defendants agreed to combine with the other person for the  
5 purpose of accomplishing the unlawful conduct.

6        Now, ladies and gentlemen, I am now drawing near the end  
7 of my charge and I want you to clearly understand that you are  
8 not partisans or advocates for the State of South Carolina or  
9 the defendants. It is your duty by your joint deliberations  
10 to determine the truth in this case, giving to the defendants  
11 the benefit of every reasonable doubt on each and every issue.  
12 Then, to the facts which you determine to be true, you should  
13 take and apply the law which has been given to you by this  
14 Court and thus arrive at a verdict which speaks the truth in  
15 this case.

16        In fact, the word verdict, which has a Latin derivative,  
17 means a true saying. Thus, when you have accomplished these  
18 responsibilities you will have satisfied your oath as jurors  
19 and you will have discharged your duty to this Court.

20        Now, once you retire to the jury room, the bailiff will  
21 give the verdict form to you, Madam Forelady -- the verdict  
22 forms. When you, the jury, arrive at a verdict as to the  
23 offenses charged in this case, the forelady will select the  
24 verdict as to the charge on the verdict form.

25        If the State has failed to prove the guilt of the

1 defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, your verdict will be "not  
2 guilty." Likewise, if the State has proven the guilt of the  
3 defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, your verdict will be  
4 "guilty." Once a decision has been made, the forelady will  
5 check whichever choice is the verdict of the jury as to the  
6 charge.

7 The verdict that you render in this case, ladies and  
8 gentlemen, must be the verdict of each and every juror. It  
9 must be your unanimous verdict. All twelve jurors must agree  
10 on the verdict which you authorize the forelady to write for  
11 the jury.

12 Now, ladies and gentlemen, I want you to further  
13 understand that the order in which the choices of verdict  
14 appear on the verdict form are not suggestive of any verdict  
15 on the part of the Court. The verdict in this case is to be  
16 determined by you, the jury, not the Court. Furthermore,  
17 ladies and gentlemen, please understand that even though I  
18 will give the verdict form or verdict forms to the forelady,  
19 it is not her verdict alone; it is the verdict of all twelve  
20 of you and I emphasize again it must be unanimous.

21 Now, I am also going to give a copy of these instructions  
22 in written form to you. During your deliberations, you may  
23 refer to the instructions to guide your decision-making. You  
24 must consider the instructions as a whole and not follow some  
25 and ignore others. Please, Madam Forelady, make sure that

1 these instructions are returned to the Court at the time the  
2 verdicts are rendered.

3 I am now going to ask you all to retire to the jury room,  
4 but do not begin your deliberations until you are told --  
5 until you are told to do so. Before I let you go to the jury  
6 room, does everybody on the jury feel okay? Anybody not  
7 feeling well? I know some of you may be hungry. We've  
8 ordered lunch and it will be here very shortly. Is everybody  
9 -- does anybody not feel okay? If you don't feel okay, raise  
10 your right hand. All right.

11 The law, ladies and gentlemen, requires at this time that  
12 I now consult with the attorneys to make sure that I have not  
13 left anything out of these instructions. After I have checked  
14 with the attorneys, the bailiff will bring in a copy of these  
15 instructions and the verdict forms and instruct you to begin  
16 your deliberations.

17 Also, Madam Forelady, should you all have any questions  
18 during your deliberations, it will be your responsibility to  
19 write that question on a piece of paper, knock on the door,  
20 let the bailiff know that you have a question, give it to him,  
21 and he will get it to me and I'll answer it the best I see  
22 fit. Okay?

23 Once you all have been instructed to deliberate and once  
24 you all have reached verdicts, please -- I am giving you all  
25 two verdict forms. One will say verdict form, State of South

1 Carolina versus Marco Sanders, and the other verdict form will  
2 say the State of South Carolina versus Tyrell Woods. Okay?  
3 It will be for each of the six counts. You will be asked to  
4 answer not guilty or guilty as to each count as it applies to  
5 each defendant.

6 Once you all have reached a verdict as to each count on  
7 each defendant, Madam Forelady, if you will, you check  
8 whichever is the verdict of the jury. Again, it must be  
9 unanimous. You date and sign as the foreperson on each  
10 verdict form. Knock on the door and let the bailiff know that  
11 you've reached a verdict and we will get you back into this  
12 courtroom as quickly as possible. Okay?

13 I'm going to at this time ask you to retire to the jury  
14 room. Again, do not -- do not begin deliberations until you  
15 are instructed to do so. Please step to the jury room.

16 (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 12:51 p.m.)

17 THE COURT: As the jury is exiting the courtroom, can the  
18 lawyers come up here for just a minute, please?

19 (Whereupon, a bench conference is held off the record.)

20 THE COURT: Any exceptions, objections to the charge to  
21 the jury from the State?

22 MR. CLEMENTS: None from the State.

23 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

25 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

2 MR. FLOYD: No, sir, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. If you all -- I'm going to make  
4 these changes on the verdict form as to the caption. If you  
5 all, in the meantime if you haven't already done so, make sure  
6 all the exhibits are together so that they can be taken back  
7 to the jury.

8 Give me my jury list, please. The jury list.

9 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings as the  
10 exhibits are checked by counsel, and lunch is delivered  
11 to the jurors in the jury room.)

12 (Whereupon, the alternate jurors are brought into the  
13 courtroom at 1:08 p.m. and released from jury service.)

14 THE COURT: All right. I've excused the two alternates.  
15 If security would, make sure that they get to their car safely  
16 and get out of here if they so desire. Okay?

17 All right. You can take the items of evidence in. Take  
18 the items of evidence in and take that in lastly, please, sir.

19 (Whereupon, the evidence and verdict forms and charge are  
20 delivered to the jurors and deliberations begin at 1:11  
21 p.m.)

22 THE COURT: All right. We'll stand at ease. Lawyers, if  
23 you -- I would ask that you stay on the premises. If you so  
24 -- if you leave, please make sure the clerk or my law clerk --  
25 the deputy clerk of court or my law clerk has a way to get in

1 touch with you.

2 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: But stay in close proximity so we can get you  
4 back here as quickly as possible if need be. Okay. We'll  
5 stand at ease right now. Thank you.

6 (Whereupon, there is a break in the proceedings from 1:11  
7 p.m. until 1:49 p.m.)

8 THE COURT: All right. I have received a note from the  
9 jury, which I am going to mark as a Court's exhibit,  
10 indicating that they wanted to see the video. I have summoned  
11 Mr. Godbolt and he has graciously come back up here and set  
12 everything up. Anything from the State before I bring the  
13 jury in?

14 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, anything?

16 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

18 MR. FLOYD: Nothing, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Will you mark this, Madam Court Reporter,  
20 Exhibit 1? All right. Bring me the jury, please, sir.

21 THE BAILIFF: Yes, sir.

22 THE COURT REPORTER: It would be Court's 3.

23 THE COURT: Court's 3. That will be Court's 3. I'm  
24 sorry.

25 (Whereupon, the jury enters the courtroom at 1:50 p.m.)

1 THE COURT: All right. All the jurors are present. Mr.  
2 Golbolt?

3 MR. GODBOLT: Everybody can see it?

4 THE COURT: Sir? Can everybody see okay? Thank you. Go  
5 ahead, Mr. Godbolt.

6 (Whereupon, the surveillance video marked as State's  
7 Exhibit Number 18 is played in open court.)

8 MR. GODBOLT: That's it, Judge.

9 THE COURT: All right. Madam Forelady, pursuant to  
10 y'all's request, we've shown the video. I'm going to ask that  
11 you step back into the jury room and continue your  
12 deliberations.

13 (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 1:54 p.m.)

14 THE COURT: All right. We'll stand at ease.

15 (Whereupon, there is a break in the proceedings from 1:55  
16 p.m. until 2:43 p.m.)

17 THE COURT: All right. It's my understanding that we  
18 have a verdict in this case.

19 I will remind everybody that whatever the verdict is to  
20 keep your emotions in check. Failure to do so could result in  
21 you being held in contempt of court and sentenced to a period  
22 of incarceration. If you do not feel as though you can keep  
23 your emotions in check, you are advised to leave the courtroom  
24 at this time.

25 Anything from the State before I bring the jury out?

1 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

3 MR. WILSON: Nothing.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd?

5 MR. FLOYD: Nothing, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. If you will, bring me the jury,  
7 please.

8 (Whereupon, the jury enters the courtroom at 2:44 p.m.)

9 THE COURT: All right. Madam Forelady, have you all  
10 reached a verdict?

11 THE FORELADY: Yes.

12 THE COURT: As it relates to each defendant, you've  
13 reached a verdict?

14 THE FORELADY: Yes.

15 THE COURT: All right. Madam Clerk, if you would, get  
16 the verdict, please.

17 (Whereupon, the clerk complies.)

18 THE COURT: All right. The verdicts appear to be in  
19 order. I would ask that the defendants, along with their  
20 attorneys, stand to receive the verdict. Madam Clerk, you may  
21 publish the verdicts.

22 THE CLERK: Thank you, sir.

23 VERDICTS OF THE JURY AS TO DEFENDANT MARCO SANDERS

24 THE CLERK: State of South Carolina, Court of General  
25 Sessions, County of Marion. State of South Carolina versus

1 Marco Sanders, defendant. Indictment Number 2013-GS-33-00256.  
2 Verdict Form.

3 As to the charge of murder of Sam Rowell, we, the jury,  
4 unanimously find the defendant, Marco Sanders, guilty.

5 As to the charge of armed robbery, we, the jury,  
6 unanimously find the defendant, Marco Sanders, guilty.

7 As to the charge of burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree, we, the jury,  
8 unanimously find the defendant, Marco Sanders, guilty.

9 As to the charge of attempted murder of Eddie Godbold  
10 Jr., we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Marco  
11 Sanders, guilty.

12 As to the charge of possession of a firearm during the  
13 commission of a violent crime, we, the jury, unanimously find  
14 the defendant, Marco Sanders, guilty.

15 As to the charge of conspiracy, we, the jury, unanimously  
16 find the defendant, Marco Sanders, guilty.

17 Signed, Earline Williams, Foreperson. Dated 5/22/2014.

18 As to Marco Sanders, is this unanimous say you one, say  
19 you all?

20 THE JURY: Yes.

21 THE CLERK: Thank you.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, anything from you at this time  
23 before we read the verdict for Mr. Woods?

24 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

25 THE COURT: All right. Madam Clerk, you may continue.

VERDICTS OF THE JURY AS TO DEFENDANT TYRELL WOODS

THE CLERK: Thank you. State of South Carolina, County of Marion in the Court of General Sessions. Indictment Number 2013-GS-33-00256. State of South Carolina versus Tyrell Williams [sic].

As to the charge of murder of Sam Rowell, we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

As to the charge of armed robbery, we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

As to the charge of burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree, we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

As to the charge of attempted murder of Eddie Godbolt Jr., we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

As to the charge of possession of a firearm during the commission of a violent crime, we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

As to the charge of conspiracy, we, the jury, unanimously find the defendant, Tyrell Woods, guilty.

Signed, Earline -- excuse me -- Earline Williams, Foreperson. Dated 5/22/2014.

As to Tyrell Woods, does the jury find -- unanimously find this verdict?

THE JURY: Yes.

THE CLERK: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Floyd, anything from you at this time?

2 MR. FLOYD: Nothing, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Anything from the State?

4 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Does the State have sentence  
6 sheets ready?

7 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, Mr. Fitzlee McEachin has gone  
8 down to get those.

9 THE COURT: All right. I would ask that the defendants  
10 be taken into custody at this time, please.

11 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Your Honor, may I say one thing?

12 THE COURT: You need to speak to your lawyer. I don't  
13 want you to say something that could be used against you in  
14 your appeal.

15 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I'll see you in appellate court  
16 is all I wanted to say.

17 THE COURT: Sir?

18 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: I'll see you all in appellate  
19 court.

20 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
21 -- will you step back while I address them? Hold on just a  
22 minute. Okay?

23 You all, ladies and gentlemen, have fulfilled your  
24 responsibilities as jurors this week. I want to thank you for  
25 your service. Jury service, as I told you at the outset,

1 never comes -- never comes at a convenient time. I can't tell  
2 you how valuable your -- valuable your service as jurors is.  
3 I hope you learned this week this is not television. This is  
4 not television.

5       It's my understanding that a check will be mailed to you  
6 for your service this week. I will go ahead and tell you  
7 don't be planning on laying some large ticket item aside with  
8 this check. Okay? The truth of the matter is you can't be  
9 paid for your services. Okay? You can't be paid for it, but  
10 a check will be mailed to you for your service this week. If  
11 you need a work excuse, you need to go to the Clerk's Office  
12 and they'll provide a work excuse to you.

13       Now, I told you throughout this week until you began your  
14 deliberations today you were not to discuss the case with  
15 anybody. Okay? My instructions to you now are you can  
16 discuss the case if you so desire. Okay? If anybody asks you  
17 about the case, you can discuss it with them if you want to,  
18 but you are not required to. If somebody asks you about the  
19 case and you tell them you don't want to talk about it and  
20 they do not leave you alone, you let the Clerk's Office know  
21 and the Court will handle it I promise you. Okay? But you  
22 are not -- nobody can make you talk about it if you don't want  
23 to.

24       At this time, as I told you, you all have fulfilled your  
25 responsibilities as jurors. You all are free to go at this

1 time. However, if you so desire, you can stay because what is  
2 going to take place now is sentencing, and that will be  
3 conducted by myself here in the courtroom. If you want to go,  
4 now is your time to go. If you do -- if you do want to go,  
5 I'd ask that law enforcement see that they get -- get to their  
6 cars and get out of here. Okay? Thank you.

7 (Whereupon, the jury exits the courtroom at 2:52 p.m.)

8 THE COURT: All right. Mr. McEachin --

9 MR. SALEEBY: Mr. Clements has gone to get the sentencing  
10 sheets, sir.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Wilson, if you would like, you and  
12 your client can sit down.

13 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Woods -- excuse me. Mr. Floyd, Mr.  
15 Meetze, you and your client can sit down while we are waiting  
16 on sentence sheets if you so desire.

17 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings.)

18 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Clements?

19 MR. CLEMENTS: May it please the Court, Your Honor. I  
20 have the six sentencing sheets for Mr. Marco Sanders. Mr.  
21 McEachin will be bringing the sentencing sheets up to Mr. --  
22 for Mr. Woods.

23 THE COURT: You want to say something, Mr. Meetze?

24 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, I think before sentencing I do  
25 think that we would like to make some post-trial motions.

1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Wilson, do you have  
2 any motions you want to make?

3 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: I'll wait on those sentence sheets. I'll be  
5 happy to hear from you, Mr. Wilson.

6 MR. WILSON: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, at  
7 this time, I would move for a judgment of acquittal  
8 notwithstanding the verdict and ask -- or in the alternative,  
9 I would ask for you to grant us a new trial.

10 I think that the verdict in this case, one, by the fact  
11 that the verdict was as quick as it was, less than an hour and  
12 a half, and I think that, after four days of testimony and 40+  
13 exhibits, I think that that was really fast and I think that  
14 the verdict may be subject to passion or caprice or some type  
15 of prejudice in some way, and I am certain about that. So on  
16 those grounds, I would ask the Court to grant us either an  
17 acquittal or a new trial.

18 I would also renew all the motions that we made at the  
19 end of the State's case and those motions that we -- I would  
20 renew all those motions that we made at the end of the  
21 defense's -- when the defense rests.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Floyd?

23 MR. FLOYD: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: I'd be happy to hear from you.

25 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, on behalf

1 of Mr. Tyrell Woods, we would renew all motions that we  
2 previously made in this case, and also, Your Honor, move for a  
3 new trial based upon the verdict being inconsistent with the  
4 evidence used in the trial, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Based upon the testimony and --  
6 Mr. Wilson indicated --

7 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Stay seated. But after four days of  
9 testimony, I will note that that we started the testimony in  
10 this case on Tuesday morning about eleven o'clock. Actually,  
11 that's when we started opening statements in the case. We had  
12 one full day of testimony yesterday and we took no testimony  
13 today, but the trial has been going four days and I understand  
14 that.

15 And having said that, based upon the testimony that was  
16 elicited from this stand, as well as the numerous exhibits  
17 that were admitted during the course of this trial, the Court  
18 does believe that there was more than sufficient evidence --  
19 more than sufficient evidence for this jury to convict each of  
20 these defendants as to each of these counts -- as to each of  
21 these counts.

22 And therefore, I am respectfully denying your motions --  
23 your motion for a new trial, as well as Mr. Floyd's motion for  
24 a new trial. However, your motions and objections are  
25 certainly noted for the record. They are noted for the

1 record. You each renewed all prior motions which I have ruled  
2 upon. This Court's rulings remain the same, but I want it  
3 abundantly clear that all such motions were made, were ruled  
4 upon by this Court, and the Court stands by all of its  
5 previous rulings. But your objections and motions are so  
6 noted --

7 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: -- each of you for the record.

9 MR. FLOYD: Thank you.

10 MR. CLEMENTS: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Hold on just a minute.

12 (Whereupon, there is a pause in the proceedings.)

13 THE COURT: All right. Captain Barr, can you come here a  
14 minute?

15 (Whereupon, a bench conference is held with courtroom  
16 security off the record.)

17 THE COURT: All right. Will you pass the sentence sheets  
18 up, Mr. Clements, on Mr. Woods?

19 MR. CLEMENTS: Yes, Your Honor. And when you're ready, I  
20 have their prior criminal histories, and also there are three  
21 members of the family that would like to address the Court at  
22 the appropriate time.

23 THE COURT: What I'm going to do -- I am going to  
24 sentence Mr. Woods first in reverse order from what we've done  
25 as far as the way we've gone here. The only reason Mr. Wilson

1 went first throughout the trial was because his client was  
2 named first in the indictment. Okay? But I'm going to  
3 sentence Mr. Woods first and then I'm going to ask that he be  
4 removed from the courtroom. He's closest to the door so they  
5 can take him out, and then I'm going to sentence Mr. Sanders.  
6 All right.

7 So at this time, Mr. Clements, I'll hear from you with  
8 regards to Mr. Woods' prior record, and then I'm going to hear  
9 from the family, and then I will turn it over to you, Mr.  
10 Floyd and Mr. Meetze and Mr. Woods prior to imposing sentence.  
11 Okay? All right. Mr. Clements, happy to hear from you with  
12 regards to anything on Mr. Woods.

13 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor. If it please the  
14 Court. Mr. Woods was young at the time of this offense, and  
15 he pled guilty 10/27/2008 to burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. He got a YOA  
16 not to exceed six years. As far as his juvenile record, he  
17 had a receiving stolen goods in 2008, possession of marijuana  
18 28 grams or less or 10 grams or less of hash, first offense,  
19 in 2007. He had a disorderly public conduct in 2007, and he  
20 had a status of incorrigible/ungovernable beyond the control  
21 of parents it looks like in 2005, an assault and battery by a  
22 student upon a school employee in 2005. Also, Your Honor, he  
23 had a disturbing schools in 2004, assault and battery by a  
24 student upon a school employee in 2004, and a public  
25 disorderly conduct that was dismissed in 2004.

1 THE COURT: I'll be happy to hear from any family  
2 members. They can come right here to the side and I'd be  
3 happy to hear from them.

4 MR. CLEMENTS: If y'all will, come step up and stand  
5 beside me. And if you would, please state your name for the  
6 record and your relationship to Mr. Rowell.

7 MS. MARGARET ROWELL GALE: Margaret Rowell Gale, and Mr.  
8 Rowell was my father.

9 THE COURT: I'd be happy to hear from you, please, ma'am.  
10 Please direct any comments to the Court. Okay?

11 MS. MARGARET ROWELL GALE: Your Honor, I ask you to  
12 please do not allow these men to do this to anyone else. You  
13 are the judge of Marion County and these are your residents.  
14 My father was a loving, kind man, and he tried to show society  
15 to give these men a second chance to show them that everyone  
16 deserves a second chance and can be good if that is their  
17 choice.

18 We have a huge void in our lives. My father was a pillar  
19 of this community. I was eight months pregnant when he was  
20 brutally taken away from us. I ask you please do not allow  
21 anyone else's family to go through this.

22 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am.

23 MS. MARGARET ROWELL GALE: Thank you.

24 MR. CLEMENTS: Please, if you will, step up here. State  
25 your name and your relationship to Mr. Rowell.

1 MR. DAVID ROWELL: David Rowell.

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir. Please direct any comments to me,  
3 Mr. Rowell.

4 MR. DAVID ROWELL: How you doing, Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Well. Thank you.

6 MR. DAVID ROWELL: This is only a fraction of the love  
7 that my father -- there's a -- there's a quote, you know.  
8 There's too much power for one man. Well, this is a lot of  
9 love for one man. This is only a fraction of the family. The  
10 family is way bigger than this, and he's missed all across the  
11 country. He raised us. He raised us the right way. Although  
12 we went astray, we did certain things, but we -- we knew  
13 there's a fine line. They crossed the line and, you know,  
14 they should be punished for it. And I don't know how this  
15 comes out or how you might take it, but I support the death  
16 penalty. I'm done.

17 MR. CLEMENTS: State your name, please. And this is the  
18 son as well.

19 MR. CHRIS ROWELL: Chris Rowell.

20 THE COURT: Yes, sir, Mr. Rowell.

21 MR. CHRIS ROWELL: Sam Rowell was my father. We miss  
22 him. My father was not a perfect man, but he was a good man.  
23 He was a giving man, and he was always giving people things.  
24 If somebody asked him for something, if he had it, he would  
25 give it without anything in return because that's who he was.

1        There are three things I know -- there are many things  
2 that my father loved, but the main three were God, the family,  
3 and coffee. He was a preacher for many years. He built this  
4 house on Phil Court to be a family house. We had family  
5 reunions every year. We had family come from all across the  
6 country because it was important for him that we knew who our  
7 family was, and we shared that love with all of our family.  
8 And there was hardly any time that you would find him without  
9 a cup of coffee.

10        I remember -- I think I was twelve and he made me upset  
11 and I decided to run away from home. So I packed a bag and  
12 went and sat on the corner of the street. And after 30  
13 seconds of looking for me, he found me, and after he put fire  
14 into my behind, he said I'm doing this because I love you. I  
15 can't go to him and have those conversations with him and him  
16 tell me that I'm right or that I'm wrong or maybe I should  
17 rethink what I'm doing. That -- the wisdom that he gave to  
18 us, we don't have that anymore.

19        The -- what we have gone through through this process has  
20 been very hard. Sleepless nights, uncontrollable tears,  
21 listening to old voice messages just to hear his voice. The  
22 -- the way it has affected my mother, his wife of 40+ years,  
23 yes, there's a void in our family. There has been a major  
24 breach in our family that may never be repaired. We have been  
25 robbed of our loved one, our father, my mother's husband, a

1 brother, and a friend. We have been robbed to be able to hug  
2 the one that we love, to talk to the one that we love. We  
3 have been robbed of the opportunity to say good-bye or to say  
4 I'm sorry. We don't have the ability to do anything.

5 But with everything that's been done, Your Honor, with  
6 everything that has come forward in this courtroom, we pray  
7 that you and this court punish these men for what they've done  
8 to the highest extent of the law, and we thank you for it.

9 THE COURT: All right. Anything else at this time, Mr.  
10 Clements?

11 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, I spoke to many people about  
12 Sam Rowell, and everyone said what a wonderful man he was and  
13 how he would give people the shirt off his back, and I talked  
14 to so many people he had helped in this community, and those  
15 that aren't related to him that were close friends that sat  
16 down and talked with me with tears rolling down their cheeks  
17 about how much they miss Sam Rowell and what a good man he  
18 was.

19 And, Your Honor, I would just echo what Chris has said.  
20 Punish these defendants to the highest extent of the law.

21 THE COURT: All right. I'll tell you I'm going to  
22 deviate from what I said I was going to do. I'm going to hear  
23 from Mr. Wilson. I mean I've heard -- anything else from the  
24 State? I'm going to just go ahead and sentence both at the  
25 same time, but I'm going to hear from each of them before I

1 impose sentence. Mr. Wilson, I will hear from you at this  
2 time.

3 MR. WILSON: Your Honor, I don't know that there is a lot  
4 that I need to say. The Court heard all the evidence and the  
5 testimony in this case, and I've been doing this a long time,  
6 and the jury considered this. I think that, during the course  
7 of this trial, the jury paid very close attention to the  
8 witnesses and the testimony, and I was well-pleased with that.

9 Obviously, you know, we didn't like the outcome or the  
10 decision, but the jury is the finder of fact and those are the  
11 facts that they found and they made a decision, and I accept  
12 that. I would say that on behalf of the defendant that, you  
13 know, he has maintained his innocence throughout this process,  
14 and I simply ask the Court to take into consideration the fact  
15 that his age and that he maintains his innocence and that you  
16 be as merciful with him as you can under the circumstances.

17 Now, he has indicated to me that -- that he had something  
18 that he wanted to say to the Court. So I don't know how the  
19 Court's position on that is, but he wants to speak to the  
20 Court.

21 THE COURT: All right. Before I hear from him, I want to  
22 know what his prior record is, please, Mr. Clements.

23 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: And then I'll hear from him.

25 MR. CLEMENTS: 1997, he got burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> degree non-

1 violent with a YOA. In '99, he had a distribution of  
2 marijuana and it looks like a possession with intent to  
3 distribute first offense of controlled substance conviction.  
4 Disorderly conduct in the same year. Then it looks like in  
5 2002, he had a distribution of crack cocaine or PWID. That  
6 was a non-conviction. Excuse me. There's some other non-  
7 convictions.

8 In 2003, he had grand larceny \$5,000 or more, breaking  
9 into auto or tanks where fuel is stored conviction where he  
10 got five years. It looks like he had one -- two -- three --  
11 four of those, along with two petit larceny convictions and a  
12 grand larceny value \$5,000 or more conviction. He got five  
13 years for all those concurrent.

14 Then in 2003, he got a burglary violent 2<sup>nd</sup> degree  
15 conviction. He got two years suspended to five years with  
16 five years' probation, along with a grand larceny \$5,000 or  
17 more conviction. At the same time, breaking into an  
18 automobile/fuel tanks where fuel is stored conviction, three  
19 counts. He got five years on each of those. Unlawful  
20 carrying of a weapon conviction, one year. Resisting arrest  
21 conviction, one year. Petit larceny conviction, 30 days.  
22 Another petit larceny conviction, 30 days. All in 2003.

23 And, Your Honor, it looks like 2008, he had a receiving  
24 stolen goods more than 1,000 but less than \$5,000, and then in  
25 2009, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, he got a conviction for burglary

1 violent 2<sup>nd</sup> degree conviction where he got five years.

2 THE COURT: And that was when? The last one?

3 MR. CLEMENTS: It was 2009, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Sanders, I'll be happy to  
5 hear from you at this time. However, I don't want you to say  
6 anything that could certainly affect any appellate rights that  
7 you may have, and I know that your lawyer has advised you of  
8 that.

9 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: But I will be happy to hear from you at this  
11 time. Please direct your comments to me.

12 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: Well, Your Honor, I know I have a  
13 long record. I know I've been in trouble quite a few times  
14 with the law. I just want the victim's family to know that I  
15 understand. You know what I'm saying?. That, you know, there  
16 is a time and season for everything, and there's two things in  
17 this world; there's love and hate, you know. And I know this  
18 is a crime of hate, but for the love of God, I didn't kill  
19 nobody. I understand that, you know, we go through some  
20 things, but under the eyes of God as my witness, I'm an  
21 innocent man.

22 But I -- I just hope that you can forgive the  
23 circumstances. I understand the loss because I've been there.  
24 I understand the pain and hurt y'all are going through because  
25 I was a friend of the family. And, well, for me to go through

1 what I'm going through, I know y'all's feelings because I'm  
2 losing all of my kids just as well as your father. But I just  
3 ask y'all only one thing. That y'all just -- y'all just learn  
4 how to forgive. I know it's hard to forgive. I know it's  
5 hard to forgive, but God said you got to learn how to forgive.

6 But I'm going to ask you don't forgive me because I -- I  
7 haven't done anything. I'm just asking you to forgive the  
8 circumstances. I pray for each and every one of y'all. May  
9 God bless y'all.

10 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Sanders. All right. Mr.  
11 Floyd, I'll be happy to hear from you, sir.

12 MR. FLOYD: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, Mr. Woods  
13 has been in the county detention center now I think for 673  
14 days. He was 19 when he got arrested on this charge and he's  
15 21 now or very close to it.

16 Your Honor, obviously, he pled not guilty and maintained  
17 his innocence throughout the trial. You know, the jury made  
18 their decision and we respect it, and beyond that, I probably  
19 don't need to comment on any facts.

20 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

21 MR. FLOYD: Your Honor, we -- I can only tell you about  
22 my personal experiences with Mr. Woods. Certainly, we've met  
23 in preparation for this case, you know, over the course of the  
24 last year or so, and I've had many occasions to meet with him  
25 and I can only say, you know, Your Honor, that his behavior

1 towards me has always been very cooperative and he's been an  
2 easy person to work with and very, very polite and courteous  
3 to me and Mr. Meetze, Your Honor, every time we've ever met  
4 with him. Your Honor, we just ask if you'd consider his very  
5 young age and give him as much mercy as you can.

6 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Meetze, anything you want to  
7 say?

8 MR. MEETZE: No, sir, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Woods, you can speak, and I will advise  
10 you as I did Mr. Sanders that I will be happy to hear anything  
11 you wish to say to me, but certainly don't want you to say  
12 anything -- and I know your lawyers have advised you of such  
13 -- not to say anything that could affect any appellate rights  
14 you may have.

15 THE DEFENDANT WOODS: Yes, sir. I don't want to really  
16 say too much, but I know that it's not going to change no  
17 one's perspective of me at this time right now. But I will  
18 say that these last couple of days of coming up here to court,  
19 I been around the officers. I been around my lawyer as well.  
20 Your Honor, it's not in my character to kill or commit such  
21 crimes. It's not. Anyone will tell you that. That's not the  
22 kind of person I am, and so I want to tell the family that I  
23 am innocent, you know, that I didn't do it and I believe that  
24 -- I believe that they -- they will believe that.

25 Your Honor, there's -- there's not much to say, but I --

1 I do want to let you know that I -- I'm aware of the court  
2 system and I'm really not a fool. So me going through trial  
3 wouldn't be to play with the system; it would be to plead my  
4 innocence the way I have. If I really believed I was guilty,  
5 I wouldn't have went through the whole process. I just want  
6 to tell the family that -- that I am sorry and just for being  
7 in this.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Clements, anything else?

9 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, there is a pending armed  
10 robbery charge on Mr. Tyrell Woods on Liston Phillips on Jones  
11 Avenue here in Marion that also happened earlier in the day on  
12 July 4<sup>th</sup>. He was here available for us to testify under Rule  
13 404(b) if we sought to do that, but that might have some  
14 impact on the severance issue. So we chose not to present  
15 that evidence at this time, but he does have that pending  
16 armed robbery. Mr. Phillips picked him out of a photo lay-  
17 down and was willing to come testify, and he saw -- he called  
18 law enforcement and told him he knew who did it after he saw  
19 his picture in the news after the arrest of Sam Rowell [sic].

20 But that -- that is still pending against Mr. Woods, and  
21 I would draw the Court's attention to -- I know you looked at  
22 the video all week. It appears that Mr. Woods has been  
23 wearing the same pair of shoes he had on in that video.

24 MR. WOODS: Your Honor, can I speak?

25 THE COURT: No, sir. If your lawyer wants to say

1 something, I'll be happy to hear from him.

2 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, Mr. Woods just conveyed to me  
3 that the shoes are not the same.

4 THE COURT: I understand. Well -- and that's not  
5 anything that was in evidence. I understand that.

6 First of all, these types of cases are never easy --  
7 never easy for the lawyers that are involved, the juries that  
8 have to sit in here and listen to the evidence and make a  
9 decision on these cases, because they are decisions that  
10 affect other people's lives. When I became a judge, one of my  
11 mentors, so to speak, told me that sentencing was probably the  
12 most difficult part of this job, and in the four years that I  
13 have been on the bench, I've come to learn that real quickly.  
14 Sentencing never is easy.

15 It is unfortunate of what brings us and everybody into  
16 this courtroom today for such a -- what appears to be, based  
17 upon the evidence that was presented in this courtroom, a very  
18 cold and calculated and planned ordeal.

19 In the number of years that I did criminal defense work  
20 before I was elected to this position, I represented many  
21 individuals such as Mr. Wilson and Mr. Floyd and Mr. Meetze  
22 are doing right now. While I understand what you have said,  
23 Mr. Woods, most of my clients were very cordial to me in my  
24 representation of them, as I'm sure they have been to Mr.  
25 Wilson and you have been to Mr. Meetze and Mr. Floyd.

1 But that book that sits on the counter or right up here  
2 in front that everybody places their left hand on when they  
3 come into this courtroom before they take that witness stand  
4 to be sworn -- that book says that all of us -- all of us are  
5 capable of anything, and if we don't feed ourselves those good  
6 things, it results in the tragic decisions that bring so many  
7 young people into this courtroom and absolutely not only  
8 destroys their lives on this earth, but the many people that  
9 care about them, as well as others.

10 This jury has sat here the last few days, has listened  
11 very intently, and been very observant in what went on in  
12 here, and I appreciate that and I know that the lawyers, as  
13 well all parties involved here, appreciate that.

14 SENTENCES BY THE COURT

15 THE COURT: Therefore, based upon the evidence that's  
16 been presented and based upon the verdicts that's been  
17 rendered in this case, the following sentences apply to each  
18 of these defendants.

19 On Indictment 2013-GS-33-256, possession of a weapon  
20 during the commission of a violent crime, the sentence of the  
21 Court is that the defendants be committed to the State  
22 Department of Corrections for a period of five years.

23 Criminal conspiracy under the same indictment number, the  
24 sentence of the Court is five years.

25 On attempted murder under the same indictment and as to

1 each defendant, the sentence of the Court is 30 years.

2 On armed robbery under the same indictment number as to  
3 each defendant, the sentence of the Court is 30 years.

4 On the murder charge -- murder conviction under the same  
5 indictment as to each defendant, the sentence of the Court is  
6 life imprisonment.

7 Under the same indictment number as to burglary 1<sup>st</sup>  
8 degree, the sentence of the Court as to each defendant is life  
9 imprisonment.

10 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: So, Your Honor, what happens --

11 THE COURT: Each of these sentences are to run  
12 consecutively. Consecutively. That is the sentence of the  
13 Court.

14 THE DEFENDANT SANDERS: We got to die two times and then  
15 come back and do 70 years?

16 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor?

17 THE COURT: You can talk to your lawyer. Yes, sir, Mr.  
18 Meetze?

19 MR. MEETZE: Before you leave the bench, I do want to  
20 clear up one thing for the record. I know that the Court  
21 indicated that what we say now and what lawyers say at all is  
22 not evidence, but --

23 THE COURT: Correct.

24 MR. MEETZE: -- I made an attempt to convey some  
25 sentiments for my client, Mr. Woods, and I didn't do a good

1 job of it and I wanted to clear that up for the record.  
2 Obviously, what he wanted me to convey to the Court was that  
3 he was not in that video so the shoes he's got on now were not  
4 in that video.

5 THE COURT: I understand.. I understand. That's the  
6 sentence of the Court. Thank you.

7 (Whereupon, the proceedings end at 3:32 p.m.)

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9 --- END REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT ---

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1 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
2 ) CERTIFICATE  
3 COUNTY OF FLORENCE )  
4

5 I, the undersigned, Krystal J. Smith, Notary Public and  
6 Official Court Reporter for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of  
7 the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the  
8 foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 769 constitute a true,  
9 accurate, and complete Transcript of Record of all the  
10 proceedings had and evidence introduced in the hearing of the  
11 above captioned case, relative to appeal, in the Court of  
12 General Sessions for Marion County, South Carolina, on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
13 through 22<sup>nd</sup> days of May, 2014.

14 I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel,  
15 nor interest to any party hereto.

16

17 s/ Krystal J. Smith

18 Court Reporter

19

20 Florence, South Carolina

21 September 9, 2014

22

23

24

25

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM MARION COUNTY  
Court of General Sessions

D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2013-GS-33-00256

The State,

Respondent,

v.

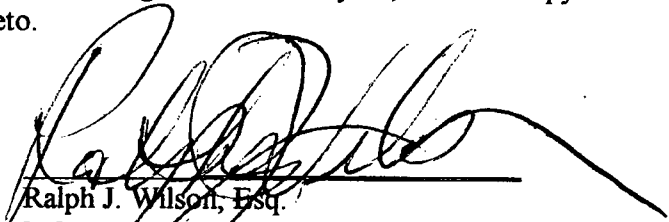
Marco Siara Sanders,

Appellant.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Marco Siara Sanders appeals his convictions and sentences in this case. The convictions were entered and sentences imposed by the Honorable D. Craig Brown on May 22, 2014. A copy of all applicable sentencing sheets are attached hereto.

May 29, 2014



Ralph J. Wilson, Esq.

P.O. Box 1827

Conway, SC 29528

(843) 381-0765

*Court Appointed Trial Counsel for Appellant*

Other Counsel of Record:

E. L. Clemments, III

Twelfth Circuit Solicitor

180 North Irby Street

Florence, South Carolina 29501

(843) 665-3091

*Attorney for Respondent*

**RECEIVED**

JUN 02 2014

**SC Court of Appeals**

**WITNESSES**

**JAMES LEE**

Marion County Sheriff

**DOCKET NO. 2013-GS-33-00256**

The State of South Carolina

County of

**MARION**

**COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**

**TERM**

**THE STATE**

vs.

**MARCO SIARA SANDERS**

**TYRELL WOODS**

**E. L. Clements, III**

**ARREST WARRANT NUMBER**

2012A3310100042. 2012A3310100045.  
2012A3310100047. 2012A3310100041.

2012A3310100050. 2012A3310100052.  
2012A3310100046. 2012A3310100049.  
2012A3310100051. 2012A3310100048.  
2013GS3300256A. 2013GS3300256B.

**ACTION OF GRAND JURY**

Foreperson of Grand Jury  
Date:

5-9-13

**VERDICT**

Indictment for  
**MURDER, ARMED ROBBERY, BURGLARY  
1<sup>ST</sup>, ATTEMPTED MURDER, POSSESSION  
OF A FIREARM IN COMMISSION OF  
VIOLENT CRIME AND CONSPIRACY**

208

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

FILED

2013 May -2 10 41:39

MARION COUNTY SC

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF MARION )

INDICTMENT FOR  
MURDER, ARMED ROBBERY, BURGLARY 1<sup>ST</sup>,  
ATTEMPTED MURDER, POSSESSION OF A  
FIREARM IN COMMISSION OF VIOLENT CRIME  
AND CONSPIRACY

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on MAY 9, 2013 the Grand Jurors of  
MARION County present upon their oath:

**COUNT ONE- MURDER**

That MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County, on or about July 4, 2012, willfully, feloniously, and intentionally kill the victim, Samuel Rowell, with malice aforethought, either express or implied, by means of shooting victim in the head, and the victim did die as a proximate result thereof on or about July 4, 2012 in Marion County, in violation of Section 16-03-0010, 20 S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

**COUNT TWO- ARMED ROBBERY**

That MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County on or about July 4, 2012, while armed with a deadly weapon, to wit: a pistol, did take and carry away personal property of Samuel Rowell to wit: Wallet, credit cards and monies, from or in the immediate presence of Samuel Rowell with intent to deprive Samuel Rowell of possession by use of force, threats or intimidation, in violation of Section 16-11-0330(A), S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

**COUNT THREE- BURGLARY 1<sup>ST</sup> DEGREE**

That MARCO SANDERS and TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County on or about July 4, 2012, willfully and unlawfully entered the dwelling of Samuel Rowell located at 1925 Phil Court, Marion, while armed with a deadly weapon and/or caused physical injury to Samuel Rowell who was not a participant in the crime and/or entered in the nighttime, without consent and with the intent to commit a crime therein, and the defendants entered in the night time, in violation of the Common Law and Section 16-11-311, S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

ATTACHED TO AND BECOMING A PART OF THE ORIGINAL INDICTMENT FOR MURDER, ARMED ROBBERY, BURGLARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, ATTEMPTED MURDER, POSSESSION OF A FIREARM IN COMMISSION OF VIOLENT CRIME AND CONSPIRACY WITH THE AFORESAID NAMES(S) OF MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS SHOWN THEREON:

**COUNT FOUR-ATTEMPTED MURDER**

That MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County, on or about July 4, 2012, with malice aforethought attempt to murder one, Eddie Godbold, Jr by shooting at him with a firearm, in violation of Section 16-03-0029, S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

**COUNT FIVE-POSSESSION OF A FIREARM IN COMMISSION OF VIOLENT CRIME**

That MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County, on or about July 4, 2012, possess a firearm, or visibly display what appeared to be a firearm, or visibly displayed a knife, during the commission or attempted commission of a violent crime, to with the murder of Samuel Rowell and /or Burglary 1<sup>st</sup>, and/or Armed Robbery in violation of Section 16-23-0490, S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended

**COUNT SIX-CONSPIRACY**

That MARCO SANDERS AND TYRELL WOODS did in Marion County on or about July 4, 2012 did unlawfully, willfully, knowingly, wickedly and feloniously unite, combine, conspire, confederate, agree between and among themselves and have tacit understanding with each other and with divers other persons whose names are unknown to the Grand Jurors for the purpose of committing the crime of Burglary and/or , Armed Robbery and/or Murder; in violation of Section 16-17-0410, S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.



---

**E.L. Clements, III**  
TWELFTH CIRCUIT SOLICITOR

COUNTY OF Marion  
STATE VS.  
Marco Sanders

0-5 yrs

AKA:  
Race: Black Sex: M Age:         
DOB:        SS#:         
Address:         
City, State, Zip:         
DL#:        DLW#:       

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2013-GS-33-00256

A/W#: 2013GS3300256A

Date of Offense: 7/4/2012

S.C. Code §: 16-17-0410

CDR Code #: 0049

SENTENCE SHEET

\*CDL Yes ☐ No ☐ CMV Yes ☐ No ☐ Hazmat Yes ☐ No ☐  
In disposition of the said indictment comes now the Defendant who was  
TO: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

☒ CONVICTED OF or ☐ PLEADS

In violation of § 16-17-0410 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0049  
☒ NON-VIOLENT ☐ VIOLENT ☐ SERIOUS ☐ MOST SERIOUS ☐ Mandatory GPS(CSC ☐ §17-25-45  
w/minor 1st or Lewd Act)

The charge is: ☒ As Indicted, ☐ Lesser Included Offense, ☐ Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. (defendant's initials)

The plea is: ☒ Without Negotiations or Recommendation, ☐ Negotiated Sentence, ☐ Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST: [Signature] 15295  
Clements, III, E. L. SC Bar# Defendant Attorney for Defendant SC Bar#

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the ☒ State Department of Corrections, ☐ County Detention Center,  
for a determinate term of 5 days/months/years or ☐ under the Youthful Offender Act not to exceed        years  
and/or to pay a fine of \$       ; provided that upon the service of        days/months/years and/or payment  
of \$       ; plus costs and assessments as applicable\*; the balance is suspended with probation for       

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of  
probation, which are incorporated by reference.

☐ CONCURRENT or ☒ CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: all other convictions of 5-22-14

☒ The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied  
by the State Department of Corrections.

☐ The Defendant is to be placed on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code §17-25-135.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 922, it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of Section 16-25-20 (Criminal  
Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

☐ RESTITUTION: ☐ Deferred ☐ Def. Waives Hearing ☐ Ordered

Total: \$        plus 20% fee: \$       

Payment Terms:       

☐ Set by SCDPPPS       

Recipient:       

\*Fine:  
§ 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  
Proviso 47.9 (Public Def/Prob) \$500  
§ 14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding) \$25  
§ 14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge) \$150  
§ 50-21-114(BUI Breath Test Fee) \$50  
§ 56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment) \$40/ea  
Proviso 90.5 (SOCJA Surcharge) \$5  
3% to County (if paid in installments) \$3.90  
TOTAL \$133.90

PTUP        JUN 02 2014

       days/hours Public Service Employment

Obtain GED ☐ SC Court of Appeals

Attend Voc. Rehab. or Job Corp.       

May serve W/E beginning       

Substance Abuse Counseling ☐

Random Drug/Alcohol testing ☐

Fine may be pd. in equal, consecutive weekly/monthly  
pmts. of \$        beginning       

\$        paid to Public Defender Fund

Other:       

☐ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel,  
§ 47.12 requires \$500 be paid to Clerk  
during probation.

Clerk of Court/ Deputy Clerk Sherry R. Rhodes/cy  
Court Reporter: Kristal Smith  
SCCA/217 (03/2011)

Presiding Judge [Signature]  
Judge Code: 2100  
Sentence Date: 5-22-14

## 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."

June 26th, 2015

  
Kathrine H. Hudgins  
Appellate Defender

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

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

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June 26th, 2015

  
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PO Box 11589  
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(803) 734-1330

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 26 2015  
SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Appeal from Marion County

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

 ORIGINAL

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JUN 26 2015

SC Court of Appeals  
RESPONDENT,

THE STATE,

V.

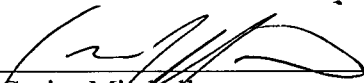
MARCO SANDERS,

APPELLANT

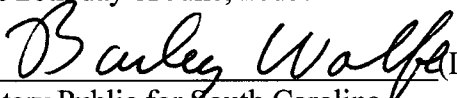
APPELLATE CASE NO. 2014-001201

\_\_\_\_\_  
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE  
\_\_\_\_\_

I certify that a true copy of the Record on Appeal in the above referenced case has been served upon Kaycie S. Timmons, Esquire, at Rembert Dennis Building, 1000 Assembly Street, Room 519, Columbia, SC 29201 this 26th day of June, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cruise Mitchell  
Administrative Specialist

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me  
this 26th day of June, 2015.

 (L.S.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: October 24, 2021 .



SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

Division of Appellate Defense  
1330 Lady Street, Suite 401  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-3332  
Post Office Box 11589  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1589  
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Facsimile: (803) 734-1397

Robert M. Dudek, Chief Appellate Defender  
Wanda H. Carter, Deputy Chief Appellate Defender

June 26, 2015

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JUN 26 2015

SC Court of Appeals

The Honorable Jenny Kitchings  
Clerk, S.C. Court of Appeals  
PO Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: The State v. Marco Sanders

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Enclosed is a proposed order in the above case. By copy of this letter, we are also forwarding a copy of this proposed order to Kaycie S. Timmons. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Kathrine H. Hudgins  
Appellate Defender

KHH/brr

cc: Kaycie S. Timmons, Esquire