

**ORIGINAL**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

APPEAL FROM MARION COUNTY  
The Honorable D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

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Appellate Case No. 2013-001769

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**SC Court of Appeals**

THE STATE,

APPELLANT,

v.

CALVIN JERMAINE POMPEY,

RESPONDENT.

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**RECORD ON APPEAL**

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) }  
COUNTY OF MARION ) GENERAL SESSIONS COURT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)  
STATE, )

v. ) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD  
CALVIN J. POMPEY, ) 12-GS-33-301  
DEFENDANT. )

August 13, 2013  
August 15, 2013  
Marion, South Carolina

**BEFORE :**

THE HONORABLE D. CRAIG BROWN, JUDGE

**APPEARANCES:**

E. L. CLEMENTS, III, ESQ.  
Solicitor

VICK MEETZE, ESQ.  
Attorney for Defendant

FRANCES BAKIS-RAY, RPR  
Circuit Court Reporter

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(There were no exhibits marked.)

1           MR. CLEMENTS: If it please the Court,  
2 Your Honor, we're here on indictment 12-GS-33-301.  
3 This is the State versus Calvin Jermaine Pompey. He  
4 is charged with murder, Your Honor. He's  
5 represented by Mr. Vick Meetze of the Public  
6 Defender's Office. The murder is alleged to have  
7 occurred, and alleged to have been a murder, on the  
8 18th of March, 2012, at Club Fusion which is on East  
9 Godbolt Street in Marion. Your Honor, we have  
10 several witnesses here, several family members here.  
11 What we're here for today is, pursuant to the Castle  
12 Doctrine Mr. Meetze has raised that issue, and we're  
13 here for a hearing regarding the Castle Doctrine and  
14 I'll defer to him.

15           But that's what we're here for, correct,  
16 Mr. Meetze?

17           MR. MEETZE: That is correct, Your Honor.

18           THE COURT: All right, Mr. Meetze, I'll be  
19 happy to hear from you, sir.

20           MR. MEETZE: Thank you, Your Honor. Your  
21 Honor, as Mr. Clements indicated we are here  
22 pursuant to a motion that I filed a while back  
23 asking for a hearing pursuant to the Castle Doctrine  
24 which is codified 16-11-410 which is the protection  
25 of persons and properties act. We do have witnesses

1 here, and we would ask the Court to hear evidence in  
2 regards to that and at the appropriate time we will  
3 be making a motion pursuant to this act.

4 THE COURT: All right, call your first  
5 witness.

6 MR. MEETZE: Thank you, Your Honor. Your  
7 Honor, at this time we would call Kadeem Kelley.

8 THE CLERK OF COURT: Mr. Kelley, here,  
9 place your left hand on the Bible, raise your right  
10 hand.

11 WHEREUPON,

12 **KADEEM KELLEY,**

13 having been duly sworn by the Clerk of Court,  
14 testified as follows:

15 MR. MEETZE: Mr. Kelley, I'm gonna ask you  
16 to speak up so everybody can hear you just like you  
17 and I are having a conversation. I'm gonna ask you  
18 to spell your name for us if you would.

19 THE WITNESS: Kadeem Kelly, K-A-D-E-E-M  
20 K-E-L-L-E-Y.

21 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

22 BY MR. MEETZE:

23 Q Mr. Kelley, were you -- what were you doing on  
24 March the 18th of 2012?

25 A I was out partying.

1 Q With, who were you with?

2 A Calvin.

3 Q Anybody else?

4 A Joshua Ward.

5 Q Okay. And where did y'all go?

6 A Club Fusion.

7 Q Do you remember what time y'all got to Club  
8 Fusion?

9 A No.

10 Q Do you remember when you left Club Fusion?

11 A Not the time, but I know about when we left.

12 Q I need you to speak up a little bit.

13 A Not the time but I know when we left.

14 Q Was it before midnight, after midnight?

15 A After midnight.

16 Q And why did you leave?

17 A 'Cause there was altercation that happened.

18 Q Now did you see anything happen in the club?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q What alerted you, if anything, that you needed to  
21 leave?

22 A When somebody told me that my brother-in-law was  
23 being thrown out the club.

24 Q And when you say your brother-in-law who are you  
25 referring to?

1 A Calvin.

2 Q And you are married to his sister?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Okay. And when you left the building what  
5 happened then?

6 A We was heading to the car.

7 Q When you say "we were heading to the car," who  
8 were you referring to?

9 A Me, Calvin, and Josh was headed to the car to  
10 leave.

11 Q And what happened then?

12 A Mr. McRae, he came. I don't know who all was  
13 with who, but I know it wasn't anybody else with us.

14 And they was coming to the car. One guy had his  
15 hand under his shirt as if he had something, you  
16 know. He was getting ---

17 Q I don't mean to interrupt you, let me stop you  
18 there. You testified a little bit ago that y'all  
19 were going to the car ---

20 A Yeah.

21 Q Did y'all meet ---

22 A We made it to the car. We made it in. I was in  
23 the process of getting in.

24 Q Okay. Where was everybody else when you were in  
25 the process of getting in?

1 A Behind we was coming towards ---

2 Q No, I'm talking about everybody you were with.

3 A Oh, at the car.

4 Q When was everybody -- did everybody get into the  
5 car?

6 A Josh had the key to unlock the door. So after  
7 Josh unlocked the door which it wasn't -- the device  
8 wouldn't unlock. He had to manually do it. After  
9 Josh unlocked the door that when everybody proceeded  
10 to get in the car.

11 Q Okay. Once everybody was in the car what did you  
12 see?

13 A See Calvin leaning back and then let off a shot  
14 and then everybody left after that.

15 Q And I'm gonna ask you to back up. You were about  
16 to say something a little bit ago and I interrupted  
17 you when you referred to some other people that you  
18 saw. Tell me what you saw.

19 A I saw people coming to the car that wasn't with  
20 us, didn't know them, never seen them before. One  
21 guy was running up with his hand under his shirt as  
22 if he had something.

23 Q A d when you say under his shirt you mean under  
24 -- was it under the front of his shirt ---

25 A Front.

1 Q Front of his shirt. And he was, you indicated in  
2 your testimony he was running towards the car?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q What part of the car was he running towards?

5 A Passenger side.

6 Q And who was in the passenger side?

7 A Calvin.

8 Q All right. How close to the car did he get?

9 A In the car, inside.

10 Q Inside the car?

11 A Like reaching inside.

12 Q Do you recall him saying anything or doing  
13 anything when he got to the car?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q And what happened once he got into the car?

16 A One shot was let out, left.

17 Q And you testified here for a few minutes but how  
18 fast did all this happen?

19 A It happened in a matter under a minute,  
20 everything.

21 Q So everything happened very fast?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q And you had never seen these folks before or this  
24 individual before?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q And your testimony is that one shot was fired?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Where were you sitting in the car?

4 A In the driver's side in the back.

5 Q And did you at any time see Calvin become armed?

6 A No, sir, it happened too fast. I honestly  
7 thought everybody was inside the car until I seen  
8 him leaning back.

9 Q And when y'all were going to the car what was  
10 y'all's plan?

11 A To go home.

12 Q All right. And y'all just didn't have time for  
13 that to happen?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q After you heard the shot your testimony is that  
16 y'all did leave at that time?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Did y'all leave immediately?

19 A Immediately.

20 Q Okay. As far as anything that went on inside the  
21 club that led to folks being thrown out of the club,  
22 you did not see any of that? You ---

23 A No, sir, I really didn't had anything to do with  
24 anybody 'cause it was -- we was having a good night.

25 MR. MEETZE: I don't have any further

1 questions for this witness, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Cross-examination.

3 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

4 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

5 Q Mr. Kelley, how old are you?

6 A Twenty-four.

7 Q And you are -- you are Calvin Pompey's  
8 brother-in-law?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q All right. And you're married to his sister?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay. Real good friend of his?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Y'all are real close?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q You'd do anything you could to help him, correct?

17 A I would do anything that's the truth.

18 Q Okay. Now let me ask you about being inside the  
19 club. Do you recall about what time you got there?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q How long were you there?

22 A I'm not sure.

23 Q Hour, hour-and-a-half, two hours?

24 A I'm not sure.

25 Q Five minutes?

1 A I'm not sure. It was longer than five minutes.

2 Q Was it around an hour, longer than an hour,  
3 shorter than an hour?

4 A I'm not sure if it was -- I'm not sure.

5 Q Now you said you didn't know anything about any  
6 altercation in the club from you seeing anything or  
7 hearing anything?

8 A No, sir, I didn't know anything.

9 Q You didn't hear anybody do anything?

10 A I mean, I seen some people fighting, but I didn't  
11 think it had anything to do with nobody that was  
12 with me.

13 Q All right, who did you see fighting?

14 A Bunch of people that I didn't, didn't really  
15 know.

16 Q All right. Did you see Calvin fighting?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Was Calvin with you the whole time?

19 A Until whatever scuffle happened in the club, and  
20 he was with me up until then. We ain't never been  
21 like when something happen in the club everybody  
22 scared, everybody go their own way. So the best of  
23 me trying to find out where everybody else at.

24 Somebody tell me that he being taken out the club,  
25 and that's when I went outside to see what was going

1 on with him.

2 Q So he was with you until the scuffle started, he  
3 wasn't with you then?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q How light or how dark was it in that club?

6 A It was dark in the club. They turned on the  
7 lights.

8 Q All right. So he could have been fighting and  
9 you not know anything about it? He wasn't with you  
10 at that time, right?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q So you didn't see him at that time?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q He wasn't with you at that time?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q And he could have been involved in that fight;  
17 could he not?

18 A I highly doubt it, but yes, sir.

19 Q All right. But he could have?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q All right. So you began to look for everybody  
22 that was with you?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q How many people were that?

25 A Calvin and Josh.

- 1 Q Did you find Josh?
- 2 A Yes, sir.
- 3 Q Where did you find Josh?
- 4 A A few steps away from me.
- 5 Q All right. And you didn't find Calvin, did you?
- 6 A Not until somebody tell me he was being taken out
- 7 the club.
- 8 Q Now that club, they don't just take people out
- 9 just for the heck of it, do they?
- 10 A No, sir.
- 11 Q They had to be doing something wrong to get taken
- 12 out the club, right?
- 13 A Or they could have just seen the crowd and figure
- 14 he had something to do with it and take him out.
- 15 Q Excuse me, say that one more time.
- 16 A Or they could have seen the crowd and figure he
- 17 had something to do with it and took him out, but
- 18 I'm not sure.
- 19 Q Okay. So you don't know why they're taking him
- 20 out?
- 21 A No, sir.
- 22 Q He could have been in a fight, and that's why
- 23 they were taking him out, right?
- 24 A Yes, sir.
- 25 Q You didn't see that so you can't tell us that?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q All right. And you said y'all went to the car?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q You and Josh or you, Josh, and Calvin?

5 A After we got Calvin, me and Josh and Calvin.

6 Q Where did you get Calvin from?

7 A Outside the club.

8 Q Who was with him?

9 A He was by hisself until I got there.

10 Q He was by himself?

11 A Yeah.

12 Q All right. How much time past between the  
13 scuffle until you found him outside? A minute, two  
14 minutes?

15 A Not long, like two minutes at the top.

16 Q Two minute tops?

17 A Yeah.

18 Q You got him, did you ask him what was going on?

19 A No, he was went to the car.

20 Q All right. How far did you have to go to get  
21 from the door of the club — and that's where you  
22 found him, right outside the door, right?

23 A Yeah.

24 Q You didn't see anybody at the club, Mr. McRae or  
25 anybody like that with him?

- 1 A No, sir.
- 2 Q He was just standing there by himself?
- 3 A No. Like, it was a lot of people outside but I  
4 only went for him. That was my reason for leaving  
5 out the club.
- 6 Q All right. Did he appear to be with anybody?
- 7 A No, sir.
- 8 Q Was his clothes messed up?
- 9 A No, sir.
- 10 Q Was he scratched up?
- 11 A No, sir.
- 12 Q Did he look at all like he had been in a fight or  
13 anything?
- 14 A No, sir.
- 15 Q Did he look like he was scared?
- 16 A No, sir.
- 17 Q So he wasn't scared at all?
- 18 A I don't know if he was scared, but he didn't  
19 appear to be scared 'cause he done got took out the  
20 club.
- 21 Q He didn't say anything about being scared?
- 22 A Huh-uh.
- 23 Q Didn't say anything about anybody trying to get  
24 him, did he?
- 25 A Not sure, he didn't have nothing.

1 Q Didn't have nothing to say?

2 A He just said, let's go.

3 Q All right. And if somebody was after him he'd  
4 probably said somebody is after me, let's go,  
5 wouldn't he?

6 A More than likely.

7 Q But he didn't say that, did he?

8 A No, sir.

9 Q All right. So from the door to where your car  
10 was, how far did y'all have to go? I mean, from  
11 this corner to this corner or further than that?

12 A Probably from this door to the entrance.

13 Q Okay. And that'd be about how many feet you  
14 think?

15 A I'm not sure.

16 Q Was there a lot of cars there or just a few cars?

17 A A lot of cars.

18 Q Did you have to go around anything or over  
19 anything or anything to get to your car?

20 A I mean, beside the car that was parked, just  
21 straight to the car.

22 Q Just straight to the car. And you said you got  
23 in the driver's side on the back?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Whose car was it?

- 1 A My wife.
- 2 Q Okay. And who was driving?
- 3 A Josh.
- 4 Q Why weren't you driving?
- 5 A 'Cause I didn't want to drive.
- 6 Q Were you drinking?
- 7 A Sir?
- 8 Q Were you drinking?
- 9 A We was at a bar.
- 10 Q Well, that was a good decision not to drive then.
- 11 How about Josh, was he drinking?
- 12 A Yes, sir.
- 13 Q All right, how about Calvin, was he drinking?
- 14 A No, sir.
- 15 Q How do you know, he wasn't with you the whole
- 16 time.
- 17 A Well, I didn't give him any drinks.
- 18 Q Okay, all right. And you went to the driver's
- 19 back side as I understand. Josh went to the
- 20 driver's ---
- 21 A Driver's side.
- 22 Q ---front side ---
- 23 A Yes, sir.
- 24 Q ---got behind the wheel?
- 25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q And you got in the car?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And where was Calvin?

4 A In the passenger seat leaning back.

5 Q He was in the passenger seat in the back?

6 A Passenger seat leaning back.

7 Q Leaning back. So it had one of those reclining  
8 seats?

9 A Sir?

10 Q Does the seat recline?

11 A His foot didn't even get a chance to get in the  
12 car. He was leaning back on the passenger side like  
13 this (indicating).

14 Q Leaning back in the passenger seat with his feet  
15 sticking out of the car?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Okay. Well, what happened then?

18 A A shot was let off.

19 Q A shot was let off?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q From where?

22 A Inside the car.

23 Q All right. And who did that?

24 A Calvin.

25 Q Did you know he had a gun?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q He had a gun prior to that? You knew when y'all,  
3 before y'all went to the club, you knew he had a  
4 gun?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q All right. And where was he carrying that gun?  
7 On him or in the car?

8 A In the car.

9 Q In the car. He didn't carry it in the club?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Why not?

12 A You can't get a gun in the club. I don't know.

13 Q Where was it in the car?

14 A In the car, I'm not sure where in the car. It  
15 was in the car.

16 Q But it was in the front seat, back seat, under  
17 the seat, where, glove box?

18 A I'm not sure.

19 Q Not sure? So how'd you know he had a gun? You  
20 saw it beforehand?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Where did he have it when you saw it beforehand?

23 A It was at his mamma's house before.

24 Q At his mamma's house?

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q So you saw him take it from his mom's house and  
2 get in the car with it?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Where did he put it in the car then when you got  
5 in?

6 A Not sure.

7 Q You're not sure?

8 A I wasn't looking to see where he put it to.

9 Q All right. Why would he carry a gun?

10 A 'Cause of prior things that happened to him.

11 Q All right. Prior things with anybody at that  
12 club?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q All right. You said you saw somebody coming to  
15 the car. You said they were coming to the car. Who  
16 is they?

17 A Whoever wasn't with us ---

18 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: (Inaudible.)

19 THE COURT: Ma'am, you need to hold it  
20 down.

21 MR. CLEMENTS: Who ---

22 THE COURT: I'm sorry, ask that question  
23 again, Mr. Clements.

24 THE COURT REPORTER: Yeah.

25 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

- 1 Q Who was "they" that were coming to the car?
- 2 A Whoever wasn't with us.
- 3 Q How many?
- 4 A I'm not sure.
- 5 Q One?
- 6 A I'm not sure.
- 7 Q Two?
- 8 A I'm not sure.
- 9 Q You know if there was more -- you know there was
- 10 more than one, right?
- 11 A It was more than one.
- 12 Q More than one?
- 13 A Whoever -- it was more than one person that was
- 14 not with me.
- 15 Q Okay. And how were they coming to the car?
- 16 A Fast, running.
- 17 Q Running?
- 18 A Yes, sir.
- 19 Q Were they saying anything?
- 20 A No, sir.
- 21 Q They weren't saying anything?
- 22 A No, sir.
- 23 Q Just running towards your car?
- 24 A Running towards our way, yes, sir.
- 25 Q And you didn't know who they were at all?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q You didn't say anything to them like, hey, why  
3 you running to your car for?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q All right. And did they do any-- they didn't say  
6 anything threatening, did they?

7 A Not to me, but then again they didn't have ---

8 Q Did they say anything to anybody in the car with  
9 you?

10 A I'm not sure. I was in the motion of getting in  
11 the car to get out to leave to go home.

12 Q All right. They didn't do anything threatening,  
13 did they?

14 A Sir?

15 Q They didn't do any acts threatening, did they?

16 A Besides running up with his hand under his shirt?

17 Q Can I ask you please, if the Court allows, will  
18 you stand up?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Can you show me how, what you meant when you say  
21 they were coming with their hand under their shirt,  
22 can you show me?

23 A Well, my shirt is tucked in. You want me to  
24 untuck it?

25 Q If you don't mind, if that's okay with the Court.

1 A Running up (indicating).

2 Q Like that? And you could see that?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Now you were getting in the car, right?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q And they were not on the same side of the car  
7 with you, was they? They were on the passenger  
8 side, right?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And you were in the motion of getting in and they  
11 on the other side of the car, how could you see  
12 that?

13 A When you running and you looking back, you pay  
14 attention.

15 Q You were running to the car?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Okay. And you were looking back and they were  
18 chasing you to the car?

19 A They wasn't chasing me because I had nothing to  
20 do with anything that happened so I did not feel  
21 like I was threatened. But on the other hand,  
22 Calvin was getting taken out the club so I knew it  
23 wasn't me they were coming for me. They wasn't  
24 coming for Josh 'cause Josh with me so ---

25 Q So why were you running?

1 A Why was I running? To go home, get out. I had  
2 prior ---

3 Q Well, you weren't threatened though, were you?

4 A I had prior event happen to me before so I know  
5 when something like that happen I go straight home.

6 Q Okay. So because it was an altercation in the  
7 club with some people you didn't know ---

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q ---you decided, I'm gonna get home quick as I  
10 could?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q And did Josh act the same way as you?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Did y'all talk about it?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Did Calvin act the same way?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Y'all didn't talk about it, like, hey, hurry this  
19 is bad scene, let's go home? Nobody said anything  
20 like that?

21 A No, sir, we just know to go get in the car and go  
22 home.

23 Q All right. Well, you're getting in -- say this  
24 is the driver right here, and you're getting in back  
25 here. You lean your head in or how did you get in

1 the car? How could you see over on the other side  
2 of the car somebody running with their hand under  
3 their shirt?

4 A Because we have a small car.

5 Q What kind of car was it?

6 A A Mitsubishi Gallant 2001.

7 Q Okay. And did you see through the windows as you  
8 were getting in, or did you see over the top of the  
9 car?

10 A Over the top.

11 Q Okay, all right. And when you were getting in  
12 the car and you looked over the top and you saw this  
13 person running with his hand under his shirt, how  
14 did that make you feel?

15 A To get out of there.

16 Q All right. But you didn't think they were  
17 chasing you, did you?

18 A No, sir, not me.

19 Q Where did they come to when they were running?

20 Where did they come to? Did you ever see them --

21 well, let me ask this other question first. Did you  
22 ever see them pull their hand out from under their  
23 shirt?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q So it was under their shirt the whole time?

1 A From what I could see, yes, sir.

2 Q Did you ever see them have anything in their  
3 hand, or did it look like there was something, some  
4 bulge under their shirt?

5 A I didn't look for that.

6 Q You didn't look for that; you didn't see that?

7 A No.

8 Q So you can't say that?

9 A Can't say what?

10 Q Whether there was or there wasn't?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q All right. And you didn't see him pull his hand  
13 out from under the shirt?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q What'd they do, how close to the car did they  
16 get? Tell me, like you're sitting in the car, tell  
17 me when I'm as close to you as they got to the car.

18 A To me or to Calvin?

19 Q To the side of the car Calvin was on?

20 A They got inside the car leaning in ---

21 Q They got ---

22 A Leaning in.

23 Q Leaning in the car.

24 A Leaning in the car.

25 Q So he was leaning back with his feet out?

- 1 A Yes, sir.
- 2 Q And they were leaning in the car?
- 3 A Yes, sir.
- 4 Q So they almost right on top of him?
- 5 A They were leaning to him. Whatever happened it
- 6 happened.
- 7 Q Now I don't want to know what it could be. I
- 8 want to know what you saw and what you know.
- 9 A They was inside the club.
- 10 Q So he was this close to him getting in the car?
- 11 A Yes, sir. Leaning in enough so whenever the gun
- 12 shot let off there was blood in the car.
- 13 Q Okay. And you never saw that person with
- 14 anything in their hand?
- 15 A No, sir.
- 16 Q You never heard that person say anything
- 17 threatening?
- 18 A I ain't hear nobody say anything, sir.
- 19 Q And you didn't know that fella at all?
- 20 A Never seen him before in my life.
- 21 Q After the shot went off what was said?
- 22 A Nothing.
- 23 Q Nobody said anything?
- 24 A No. Told them let's go.
- 25 Q And y'all took off?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay. What did y'all do after y'all took off?

3 A We left.

4 Q Where'd y'all go?

5 A To get Calvin home.

6 Q All right. And why did you want to get him home,  
7 'cause he shot somebody?

8 A Wanting to get from him out of the environment we  
9 was in.

10 Q All right. What did you do after that?

11 A Find out what happened and start proceeding to go  
12 home till we got ready to take him to the police  
13 department ---

14 Q Y'all took him to the police department?

15 A In the morning, that morning.

16 Q Why?

17 A Sir?

18 Q Why did y'all take him to the police department  
19 that morning?

20 A Because he wanted to go. Because he wanted to  
21 go.

22 Q Did you talk to law enforcement?

23 A Sir?

24 Q Did you talk to law enforcement?

25 A That morning, yes, sir.

- 1 Q Who did you talk with?
- 2 A The guy in the red shirt.
- 3 Q This fella right here?
- 4 A Yes, sir, and it's another one. I don't know his  
5 name. You can help me out?
- 6 Q Yes, sir. Chris Smith, Officer Chris Smith?
- 7 A Yes, sir.
- 8 Q All right. And that man right there with the  
9 goatee?
- 10 A Yes, sir.
- 11 Q Tony Flowers?
- 12 A Yes, sir.
- 13 Q You talked to them?
- 14 A Yes, sir.
- 15 Q Did you tell them the truth?
- 16 A Yes, sir.
- 17 Q You tell them anything different than what you're  
18 telling us today?
- 19 A No, sir.
- 20 Q Mr. Kelley?
- 21 A Yes, sir.
- 22 Q You got any kind of criminal record for anything?
- 23 A No, sir.
- 24 Q Okay. Never been in any trouble before?
- 25 A No, sir.

1 Q That's all the questions I have. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Any redirect?

3 MR. MEETZE: No, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Thank  
5 you.

6 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, we would call  
7 Rodrick McRae.

8 THE CLERK OF COURT: Mr. McRae, place your  
9 left hand on the Bible, raise your right hand.

10 WHEREUPON,

11 **RODRICK MCRAE,**

12 having been duly sworn by the Clerk of Court,  
13 testified as follows:

14 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

15 BY MR. MEETZE:

16 Q Mr. McRae, I'm gonna ask you to speak loud enough  
17 so everybody can hear you. I'm gonna get you to  
18 state your name and spell your name for us if you  
19 would.

20 A Rodrick McRae, R-O-D-R-I-C-K M-C-R-A-E.

21 Q And Mr. McRae, where do you live town wise?

22 A Latta.

23 Q And is that Latta in Dillon County or Marion  
24 County?

25 A Well, it's -- I have a Dillon County address.

1 Q And where do you work?

2 A I own Fusion Sports Bar.

3 Q And how long have you owned that?

4 A Two years.

5 Q Two years. Were you there on the evening of  
6 March the 18th, 2012?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Do you recall what time you got there?

9 A Closer towards the end of the night, maybe about  
10 between 3 and 3:30.

11 Q And what was going on when you got there?

12 A Regular night, I was walking through the parking  
13 lot make sure everything was fine. I hadn't got a  
14 chance to get inside, and then my door flew open and  
15 people came out. I saw -- I never saw this guy or  
16 Mr. Kelley.

17 Q When you say "this guy," are you referring to my  
18 client?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Calvin?

21 A Yes, sir. I never saw him, never saw him. I  
22 happened to see the deceased, and I saw another guy  
23 with him and they were kind of erratic so I could  
24 tell with the door coming open they had been into  
25 some kind of altercation.

1 Q And when you say you refer to the deceased, you  
2 saw him before any of that took place, correct?

3 A Say again?

4 Q You saw it was Rondell McEachin ---

5 A Right, I saw him come out the door.

6 Q Come out the door, okay.

7 A Right.

8 Q And what was his demeanor?

9 A He was kind of erratic, kind of like riled up a  
10 little bit so I went to him like I do all the time.  
11 I was just talking to him, like, asking what's  
12 wrong. He was, like, nothing, I'm all right, I'm  
13 good. And the other guy was still kind of springy  
14 and, you know, derailed a little bit. He was kind  
15 of still riled up, the other guy. I talked to  
16 Mr. Rondell. I was, like, it's not worth it. I had  
17 got my hands on him, and I was like, whatever  
18 trouble you trying to get into, man, just go home,  
19 it's not worth it. He responded. He calmed down  
20 from that state. He was like, I'm going home, man,  
21 I'm going home.

22 Q When you saw them come out of the bar in their ---  
23 and don't let me put words in your mouth. If I say  
24 something that you don't agree with let me know.  
25 But when you saw them come out and they were in an

1 agitated state, ---

2 A Yes.

3 Q ---at that point in time did you know that  
4 anything had gone on in the bar?

5 A No. No, sir, I hadn't.

6 Q Did you find out that there had been?

7 A Yes, sir, I did.

8 Q Okay. And were you made aware at all whether or  
9 not Mr. McEachin and the other gentleman he was with  
10 were involved in that?

11 A No, I just -- I just know that they said he was  
12 involved but they never said with whom.

13 Q But did you get any impression when talking to  
14 them as to whether or not they were involved?

15 A Yes, you could tell they had been aggravated, you  
16 know. And I was walking toward, I assume what would  
17 be his car. He said he was going to go home. And I  
18 was talking to him. The other guy was maybe from  
19 here to your seat away from me, and he was still  
20 agitated. I calmed him down. I got my hand on him.  
21 And I'm telling the other guy, just calm down, just  
22 calm down and he just, he wouldn't calm down.

23 Q And you say you were walking them towards the car  
24 that you thought ---

25 A I assumed.

1 Q --was their car?

2 A Exactly.

3 Q You assumed?

4 A They was fixing to go home so I assumed ---

5 Q And you just sort of let -- you had your hand on  
6 him. Or you just sort of letting him lead to you  
7 towards ---

8 A Yeah, after I calmed down I proceeded to let the  
9 other -- get my hands on the other guy and say,  
10 look, man, whatever it is, you know. But you know,  
11 I treated -- and I assumed they were going home. He  
12 was just mad. He was going to his car.

13 Q Okay. And what happened?

14 A Mr. Rondell, like I said, he calmed down. And  
15 the other guy, he just kept insisting with being  
16 irate. And I took my eyes off Mr. Rondell; and  
17 before I knew it he hopped a pillar about as high as  
18 the middle of my leg, and he fell face first so I  
19 knew he was intoxicated. He popped up. And when he  
20 popped up off the ground, the car was in my sight  
21 and I saw him. I said, man, I still -- I put my  
22 hand on the pillar. I was like, don't go over  
23 there, don't go over there. He went straight to the  
24 car.

25 Q Running?

1 A In a lot, not so much running but in a hurried  
2 motion.

3 Q Straight towards that car?

4 A Straight towards the car.

5 Q And so at that point in time what was your point  
6 of view of him?

7 A I saw his back. I never saw ---

8 THE COURT: Hold on a minute, Mr. Meetze.

9 Would you remove her from the courtroom  
10 please. I don't know what she keeps saying over  
11 there. I'm not going to allow her to disturb the  
12 court room.

13 I'm sorry, Mr. Meetze, you may continue.

14 (Unidentified woman was removed from the courtroom.)

15 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. Meetze, you may  
16 proceed.

17 BY MR. MEETZE:

18 Q Your point of view with regards to the gentleman  
19 running towards the car was what?

20 A That he was going -- when I looked, when I saw  
21 the car and I saw him sitting in it, I assumed that  
22 that was the other party. And I was like, don't go  
23 over there, don't go over there. He proceeded.

24 Q And you were looking at his back at that point

25 ---

1 A Right.

2 Q ---when he was heading towards the car?

3 A Right.

4 Q So you didn't see if anything was going on in  
5 front of him at that time?

6 A No, no, I didn't see that.

7 Q And your vision, it was bright enough to be able  
8 to see things clearly?

9 A Oh, yeah, yeah.

10 Q And how, you were saying, how far were you from  
11 the incident?

12 A The actual -- probably here to the door, maybe a  
13 little bit closer.

14 Q All right. How many gunshots did you hear?

15 A Just one.

16 Q And the deceased, where was he in relationship to  
17 the vehicle when the shot went off?

18 A The door was open. He was sitting with his feet  
19 on the ground; he was leaning back. And Mr. Rondell  
20 got to the car, a shot went off.

21 Q And Mr. Rondell was at and leaning into the car?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. I just want to -- again, I don't want put  
24 words in your mouth.

25 A Right, right.

1 Q We do want to make all the evidence clear for the  
2 Court. So he was leaning into the car?

3 A Right.

4 Q You weren't able to hear any words exchanged or  
5 anything like that?

6 A (No verbal response.)

7 Q And you say at the very least he went over there.  
8 Whether he was running or not is up for debate, but  
9 he certainly went over there at risk pace?

10 A Right, yeah.

11 Q With a purpose?

12 A Yeah, he jumped the pillar and he fell face first  
13 so he was kind of in a hurried motion and then ---

14 Q That didn't deter him though?

15 A No. He got up on his feet, and I couldn't grab  
16 him because he was too far away from me 'cause when  
17 I saw him -- when he was on the ground getting up I  
18 happened to go past him and I saw the car. I never  
19 saw Mr. Kelley or another guy; I just saw him.

20 Q There was -- you had mentioned there was one  
21 other individual that you were with trying to calm  
22 down ---

23 A Right.

24 Q ---that was there with Mr. McEachin?

25 A Yes, he -- he went to the rear. He was going

1 towards the rear of the car.

2 Q But he was also going towards the car?

3 A Right.

4 Q And you didn't see — you had just gotten there  
5 when all this happened?

6 A Right.

7 Q Had not even been in that club?

8 A I hadn't even got a chance to go inside.

9 Q So from your personal knowledge you aren't aware  
10 of anything —

11 A No, sir.

12 Q —that went on in the club that led to folks  
13 leaving? You did say when you got there folks were  
14 leaving the club?

15 A Well, no, I had got there and was like walking  
16 around greeting people and the door flew open. And  
17 one guy, I did see one guy. He walked by me. I was  
18 like, what happened. He was like, they fighting.

19 Q Okay. You did not speak — prior to the incident  
20 you did not speak to any of the individuals that  
21 were in the car that was there?

22 A I'm sorry?

23 Q Your focus was on just to keep —

24 A Just calm the situation.

25 Q Trying to calm them down?

1 A Yeah.

2 Q And you had gotten the impression that you were  
3 helping ---

4 A Yeah. Not impression. He was settled. You  
5 know, I settled enough to know when, you know, to  
6 leave him and go to the next person. And he was  
7 settled. The other guy just kept, kept going with  
8 it.

9 Q And he became unsettled again?

10 A Almost like -- yeah, he just, yeah.

11 MR. MEETZE: I don't have any further  
12 questions for this witness, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Cross-examination.

14 BY MR. MEETZE:

15 Q I'm sorry. Well, I was just going to ask, do you  
16 have metal detectors at your club?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And they were in place during that time?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And that's in place so that people don't carry  
21 weapons and things like that?

22 A Exactly.

23 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

24 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

25 Q Mr. McRae?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q You were just saying to Mr. Meetze it was almost  
3 like he — and you didn't finish it— almost like he  
4 was what?

5 A Which part?

6 Q You had just said that before Mr. Meetze asked  
7 you about the metal detectors. He was asking you  
8 about the man being settled, and you said it was  
9 like he was — and then you didn't complete it.  
10 Please tell us what you were thinking then?

11 A He just calm. It's like he just — the other guy  
12 kind of triggered something but he was settled, you  
13 know.

14 Q So I want to be sure I'm understanding you. You  
15 talked to the deceased?

16 A The deceased, yes, sir.

17 Q The deceased?

18 A Right.

19 Q Mr. McEachin?

20 A Right.

21 Q You had your hands on him, patting him, talking  
22 to him, you called him down, and he — and he was  
23 settled and you felt like it was safe to leave  
24 him —

25 A Right.

1 Q ---and turn your attention to the other guy?

2 A Exactly.

3 Q All right. And the other guy, who -- what was  
4 his name?

5 A I have no idea.

6 Q Was his name Wheeler, Milton Wheeler, do you  
7 know?

8 A No, sir.

9 Q But it was clear he was with Mr. McEachin?

10 A Right..

11 Q And he was going off. He wasn't settled at all?

12 A Yeah, he was -- right, he was still irate going.

13 Q And talking a bunch of junk?

14 A Right.

15 Q What was he saying?

16 A Just, you know, I can't remember exact words, but  
17 he was just loud and ---

18 Q Okay. How about McEachin, was he loud, was he  
19 saying anything?

20 A No, he was just ---

21 Q He didn't say anything?

22 A When he came out he -- I grabbed him and he was,  
23 he had just, was peaceful.

24 Q So he wouldn't have threatened anybody?

25 A Well, not -- not the impression he gave me that

1 he wasn't, he was settled. Then he broke away.

2 When I looked towards the other guy he broke away  
3 and jumped the pillar.

4 Q Okay. Well, you were close enough to him. Did  
5 he smell like alcohol?

6 A I, I can't remember. I didn't -- sir, I can't  
7 say that I smelled alcohol.

8 Q You can't say you didn't?

9 A Right.

10 Q Either way?

11 A Either way.

12 Q So the pillar you're talking about, how tall was  
13 that?

14 A Maybe middle ways.

15 Q Like this?

16 A A little higher.

17 Q About like right there.

18 A Right here.

19 Q A pillar, is that like bricks?

20 A Brick pillar, yes, sir. A scenic pillar that  
21 runs the parking lot, from the parking lot.

22 Q And to get to that car he had to go either go  
23 around it or go over it?

24 A Right.

25 Q And he would hop over it and trip?

1 A Right.

2 Q Fell on his face?

3 A Fell flat.

4 Q And the guy, you saw the guys in the car ---

5 A Say again.

6 Q ---right? You saw the guy -- when he fell, you  
7 said you saw the guy in the car.

8 A When he fell he fell like, I'm diagonal to the  
9 car this way. So when he fell I just thought maybe  
10 he's -- you know, my assumption was he was drunk but  
11 then when I looked past him I seen him. And  
12 instantly I know that's where he supposed to going.

13 Q And did they wait on him to get there or did they  
14 try to get away?

15 A Well, I just saw him in the car, like, he was  
16 setting in the car feet flat on the ground and the  
17 closer ---

18 Q When you say feet flat on the ground, inside the  
19 car or outside the car?

20 A Outside the car with the door open and almost in  
21 a defensive posture. And I see the closer  
22 Mr. Rondell gets, he leans further back in a split  
23 second.

24 Q Was it take place in seconds or was there a time  
25 period there?

1 A Oh, it's seconds.

2 Q Did they have time -- they had time to get away;  
3 didn't they?

4 A Like when I said, I didn't see anybody else in  
5 the car. I just -- I didn't see -- I didn't even  
6 see them. I assumed that they were going to the  
7 car. And so when he fell flat faced on the ground,  
8 now he's halfway between me, the car, and where he  
9 fell at. So when he pops up and I say, no, no,  
10 don't go to that car, and that was it.

11 Q What kind of car was it?

12 A The Gallant, it's a -- it was a Gallant, a small.

13 Q What color?

14 A I can't say I even remember.

15 Q All right. You gave a statement to law  
16 enforcement at that time, didn't you, that night?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And did you write it out, they wrote it out for  
19 you?

20 A I recall I think -- I don't remember if I wrote  
21 it or they wrote it; I can't remember.

22 Q If I show it to you you think that will refresh  
23 your recollection?

24 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Yes, that's mine.

25 Q Okay, did you write it or did you tell it to

1. them?

2. A I wrote that. I wrote that.

3. Q You wrote it. Did you tell us then it was a  
4. green Mitsubishi?

5. A Right, I just -- yeah., Green, I mean, yeah. I  
6. was about to say I can't even recall.

7. Q All right. And you saw Mr. McEachin go towards  
8. the car and you said you were looking at his back?

9. A Yes, sir.

10. Q Could you see his arms?

11. A No, sir.

12. Q Couldn't see either arm?

13. A Couldn't see either arm.

14. Q Just his back?

15. A Just his back, he was going towards the car.

16. Q Okay. Fast or slow?

17. A Fast. Not I wouldn't say sprint or anything like  
18. that, but he popped up. And like I said, before I  
19. could hop across that pillar and grab him it was too  
20. late.

21. Q What did the other fella do that was with him?

22. A He went around the pillar and he was going to  
23. towards the back of the car.

24. Q Back of the Mitsubishi?

25. A Yes, sir.

1 Q All right. What -- after Pompey shot McEachin  
2 what did he do with the gun?

3 A He pointed it at the other guy. The other guy  
4 pleaded for his life, then he pointed at me, and I  
5 was like, you just messed your life up, man, why'd  
6 you do that.

7 Q So he pointed it at the other fella with  
8 McEachin?

9 A Right.

10 Q And that fella begged for his life?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q What did the say?

13 A Something along the lines, no man, please, please  
14 don't shoot me, and he took off running. Then he  
15 turned the gun on me and just pointed at me, and  
16 then that's when I saw Mr. Kelley. He was like, no  
17 man, what you doing, that's Ron, he ain't got  
18 nothing to do with this, he the owner. He got in  
19 the car.

20 Q So he was out of the car with the gun when he  
21 pointed at the second fella?

22 A Exactly.

23 Q Was he out of the car with the gun when he shot

24 ---

25 A No.

1 Q --McEachin?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q How close did McEachin get to him before you  
4 heard the shot?

5 A He was on top of him.

6 Q Top of him?

7 A He was closer he got, the farther back he  
8 leaned.

9 Q So when the shot went off he was right on top of  
10 him or away from him?

11 A No, he was right on top of him. When I say not  
12 literally on top of him but close to him in the car.

13 Q Tell me how close, best you recall, as I get to  
14 you?

15 A Closer.

16 Q Closer.

17 A He was like in the car.

18 Q Uh-huh. Was McEachin saying anything?

19 A I can't remember. I just begged him not to go  
20 there and that's -- it was just...

21 Q Was Pompey saying anything like get away from me,  
22 leave me alone, or anything like that?

23 A No, sir, I don't recall.

24 Q You recall there being any noise whatsoever?

25 A No, no, it was -- it happened so fast, just, I

1 don't...

2 Q After he pointed the gun at you what did he do?

3 A He turned -- he put it away after Mr. Kelley told  
4 him who I was or like, you know, what you doing, put  
5 that down, and that was that.

6 Q All right. Beg the Court's indulgence a moment.

7 Mr. McRae, did you cooperate with law enforcement  
8 when they came on scene?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Did you give them a full statement?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Tell them everything you knew?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Said anything different than what you told today?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Did you ever get any information about Pompey and  
17 McEachin, either one being in a fight inside?

18 A They said they took ---

19 Q Yes or no.

20 A Yes.

21 Q All right. How about McEachin, what did you get  
22 about him being in a fight?

23 A Never said anything about him being in -- I  
24 don't, they never, they said they didn't see him. I  
25 was trying to describe them to them and they

1 couldn't remember.

2 Q What about Pompey?

3 A They said they put him out.

4 Q They say why they put him out?

5 A A fight.

6 Q Any details?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q When they put him out did they -- he him then any  
9 trouble or did he go out?

10 A Like I said, when I saw him, when I saw the  
11 deceased, he stopped out the door. I never saw, I  
12 never saw him.

13 Q Okay. Until ---

14 A Right ---

15 Q Looked in car?

16 A See, I'm on the side of the exit entrance.

17 That's when the door came open from that side so I  
18 never saw.

19 Q Okay, all right. That's all the questions.

20 Thank you.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Meetze, anything further?

22 MR. MEETZE: I don't have anything  
23 further, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: You may step down, sir.

25 MR. MEETZE: And don't have any objection

1 to Mr. McRae being excused.

2 THE COURT: Any objection?

3 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: You're free to leave. Thank  
5 you for being here.

6 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, we call Calvin  
7 Jermaine Pompey.

8 WHEREUPON,

9 **CALVIN JERMAINE POMPEY,**

10 having been duly sworn by the Clerk of Court,  
11 testified as follows:

12 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

13 BY MR. MEETZE:

14 Q Mr. Pompey, I'm gonna ask you to speak loud  
15 enough so everybody can hear you. State your full  
16 name for the and spell your name.

17 A Calvin Jermaine Pompey, C-A-L-V-I-N  
18 J-E-R-M-A-I-N-E P-O-M-P-E-Y.

19 Q And you went to the Fusion Club back on March the  
20 18th of 2012; is that correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And who were you with?

23 A I was with Day Day and Josh.

24 Q When you say Day ([ph] Day who do you mean?

25 A Kadeem.

1 Q And that is your brother-in-law?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Do you recall what time you got there?

4 A No.

5 Q That it was late?

6 A It was late.

7 Q Okay. And the three of y'all went in?

8 A Yeah.

9 Q Do you recall how long you were there?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Were y'all all three together at, all the time  
12 during the club, or did y'all get separated any  
13 time?

14 A We was together most of the night. Like, people  
15 walked through you might lose them and then you get  
16 back with them.

17 Q Got you. It was pretty crowded?

18 A Yeah.

19 Q All right. Now at some point in time did you get  
20 thrown out of the club?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And what happened for that to happen?

23 A There was a altercation in the club. The fight  
24 was near me. I was trying to get them away from me  
25 'cause I got to protect myself.

1 Q When you say there was a fight you are trying to  
2 get them, who is them?

3 A Whoever was fighting was near me. I was trying  
4 to pull them away from me to protect myself.

5 Q So you were trying to break the fight up?

6 A Yes.

7 Q But you did not know the people involved in the  
8 fight?

9 A No. Well, one of them was friend of Day Day's.

10 Q Okay. And what was that person's name?

11 A Jarod.

12 Q Okay. But other than that you did not know  
13 anybody involved ---

14 A Huh-uh.

15 Q ---in the fight?

16 A No.

17 Q And so what happened when you started pulling  
18 people off ---

19 A The security came and grabbed me and took me out.

20 Q Okay. And did you go peacefully?

21 A Yes.

22 Q All right. And what did you do after security  
23 took you out?

24 A I stood outside waiting on Kadeem and Josh.

25 Q Do you recall how long it was before they got

1 out?

2 A Yeah, it wasn't long.

3 Q When you say it wasn't long, a minute or two at  
4 the most?

5 A Correct.

6 Q And what happened after they got out when they  
7 came out?

8 A I told them, come on, let's go home.

9 Q And is that what y'all did?

10 A Yes, we went to the car.

11 Q All right. At that point in time when you saw  
12 Kadeem and Josh when they first came out and you say  
13 come on, let's go, did you have any idea that  
14 somebody might be after you?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q All right. What happened when y'all went to the  
17 car?

18 A We started to get in the car. When I got in the  
19 car I seen him running to the car with his hand  
20 under his shirt.

21 Q And when you say "him," you're referring to  
22 Rondell McEachin?

23 A Correct.

24 Q Okay. When you saw him with his hand under his  
25 shirt what were you thinking?

1 A He's coming to harm me. Anybody comes to your  
2 vehicle after altercation, they coming to harm you.

3 Q Okay. And you say you were in the car when you  
4 saw him coming?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay, and tell us what happened.

7 A I started — I was in the car. Well, we was —  
8 they put us out the club. We started going to the  
9 car. As we was going to the car I say to them come  
10 on. And as I started to get in the car, it took him  
11 a while to unlock the door. So when I got in the  
12 car I was sitting down, I seen him coming. And when  
13 he started coming he started to reach in. It really  
14 look like he was running — everything was happening  
15 so fast — with his hand under his shirt.

16 Q All right. And did you bring a gun with you that  
17 evening?

18 A Correct.

19 Q Where was that?

20 A In the glove.

21 Q All right. And at what point did you grab the  
22 gun, get the gun?

23 A When he got to the car.

24 Q Okay, and what happened then?

25 A I shot.

1 Q And how close was he when that happened?

2 A On top of me, close enough for blood in the car  
3 and on my clothes.

4 Q And you were sitting down in the passenger, front  
5 passenger seat?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And you were, as he was coming towards you you  
8 were leaning back?

9 A Yeah.

10 Q All right. And one, you fired one shot?

11 A Correct.

12 Q And what happened after that?

13 A We left. Well, I put -- well, when he was coming  
14 to the car there was two more people coming. There  
15 was two more people so.

16 Q Right.

17 A I ain't know it was him or the other one. I just  
18 knew they was running. I thought it was him.

19 Q Okay.

20 A So I'm thinking I got to protect myself.

21 Q And that's what you did?

22 A Correct.

23 Q No other shots were fired or anything like that?

24 A No.

25 Q And at some point in time you realized that it

1 was safe to leave?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q And is that what y'all did?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. Did you eventually turn yourself in in  
6 this matter?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q When did that happen?

9 A The following day.

10 Q Was it really the same day, just once it was  
11 daylight?

12 A Yeah, it was the same day.

13 Q Okay. And you were cooperative with law  
14 enforcement?

15 A Correct.

16 Q Y'all brought them the car that was involved —

17 A Yes.

18 Q ---that y'all were in for them to be able to  
19 process and gather evidence?

20 A Yes.

21 Q You brought the handgun ---

22 A Yes.

23 Q ---for them to be able to have and process for  
24 evidence? The — have you ever been involved in any  
25 kind of an assault and battery before?

1 A No. Well as in me and my ---

2 Q As a victim or otherwise?

3 A A victim.

4 Q How long ago did that happen?

5 A I'd say about five years.

6 Q And what happened in that incident?

7 A I had got jumped by nine people, had surgery. I  
8 had plates in my face all in the right side. They  
9 knocked two feet out, jaw broke.

10 Q And that's something that's -- you don't forget?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q All right. Is what you've testified to here  
13 today the truth?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay.

16 MR. MEETZE: I don't have any further  
17 questions, Your Honor.

18 MR. CLEMENTS: Cross-examination.

19 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

20 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

21 Q Mr. Pompey, were you drinking that night?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q Not at all?

24 A Huh-uh.

25 Q Why not? Isn't that what people do when they go

1 to clubs mostly?

2 A I'm saying you don't have to drink when you go  
3 out.

4 Q So you had nothing to drink that evening?

5 A No.

6 Q How about Kadeem Kelly?

7 A No.

8 Q How about Josh Moore?

9 A No.

10 Q Now tell me about this altercation. It started  
11 in Club Fusion. It had just happened — you just  
12 happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time  
13 or what?

14 A Wrong place at the wrong time.

15 Q And they started fighting and they started  
16 fighting you?

17 A The fight was right beside me.

18 Q Well why didn't you just walk away?

19 A How can you walk away in a club so crowded.

20 Q You can push away through people, right?

21 A It's hard when you're shoulder to shoulder.

22 Q Did you see —

23 A Doesn't have room to move.

24 Q Did you see McEachin in there during that time  
25 during that altercation?

1 A It's hard to see whoever in there.

2 Q I understand that, but did you see him, yes or  
3 no?

4 A Not that I, not that I recall.

5 Q So he didn't become hostile to you during that  
6 altercation?

7 A I'm saying it was dark. You can't tell who's who  
8 unless you go with them.

9 Q But didn't you tell police that he became hostile  
10 with you during that fight when you were trying to  
11 break it up?

12 A I can't say.

13 Q You don't remember telling Chris Smith here that  
14 McEachin and one of his friends were about to fight  
15 and you tried to break it up and that's when  
16 McEachin became hostile towards you?

17 A I was trying to break the fight up. I don't know  
18 who it was.

19 Q You don't remember telling Chris Smith it was  
20 McEachin?

21 A (There was no response.)

22 Q Now why did they throw you out the club?

23 A They assumed I was in it.

24 Q Did you tell them differently.

25 A I'm saying how could he have time when everything

1 like that is going on. If they tell you to leave  
2 the best thing for you to do is leave so I left.

3 Q All right. And you went to your car?

4 A Correct.

5 Q Nobody is behind you?

6 A No. When I looked behind my back I'm just trying  
7 get into to the vehicle and get home.

8 Q You didn't think anybody was coming after you?

9 A No.

10 Q You didn't think anybody was coming after Kadeem?

11 A No.

12 Q You didn't think anybody was coming after Josh?

13 A No.

14 Q So you're not scared or alarmed or upset in any  
15 way?

16 A Not at that point in time.

17 Q Okay. And then you got to your car?

18 A Correct.

19 Q And you were getting in?

20 A Yeah.

21 Q And then you turn and you see somebody running to  
22 the car?

23 A No, I wasn't getting in, I was in the car.

24 Q Where were your feet?

25 A I was saying my feet was in the car.

1 Q You saying your feet was in the car?

2 A That's what I'm thinking.

3 Q And you heard other people say your feet were  
4 outside the car?

5 A Correct.

6 Q Were they right or wrong?

7 A I think they was wrong.

8 Q All right. And you saw somebody running to your  
9 car?

10 A Correct.

11 Q They didn't say anything to you, did they?

12 A I'm saying everything happened so fast you're not  
13 listening to what people saying.

14 Q You don't listen to what people say if they're  
15 hollering at you and making threats? So what you're  
16 saying —

17 A I'm saying, all I'm saying I'm trying to hurry  
18 and get home. I'm not trying to get in anymore  
19 trouble or —

20 Q So you had already been in trouble and you were  
21 just trying to get away?

22 A I'm in trouble with getting kicked out the club,  
23 correct.

24 Q And you never heard anybody make any threats to  
25 you?

1 A No.

2 Q And you never heard, and particular Rondell  
3 McEachin make any threat to you, never utter a  
4 threat?

5 A Not a threat but it's a threat if a person  
6 running to your car with a hand in your shirt.

7 Q But then you never heard him say anything?

8 A No.

9 Q And you didn't see anything, any bulges, did you?

10 A If you put your hand under your shirt it's a  
11 bulge.

12 Q But you never saw anything else other than his  
13 hand under his shirt, right?

14 A No.

15 Q Now what's the style in wearing pants these days?

16 A They wear them sagging.

17 Q They wear them sagging. McEachin is wearing his  
18 sagging, right?

19 A I don't -- I ain't looked.

20 Q And he tripped over that pillar and he gets up  
21 and he's holding -- he's got his hand here 'cause  
22 he's holding his waistband, isn't he, so his  
23 britches don't fall off, right?

24 A That's what you're saying.

25 Q Isn't that where you saw his hand is the

1 waistband?

2 A Where you keep a gun at, at your waistband.

3 Q Back here; don't you?

4 A You can keep it anywhere you can hold it.

5 Q But he's falling down over that pillar, falling

6 on his face, and he's getting up and he's holding

7 his pants right here. Didn't he?

8 A That's what you saying. I can't stay that; I'm

9 not him.

10 Q You can't say he had a weapon 'cause you never

11 saw one. Did you?

12 A No.

13 Q You got a fella that fell on his face, gets up,

14 aggravated with you and he's holding his britches up

15 so they don't fall down, and you shoot, right?

16 A Correct.

17 Q And you could have just said back off?

18 A I could have, but what would you expect if

19 somebody comes to your car standing on top of you.

20 Q Holding his britches up so they don't fall down?

21 A In a running maditude, yeah.

22 Q In a hurry maditude 'cause he's upset with you.

23 You in the car. You couldn't shut the door before

24 he got there? You could have; couldn't you?

25 A It was happening so fast I don't know.

1 Q But you could have ---

2 A By the time I got there, by the time I got to the  
3 car he was ---

4 Q You were already in the car. You said they were  
5 wrong, your feet were in the car. You could have  
6 shut that door; couldn't you?

7 A Me? I could have. I'm saying everybody else  
8 getting in the car. I'm sitting there. I'm waiting  
9 on them to leave.

10 Q But he's not going to say anything to them, is  
11 he?

12 A No.

13 Q He's not going after them, is he?

14 A No.

15 Q And you in there with your feet inside the car.  
16 You could have shut the door, and you could have  
17 showed him the gun. You didn't have to shoot him,  
18 did you?

19 A I was protecting myself.

20 Q You didn't have to shoot him, did you?

21 A If I would have closed the door he could have  
22 opened the door.

23 Q Got a lock on it; doesn't it?

24 A Yeah.

25 Q If you shut the door and lock it and the door is

1 between you and him and you show him that gun, you  
2 don't think that's enough to back him off and that  
3 protects you very well? It does, doesn't it?

4 A It could have.

5 Q And you could have shut that door; couldn't you?

6 A I could have.

7 Q You didn't have to shoot him, did you?

8 A You said I didn't have to?

9 Q You didn't have to, did you?

10 A I felt threatened at that time so.

11 Q I didn't ask if you felt threatened. I  
12 understand that. I'm asking you, you didn't have to  
13 shoot —

14 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, he's answered the  
15 question in my opinion.

16 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Clements.

17 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

18 Q You didn't have to shoot him, did you? Yes or  
19 no.

20 A Yes, I felt threatened.

21 Q All right, well let me back up a minute. Did you  
22 feel threatened?

23 A Yes, I felt threatened.

24 Q But you didn't have to shoot him though, did you?

25 A If I felt, I felt my life was in danger.

1 Q So is that a yes, you had to shoot him?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q You're telling this Court you had to shoot him?

4 A I feel like I did nothing wrong. I put it like  
5 that.

6 Q All right. Well, I didn't ask you about that. I  
7 asked you if you had to shoot him. Yes or no?

8 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, again, I'm gonna  
9 say that question's been asked and it's been  
10 answered.

11 THE COURT: Answer the question one more  
12 time if you can, sir.

13 THE WITNESS: I felt threatened, yeah.

14 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

15 Q Well, again, I didn't ask you if you were  
16 threatened but I'll stop at that point. Beg the  
17 Court's indulgence. Now the next day you said you  
18 talked to law enforcement; you went and turned  
19 yourself in?

20 A Correct.

21 Q And that was several hours later, right?

22 A I assume.

23 Q Still the same day but it was daylight, right?

24 A Correct, yeah.

25 Q And this happened about 3 so it'd have to be, you

1 know, 4 or 5 hours, correct?

2 A Correct.

3 Q And you had talked with Kadeem and you had talked  
4 with other people before you came and talked to law  
5 enforcement; is that right?

6 A Well, we was all together, yeah.

7 Q So you talked with all them and y'all talked out  
8 everything, talked it all out before you went and  
9 talked to law enforcement, correct?

10 A No.

11 Q You didn't?

12 A We just stayed at the house and then I went to go  
13 turn myself in.

14 Q Okay. Didn't talk to anybody about anything?

15 A No.

16 Q Didn't tell Ms. Womack what you had done?

17 A Oh, well, I told her that, yeah.

18 Q Talked it all out with her before you turned  
19 yourself in, right? Okay.

20 MR. CLEMENTS: No further questions.

21 THE COURT: Any redirect?

22 MR. MEETZE: No, Your Honor.

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

25 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, that would be all

1 of our witnesses on this matter.

2 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

3 Mr. Clements, anything?

4 MR. CLEMENTS: Yes, sir, Your Honor. We'd  
5 like to call Milton Wheeler.

6 CLERK OF COURT: Place your left hand on  
7 the Bible, raise your right hand.

8 WHEREUPON,

9

**MILTON WHEELER,**

10 having been duly sworn by the Clerk of Court,  
11 testified as follows:

12 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

13 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

14 Q Could you please state your name for the record  
15 and spell it for the court reporter please?

16 A Milton Wheeler, M-I-L-T-O-N W-H-E-E-L-E-R.

17 Q And I will ask you if you can speak up loudly for  
18 us, okay?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q All right. Mr. Wheeler, did you know Rondell  
21 McEachin?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Were you with him on the 18th of March, 2012?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q How long were you with him that evening?

- 1 A All that day.
- 2 Q All that day?
- 3 A Yes, sir.
- 4 Q Where'd y'all go that evening?
- 5 A Well, first we had a cook out at his house. We  
6 was at the car wash leaving, and that other man,  
7 that man right there.
- 8 Q All right. And you say that man, you're talking  
9 about Calvin Pompey?
- 10 A Yeah.
- 11 Q Where did you see him at?
- 12 A At the car wash.
- 13 Q At the car wash?
- 14 A Yes, sir.
- 15 Q And did y'all have any conversation or anything  
16 at the car wash?
- 17 A Just guy talk, like talk.
- 18 Q So just talking, small talk?
- 19 A Yes, sir.
- 20 Q Nothing out of the ordinary, nothing?
- 21 A No, sir.
- 22 Q Just regular little small talk?
- 23 A Yes, sir.
- 24 Q Any disagreements or anything or not?
- 25 A No, sir.

1 Q Okay. Where did you go after the car wash?

2 A Liquor store, the liquor store.

3 Q The liquor store? Okay, what'd you buy?

4 A A gallon of gin.

5 Q Gallon of gin?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Did you drink a lot of it?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Did Calvin drink a lot of it?

10 A No, he didn't go with us. It was just me and  
11 Rondell.

12 Q You and Rondell?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Okay, all right. Did Rondell drink a lot of it  
15 though?

16 A Not so much.

17 Q All right. Where did y'all go after the liquor  
18 store?

19 A To his house. He had a little cookout.

20 Q Okay. After the cookout where'd y'all go?

21 A To the hospital.

22 Q To the hospital?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q For what?

25 A To see our best friend Regional Brown.

- 1 Q Reginald Brown?
- 2 A Yes, sir.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 A He had died in a car wreck in the emergency room.
- 5 Q Okay. And after y'all went to see him where'd
- 6 y'all go?
- 7 A Club Fusion.
- 8 Q Club Fusion? Tell us what happened when you got
- 9 to Club Fusion.
- 10 A We got there. When the altercation happened I
- 11 was at the bar getting drinks.
- 12 Q All right. So you were at the bar getting drinks
- 13 and the altercation happened. Did you see what
- 14 happened?
- 15 A No, sir.
- 16 Q Did you see who was involved?
- 17 A No, sir.
- 18 Q So you don't know any-- you just know it was an
- 19 altercation?
- 20 A Yes, sir.
- 21 Q Okay. What happened after the altercation?
- 22 A We was put out the club.
- 23 Q Y'all were put out the club?
- 24 A Yes, sir.
- 25 Q You and who?

1 A Me and Rondell. Me and Rondell.

2 Q You and Rondell? Okay, why were y'all put out  
3 the club if you weren't involved in the altercation?

4 A That part I don't know; but when I got there, the  
5 guy was trying to calm me down after he calm Rondell  
6 down.

7 Q Which guy was that?

8 A The guy with the beard.

9 Q Mr. McRae?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Okay. And where were y'all when he was trying to  
12 calm you down?

13 A Like close in the front of the building.

14 Q Outside?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Okay. And what happened?

17 A Well, when they was heading over to the car I  
18 don't know why he was running to the car, but when  
19 he got there he check over everything. And then  
20 when we made it to car everybody was saying, Pompey,  
21 don't do it, don't do it, and next I heard a gunshot  
22 and I took off running.

23 Q You took off running?

24 A Yes, sir. When I come back he was laying on the  
25 ground and I was telling everybody call 9-1-1.

1 Q Okay. Did you see anybody or not point a gun at  
2 you?

3 A Not that I recall.

4 Q Not that you recall?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Had you had a pretty good bit to drink?

7 A Yeah, I had a lot to drink.

8 Q And why were you so hard to calm down?

9 A 'Cause I was drunk I guess.

10 Q You were drunk?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay, all right. Did you ever see Rondell with  
13 anything, any weapon, or anything in his pocket?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Did you ever see him get in any kind of  
16 altercation with Mr. Pompey or threaten Mr. Pompey  
17 in any way?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q What, if anything, did you see in regards to  
20 Rondell threatening Mr. Pompey?

21 A Not that I recall.

22 Q Not that you recall? All right, beg the Court's  
23 indulgence. Did you hear gunshots, Mr. Wheeler?

24 A Yes, sir, one.

25 Q One?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q All right. Where was Mr. Pompey sitting when the  
3 shots were fired?

4 A In the car.

5 Q In the car?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q And could you see where his feet were or not?

8 A Honestly, no, but he was in the car.

9 Q What, if anything, did you see Rondell do when he  
10 went to the car with his hands?

11 A Run towards the door, go towards the door.

12 Q Go towards the door? Did you see him do anything  
13 with his hands at all?

14 A No, sir, it all happened so fast.

15 Q You didn't see him raise his hand, move his hand,  
16 do anything?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Okay. And that is the best you can recall right  
19 now?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q All right, did you -- did you give a statement to  
22 law enforcement?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Who did you give that statement to?

25 A I don't remember.

1 Q Was it Captain Cindy Barr?

2 A I don't know.

3 Q Was it a male or female?

4 A Female.

5 Q Female? Okay. Did you write a statement for  
6 them, or did you tell them the statement and they  
7 wrote it for you?

8 A I believe I wrote it.

9 Q You believe you wrote it? All right. You sure  
10 about that?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q All right. Let me show you something if I can.  
13 Is that your signature right there?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Read that last line right there to refresh your  
16 recollection.

17 A (Complies.)

18 Q Okay. Did you write this statement or law  
19 enforcement wrote that for you?

20 A They wrote it for me.

21 Q They wrote it for you? And you told them. Okay.  
22 I'm gonna ask you to read this part right here and  
23 see if that refreshes your recollection?

24 A Melvin heard ---

25 Q No, read it to yourself.

1 A (Complies.)

2 Q What is the date on this statement?

3 A 18th, March 18th, 2012?

4 Q 2012? The same day of the event? Okay, that's  
5 right, when it happened you gave this statement,  
6 right? What do you recall now after refreshing your  
7 recollection, what do you recall, if anything, that  
8 you saw Rondell do with his hand?

9 A Reach out, reach out.

10 Q Reach out? Okay. Anything else?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q When you say reach out now, do you recall that?  
13 Do you remember that or you just recall what you  
14 told law enforcement?

15 A I remember.

16 Q You remember? All right, can you move your hand  
17 the way you saw Rondell move his hand?

18 A It came forward?

19 Q Like that?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Was it right hand or left hand?

22 A Left-hand.

23 Q You don't know? Did you see him do anything else  
24 with his other hand?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Please answer any questions that Mr. Meetze may  
2 have.

3 MR. MEETZE: Thank you, Your Honor. May  
4 it please the Court.

5 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

6 BY MR. MEETZE:

7 Q Mr. Wheeler, you were just given a copy of your  
8 statement to look at to refresh your recollection as  
9 to what that statement was.

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And your testimony after refreshing your  
12 recollection was that he reached his hand out?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Is that right? But that's not actually what the  
15 statement said? Is it not true that your statement  
16 actually says that you saw Rondell raise his hand at  
17 Jermaine?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q That's what it says? Okay. Which is a little  
20 different than ---

21 A Like the same.

22 Q And that's ---

23 A Like that same.

24 Q You're saying that reaching and raising your hand  
25 at someone is the same thing?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Okay. And the statement you gave Cathy Barr  
3 right after this incident was that he raised -- you  
4 saw Rondell raise his hand at Jermaine, correct, and  
5 that Jermaine was sitting in the car?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Okay.

8 MR. MEETZE: I have no further questions,  
9 Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Clements, any redirect?

11 MR. CLEMENTS: Just one.

12 **REDIRECT EXAMINATION**

13 BY MR. CLEMENTS:

14 Q Mr. Meetze clarified for us, you saw him raise  
15 his hand. Was anything in his hand or not?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Nothing in his hand?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q All right, thank you.

20 MR. CLEMENTS: Nothing further, Your  
21 Honor?

22 THE COURT: Mr. Meetze, anything else?

23 MR. MEETZE: No, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Sir, you may step down. Thank  
25 you.

1           Call your next witness.

2           MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, we have law  
3 enforcement officers present who investigated the  
4 case and took these statements from people. Your  
5 Honor, I don't think there's anything they can  
6 testify to that would be, first, a lot of it would  
7 be hearsay even though it might fit some of the  
8 exceptions; but other than that, it's not —  
9 wouldn't be anything new, nothing redundant.  
10 Everything that the witnesses have testified to,  
11 Your Honor, is the same thing they told law  
12 enforcement so I don't feel necessary at this point  
13 in time to call any of these witnesses.

14           THE COURT: All right. I'll be happy to  
15 hear from you.

16           MR. CLEMENTS: But they're available if  
17 Mr. Meetze needs them for anything.

18           THE COURT: Mr. Meetze, do you want to  
19 call anybody else?

20           MR. MEETZE: I do not need to call anyone  
21 else, Your Honor.

22           THE COURT: I'll be happy to hear you, Mr.  
23 Meetze, by way of argument if you want to put forth  
24 anything by way of argument.

25           MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, we would just say

1 that obviously the protection against person and  
2 properties acts was established, and I think this is  
3 a case that fits the statute perfectly. It first it  
4 says that -- the only real issue that's sort of been  
5 raised here is, you know, whether or not  
6 Mr. McEachin was coming in any kind of a threatening  
7 way, did he have a gun, was he gonna hit him, did he  
8 say anything threatening, and none of that according  
9 to the statute would be relevant to the issue. It  
10 says that ---

11 THE COURT: For the record, reference what  
12 part of the statute you're reading.

13 MR. MEETZE: Well, that's what I'm getting  
14 ready to do. Your Honor, with regards to Section  
15 16-11-440(c), excuse me, (d). It says a person who  
16 unlawfully and by force enters or attempts to enter  
17 a person's dwelling, residence, or occupied vehicle  
18 is presumed to be doing so with the intent to commit  
19 an unlawful act involving force or a violent crime  
20 as defined in Section 16-1-60. So just the mere  
21 entry of the vehicle, regardless of anything else,  
22 the presumption is that person is entering to commit  
23 a violent crime. As Mr. Clements indicated, law  
24 enforcement's investigation doesn't differ in any  
25 way from what the testimony has been. The three

1 folks who came in that Mitsubishi car, were going to  
2 that car and getting in that car to leave, and they  
3 weren't able to do that before this all happened.  
4 Everybody's testimony is that this happened very  
5 quick. I don't think anybody can testify and say  
6 what they would have done in that situation if they  
7 were in that situation. I think it's just a thing  
8 where you have to be in that situation in order to  
9 know what you would have done. But certainly this  
10 law 16-11-440 indicates that a person is presumed to  
11 have the reasonable fear of imminent peril or death  
12 or great bodily injury to himself or another person  
13 when using deadly force as intended or likely to  
14 cause death or great bodily injury to another person  
15 if the person against whom deadly force is used is  
16 in the process of unlawfully and forcefully entering  
17 or has unlawfully and forcibly entered a dwelling,  
18 residence, or occupied vehicle or if he removes or  
19 is attempting to remove another person against his  
20 will from a dwelling, residence, or occupied  
21 vehicle. And all of that fits.

22           The testimony has been from two different  
23 sources and it hasn't been disputed, that the  
24 individual was running with his hand under his shirt  
25 which certainly can be perceived as being a weapon,

1 can be perceived a number of different ways and it's  
2 — but it's certainly not unreasonable to fear that  
3 that person is coming at you in the manner that that  
4 person is coming at you. The testimony was he was  
5 coming, one testimony running, one fast with a  
6 purpose. It's certainly not unreasonable to believe  
7 that that person may have a weapon. Based on the  
8 statute it wouldn't matter whether he actually had a  
9 weapon or not, the way I read the statute. None of  
10 the evidence here is in dispute as to what happened.  
11 We feel like the facts fit this statute. The  
12 standard is by a preponderance of the evidence, but  
13 I think that in this case the evidence presented  
14 would sustain any standard of proof for a finding in  
15 this case that Mr. Pompey is immune from prosecution  
16 under the Castle doctrine based on what happened.  
17 And again, nobody disputes the evidence, and I think  
18 the evidence is clear in this matter.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Clements, anything by way  
20 of argument?

21 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, I don't think  
22 there's anything that established by preponderance  
23 of the evidence that Mr. McEachin forcibly entered  
24 the car. He ran up to the car. Nobody — everybody  
25 said he was close. There's — there is, and I

1 disagree with Mr. Meetze -- there is dispute of some  
2 of the testimony 'cause Mr. Wheeler said he raised  
3 his hand, reached his hand out, and he saw nothing  
4 in it. Even Mr. Pompey himself could not say, all  
5 that he kept saying he was threatened. He could  
6 never say, yes, I had to shoot. He also said he  
7 could have shut the door and locked it before the  
8 man got right up on him. He was close enough that  
9 when he was shoot there was blood on his clothes,  
10 blood in the car. But there's nobody ever said he  
11 forcibly entered the car. And I think that is a  
12 fundamental keystone ---

13 THE COURT: Does the statute say he's got  
14 to forcibly enter the car, or does it say he's got  
15 to attempt to force to from the car.

16 MR. CLEMENTS: Well, we don't know that he  
17 was attempting to enter the car or he was just  
18 confronting Mr. Pompey, but he never did enter the  
19 car.

20 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, I will dispute  
21 that. I think there were multiple witnesses  
22 testified he was leaning into the car.

23 THE COURT: All right. I'm sorry,  
24 anything else, Mr. Clements?

25 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, it is what it

1 is. I don't think there was any reasonable  
2 apprehension. I think it was unreasonable  
3 apprehension on the part of Mr. Pompey, if that  
4 makes a difference.

5 THE COURT: In whose eyes is reasonable  
6 apprehension defined as? This, defendant's or whose?

7 MR. CLEMENTS: Well, I think what you have  
8 to do is look at the totality of the circumstances  
9 and determine whether he was reasonable or not. He  
10 says he felt threatened but there were no threats,  
11 didn't see a weapon. There's some things in  
12 dispute. He was holding — he had his hand up here  
13 like he was holding his waistband after he'd fallen  
14 down. And as Mr. Pompey said, he wore saggy pants.  
15 And he raised the hand with nothing in it according  
16 to some of the testimony. Your Honor, the facts are  
17 what the facts are. It depends on how you look at  
18 them.

19 MR. MEETZE: I only thing I will say to  
20 that is, Mr. Clements testified that people wear  
21 baggy pants these days. Mr. Pompey never testified  
22 these pants were baggy that he was holding up his  
23 waistband; that was all. That is all questions that  
24 Mr. Clements asked, but that was never testified to  
25 and would not be evidence.

1 THE COURT: All right. I'll take the  
2 matter under advisement. I'll let you know.

3

4

5 (Hearing was continued on August 15, 2013.)

6

7

8

9

10 THE COURT: All right, we're on the record  
11 with regard to State of South Carolina versus Calvin  
12 Pompey. Can I see the indictment please.

13 Mr. Pompey was charged by indictment, indictment  
14 number 2012-GS-33-301 was the offense of murder.

15 This indictment alleges that Calvin Jermaine Pompey  
16 did in Marion County on or about March 18, 2012  
17 willfully, feloniously, and intentionally kill the  
18 victim Rondell, Rondell McEachin, with malice  
19 aforethought either expressed or implied by means of  
20 shooting and the victim did die as a proximate  
21 result thereof on or about March 18, 2012 in Marion  
22 County in violation of Section 16-3-10 of the South  
23 Carolina Code of Laws.

24 Pursuant to such indictment Mr. Pompey by  
25 and through counsel filed a motion to seeking  
immunity pursuant to the protection of persons and

1 property act under 16-11-410, et. al., of the South  
2 Carolina Code of Laws. Section 16-11-420, South  
3 Carolina Code Subsection A, states that: It is the  
4 intent of the general assembly to codify the common  
5 law of Castle doctrine which recognizes that a  
6 person's home is his castle and to extend the  
7 doctrine to include an occupied vehicle and the  
8 person's place of business. Subsection E of  
9 16-11-420 states that: The general assembly finds  
10 that no person or victim of crime should be required  
11 to surrender his personal safety to a criminal, nor  
12 should a person or victim be required to needlessly  
13 retreat in the face of intrusion or attack. Section  
14 16-11-440 Subsection (a) (1) and (2) states that: A  
15 person is presumed to have a reasonable fear of  
16 imminent peril, death, or great bodily injury to  
17 himself or another person when using deadly force  
18 that is intended or likely to cause death or great  
19 bodily injury to another person if the person, one,  
20 against whom the deadly force is used is in the  
21 process of unlawfully and forcefully entering or  
22 unlawfully and forcibly enter a dwelling, residence,  
23 or occupied vehicle; or if he removes or is  
24 attempting to remove another person against his will  
25 from the dwelling, residence, or occupied vehicle;

1 and two, who uses deadly force knows or has reason  
2 to believe that an unlawful and forcible entry or  
3 unlawful and forcible act is occurring or has  
4 occurred. Subsection D of Section 16-11-440 states  
5 that: A person who unlawfully and by force enters  
6 or attempts to enter a person's dwelling, residence,  
7 or occupied vehicle is presumed to be doing so with  
8 the intent to commit an unlawful act involving force  
9 or a violent crime as defined in Section 16-1-60.

10 First, the Court responsibility is to  
11 determine the implication of the act. The Court  
12 certainly finds that the act is applicable and that  
13 all the facts and circumstances surrounded the  
14 defendant occupying a vehicle when the incident  
15 subject to this indictment took place. A vehicle as  
16 defined in 16-11-430 is defined as: A conveyance of  
17 any kind whether or not motorized which is designed  
18 to transport people or property. Under Subsection  
19 -- excuse me, under Section 16-11-440(a)(1): If  
20 someone against whom deadly force is used is in the  
21 process of unlawfully and forcefully entering or has  
22 unlawfully and forcibly entered a dwelling, a  
23 residence, or occupied vehicle, the Court finds that  
24 it -- the topic here or the issue here occupied  
25 vehicle, not residence or dwelling, and that's what

1 we have here, an occupied vehicle -- and the one who  
2 uses deadly force knows or has reason to believe  
3 that an unlawful and forcible entry or unlawful and  
4 forcible act is occurring the uncontradicted  
5 testimony that was heard in this courtroom as the  
6 defendant did know such, he did know such, then  
7 there is a presumption that the person here, that  
8 person being Mr. Pompey, had a reasonable fear of  
9 imminent peril of death or great bodily injury.

10 There's a presumption that Mr. Pompey had reasonable  
11 fear of imminent peril of death or great bodily  
12 injury to himself when using deadly force that is  
13 intended or likely to cause death or greet bodily  
14 injury to another person.

15 Furthermore, under Subsection B, as I've  
16 already stated, a person who unlawfully and by force  
17 enters or attempts to enter an occupied vehicle is  
18 presumed to be doing so with the intent to commit an  
19 unlawful act involving force or a violent crime as  
20 defined in Section 16-1-60. The uncontradicted  
21 testimony is that the decedent Mr. McEachin was  
22 attempting by force to enter the vehicle occupied by  
23 Mr. Pompey; therefore, there has been no testimony  
24 that would rebut the presumption of his intentions.  
25 It is presumed that the decedent intended to commit

1 and unlawful act involving force or a violent crime  
2 as defined in Section 16-1-60.

3           The standard of proof that this Court must  
4 use in making this determination is by a  
5 preponderance of the evidence, has the defendant  
6 established by a preponderance of the evidence that  
7 he was entitled to use the force which he used in  
8 this particular situation. The uncontradicted  
9 testimony that was elicited from this witness stand  
10 was that there was an altercation in this club, Club  
11 Fusion; that the defendant was not involved in the  
12 altercation, but the defendant was removed from the  
13 club; that the defendant was told to leave the club  
14 and that he was in the process of doing so; that the  
15 defendant waited on Mr. Kelly and Mr. Moore, whom he  
16 arrived at the club with, and that as soon as all  
17 three of them were outside of the club that they  
18 went to the car, to their car; that Mr. Moore was  
19 the driver of this automobile; that Mr. Kelly was  
20 getting into the back seat of the automobile behind  
21 the driver; that Mr. Pompey was in the front  
22 passenger seat and that he was seated in the car.  
23 There was some contradictory testimony as to whether  
24 or not his feet were in the car or out of the car,  
25 but it is uncontradicted that he was seated in the

1 car.

2 This Court determines that whether his  
3 feet were in or out of the car is irrelevant. The  
4 decedent and Mr. Wheeler were also removed from Club  
5 Fusion. Mr. McEachin, the decedent without  
6 provocation, there was no testimony that there was  
7 any provocation by this defendant Mr. Pompey, that  
8 Mr. McEachin without provocation went hurriedly to  
9 the automobile that Mr. Pompey was in after having  
10 fallen to the ground; that as he approached the car  
11 he did so with his hand under his shirt; that after  
12 getting to the car, decedent leaned, decedent being  
13 Mr. McEachin, leaned into the car; that as the  
14 decedent leaned into the car defendant leaned back.  
15 As defendant leaned back, that is when he shot the  
16 decedent one time resulting in his death. Per the  
17 decedent -- excuse me, per the defendant the  
18 decedent never made any verbal threats, nor did the  
19 defendant ever see a weapon and that was something  
20 that Mr. Clements on cross-examination questioned  
21 him about. And there was testimony elicited from  
22 other witnesses whether or not there were any verbal  
23 threats or whether or not anybody saw a weapon. And  
24 while I certainly understand those arguments from  
25 counsel and State v. Duncan, there was never any

1 verbal threats from the victim, nor was there ever a  
2 weapon retained by the victim in that case.

3           In State v. Duncan, which is cited at 392  
4 S.C. 404, there was a verbal disagreement between  
5 the defendant and the decedent in that case. The  
6 decedent in that case attempted to enter the porch,  
7 simply enter the porch of the defendant, and as he  
8 attempted to enter the porch that is when that  
9 decedent was killed. In that particular case in  
10 State v. Duncan our supreme court affirmed the  
11 circuit court's finding that the defendant was  
12 entitled to immunity under the protection of  
13 property — excuse me, protection of persons and  
14 property act. The Supreme Court affirmed the  
15 circuit court's finding in that case.

16           My conclusions, based upon all of the  
17 uncontradicted testimony that I have set forth on  
18 the record based upon my review of the statutes that  
19 apply to this particular situation, this Court after  
20 much deliberation and review of the law in this  
21 case, I find that the defendant has established by a  
22 preponderance of the evidence that he is entitled,  
23 he is entitled to immunity under the protection of  
24 persons and property act. And that is this Court's  
25 ruling.

1 Anything further from the State?

2 MR. CLEMENTS: No, Your Honor. Only one  
3 question I have, I don't anticipate this happening  
4 but I just want to ask on the record as I discussed  
5 with the family that involve as far as the appellate  
6 rights on this of the State, this is not like a  
7 situation where jeopardy has attached since the jury  
8 has not been sworn.

9 THE COURT: The Court in Duncan addressed  
10 the issue and determined this was a pretrial matter  
11 to be determined by the Court. The State has every  
12 right to appeal my ruling here, every right to  
13 appeal. Jeopardy is not attached and the Supreme  
14 Court in turn can reverse me on that, on my ruling  
15 here today. If the State feels as though I am wrong  
16 I will certainly encourage you all to appeal.

17 MR. CLEMENTS: Your Honor, I —

18 THE COURT: It is — hold on a minute.  
19 This is something that -- and I have taken under  
20 much deliberation certainly understanding the  
21 unfortunate situation of a loss of life, and it is  
22 it is not something that I have taken lightly  
23 because I certainly sympathize with the victim's  
24 family and the loss of a loved one and it is a very  
25 and tragic unfortunate situation. And my job as you

1 well know as all of you know, my job is to enforce  
2 the law that's been enacted by our legislature, and  
3 this is my reading of the law and it's my  
4 responsibility to interpret this, these statutes and  
5 it goes through State v. Duncan. The primary rule  
6 of statutory construction is to ascertain and to  
7 give effect of the intent of the legislature. And  
8 unless there is something in there requiring me to  
9 give a different interpretation, I'm supposed to  
10 give meaning to the words that are used in the  
11 statute, give them their ordinary meaning, and  
12 that's what I've done here. I've interpreted from  
13 my reading of the statutes and applying the facts  
14 that were elicited from this stand, the  
15 uncontradicted facts, have found he's entitled to  
16 immunity under the protection of persons and  
17 property act certainly.

18           And that's why I wanted to make this  
19 ruling on the record today after deliberating about  
20 this for the last couple of days. I wanted to make  
21 the record as complete — I mean, and it's what I do  
22 as a judge, I try to do. And I tell people all the  
23 time, tell lawyers, I want the record to be as  
24 complete as it can be when I'm sitting on this Bench  
25 and making my rulings because if I'm wrong I want

1 you to have every right and I want that record to be  
2 as complete so the appellate courts can reverse me  
3 if I'm wrong and same for defense counsel. I want  
4 the record to be complete so if I'm wrong the  
5 appellate court has a full record to see what my  
6 thought process was and why I ruled a particular way  
7 so that they can reverse me if I'm wrong. I don't  
8 think so. I hope I've answered your question if you  
9 have any others I'll be happy to hear those as well.

10 MR. CLEMENTS: You have answered it, Your  
11 Honor. I want to thank you on behalf of the State.  
12 You did give this due deliberation over several days  
13 and the facts are what the facts. The plain  
14 unambiguous meaning of the words of the statute, I  
15 think, I cannot argue with that. I just had that  
16 question that I know when I talked to the family I  
17 want to be sure I understand our appellate rights on  
18 this. That's not to indicate we intend on doing  
19 anything, but certainly I will discuss that with the  
20 family and I appreciate Your Honor's full  
21 deliberation in this matter. Thank you.

22 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Clements.

23 Mr. Meetze.

24 MR. CLEMENTS: And Your Honor, just to  
25 make the record complete for any possible appellate

1 action, we would object on the record, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Certainly. So noted for the  
3 record. Certainly.

4 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you.

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

6 Mr. Meetze.

7 MR. MEETZE: Your Honor, we have nothing  
8 further.

9 THE COURT: Well, rather than draft a  
10 formal order I think what I've dictated or what I've  
11 stated here on the record clearly sets forth what my  
12 findings were and what my conclusions were based  
13 upon the evidence and testimony or based upon the  
14 testimony that was elicited from this stand.  
15 Anything further from the State?

16 MR. CLEMENTS: Nothing further from the  
17 State, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Defense counsel?

19 MR. MEETZE: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: That will conclude this  
21 matter.

22

23 \* \* \* END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD \* \* \*

24

25

WITNESSES

Robert C Smith Marion Police Department

96

DOCKET NO. 2012-GS-33-00301

The State of South Carolina

County of

MARION

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

AUGUST TERM 2012

THE STATE

vs.

CALVIN JERMAINE POMPEY

E. L Clements, III

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1057403 NP 8-15-13

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 8/2/12

VERDICT

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

Indictment for

MURDER

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
 COUNTY OF MARION )

INDICTMENT FOR  
 MURDER

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on AUGUST 2, 2012 the Grand Jurors of MARION County present upon their oath:

**COUNT ONE- MURDER**

That CALVIN JERMAINE POMPEY did in Marion County, on or about March 18, 2012, willfully, feloniously, and intentionally kill the victim, Rondale McEachin, with malice aforethought, either express or implied, by means of shooting, and the victim did die as a proximate result thereof on or about March 18, 2012 in Marion County, in violation of Section 16-03-0010 and 20, 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.




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**E.L. Clements, III**  
 TWELFTH CIRCUIT SOLICITOR

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS )

COUNTY OF MARION )

TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT )

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

- vs - )

MOTION TO DISMISS )  
INDICTMENT )

Calvin Jermaine Pompey, )

INDICTMENT No: 2012-GS-33-0301 )

DEFENDANT. )

TO: E.L. CLEMENTS, III, SOLICITOR, TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT:

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above named defendant, by and through his undersigned counsel, Vick Meetze, will hereby move before the Court of General Sessions of Marion County, at a time and date to be determined by the Court, for an Order dismissing the above referenced indictment pursuant to South Carolina Code § 16-11-440 and § 16-11-450.

This motion is made upon the grounds that the Defendant is in the category of persons covered by South Carolina Code § 16-11-440 (A) and that he is entitled to immunity from criminal prosecution in this case as set forth in South Carolina Code § 16-11-450 (A).

Respectfully submitted,

*Vick Meetze*

Vick Meetze  
Assistant Public Defender  
Twelfth Judicial Circuit

10/12, 2012  
Marion, South Carolina

2012 OCT 12 A 11:50  
MARION COUNTY SC  
CLERK OF COURT

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FILED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF MARION. )

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS  
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
Indictment No. 2012-GS-33-0301

State of South Carolina, )

vs. )

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**


Calvin Jermaine Pompey, )

Defendant. )

I, Mollie Sloan, do hereby certify that I have forwarded a Motion to Dismiss Indictment Number 2012-GS-33-0301, to the Honorable E. L. Clements, III, Solicitor of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, by depositing the same in the U. S. Mail, first class, postage prepaid, and addressed to:

The Honorable E. L. Clements, III  
SOLICITOR, 12<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
180 N. Irby Street, MSC-Q  
Florence, S. C. 29501

and the same was forwarded on October 12, 2012.


  
Mollie Sloan

Marion, SC  
October 12, 2012

FILED  
BOOK \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
2012 OCT 12 A 11: 50  
MARION COUNTY SC  
SHERIFF R. RHODES  
CLERK OF COURT

## 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 August 13, 2007 and April 14, 2014, orders from the South Carolina Supreme Court entitled "Interim Guidance Regarding Personal Data Identifiers and Other Sensitive Information in Appellate Court Filings."



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ALPHONSO SIMON, JR.  
Assistant Attorney General

Office of Attorney General  
P. O. Box 11549  
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(803) 734-6305

ATTORNEYS FOR APPELLANT

September 22, 2014.