

REUNITEPEOPLE.COM
Lynn-Marie Carty, Investigator
6822 -22nd Avenue North, Suite 186
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33710
P. I. Agency License # A2100246
email lynnmarie1957@tampabay.rr.com

September 18, 2015

Dr. Herbert Leon MacDonell,

My name is Lynn-Marie Carty. I have been Mr. William Thomas Zeigler's pro bono investigator for 4 ½ years. I was recently contacted by your niece Ms. Karen Austin who has spent 30 years of her life's work in the court system accomplishing great things on behalf of children who need a trusted advocate with compassion on their side. It was your niece who informed me you wrote a book that includes a chapter about my wrongfully convicted suffering death row client. Last evening after a quick scan of your book called, "The Evidence Never Lies," I was in shock. The back cover of your book states that Herbert MacDonell is colorful, crusty and iconoclastic, the Isaac Newton of ballistics, the Magellan of fingerprints and the Galileo of blood. I have read all of the lies you printed in your book as facts regarding the 1975 Zeigler Furniture Store quadruple Christmas Eve murders for which you were the blood expert.

You testified on behalf of the State of Florida at the trial. On page 119 of your book, you quote the prosecutions detective Don Frye as calling you, "The greatest expert on bloodstain evidence in the world." Apparently Detective Frye, who had just completed your blood spatter school, was able to convince his bosses you were his deserving hero so much that they held the store investigation murder scene for 14 days until you could fit it into your schedule to arrive. The problem with that was, anything that came up in that 2 week waiting period that showed Mr. Zeigler's innocence, became twisted and was hidden so as not to rock the boat for the arrival of the self pro-claimed blood king. It is important to note that all of this went down, before DNA came along and could prove the truth definitively. At that time in history, it was easy to get away with many claims that were not even true. In your analysis of the Zeigler murders for which you were the main blood expert for the prosecution, you claimed that your results proved that my client William Thomas Zeigler beat his father in law to death on Christmas Eve 1975 inside his own families furniture store due to the fact that Mr. Zeigler had type A blood under the arm of his shirt. Using your findings in 1976 the prosecution did an indepth demonstration for the jury by using the State Attorney Robert Eagan. He jumped up and down showing the jurors how Tommy bashed his father in law's head in with a crank, beating him to death after shooting him. Then in the years after the trial the science of DNA came along. While sitting in his cage reading a people magazine in 1987, Mr. Zeigler read a story about the first time DNA was ever used to convict a man. It was the

same Orange County, Florida prosecutors office who had convicted him. In 1987 they became the first prosecutors office to use DNA to prove guilt. Tommy thought to himself, now they can prove I am innocent. At that moment, Mr. Zeigler had great hope for his exoneration and freedom. He begged for permission to have DNA testing from that moment until it was finally granted to him in 2001. ***When his testing was complete the results proved that you sir were all wrong.*** Yes, Tommy had type A blood under the arm of his shirt, ***but it was NOT the blood of his father in law Perry Edwards Jr. at all.*** Instead it was the type A blood of Charlie Mays, who Tommy has said from day one that he was in a fight for his life with, after being attacked. It was the type A blood of Charlie Mays, whose body Mr. Zeigler was next to. It was also most likely the same body Tommy remembers crawling over in the dark to get to a phone, after losing his glasses, in the midst of the fight, for which he was rendered legally blind without.

At a 2004 hearing to discuss the exonerating DNA results State Attorney Jeff Ashton tried to convince the Honorable Judge Reginald Whitehead that the fact that ***your findings*** that were presented to Tommy's jury about Tommy having the blood of his father in law on his shirt because he held him in a head lock and beat him to death ***were proven all false and wrong via the DNA lab results,*** really did not matter. Mr. Ashton claimed this new DNA evidence was not important at all. Then Jeff Ashton actually suggested to the judge and to the court that Tommy Zeigler may have obtained the blood of Charlie Mays under the arm of his shirt when he was performing a sex act with his face down in the genitals of the dead body of Charlie Mays. Jeff Ashton also told a lie to the court at the hearing and put false information on the record that remains there today. Prosecutor Jeff Ashton said that Tommy Zeigler's fingerprint was found in the tip of a rubber glove located at the crime scene. Not only was this false evidence never presented at the 1976 trial, but it is nothing more than an out- right lie meant to keep Mr. Zeigler wrongfully caged. Some years later when a citizen advocate wrote to you regarding these disgusting methods used in open court by prosecutor Jeff Ashton based on your findings, your written response included that it was reported that Mr. Zeigler was of the AC/DC persuasion. You claimed that Tommy was a closet homosexual who was cheating on his wife at the time of the murders, by having sex with other men.

1. On page 111 of your book, you stated as a fact that, “ Charlie Mays' pants had been clumsily hooked at the waist by bloodied hands not his own; there was no blood on his hands.” According to the evidence, that is a lie. ***The truth is that Charlie Mays did in fact have blood all over his hand. I have a photograph of the dead body of Charlie Mays that shows the blood all over his hand.*** How could you, the blood expert for the State of Florida's prosecution have ignored this fact and then go so far as to lie about it in your book entitled, “ The Evidence Never Lies?” On page 120 you state Charlie Mays had a ***ring of keys to the store*** in his pants pocket. The testimony was that one key was found and no one checked to see if the key fit any of the doors of the Zeigler store.

2. On page 119 of your book, while discussing the activities of Ed Williams on the night of the murders, you stated that “ Tommy caught up with him outside the store and tried to sweet-talk him back in. he went so far as to proffer the pistol that had misfired. Williams thrust it back at him. He did not want any part of a gun, or Zeigler or anything else that might be in that store that night. He just ran.” According to the court testimony of Ed Williams, the statement you made in your book is a lie. ***The truth that Ed Williams testified to on the witness stand at the murder trial and in all his depositions is that Ed Williams clearly stated he took the gun and put it into his pants pocket, then jumped over a 6 foot fence with the gun still in his pocket.***

Since you wrote your book after the trial it appears you tailored some of your information to go along with the verdict nicely. GSR testing on Ed Williams pants pockets proved that Ed Williams did not have a gun in the pocket of ***the pair of pants he turned into the police.*** How could this be? If the gun shot residue lab tests are correct, they prove Ed Williams testimony to be a lie. Ed Williams testified that he put the gun in his pants pocket and jumped over a 6 feet fence with high heeled boots on. The boots ***he turned in to the police,*** had the price tags on them and no scuff marks. His clothes were freshly laundered. Ed Williams landlady Mary Wallace described Ed's clothing to a 'T'. The clothes Ed Williams turned in to the police were nothing like the ones Mary saw him wearing within the hour of the murders.

A man by the name of Mr. Nolan was standing outside the KFC, directly across from the Zeigler store murder scene right after the murders. Mr. Nolan saw a man that fit Ed Williams description perfectly. The man was wearing the same description of clothes that Mary saw Ed wearing in the hour before the murders. Mr. Nolan asked the man, aren't you the same man that just used my phone to call the police? Ed Williams would not admit it. Then denied it.

You knew there was no GSR found in Ed's pants when you wrote your book called “The Evidence Never Lies.” So to fit that scenario you lied about the key facts concerning Ed Williams testimony about the gun. Ed Williams testified that he put the gun in his pants. To add insult to injury the GSR lab results did not come back from the FBI until a few weeks after the trial. The perfect hold up to put one more faux nail in Mr. Zeigler's conviction coffin. But you had the advantage of knowing the results of the GSR lab tests when you wrote your book, so you twisted the truth to fit what you wanted the readers to believe.

Speaking of key material witness Edward Williams, please tell me why it took Mr. Williams until 3 months after the murders to tell police that he was involved in the gun buy? It took him that long to tell the police the story about Tommy Zeigler asking him to buy some “ hot untraceable guns” for him. Ed Williams claims he went to the police station before the sun rose on Christmas Day 1975 to tell them everything he knew about the murders and the white man who tried to

kill him. Have you seen the gun buy receipt? ***It clearly shows the guns were sold to Frank Smith, then it says to Ed Williams and the name Tommy Zeigler was added onto the receipt.***

3. On page 106 of your book you stated that guns were stashed all over the store. "All he did with them was get a little boy's kick out of strapping them around his waist or carrying one in a shoulder holster and playfully drawing on friends and employees." ***Where is your proof of such an absurd allegation regarding Mr. Zeigler who at the time of his arrest has been an extremely successful business man and family man for years?*** This is just another tainted puzzle piece you have presented to your readers. A puzzle that was made up in your mind to fit the suspect presented to you. Mr. Zeigler had already been tried and convicted by the Orange County Florida Sheriff's Department, before you ever even went to work, which by the way was two weeks from the time that the murders occurred.

4. On pages 114-115 of your book, which puts the time line sequence as occurring after 10:00 pm on the night of the murders, you stated additional claims that are totally contrary to what was actually testified to at the trial. ***"Felton Thomas stumbled into the Oakland Police Station.*** His brow glistened with perspiration, and the whites seemed to have taken over his eyes. You gotta do something! You gotta help me! They're gonna kill me. Just like they did poor Charlie." If the officer on duty had looked, he would have seen fear, but he only listened and what he thought he heard was another black man who had had one too many. ***He told him to leave his name, that they would be in touch if they wanted to speak to him.*** Thomas cried, "They are gonna kill me, I tell you. You gotta do something." "I'll tell you what you gotta do, ***buddy boy.*** Go on home and sleep it off. They've done all the killing they're gonna do for one night." Thomas left. The police were not going to help him. Nobody was going to help him. ***This is completely contrary to both the actual trial testimony of key witness, Felton Thomas Jr. and also totally the opposite of the taped conversation that I and two Sheriff's Deputies had with Felton Thomas last year.*** The police call sheets however do show Oakland Police Chief Robert Thompson, officer number 401 advising a drunk citizen of his rights at about that same time frame, 10:44 PM. So, as he was running around in charge of the quadruple murder scene he had just been assigned to within the hour, Robert Thompson took time out to advise a drunk citizen of his rights? Felton Thomas testified that he went to a bar, heard that Charlie was dead, went and got his brother in law, drove around town, ran out of gas, and started walking. Then decided to go to the Ranch House coffee shop with his brother in law. Then he says he saw a police officer there and told the officer what happened. The officer radioed for a squad car to come pick up Felton. The police then brought him back to the store and interrogated him. Felton Thomas recently told the deputies and myself that the police never showed him a line up, that they told

him who the man was and that they had their man. Felton also said he still does not know who the white man was. ***He also told me, he never touched or fired any of the guns, contrary to his trial testimony. If the man who stumbled in to the Oakland police department immediately after the murders was not Felton Thomas Jr., who could it have been?*** I believe I know exactly who it was only because I uncovered the truth about him 37 years after the murders occurred. ***It was Robert Milton Foster.*** Robert Foster is the man whose name was listed on Mr. Zeigler's arrest report 4 times as the key witness who gave the police very incriminating information about his supposed activities with Tommy Zeigler on the night of the murders. Robert Foster, the man whose name was listed in the newspaper for a full 3 weeks after the murders as a key material witness against Tommy Zeigler. The man Robert Foster whose name fell off the radar on the day of preliminary hearing, 3 weeks after the murders. The man, ***Robert Foster who when the lead detective for the prosecution Don Frye was asked about on the stand at the trial, he claimed had been all along, nothing more than just a typographical error with a name that accidentally got into his head.*** The same Robert Foster that I have now located alive and well, who went on to commit so many more felonies it makes heads spin. The same Robert Foster who was on parole for armed robbery on the night of the Zeigler murders and by his own recent admission was living in the area on the night of the murders. The same Robert Foster who had a record of 4 prison escapes to his credit before the 1975 Christmas Eve murders in which, by the way his good friend Charlie Mays ended up dead on the floor as a result of. The same Robert Foster that original investigator notes say was living with Felton Thomas in the 3 bedroom boarding house in Oakland, Florida. The same Robert Foster that could not be located by Mr. Zeigler's investigators at the time of the murders because the prosecution was holding him in protective custody and put out statements about in the newspaper stories, claiming Robert Foster was begging to be held in custody because he was in fear for his life. ***Felton Thomas recently told me in his taped interview that he tried to go home after the murders but the place was surrounded by police cars everywhere so he did not go there.*** I asked Felton why he thought the police were at his house surrounding it at that time. Felton said, someone must have told them that I had been with Charlie up at the store. ***Early newspaper stories printed as facts stated that Robert Foster ran from the store when Charlie Mays told him to run, after seeing the body of a white woman.***

5. On page 126 of your book you stated that the police found Tommy's wife Eunice's car in the back of the store. ***This is a lie. You included this lie to bolster the state's erroneous contention that Tommy and his wife Eunice drove to the furniture together in her car on the night of the murders.*** Tommy had loaned Eunice's car to the employee who had trouble with his own vehicle earlier in the day, so he would not be stuck on the road with a broken

down vehicle on Christmas Day with no gas stations open to assist him. Eunice Edwards Zeigler's car was in the garage of the home of the employee who Mr. Zeigler had so kindly loaned it to when the murders occurred.

During your stint as the prosecutions blood expert at the trial and conviction of Mr. Zeigler for the 1975 Christmas Eve murders, your word was taken as the gospel. It is imperative to remember, this was well before DNA testing had ever been used to prove either the innocence or guilt of anyone. Since that time, you yourself have also been arrested, fingerprinted and had your mug shot taken. ***You were charged with forcibly touching young girls.*** Those same young girls told the police officials that you had threatened to use their very own DNA against them, to frame them should they speak up and tell anyone about the atrocities' that you perpetrated upon them.

At this very moment another one of your brave victims from the year 1968, who reported your crimes against her to the police years ago as well, is ready to tell the world her truth regarding how your actions, cover ups and lies have forever affected her life. There is direct evidence that you were a bully to this victim after she reported you to the police.

Just last month, Orange County, Florida State Attorney Jeff Ashton, who used your results and claimed he came to the same conclusions as you did regarding Mr. Zeigler's guilt, based on your false conclusions and flawed presentations, had some explaining to do of his own. State official Mr. Ashton is a married man and a father of six, but that did not stop him from advertising on the Ashley Madison website that caters to married men who are interested in cheating. At a press conference that he called in order to explain and apologize for visiting the Ashley Madison website 84 times, he lied directly to the press. Mr. Ashton was asked if he used any other cheating websites, which he denied. The very next day it was proven by the eastorlandopost.com that Mr. Ashton also advertised his profile on the FriendFinder.com website seeking partners for both ***bi-sexual*** and ***swinger sex*** for himself and a woman who he referred to as his high profile co-worker, who was also married according to him.

Between the actions that both you and Mr. Ashton have recently been forced to address regarding your sexual deviations, it is perfectly clear to see why you would point your fingers at my once happily married client, in your attempts to defame and vilify him by painting him as a secret homosexual who was cheating on his beloved wife. This was done to Mr. Zeigler from the time of his arrest and it continues on to this very day. However we now know that the false information regarding Mr. Zeigler's sexual orientation was fed to the prosecution by the real master mind of the Zeigler murders, Tommy's brother in law, Perry Edwards Jr. The lead prosecution detective on the case, your special student Don Frye, recently admitted in a taped

interview that he had sleep overs at the home of Tommy's brother in law Perry Edwards Jr. during the unfolding of the case. Prosecution Detective Don Frye said he and Perry Jr. became good friends, they stayed tight. Perry Edwards Jr. was used by the state as their secret confidential informant on the case. With no proof of the lies being told about Mr. Zeigler's sexual orientation what so ever, your sexually deviant minds bought and sold Perry Edwards Jr.'s sick lies. You used them to crucify and cage the only surviving victim of the quadruple murders.

In 1975, to portray a married man who was up for murder charges, as a bi-sexual man who was cheating on his beloved wife was akin to nailing his jail cell door shut. You were a highly paid bully who said and did whatever it took to make yourself look good and to get your own way. You had no qualms about it. You did this with your golden nails filled with lies, that your deviant mind bought and sold. You did it for the money, for the glory and for the fame.

Your book “ The Evidence Never Lies,” is filled with your lies about the evidence. That is a cold hard fact, that you have gotten away until now.

You twisted the truth to bend the minds of your audience into believing in Mr. Zeigler's conviction. You have lied to your readers about key facts of the case of my innocent, suffering, 70 year old, Florida death row client who has been caged for almost 40 years now. The question is, how many more lies, in how many other cases have you told throughout your career that no one has checked into or caught you in?

It appears you have worked on some wrongful conviction cases. If you have any concern for doing the right thing at this point in your life, I urge you to speak up about the mother of all wrongful convictions cases, the case of the conviction that you helped seal. The case of William Thomas Zeigler Jr. If you believe so much in Mr. Zeigler's guilt, why not prove it once and for all through DNA. If you are willing to admit you were wrong then I challenge you to join our effort to obtain emergency DNA testing for Mr. Zeigler so he may prove his innocence, no matter what the end result is to you, your ego, your career and your associates. At the very least you will be able to leave this earth knowing you took some sort of action to atone for Mr. Zeigler's stolen life. I await your response.

In The Name Of Justice,

Lynn-Marie Carty
Investigator

www.tommyzeiglerisinnocent.com

