

In Re: William Thomas Zeigler, Jr.
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AUDIO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF FELTON THOMAS, JR.

TAKEN BY: Lynn-Marie Carty, Investigator, FL
Deputy Gene Jones, Sylvester, GA
Deputy Jeff Thompson, Sylvester, GA

DATE: September 23, 2013

TIME: 10:10 to 11:13 a.m.

PLACE: Fort Pierce Police Department
Fort Pierce, FL

TRANSCRIBED BY: Laura J. Heckman, Notary Public
State of Florida at large

ALSO PRESENT: Tamiko Stephens

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1 MR. THOMAS: My mother died in Moultrie in 2000, and
2 I got sisters there. I got a whole bunch of peoples
3 just all over the place.

4 Okay. Back to what you were saying.

5 MS. CARTY: We were talking on the phone about this,
6 you and I before, and you said you didn't want to see
7 anybody that was in prison that shouldn't be in there,
8 and that I got you thinking when I told -- explained to
9 you what was -- what was done and what -- what happened
10 here. It happens a lot.

11 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Try to understand me. I'm not
12 trying to put nobody in prison or nothing. I don't got
13 nothing against none of these people.

14 MS. CARTY: Oh, I know.

15 MR. THOMAS: Because I don't know them. I don't
16 know them people.

17 MS. CARTY: I know. I understand.

18 MR. THOMAS: And I don't want to see nobody be in --
19 in trouble, but I -- you telling me I -- I don't know
20 who -- who -- who to pick out. Only thing I can tell
21 you is what happened when I was there.

22 MS. CARTY: How would you pick him out? Did they
23 give you a lineup?

24 MR. THOMAS: It wasn't a lineup. It was -- I was in
25 court.

1 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh. I know. And --

2 MR. THOMAS: I -- I was in court.

3 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

4 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. And that's the same man I saw in
5 the car there, driving that car when it pulled it up.
6 He pulled up in the car. Me and Charlie in the van. He
7 pulled up in the car.

8 MS. CARTY: So they never gave you a lineup or
9 anything like that?

10 MR. THOMAS: Uh, no, I ain't get no lineup. I only
11 saw this man twice in my whole life, to know him twice.
12 It was that night and at the courthouse.

13 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

14 MR. THOMAS: That's the only time.

15 MS. CARTY: Do you that people -- that mistaken
16 identity happens all the time?

17 MR. THOMAS: Well, I can -- I can understand that
18 problem, too, but how would I know who -- who to --
19 who -- okay. Like two men standing there, I wouldn't --

20 DEPUTY JONES: I was in law enforcement for 24
21 years.

22 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

23 MR. THOMAS: -- and then -- and then you come -- and
24 then you explain to me, you tell me like you talking to
25 me, you'll get the wrong man every time. How do I know?

1 I don't know this man; I don't know that man. How do I
2 know I got the wrong man? All right. The only thing I
3 know is the man that was there then, that's the one I'm
4 looking it.

5 MS. CARTY: Looks like him.

6 DEPUTY JONES: Do you remember what time of day it
7 was when Charlie picked you up?

8 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

9 MR. THOMAS: It -- it -- it was in the evening time.
10 I was in Oakland. I -- I was in Oakland. I was living
11 in Oakland at Red Dixon place, room and house where he
12 had a little private house that I was staying.

13 MS. CARTY: How big was that place on Harriet
14 Street?

15 MR. THOMAS: It's like a -- okay.

16 MS. CARTY: Like how many units around like?

17 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. It's kind of like a little --
18 little -- little old like stump by the stop sign back up
19 in -- back up to here, and the house on this side and a
20 big field on that side.

21 MS. CARTY: Yeah.

22 MR. THOMAS: And a field behind the house.

23 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

24 MR. THOMAS: A field behind the house. And he lived
25 in the last house on the left-hand side going down.

1 MS. CARTY: Who? Dixon?

2 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Red Dixon lived up there.

3 MS. CARTY: But did he have like a lot of rooms that
4 he rented, or what are you saying, like where you lived?

5 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. That was the side of the home
6 he had -- I think it was -- I think he had three
7 bedrooms.

8 MS. CARTY: Oh, okay.

9 MR. THOMAS: I think -- I think it was, because I
10 was -- I was living in the -- in the back one. I lived
11 in the back bedroom there.

12 MS. CARTY: Right.

13 DEPUTY JONES: It's kind of like a boarding house,
14 something along that nature?

15 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh. When I came there, I was -- I
16 was looking for a place to stay at, and he said he had a
17 place that I can stay at. That's why I was staying
18 there.

19 DEPUTY JONES: Good Lord was looking after you.

20 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

21 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. I only -- I only did --
22 work in different places, back and forth, back and
23 forth, back and forth, all up in Missouri and Kansas
24 City and all -- all over the place, Indiana, packing
25 watermelons all over the place. That's the type of work

1 I was doing.

2 MS. CARTY: Did you see anything in the newspaper
3 about this right after the murders at all? Did you see
4 anything in the paper?

5 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, there was something in the paper
6 about this Jamaican. They said he was there. He was at
7 the man's house. I never did see not -- see no truck
8 there. I never seen nobody, but they say he was there.
9 He supposed to been.

10 DEPUTY JONES: When you went to Zeigler's house?
11 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

12 MR. THOMAS: Yes, when he took us there.

13 DEPUTY JONES: That's when you was with Charlie?

14 MR. THOMAS: Yes. Yes.

15 MS. CARTY: And --

16 DEPUTY JONES: Did you all stay in the car or get
17 out or --

18 MR. THOMAS: Stayed in the car. He rushed right
19 out.

20 DEPUTY JONES: Was the car in the garage at that
21 time?

22 MR. THOMAS: I -- I -- I ain't planned on taking no
23 car in the garage. But he rushed out and went -- and
24 went in the house, and when he come back, he went to a
25 little shelf up there and he got a box of cartridges,

1 and he told Charlie that -- like, Charlie, load the gun.
2 You want to load one of these guns? He got a big old
3 brown bag in between me and him about this high.

4 So that's all I know. That's all I got to say. I
5 don't have nothing against the man. I don't know
6 nothing about it. The man didn't never did nothing to
7 me. I don't know nothing about it. That's right.
8 That's the only thing I can say is that.

9 DEPUTY JONES: Did you go (inaudible) any things
10 that -- that particular night at any point in time that
11 made you felt like that maybe this man wasn't who he
12 said he was or could possibly be somebody else, or do
13 you feel 100 percent certain that who you were talking
14 to was who he was?

15 MR. THOMAS: That's the only thing I can go by.

16 DEPUTY JONES: What you were told?

17 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I -- I don't know --

18 MS. CARTY: Oh, I have a question.

19 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

20 MS. CARTY: I have a really interesting -- this is
21 what I would love to know. Did you see the guy earlier
22 sharpening any tools anywhere?

23 MR. THOMAS: No. No. No.

24 DEPUTY JONES: When you work in the field, do you
25 have -- did you all have a guy that come around and like

1 sharpen knives or blades or anybody like that that would
2 come to the fields and do it for the work?

3 MR. THOMAS: No, nothing I can think of.

4 DEPUTY JONES: Working in the fields, did you ever
5 know a white man, his nickname was Slim, they just
6 called him Slim, and he was kind of a tall guy?

7 MR. THOMAS: No.

8 DEPUTY JONES: That don't ring no bell?

9 MR. THOMAS: Because I -- I was working with most
10 of the -- most of the way -- most of the big crews
11 that's coming out of Orlando coming through --

12 DEPUTY JONES: They was all coming in that time for
13 the season to work?

14 MS. CARTY: So what did you mean when you said the
15 guy was acting kind of funny that day when you were
16 sharpening the tools and that's what made you know that
17 something was up and that's why you got out of the car
18 and left?

19 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about sharpening
20 no tools.

21 MS. CARTY: I mean, I'm just saying that you had
22 said that, so I was wondering --

23 MR. THOMAS: No, I didn't. I never told nobody that
24 in my whole life.

25 MS. CARTY: But, I mean, like in the court. Like in

1 the court you were saying that -- that when you were in
2 the car, that after Charlie went in the store and the
3 guy told you to get back in the car, you thought to
4 yourself, I don't know about this situation. And then
5 you had said --

6 MR. THOMAS: Not when they got -- when they got out
7 the car and went to the store in there, he opened the
8 door, said, Come on, Charlie. He said, Come on you all.

9 So I got out the car. I said, I'm not going in
10 that store because it's dark in there. I'm not going in
11 that store.

12 He said, Well, if you ain't going to the store, you
13 get back in the car and sit down.

14 And when they went up to that store, I got right
15 out, went across the street over there. They had just
16 had built a new grocery store called Food World right
17 next to Kentucky Fried Chicken. And I saw some guy from
18 Oakland over there, a (inaudible) guy named Sam.

19 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

20 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

21 MR. THOMAS: I saw him from Oakland. And I told him
22 like, Man, them people over there acting like a clown,
23 man. I ain't messing around over there with them
24 people.

25 I said, You going back -- will you take me back to

1 Oakland with you?

2 He said, Yes.

3 So, I went back -- I went back to Oakland, come back
4 down (inaudible), that guy he knew who I was, I was
5 drinking a beer, and I got in a car with another guy.
6 He came -- I went to Tilldenville. You know where
7 Tilldenville is at?

8 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

9 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

10 MR. THOMAS: It's an old bar.

11 MS. CARTY: Was it Browns?

12 MR. THOMAS: (Inaudible).

13 MS. CARTY: Was it Browns Bar?

14 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. But, you know, the place
15 I was at, you know, it was -- it was a lot of -- there's
16 a lot of gay people over there in Tilldenville.

17 MS. CARTY: Oh. Oh, I didn't know.

18 MR. THOMAS: There's a lot of gay people up in
19 there. So everybody's mixed all up in there together.

20 So I'm drinking. And -- and one guy come in and
21 said, Thomas. Said, Is that you?

22 I said, Yeah, that's me. What's wrong with you,
23 man?

24 He said, Man. He said, Weren't you with Charlie?

25 I said, Yeah, I was with Charlie.

1 He said, Man, everybody up in that store, all them
2 people killed. We thought you was dead in that store.

3 I said, What? He said it so fast. I said, What?
4 They dead.

5 I just left that man at -- when -- when they went in
6 the store.

7 He said, Everybody there is dead in that store.
8 They find bodies all over the place.

9 And I said, Take me -- take me back over to the --
10 we're -- we're going back home, you know, back across
11 Highway 50, back over there to Oakland, and when I got
12 there, where I live at down there was surrounded, just
13 surrounded with cars and police and everything.

14 DEPUTY JONES: At the store?

15 MR. THOMAS: No, not at the store, at the place
16 where I live at.

17 DEPUTY JONES: Where you had lived at?

18 MS. CARTY: On Harriet Street?

19 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

20 MS. CARTY: Yeah.

21 MS. THOMAS: Where I was rooming at.

22 And -- and that whole place back there was full of
23 police. So I have another friend of mine that -- his
24 name was Larry. I was going with his sister. That's
25 that guy I was talking about. His sister, she's in

1 Pompano now.

2 MS. CARTY: Does his guy's name begin with a -- let
3 me think, maybe a G?

4 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Govan.

5 MS. CARTY: What is it?

6 MR. THOMAS: Larry Govan.

7 MS. CARTY: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

8 DEPUTY JONES: Gold -- Govan?

9 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah.

10 DEPUTY JONES: And you were dating his sister?

11 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

12 DEPUTY JONES: You were going with his -- his
13 sister?

14 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, but they were living in New York.

15 DEPUTY JONES: Okay.

16 MR. THOMAS: And then --

17 MS. CARTY: He was going with you -- you were going
18 with his sister. Okay. Got it. Yeah.

19 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. So he was living -- he
20 was living in New York so . . . He come down here with
21 us to pick fruit. A little short guy.

22 MS. CARTY: Really?

23 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. He come down here and want to
24 pick fruit.

25 So I saw him and I said, Hey, man. I said, All them

1 police down there so come on and take me to Orlando.
2 Take me to Orlando, you know.

3 We got on the road. We got to Orlando on Highway
4 50. When we got back about to Scaggs Albertsons, you
5 know, it was a shopping place on Highway 50 --

6 MS. CARTY: Sure.

7 MR. THOMAS: -- is nothing, and his car ran out of
8 gas.

9 It's like, man, I'm not messing around. I mean, You
10 got to get gas the fastest way you can. I'm going on
11 down and around. And I went on down -- I walked on down
12 the line. So I come into a little --

13 MS. CARTY: Was there one other guy with you that
14 you picked up that was at the store that was kind of
15 high?

16 MR. THOMAS: No.

17 MS. CARTY: Oh, okay.

18 MR. THOMAS: No. No.

19 MS. CARTY: Okay. Go ahead. Sorry.

20 MR. THOMAS: So, I gotta -- I kind of walked on down
21 the street and walked on down Highway 50 further down.
22 I might have walked about a half a mile down, and there
23 was little restrooms over there. And I seen the police
24 also over there. And I went over there and I told him.
25 He said he ain't heard nothing about it on the scanner.

1 MS. CARTY: He said what?

2 MR. THOMAS: He said he hasn't heard anything about
3 it.

4 MS. CARTY: Oh, okay.

5 MR. THOMAS: I told him what was going on. He said,
6 I haven't heard anything about it. He said, Let me
7 check.

8 He got on the scanner, and he said, Yes, they want
9 you back over there right now.

10 And he carried me back to the store. And that's the
11 first time I ever been in the store. And all the people
12 was in the store, the detectives and everybody was in
13 the store.

14 MS. CARTY: Why would the whole neighborhood where
15 you lived be surrounded with police when the murders
16 happened? Do you know? I mean, did you wonder?

17 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. Because he -- they --
18 they know -- I don't know how they knew, but they know I
19 was with Charlie. They knew I was with him.

20 MS. CARTY: So they were looking for you when they
21 were surrounding your neighborhood do you think?

22 MR. THOMAS: I was with Charlie so they -- yeah.

23 MS. CARTY: Yeah. What about Johnny Thornton
24 (phonetic)? That was sad.

25 MR. THOMAS: Who is Johnny Thornton?

1 MS. CARTY: Johnny Thornton, the guy that was -- who
2 was also a picker from Hilton. He came down and he
3 would stay over there at the Winter Garden Inn.

4 MR. THOMAS: I don't know no Johnny Thornton.

5 MS. CARTY: Oh, I thought you -- I thought you knew
6 him.

7 MR. THOMAS: I don't know a Johnny Thornton. I
8 don't know him. I don't know him. I know a Jamaica
9 guy, Coke, back from the store right there. Me and him
10 go up the road together, me and his -- me and him and
11 his family. We go up the road together. That time he
12 went up there he stayed up there. He went to Rochester
13 and he stayed, him and his family both.

14 MS. CARTY: Did they?

15 MR. THOMAS: These people put him up in a place.

16 MS. CARTY: That's good.

17 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

18 MS. CARTY: What about Robert Foster?

19 MR. THOMAS: I don't know Robert Foster. That
20 Calvin brung up something about Robert Foster. I don't
21 even know him.

22 MS. CARTY: Well, I only ask you because his name
23 was in the paper every day after the murders --

24 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

25 MS. CARTY: -- as one of the witnesses.

1 MR. THOMAS: But -- but this guy here, he was
2 telling the paper, everybody was talking about it. He
3 said that Jamaica say he went up there, say he was his
4 handyman. Said he went up there and said he drove
5 around, and said when he drove around to the back of the
6 store, it's a big fence back there, gate, big fence back
7 there. And he said when he drove in the gate, he locked
8 the gate -- locked the gate on it. He locked the gate
9 on it and he went through the back door.

10 And he said -- he call him in the store, call him to
11 come in the store, and said as he was walking in the
12 store, he heard like something pop, pop, pop. He said,
13 Hell, what you trying to do, kill me with those, Mr.
14 Zeigler? And he said he jumped out and ran and got back
15 over the fence. I don't know nothing about that spot
16 neither. That's just what they had in the paper.

17 MS. CARTY: But did you -- did you hear him say
18 Mr. Zeigler or did -- are you aware of the fact that --

19 MR. THOMAS: I -- I -- I don't know nothing they
20 said. I wasn't there at that time.

21 MS. CARTY: Because you were at the trial. And they
22 obviously kept saying that the person had -- that it was
23 a white man.

24 MR. THOMAS: I wasn't in there when the people
25 was --

1 MS. CARTY: Oh, okay. Right.

2 MR. THOMAS: When -- when they was testifying. I
3 was outside so I could not hear nothing, and then they
4 call me in.

5 MS. CARTY: Okay.

6 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

7 DEPUTY JONES: Yeah. They bring you all in one at a
8 time, and then when you got through testifying you go
9 back in --

10 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. You don't -- you don't never
11 hear other man -- what the other man testifying about
12 because it's all over; they put stuff in the paper, you
13 know, what --

14 MS. CARTY: Well, why would you be -- so why would
15 every -- why are you afraid like right now and who are
16 you afraid of? If you've -- if -- if -- if the right
17 guy's in there -- in the prison all -- in a cage for 37
18 or 8 years, why -- what -- what's the problem? You know
19 what I mean? Like, why --

20 MR. THOMAS: Don't you know that's that Klan area
21 down there. Them KK boys down there. They know
22 people --

23 MS. CARTY: Yeah.

24 MR. THOMAS: They know people that -- that are real
25 together there.

1 DEPUTY JONES: (Inaudible.)

2 MR. THOMAS: I ain't -- I ain't taking no chances on
3 nobody.

4 MS. CARTY: Is there anybody specific, though, that
5 you're afraid of?

6 DEPUTY JONES: Is there a reason that you think that
7 they were involved in that?

8 MR. THOMAS: It just ain't never really actually
9 left my mind from that. It's --

10 DEPUTY JONES: Well, I mean, what I know they --
11 'cause trust me, I don't like them either.

12 Let me give you a little story on my behalf. I
13 was -- when I was a police chief in Poulan, and that man
14 right there can verify this, I was fired from there.
15 You know why? My daughter married a black man. I got
16 two biracial grandchildren, two girls, and I love them
17 to death, but I got fired because of that.

18 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

19 MS. CARTY: You got fired?

20 DEPUTY JONES: The racial issue is still just as hot
21 in that area as it ever has been. Nothing's changed.

22 MR. THOMAS: Man, it ain't never changed. It ain't
23 never changed nowhere.

24 DEPUTY JONES: It's not going to.

25 MR. THOMAS: It ain't never change nowhere. People

1 just got to realize that.

2 DEPUTY JONES: But -- but why -- why -- you related
3 to her that you were kind of worried about them. Is
4 there a reason? Was something mentioned back then that
5 would make you think they were involved in that somehow?

6 MR. THOMAS: No. I ain't have no idea what was
7 going on with that. I don't have no idea.

8 MS. CARTY: But why did you like run away and were
9 afraid for your life and everything, that somebody was
10 hunting you down but -- who was it?

11 MR. THOMAS: It's like I told you --

12 MS. CARTY: Yeah. Okay. I'm just trying to --

13 MR. THOMAS: -- Winter Garden -- I heard about
14 Winter Garden and all of them places, Winter Garden,
15 Ocoee. You can't even hardly go to the store at night
16 in Ocoee. Ocoee is right down the road, and that's --
17 they had a store that stayed open all night called
18 Beauregards down there in Ocoee, and people could go
19 down there, and they have -- they have problem with --
20 the black people have a problem with white peoples down
21 there.

22 DEPUTY JONES: When you and Charlie first went to
23 the store, just you and him the first time, there was
24 nobody in the store?

25 MR. THOMAS: When we first went to the store, the

1 store was dark. The store was dark.

2 DEPUTY JONES: No lights on at all?

3 MR. THOMAS: There wasn't nothing there. We parked
4 on the side.

5 DEPUTY JONES: No cars out front?

6 MR. THOMAS: No cars. No nothing there. When we
7 got back, there was nothing there but just his van.

8 And then he says, The man supposed to be here so I
9 can get my TV for my old lady. He was going to get a TV
10 for his old -- get his old lady a TV for a Christmas
11 present.

12 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

13 DEPUTY JONES: Was it dark at this time or still
14 kind of light?

15 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, it -- yeah, it was dark. It was
16 dark at that time.

17 DEPUTY JONES: Do you know about what time of night
18 that was?

19 MR. THOMAS: No, I don't. It wasn't -- it wasn't
20 late late, though. I don't know the time. Back then
21 time was getting dark pretty early.

22 DEPUTY JONES: Back then it probably would have been
23 dark between -- probably between 6:30 and 7.

24 MR. THOMAS: Seven o'clock, yeah. Something like
25 along in there, yeah.

1 DEPUTY JONES: You think it was somewhere in the
2 neighborhood of 7 when you and Charlie went to the store
3 to get the TV?

4 MR. THOMAS: Uh, I can't -- I can't put my --
5 pinpoint exactly what time it was, but it wasn't late,
6 though. I know that.

7 MS. CARTY: Like what do you call late?

8 DEPUTY JONES: No cars -- there was no cars?

9 MR. THOMAS: It wasn't -- it wasn't 10 o'clock. It
10 wasn't up in that area.

11 DEPUTY JONES: Right. So at that time there was no
12 cars at the store, period?

13 MR. THOMAS: There was no cars at the store. No
14 lights at the store either.

15 DEPUTY JONES: And then you all pulled to the back?

16 MR. THOMAS: No, we ain't pull in no back.

17 DEPUTY JONES: Yeah. I mean, not right behind the
18 store, but like parked right around from the store or
19 something?

20 MR. THOMAS: No, we parked right in the front of the
21 store on the side there. Right on the side. Not side
22 of the building, but in front of the building. Like we
23 parked in front of the building right here.

24 MS. CARTY: What car was in front of the building
25 besides yours?

1 MR. THOMAS: Wasn't no car in front of no building.

2 MS. CARTY: No cars?

3 MR. THOMAS: No.

4 DEPUTY JONES: Okay. Then that's where you all are
5 sitting when the -- the guy pulled up to talk to you
6 all?

7 MR. THOMAS: He pulled right up said, Come on,
8 Charlie, get in here. He said, Who you got there? He
9 said, Who is that in the car there?

10 He says, That's Tom. He come help me get a TV.

11 He said, Get in the car for a minute. You all going
12 to ride with me a minute.

13 So I get in the car and this guy here --

14 DEPUTY JONES: That's when you all rode out to, what
15 was it, orange groves?

16 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. That's where we're going.

17 That's where he -- he get -- carried us then.

18 He said, Who's that Charlie?

19 He said, Tom.

20 He said, Come on. Get in.

21 Well, I got in the front seat. Charlie got in -- in
22 the back seat on right back of him. He got in back the
23 driver, and I got in the front seat. And he went out --
24 from the store he went straight across by Kentucky Fried
25 Chicken, straight across Highway 50, and he went down

1 the road about -- I guess about two miles, and he -- and
2 he turn around. He turn around and head back this way.

3 He said, Look, Charlie, I got some pistols here and
4 I want to see if they accurate. He said, You want to
5 try one? He fired out the window three or four times,
6 pow, pow, pow.

7 DEPUTY JONES: Now, that was Charlie or the other
8 guy?

9 MR. THOMAS: Both of them. He give Charlie a pistol
10 to shoot too. And he asked me, he said, Do you want to
11 shoot? He said, you want to try, Tom?

12 I said, No, I don't know about no guns or nothing.
13 And he took off.

14 MS. CARTY: So you didn't fire guns?

15 MR. THOMAS: No, no, no.

16 MS. CARTY: You did not fire the guns?

17 MR. THOMAS: No, I ain't fire --

18 MS. CARTY: Tell me about this guy's glasses. I
19 want you to picture this guy's face right now and tell
20 me what his glasses -- with your hands, please.

21 MR. THOMAS: Well, I was staying away from the guy
22 all the time, but I was -- I was paying -- paying
23 attention to what he was doing. He was spitting. I
24 said, What's wrong with him?

25 DEPUTY JONES: How -- how was voice? Did he have a

1 deep voice or --

2 MR. THOMAS: Well, it's been about almost 40 years
3 ago. I -- I can't bring his voice back up, how it used
4 to sound, because I just can't catch a man's voice the
5 first time I hear him talking and never seeing him
6 before.

7 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Right. Okay.

8 MS. CARTY: Did he smoke cigarettes?

9 MR. THOMAS: He wasn't smoking?

10 MS. CARTY: No smoking?

11 MR. THOMAS: No, he wasn't smoking.

12 MS. CARTY: Seriously, how many times did he spit?
13 Like he's talking to you, and just, like, pretend you're
14 him.

15 MR. THOMAS: He just (spit sound) had went (spit
16 sound) like someone making him sick.

17 MS. CARTY: Ah. Huh. And how was his hair? What
18 does his hair look like?

19 MR. THOMAS: I don't know what his hair look like.
20 His hair -- he -- he didn't have on -- he didn't have on
21 no cap or nothing, though. He had glasses on.

22 MS. CARTY: Yeah. That's what I want to know.

23 MR. THOMAS: He had a -- he had a pair of glasses
24 on. And I wasn't paying that much attention. He had
25 on -- I know he had to have glasses on because I looked

1 up, he had glasses and he started spitting.

2 DEPUTY JONES: When you all left, where did you go
3 then?

4 MR. THOMAS: When we finally left -- okay. When --
5 when he came back from out there shooting, we went back
6 to the store again.

7 DEPUTY JONES: Was there a car there this time?

8 MR. THOMAS: No. I ain't see no car.

9 Went back to the store, and he said, Come on,
10 Charlie. Come on. I ain't my key. He said, I know how
11 to get in.

12 So, he went right out there to the side of the
13 store, and there's a fence around there, and he climbed
14 over that fence. He's like, Come on, Charlie. Come on
15 across, Charlie. You all, come on. I know how to get
16 in.

17 And he went across that fence. He went across the
18 fence, and then Charlie and he were on that fence. And
19 Charlie got on the fence. He hit the back window, bam,
20 with -- with some --

21 DEPUTY JONES: I believe I'd a been gone then.

22 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. And so I was.

23 MS. CARTY: Yeah, really. That's a -- that's a red
24 flag.

25 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. So --

1 MS. CARTY: Why would he do that? Why would he do
2 that if he was the owner of the store?

3 MR. THOMAS: And Charlie -- and Charlie jumped off
4 the fence. He said, Oh, no, what you trying to do, man?

5 He jumped off the fence. He jumped off the fence.

6 He said, Okay, then. So I tell you what, I go to
7 house and get -- I ain't got my key. So I got to the
8 house and get the key and come back in.

9 So we got in the car. He went, uh, up past the
10 liquor store, somewhere up in there, the liquor store on
11 the corner there.

12 DEPUTY JONES: Uh-huh.

13 MR. THOMAS: They passed that and they went around
14 til he come to the -- went down the road a little bit
15 then turn to the -- to the right, and then he passed a
16 little -- passed a place, looked like it was -- should
17 have been some kind of factory or a warehouse or -- a
18 building or somewhere people worked at. And then we
19 went up there and made a -- made a left, and then made
20 another right, right up in the garage there.

21 MS. CARTY: And -- wait. Wait. He pulled up into
22 the garage?

23 MR. THOMAS: He pulled right up to the edge of the
24 garage like this.

25 MS. CARTY: Inside the garbage?

1 MR. THOMAS: Facing -- uh-huh, facing the garage.

2 MS. CARTY: In it?

3 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

4 MS. CARTY: Okay.

5 MR. THOMAS: And then he went in there and he got a
6 key, and then he come back. On the way back to the car
7 we looking -- we're looking right at him, everything he
8 was doing. He come back, reached up on the shelf and he
9 got a box of shells.

10 He said, Come on, Charlie, load -- load one of these
11 guns. Load those guns right there.

12 So Charlie went to loading the gun back up. He
13 asked me did I want to load one. I said, No, I don't
14 mess with no gun, period.

15 So, now, we go back to the store. We go back to his
16 store, and then pulled around -- he went to the -- the
17 right, and then he went around and come -- he went
18 around the corner and come back up on the side of the
19 store, up on this side.

20 He said, Tom.

21 I said, Huh?

22 He said, If you don't mind, hit that switch. Hit
23 that switch for me.

24 There was a big old -- big old box there, switch
25 box.

1 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

2 MR. THOMAS: He said, Hit that switch.

3 So I hit the switch and he went on around there and
4 he parked in front of the store. And he unlocked the --
5 unlocked the door.

6 MS. CARTY: So he unlocked the door, the white guy?

7 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. He unlocked the door.

8 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

9 MR. THOMAS: He unlocked the door.

10 DEPUTY JONES: Was there another car there then in
11 front of the store?

12 MR. THOMAS: Wasn't nobody there but just two -- two
13 cars -- two vehicles was there, the van and his car.
14 That was the only thing there. The van and his car was
15 the only thing there.

16 MS. CARTY: So when you went to his -- when he
17 went -- when this white man went back to that house,
18 where did this key come from? Do you know?

19 MR. THOMAS: He brung it back out with him. I don't
20 know where he had the key.

21 DEPUTY JONES: He actually went in the house?

22 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. He went in. I don't know if he
23 had this key in his pocket all the time or --

24 DEPUTY JONES: Which door did he go in?

25 MR. THOMAS: He went through that garage door in --

1 in -- went in --

2 DEPUTY JONES: Like if I -- if I'm picturing the
3 house right, I think the house has a front door, maybe
4 one that lead into the garage and a back door.

5 MR. THOMAS: Well, you know he got in from the --
6 the garage he got in. He drove straight in, and he got
7 out and he went into the house, and he come back. On
8 the way back to the car he stopped, went over to the
9 shelf and got a box of bullets like this.

10 He asked Charlie, he said, Charlie, load one of
11 these guns.

12 He loaded one.

13 He said, You want to gonna one, Tom?

14 I said, No. No, because I don't mess with guns and
15 stuff.

16 So he turned back around and went to the store.
17 This time when he got to the store, he went -- we went
18 on the right-hand side and come back around on this --
19 on this side where the big box -- switch box is.

20 He said, Tom, hit that -- hit that switch button.

21 I hit --

22 DEPUTY JONES: What was the reason for that?

23 MR. THOMAS: You have to ask him that. I don't
24 know. And I was thinking about that all the time.

25 DEPUTY JONES: Was the switch up and you let it

1 down?

2 MR. THOMAS: I pulled the switch down like this.

3 DEPUTY JONES: It wasn't already down?

4 MR. THOMAS: No. He said, Hit that switch. Pull
5 that switch down.

6 I pulled it down. Back in front of the store again.
7 He got out.

8 MS. CARTY: In front?

9 MR. THOMAS: He got out in front, right in front of
10 the store.

11 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

12 MR. THOMAS: Okay. We was parked -- he was parked
13 on the left-hand side of the front of the store. I'm
14 more on the right. I'm more on the right in front of
15 the store than what they was. They was sitting on --
16 off to the side because he got out and unlocked the
17 door.

18 He said, Come on, Charlie.

19 He was standing in the door. And when Charlie
20 walked in, he said, Come on, Tom.

21 I said, No, I'm not going in there, man. It's dark
22 in there. I'm not going in that store. I said, You cut
23 some lights on, I'll come in there.

24 He said, You ain't going -- he said, You ain't going
25 in, so you get back in the car and sit down.

1 And when he got back in the car, when they hit that
2 door, I jumped out -- I jumped out of the car and hauled
3 ass across the street.

4 DEPUTY JONES: Now, all this happened and there
5 wasn't an expanded time frame in there? It all happened
6 just like that?

7 MR. THOMAS: He was a quick check (phonetic) man.
8 He -- he was -- he was just -- he was just ready. He --
9 he -- he was in a hurry -- or whoever you all say he is,
10 he was in a hurry.

11 MS. CARTY: Well, you say the one that we call
12 Zeigler, yeah.

13 MR. THOMAS: That's the way they call him. That's
14 what everybody -- that's what Charlie called him, and
15 that's the only way I know that's who it was by that
16 name. And I still don't know who it was. I just go by
17 what the man said.

18 DEPUTY JONES: Do you mind looking at a couple
19 photographs and see if you might recognize a couple
20 gentlemen?

21 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I --

22 DEPUTY JONES: You might; you might not.

23 MR. THOMAS: I don't mind.

24 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

25 DEPUTY JONES: I know it took some time to come up

1 here and -- to be here and I do appreciate it.

2 MR. THOMAS: I don't know that man by no mustache,
3 no.

4 MS. CARTY: Without the mustache.

5 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. It's been a long time.
6 I don't know. I can't say. I can't say who that is. I
7 don't know. I'm not sure I know that picture there.

8 MS. CARTY: That's his brother-in-law.

9 MR. THOMAS: I don't --

10 MS. CARTY: Opps. Sorry. Thank you.

11 And then this guy right here -- this guy right here
12 was the tool sharpener guy, Slim.

13 MR. THOMAS: I don't know him.

14 MS. CARTY: And he's arrested him a bunch of times.
15 He's -- he's no longer living.

16 MR. THOMAS: I don't -- I don't know him at all.

17 MS. CARTY: This is him like right before he died.

18 MR. THOMAS: I don't know him.

19 MS. CARTY: And he's from like Albany and Sylvester.

20 MR. THOMAS: I don't know him. But I -- I left
21 Georgia when I was pretty young.

22 MS. CARTY: Have you ever heard people say that it
23 was the wrong guy?

24 MR. THOMAS: No, I don't keep up with it.

25 MS. CARTY: You didn't even know --

1 MR. THOMAS: I -- I don't -- I don't -- can't tell
2 you whether he was the wrong guy or that man --

3 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

4 MR. THOMAS: -- or the wrong guy. I wouldn't know
5 or not unless I see this man because -- and I wouldn't
6 surely know him now after 40-something years and I ain't
7 seen him but just -- just -- just that night --

8 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

9 MR. THOMAS: -- for the first time.

10 MS. CARTY: They called him -- I heard there was a
11 rumor going around in Winter Garden and Oakland, that
12 like -- that Ed Williams, he worked for the guy for a
13 long time, but when he got into the car with Rogina
14 (phonetic) -- Rogina Thomas and Katherine Thomas, he
15 said, A white guy, a white guy; it was a white guy. And
16 then -- and then it turned into being Tommy.

17 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about that.

18 MS. CARTY: I want to -- I want to show you this.

19 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about that.

20 MS. CARTY: This is what else I got. Look at this.

21 MR. THOMAS: I can understand the problem
22 investigating stuff and the -- and the confusion or
23 whatever -- whatever stuff you all got going on, but
24 I've told you all, I've told you everything I know about
25 this case. I don't know anything else about this case.

1 And I don't know these peoples too good anyway because I
2 hadn't been in Oakland very long.

3 MS. CARTY: Right.

4 MR. THOMAS: So I don't -- I don't even really know
5 these people. The only thing I know it was Charlie, Jr.
6 and two black people around there because he was
7 (inaudible) fruit, and he had a little small softball or
8 a little baseball team.

9 MS. CARTY: Yeah.

10 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. That's the only thing I know
11 about this.

12 MS. CARTY: Yeah. That's the one that Robert Foster
13 played on with Dean Wallace. He was a white guy. They
14 had -- Dean Wallace used to run the place, the softball
15 league with his -- with his wife, Mary.

16 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

17 MS. CARTY: And they had six kids.

18 MR. THOMAS: I don't know.

19 MS. CARTY: So you never -- you never met Robert
20 Foster.

21 Whatever happened to Govan? Where is he?

22 MR. THOMAS: Who?

23 MS. CARTY: Larry.

24 MR. THOMAS: Larry, he died.

25 MS. CARTY: Oh, yeah?

1 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

2 MS. CARTY: How long ago?

3 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. He died -- he been dead
4 a few years now, and my daughter -- my daughter said --
5 cause that's my daughter's Uncle Larry.

6 MS. CARTY: Right.

7 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

8 MS. CARTY: Did he have a son that lived in Orlando,
9 Larry, Jr.? Because there was one Larry.

10 MR. THOMAS: No.

11 MS. CARTY: No?

12 MR. THOMAS: No. Them -- them are Govans. They
13 from -- they from New York. They live out there on
14 Highway 18 between Alvin New York and a place called
15 Barclay.

16 MS. CARTY: Oh, I never heard of them.

17 MS. THOMAS: They from New York.

18 MS. CARTY: So how big is Hilton, New York?

19 MS. THOMAS: Hilton, New York is -- that's a --
20 that's a -- that's a -- that's a small ass -- small
21 place. The biggest thing there is the -- is the apple
22 place there.

23 MS. CARTY: Oh. Is that where it is?

24 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I picked apples all up in there.

25 MS. CARTY: Oh, I see.

1 MS. THOMAS: I pick apples all up around through
2 there. Hilton --

3 MS. CARTY: Okay.

4 MR. THOMAS: Hilton, Alvin, Lindenville. That's all
5 I did is travel for the season and pick apples up all
6 around through there.

7 MS. CARTY: Wow.

8 MR. THOMAS: Wow. All I did was plant the seeds and
9 pick apples and --

10 MS. CARTY: Let me ask you this, Felton.

11 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

12 MS. CARTY: What if through no fault of your own --

13 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

14 MS. CARTY: -- you were wrong to cite the fact that
15 it was that black guy and it was -- if I said it was
16 that black guy and I said it was you but it was somebody
17 else, and I was mistaken, I didn't do it on purpose, I
18 didn't mean it or anything like that, I was wrong, can
19 you -- can you think --

20 MR. THOMAS: No. No.

21 MS. CARTY: -- that that would be possible? That's
22 what I want to know.

23 MR. THOMAS: No, no, no, no, no.

24 MS. CARTY: Why can't -- why aren't you wrong?

25 MR. THOMAS: No. What I seen is what I seen.

1 MS. CARTY: Right.

2 MR. THOMAS: And -- and --

3 MS. CARTY: No, no. I'm not -- I'm saying -- I'm
4 saying I believe every single thing you said I'm saying,
5 but --

6 MR. THOMAS: And I can't say -- I -- I can't say I
7 don't believe this or don't believe that.

8 MS. CARTY: I'm saying if it was a different white
9 guy in every single other -- you told me on the phone,
10 you said, How can I be in his garage? Well, I know why,
11 because his brother-in-law was down for the weekend, and
12 his -- and his -- and his brother-in-law and his mother
13 and father-in-law were staying there. And that's how I
14 know. That's how --

15 MR. THOMAS: Who -- who said that?

16 MS. CARTY: Just everybody know -- it's -- his
17 in-laws came for Christmas.

18 MR. THOMAS: I mean, they had all kind of stuff on
19 that man. They said that man kill them people on
20 account of having a big insurance. That was all in the
21 paper.

22 MS. CARTY: See what I mean?

23 MR. THOMAS: Somebody said that man had them people
24 on a great big insurance.

25 MS. CARTY: That he had the people -- that he --

1 that he killed --

2 MR. THOMAS: Million dollar insurance and stuff like
3 that. I -- I don't know nothing about --

4 MS. CARTY: Oh, I -- oh, I see what you're saying.
5 I hear what you're saying, yeah. Yeah, I see what
6 you're saying.

7 Well, the brother-in-law was mad because his parents
8 went into the Colquitt County Courthouse and they signed
9 their will out on August 6th, 1975.

10 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about that.

11 MS. CARTY: And they brought it with them and they
12 wanted Tommy to be the executor. So his brother-in-law
13 was not happy.

14 And his brother-in-law, this guy, he was a warden in
15 Moultrie, Georgia at the time. It says right here.
16 It's a whole story all about how he's a prison warden in
17 Moultrie, Georgia, playing softball on the nights of the
18 trial when he gets home, and he was going to lose his
19 whole inheritance and he was not happy.

20 I have papers where he beat his whole family. Okay?
21 This is all about him. He came home in a stupor and he
22 threatened to kill his family. He threatened to kill --
23 he punched his pregnant daughter in the face. And this
24 guy, the brother-in-law, he got \$3 million from
25 the will, from these -- these murders, 3 million. He

1 did not want to lose his inheritance.

2 And these are his parents. And they had this will
3 in the courthouse up in Colquitt since August of '67,
4 and they were changing it, and they asked Tommy Zeigler
5 to be the executor. So they wanted to take their son,
6 the jail warden, off of there because all he did was
7 drunk and ravel rouse, and that's the truth, and that's
8 what we found out to be true.

9 And his daughter-in-law, guess what, the ring that
10 was missing from Tommy's wife's hand --

11 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

12 MS. CARTY: -- she knows exactly where it is. It's
13 in Moultrie, Georgia in a safety deposit box at the
14 Colony Bank.

15 MR. THOMAS: Ha, ha, ha . . .

16 And her -- this is her grandfather Perry, Jr.,
17 Tommy's brother-in-law. And right now he is having his
18 lungs rejected. He had a lung transplant, and right at
19 this very moment he's in the hospital, in Shands
20 teaching hospital in Jacksonville -- I'm sorry, Mayo
21 Clinic. And this is the guy that punched his pregnant
22 daughter in the face, got \$3 million --

23 MR. THOMAS: Ha, ha, ha . . .

24 MS. CARTY: -- and was very upset because his
25 parents were going to take him off the will and make

1 Tommy the executor because he was a good businessman.

2 So this guy ended up getting like a Hummer, you
3 know, \$3 million.

4 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

5 MS. CARTY: And he was a tyrant. His whole family's
6 petrified to come forward, but they came forward and
7 told the truth. And that's his daughter-in-law.

8 And this guy said to his son, chased him down and
9 said, Boy, I'm going to put you in jail. I'm going to
10 see that you never get out. I'm an Edwards. I've been
11 known to do it before and I can do it again, and you'll
12 never see the light of day.

13 MR. THOMAS: Well, see, I don't know nothing about
14 that, none of that as far as that. The only thing I
15 know about is what -- I was with Charlie and what
16 happened with him. I don't know nothing else.

17 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

18 MR. THOMAS: I ain't got no -- I ain't got no second
19 guess or nothing about what I first said. The only
20 thing I said, only thing I know is what happened when I
21 was there. That's the only thing I know.

22 MS. CARTY: But I can't believe you don't
23 remember --

24 MR. THOMAS: Look, I --

25 MS. CARTY: No. I know. I'm saying I can't believe

1 you don't remember this one thing where you said you
2 were sitting in the car and when the guy told you come
3 in -- I mean, you said it in the court because the lady
4 typed it up. And it's nothing bad. I'm just saying
5 it's a quote -- you said, you thought to yourself, I've
6 got to get out of here because he was acting kind of
7 funny on the truck today.

8 MR. THOMAS: No. No.

9 MS. CARTY: Oh. I wish I had that because --

10 MR. THOMAS: No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

11 MS. CARTY: But I -- but, I mean, who would that
12 have been?

13 MR. THOMAS: Somebody misunderstood me if I --

14 MS. CARTY: Right. Right.

15 MR. THOMAS: -- said some stuff like that. I ain't
16 never said anything like that.

17 MS. CARTY: They would have misunderstood you?

18 MR. THOMAS: Yes. Somebody done might misunderstood
19 me, because I know what I said.

20 MS. CARTY: Do you think that you could point out
21 the wrong white guy?

22 MR. THOMAS: If I don't -- if I know a person -- if
23 I don't person and you line a whole lot of people up I
24 ain't seen but one -- one time, and you telling me about
25 another person, I don't know who I might pick out,

1 because I can't pick out but the person that I saw.
2 That's all I can do.

3 MS. CARTY: Well, they didn't give you a lineup.
4 They didn't come to you and say -- when you -- when this
5 all happened, not at the trial, but when this all
6 happened, they didn't put a lineup up there and say,
7 Here, out of all these guys pick out which white guy you
8 were with?

9 MR. THOMAS: No such thing. They had no lineup.

10 MS. CARTY: So you really only had one person to
11 pick from.

12 MR. THOMAS: The person whoever's in the car with
13 me, that's the only person I seen. I don't know about
14 them other people. That's the only one I seen.

15 MS. CARTY: Right.

16 MR. THOMAS: And so, why should I know another
17 person just on -- I ain't know that man over there. If
18 I ain't seen this man, I just seen this man here, I got
19 to know this man here. I don't that man there. You put
20 that man up over there in front of me, going to tell me
21 about that man over there in front of me or who he is or
22 what he said, I still wouldn't know him.

23 DEPUTY JONES: Mr. Thomas, I'd like to ask you one
24 question.

25 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

1 DEPUTY JONES: If you'll study on it a few minutes,
2 will you?

3 MR. THOMAS: All right.

4 DEPUTY JONES: When you was in court testifying --

5 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

6 DEPUTY JONES: -- and if basically you told the same
7 story you just went through here with us about you being
8 with Charlie, the guy coming up and all of that.

9 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

10 DEPUTY JONES: And when they asked you, Is that man
11 in the courtroom today --

12 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

13 DEPUTY JONES: -- I'm certain at that time you
14 pointed to Mr. Zeigler.

15 MR. THOMAS: That's right.

16 DETECTIVE JONES: And the way I want to ask this is
17 in this fashion.

18 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

19 DETECTIVE JONES: Was that -- I mean, I'm sure you'd
20 already saw --

21 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

22 DETECTIVE JONES: -- photographs in the paper, news
23 articles that had been out about it, you know, maybe the
24 news or the paper were covered with it to show people
25 what happened.

1 MR. THOMAS: No. Actually -- actually, I really
2 don't read too good anyway. So I don't -- I don't --

3 DETECTIVE JONES: What -- what I'm -- what I'm
4 getting at is this, because I've seen this being in law
5 enforcement all my life.

6 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

7 DETECTIVE JONES: Like you said, you didn't know a
8 lot of these people. You didn't know them back then.

9 MR. THOMAS: That's right.

10 DETECTIVE JONES: You knew Charlie. That's
11 basically about the only person you knew.

12 MR. THOMAS: I know Charlie, yeah.

13 DETECTIVE JONES: So you had to go based on what
14 this man told you, right? Just like if he were to tell
15 me that so and so were together and I never saw them,
16 then I got to go with what he tells me.

17 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

18 DETECTIVE JONES: So you were testifying -- had you
19 ever been in court prior to this for anything?

20 MR. THOMAS: Uh --

21 DETECTIVE JONES: The way I'm asking this, the man
22 who's sitting in that particular chair when you were
23 sent in, when you went up there and testified that this
24 is the guilty party because --

25 MR. THOMAS: No. No. I ain't -- I ain't never

1 testified against nobody.

2 DETECTIVE JONES: You was able to look at him and
3 say that's who I was with that night?

4 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, because, remember, I had left. I
5 was -- that's the man right there with them glasses on.
6 They asked me to point the man out. That's the man with
7 the glasses on right there.

8 DEPUTY JONES: You could recognize him by glasses or
9 facial features or -- I mean, what recollect --

10 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. He -- he -- he was
11 pretty -- he was pretty tall there. I don't know. He
12 should have been about pretty close to six feet or
13 something about like that. Yeah, he was pretty tall and
14 thin just like the guy was in the car. So that's the
15 only man I know right there.

16 So, you know, I'm really sorry I can't help you out
17 with no more that I -- I know, but that's all I know.

18 MS. CARTY: In the parking lot you saw him too?

19 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I saw him.

20 MS. CARTY: In the parking lot before you guys
21 walked in you were with Frye?

22 MR. THOMAS: But we -- I wasn't with no Frye.

23 MS. CARTY: Well, who was with you when you walked
24 into the -- you know, when you walked into the
25 courthouse somebody was with you.

1 MR. THOMAS: I didn't walk in the courthouse. I was
2 on -- the detectives, they had -- I was like under
3 police protection.

4 MS. CARTY: Yeah.

5 MR. THOMAS: And detectives, they brung me in there.

6 MS. CARTY: That's who Frye is I'm saying.

7 MR. THOMAS: I don't -- I don't even know him, but
8 he was a nice guy. He gave me some clothes to wear.

9 MS. CARTY: A really good friend of mine --

10 DETECTIVE JONES: Do you feel it's safe to say that
11 everything that you and Charlie and that man done that
12 afternoon probably could have happened between 6 and 7
13 o'clock? Because shortly after 7 I think's when you
14 went across the street and caught a ride.

15 MR. THOMAS: Well, he was -- I can tell you this.
16 It wasn't real late. It wasn't real late. It was just
17 dark. I didn't have no reason to keep up with no --

18 DETECTIVE JONES: It was like the sun was going down
19 when Charlie picked you up?

20 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

21 DETECTIVE JONES: Like the sun was going down when
22 Charlie picked you up around the campfire?

23 MR. THOMAS: No, it was -- it was -- it was -- it
24 was -- it was -- it was dark when Charlie picked me up.
25 It was dark when Charlie picked me up because was he

1 riding through, and I was sitting out there drinking a
2 beer. It never did dawn on me that's the man that owned
3 the place and he owned the store too. So they go make a
4 fire down in a barrel, and I was out there by myself
5 drinking a beer. They had a little bar or a little club
6 or whatever they had right there. So I bought me a beer
7 and I was out there drinking that beer.

8 And so he rode along -- he come along and say, What
9 you doing, Tom?

10 I said, I'm just drinking a beer.

11 He said, Why don't we ride. Go over here with me
12 and pick my old lady's TV up.

13 I said, I don't care.

14 So I got I the van and went.

15 DETECTIVE JONES: And you can remember without a
16 shadow of doubt there was no cars at all in the front of
17 the store other than what you all were riding in?

18 MR. THOMAS: Wasn't nothing. That store was --
19 that -- that store was dark. It looked like midnight.
20 That store was dark. Wasn't no lights in that store at
21 all.

22 MS. CARTY: You wouldn't be able to tell if there
23 lights in the store if it wasn't dark out probably,
24 right? It would probably have been dark out because you
25 couldn't see.

1 MR. THOMAS: Well, you know, you can't see a light
2 against a light that much.

3 MS. CARTY: Yeah, that's what I'm saying. That's
4 exactly what I'm saying. Yeah. Oh, wow.

5 My -- I have a friend that's an attorney. He's in
6 his 70s right now. He saw Detective, I think it was
7 Frye, walking in with you and point to Tommy in the
8 parking lot.

9 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about that.

10 MS. CARTY: You don't remember that?

11 MR. THOMAS: No. I ain't -- I don't remember.
12 Ain't nothing like that happen.

13 MS. CARTY: Okay. Well, I heard that from like
14 several people --

15 MR. THOMAS: Ain't -- ain't -- ain't nothing --

16 MS. CARTY: -- so I had to ask.

17 MR. THOMAS: Nothing like that happen. Nothing like
18 that happen.

19 This man -- this man you call a Frye, I don't even
20 know him. I don't even know the detective's name.

21 MS. CARTY: That's the detective's name, the guy
22 that brought you -- that talked to you at the store,
23 Detective Frye, Don Frye.

24 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. It was -- it was a whole bunch
25 of people there.

1 MS. CARTY: Yeah. Yeah.

2 MR. THOMAS: There was a whole -- whole -- a whole
3 bunch of people there.

4 MS. CARTY: Right.

5 MR. THOMAS: And -- and -- and they said -- said
6 Zeigler -- that this man Zeigler said he called and say
7 Charlie tried to rob him -- Charlie tried to rob him.
8 Said he had -- he had done shot himself in the side
9 right here. They could tell he had shot himself in the
10 side because he had gun powder right here.

11 DETECTIVE JONES: Now, who told you that?

12 MR. THOMAS: Huh? That's what them detectives and
13 them told me.

14 DETECTIVE JONES: That night at the store?

15 MR. THOMAS: Huh? Yeah. They said he has shot
16 himself in the side.

17 MS. CARTY: Does that make sense that someone --

18 MR. THOMAS: They said he was sitting in -- they
19 said he was sitting in a -- in a -- in a -- in a -- a
20 sofa chair when they got -- when they broke in the
21 store. Said he was sitting in a sofa chair.

22 MS. CARTY: Yeah. He called for help. I mean, he
23 called them to please come help me; I've been shot. He
24 woke up.

25 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

1 MS. CARTY: But, I mean, did you ever hear of
2 anybody shooting themselves with a .357 Magnum, I mean,
3 and thinking they're going to make it?

4 MR. THOMAS: I don't know.

5 MS. CARTY: To me --

6 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. I don't know. I don't
7 know how you would shoot yourself. People can shoot
8 themselves all the time in ways, I'm talking about on
9 accident and everything else. Strange things happen.
10 But I don't know what happened to him. After I left I
11 don't know what happened to the man or nobody.

12 MS. CARTY: So who all --

13 MR. THOMAS: When you leave -- when -- when -- when
14 I tell you about what I tell you, you can -- you can --
15 you can use your own imagination what else -- what else
16 that happened that I -- your own imagination what else
17 happened. That's all I know.

18 MS. CARTY: So who are you afraid of all this time?

19 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

20 MS. CARTY: Who are you afraid of?

21 MR. THOMAS: I really ain't afraid of nobody. I'm
22 just being careful.

23 MS. CARTY: Then why were you telling Calvin that
24 you're afraid you're going to get killed? Why -- why
25 are you saying that?

1 MR. THOMAS: Well, because in the area that I was in
2 when all this happened, them people don't give a shit
3 about me like that. Not my color. They don't give a
4 shit about me like that. So, that's the way it go.

5 You already know how things is over there in Winter
6 Garden and all them places. He know too.

7 DETECTIVE JONES: I never been there, but I know
8 how it is around my area.

9 MS. CARTY: Well, I know. I understand what you're
10 saying.

11 MR. THOMAS: You know too. That's because I was
12 raised up around there so I know what happen with -- how
13 people do and all that stuff. I know how they try to
14 change stuff and fix stuff, and when -- when they want
15 something to go one way, they'll force it on you the
16 best way they can but --

17 MS. CARTY: And you don't --

18 DETECTIVE JONES: Well, seeings you said that, when
19 you were talking with detectives in the store that
20 night, did you feel like some of that was going on
21 there, they wanted you to say what they wanted to hear?

22 MR. THOMAS: No. They just asked me what -- they
23 was asking me what happened, a whole bunch of them.
24 Winter Garden polices and everybody else was at --
25 everybody was in the store --

1 MS. CARTY: Uh-huh.

2 MR. THOMAS: -- questioning me.

3 MS. CARTY: But you didn't know -- you never saw him
4 before, so how could you tell them who he was at that
5 time?

6 MR. THOMAS: They didn't ask me who he was at that
7 time.

8 MS. CARTY: Exactly.

9 MR. THOMAS: They didn't ask me who he was at that
10 time.

11 MS. CARTY: Right. Right. That's the whole point.

12 MR. THOMAS: They didn't ask me who -- who this man
13 was.

14 DETECTIVE JONES: All you -- all you knew is Charlie
15 had told you he was the store owner?

16 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

17 DETECTIVE JONES: All you knew at that point when
18 they talked to you about --

19 MR. THOMAS: The man in the car.

20 DETECTIVE JONES: -- was that Charlie had told you
21 he took --

22 MR. THOMAS: The man -- the man in the car.

23 DETECTIVE JONES: How did he tell you? Did he say
24 he owned the store or --

25 MR. THOMAS: The man -- the man in the car told

1 me -- Charlie told me the man in the car was
2 Mr. Zeigler, and that's all I can know, Mr. Zeigler, the
3 man in the car.

4 MS. CARTY: This is from court. About -- we were
5 waiting there about five minutes.

6 Question -- no worries. Pardon me.

7 Question: What happened then?

8 Answer: A guy drove up in it looked like a
9 Cadillac.

10 Question: What did the guy do?

11 Answer: Well, he came to the van and he told me to
12 come around him for a few minutes, say that the guy's
13 supposed to own the furniture hadn't gotten there yet.

14 MR. THOMAS: No. That's wrong. That's wrong right
15 there.

16 MS. CARTY: So the court's --

17 DEPUTY JONES: Have you ever saw the court
18 documents?

19 MR. THOMAS: No. But that's wrong right there.

20 DEPUTY JONES: You never saw the court documents --

21 MR. THOMAS: No, that's wrong.

22 DETECTIVE JONES: -- the way they've got it what you
23 said?

24 MR. THOMAS: That's wrong right there, nope.

25 DETECTIVE JONES: Would you like to see them?

1 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

2 DETECTIVE JONES: Would you like to see them?

3 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Read them out. Read them out to
4 me. Get him to read them out.

5 MS. CARTY: Read them out. Do you have them?

6 MR. THOMAS: No, that's wrong right there.

7 DETECTIVE JONES: Yeah, what we got in the car.

8 MS. CARTY: Sure. I mean, this is exactly what it
9 says. I mean -- no, I'm just letting you know. I mean,
10 I didn't -- I wasn't even -- I was --

11 MR. THOMAS: Well, somebody rewrote that. That's
12 wrong there.

13 MS. CARTY: This was straight from the court.

14 MR. THOMAS: But that's wrong there.

15 MS. CARTY: Right.

16 MR. THOMAS: That's wrong there. Read that part
17 again right there you read.

18 MS. CARTY: We need to show him the trial actually.

19 MR. THOMAS: You got -- you got something wrong in
20 that, though.

21 MS. CARTY: I mean, I don't have it wrong because
22 alls I did was go to a copy machine and push a button
23 and bring this to you. So I wasn't there when they did
24 all this. You know what I mean? I'm just on this now.

25 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I don't know nothing about that

1 file right there.

2 MS. CARTY: Really? So if anybody said -- told you
3 that you said that in court, they would be -- what,
4 that's not true?

5 MR. THOMAS: That's not true. I deny that because I
6 didn't say that.

7 MS. CARTY: And then it says, Wait a minute. Was it
8 a black man or a white man?

9 A white man.

10 Do you see that man in this courtroom?

11 Yes, I do. Right there.

12 Would you point him out?

13 The man in the middle right there.

14 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. They asked me what -- can I
15 point the man out. I said, Yeah, that's the man right
16 there. Now, that's -- that part right right there, but
17 I don't no nothing about that. I never said that. So
18 somebody got that wrong there.

19 MS. CARTY: Do you want us to show you the file?
20 Because he has it with him.

21 MR. THOMAS: You can get the file and show that to
22 me, but I don't -- I -- that -- that's wrong right
23 there. I ain't said nothing like that. Somebody got
24 something twisted up wrong.

25 MS. CARTY: But, I mean, it's in like the court --

1 it's in the original papers.

2 MR. THOMAS: Well, the court got to be wrong because
3 I -- it ain't -- it ain't me wrong with that.

4 MS. CARTY: Right. See, my concern is, now, with
5 all this going on and everything, it's -- you know, the
6 FBI's getting involved. It's turned it into like a
7 bigger thing. You know, it's conspiracy to commit
8 murder across state lines. And so, I just want to make
9 sure you were protected and okay, and then have an
10 opportunity, you know, to -- to know what's going on
11 here because it's not just me.

12 MR. THOMAS: I see what -- I see what's working up.
13 I see what -- I see what they trying to do.

14 MS. CARTY: Who? Who are they?

15 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

16 MS. CARTY: Who are they?

17 MR. THOMAS: Everybody involved in this case
18 trying -- what they trying to work out. I don't know
19 nothing about what that paper say right there. That's
20 not true. I told you everything that I know about this
21 case.

22 MS. CARTY: Right.

23 MR. THOMAS: And that's what I know about this case.
24 So I done told you over and over, over and over, over
25 and over, same thing over and over.

1 What -- what you want -- what you want -- what you
2 want me to say? You want me to say, No, that's not the
3 man, that man over there's the man? Did I know that man
4 there? I don't know none of these people.

5 MS. CARTY: I can picture how I might think that I
6 was with Gene --

7 MR. THOMAS: I don't know none of them people.

8 MS. CARTY: I might think I was with Gene if I was
9 inside of his garage and -- with another guy if I didn't
10 know Gene. I might think, Well, I was in the man's
11 garage, which is what you said you --

12 MR. THOMAS: Okay. You talking to me right now.

13 Okay. If you go someplace and somebody ask me, Do
14 you recognize that lady right there? I said, I just got
15 through talking to that lady.

16 DETECTIVE JONES: But it doesn't mean you know her.

17 MR. THOMAS: It don't make me know her. That's
18 right.

19 If you tell me your name is JoAnn, that's what I'm
20 going to tell that man right there, your name is JoAnn.

21 MS. CARTY: Right.

22 MR. THOMAS: And that's what I'm going to say, too,
23 because I don't know anybody by their name. Call you
24 JoAnn and tell him that that's JoAnn right there. To
25 point JoAnn out, I say, That's here right there. So

1 that's all I know.

2 MS. CARTY: That's --

3 DETECTIVE JONES: When you're over at the house and
4 the guy went in the house, did he use a key to unlock
5 the door or was the door already unlocked?

6 MR. THOMAS: I wasn't paying attention to that. He
7 got out of the car and went straight -- he went straight
8 out of the car right -- went straight from the car,
9 walked up to the door, open the door, went in the house,
10 and then came right back out. When he came back out, he
11 reached over the shelf and got a box of bullets and he
12 gave them to Charlie.

13 He said, Charlie, you want to load one of these
14 guns?

15 Charlie loaded one of the guns and he loaded one of
16 the guns, and he put the guns back in the bag.

17 He ask me, Do you want to load one, Tom?

18 I said, No, sir. I don't mess with guns.

19 But I don't know where the man kind of pointed,
20 'cause when he pulled them out to shoot them guns, he
21 said, I just want to see if these guns accurate. I just
22 bought these guns. I want to see if they're accurate.
23 Pow, pow, pow, just like that. And I thought to myself
24 then, I said, How in the hell he can see if a gun is
25 accurate in the dark.

1 DETECTIVE JONES: He just bought them up there?

2 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing.

3 DETECTIVE JONES: He said he just bought them?

4 MR. THOMAS: He said he just bought the guns.

5 MS. CARTY: Which hand was he shooting it with?

6 MR. THOMAS: I wasn't paying no attention, but he
7 was -- I don't -- I don't know.

8 DETECTIVE JONES: He was driving the car, right?

9 MR. THOMAS: He was driving the car. So he was
10 shooting out the window like that. And Charlie's is
11 loaded. Charlie was in back of him back there, and
12 Charlie, he shot out the window too.

13 MS. CARTY: With his left?

14 MR. THOMAS: Huh?

15 MS. CARTY: With his left? What I'm saying, Did he
16 shoot out the window with the hand that you got up
17 there?

18 MR. THOMAS: Man, I was sitting in front. I don't
19 know whether he twist on this side or he shot out the
20 window, but I know they was doing some shooting, and
21 I -- I was ready to haul ass right then.

22 DETECTIVE JONES: I know. I can't say that I blame
23 you.

24 MS. CARTY: Really.

25 MR. THOMAS: He was crazy, man.

1 DETECTIVE JONES: Oh, my back's getting (inaudible).

2 MS. CARTY: You okay?

3 DETECTIVE JONES: Oh, yeah.

4 MS. CARTY: You tired?

5 (No audible response heard.)

6 MS. CARTY: I bet.

7 MR. THOMAS: And then I got to say, you know, I
8 ain't -- I ain't got nothing against nobody. I don't
9 want to give nobody no problem in something they didn't
10 do. The only thing I can tell you is what I know.
11 That's it. I can't you no more; I can't tell you no
12 less.

13 MS. CARTY: So, I mean, they go by the court
14 testimony. I don't make it up. I wasn't even out there
15 on --

16 MR. THOMAS: I didn't say you made it up.

17 MS. CARTY: So I just want you know I --

18 MR. THOMAS: I said that's wrong right there. I
19 never put that.

20 MS. CARTY: Other stuff that -- that they typed that
21 is -- is in court too. I mean, it says that you did
22 fire a gun out the window. It says that, that you said
23 you did. You said that you did it one time. That's
24 what it says. I'm telling you the truth.

25 (Multiple people speaking at one time.)

1 MS. CARTY: I'm being straight up with you.

2 MR. THOMAS: They can say anything they want. I
3 don't give a shit what they say. I know I ain't do
4 that. I ain't do that.

5 MS. CARTY: The reason I'm saying it is because I'm
6 being honest with you. I'm saying that to you.

7 MR. THOMAS: I'm being honest with you. I'm saying
8 that to you. I never had my hand on one of those guns.
9 Never. And so, there ain't nothing --

10 DETECTIVE JONES: Did you tell them that night at
11 the store that you had shot one?

12 MR. THOMAS: No. No.

13 DETECTIVE JONES: Do you have -- do you have any
14 idea what they put in their report?

15 MR. THOMAS: In their report? What -- what they put
16 in the report is what I told them, is what I told them.
17 And they had nothing in the report like that.

18 DETECTIVE JONES: You never read it; you never saw
19 it?

20 MS. CARTY: Well, you don't even know what it says
21 all about you.

22 DETECTIVE JONES: I'm going to grab the report
23 outside.

24 MR. THOMAS: What's all they got in the report? If
25 they got I did, that's not true. Nope.

1 MS. CARTY: Well, in the court, when you're sitting
2 there and there's like a hundred people --

3 MR. THOMAS: When I was sitting there, I know
4 everything that man asked me. I did not say that. I
5 ain't told nobody I shot no gun. So that's a boo boo.

6 DETECTIVE JONES: Did he ask you if you fired a gun?

7 MR. THOMAS: That's boo boo.

8 DETECTIVE JONES: Did he ask if you had fired one?

9 MR. THOMAS: He asked me if I -- yeah, they asked me
10 did I fire a gun.

11 DETECTIVE JONES: And you answered?

12 MR. THOMAS: And I said, No, I haven't fired no gun.

13 He asked me -- they asked me. The courts asked me
14 all kinds of questions.

15 MS. CARTY: But in the court it said that you
16 said --

17 MR. THOMAS: I don't care what they have in the
18 court. I didn't -- I didn't --

19 MS. CARTY: But, I mean, that's the case. You know,
20 that's the --

21 MR. THOMAS: I did not say that. I'm telling you
22 straight up --

23 MS. CARTY: Okay.

24 MR. THOMAS: -- I did not say that.

25 MS. CARTY: But do You want -- do you want us to

1 show you what it says?

2 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Let me see them.

3 MS. CARTY: Okay.

4 MR. THOMAS: Because somebody got them wrong.

5 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: We're going to go out to the
6 car.

7 MS. CARTY: Okay. Because this is the thing, in
8 there it says that it's all you.

9 MR. THOMAS: No. No. Somebody -- somebody --

10 MS. CARTY: See, the thing is, that's why I want to
11 make sure. That's why --

12 MR. THOMAS: Somebody just done rewrote something in
13 there ain't got no business being there because it's not
14 right. After 40 years anything could happen. All the
15 technology stuff they got, and you can put anything
16 anywhere you want to put it and it make it to be like
17 you want to put in.

18 MS. CARTY: Yeah. But --

19 MR. THOMAS: I don't want to hear that.

20 MS. CARTY: But the truth -- I know you probably
21 don't, but the truth is that the court transcripts that
22 I have are the original ones from the -- from the very
23 beginning, and they're all yellowed up, the ones that I
24 have at my house.

25 MR. THOMAS: I don't care how many you got at your

1 house. I've told tell you the truth.

2 MS. CARTY: I mean, they did write that, though.

3 I mean, I believe -- see, what I'm trying to say is,
4 I believe what you're telling me, but I'm just wanting
5 you to know what --

6 MR. THOMAS: You got all the information you need
7 from me? Because I ain't got time for all this here
8 carrying on stuff and all this pretend and stuff going
9 on.

10 MS. CARTY: I am not pretending. I'm just telling
11 you what it said. Let me give you this.

12 MR. THOMAS: I'm out of here because I don't want --
13 I don't want -- I don't want to hear all that because --
14 just trying to get me in some kind of entrapment.

15 MS. CARTY: I'm really not. I'm -- I'm only -- the
16 only thing I know about -- see, I was a mother, like,
17 with a little baby in 1976. I wasn't even an
18 investigator. So the only way I know what happened is
19 to read what is all in these big binders. So I was
20 reading what it said.

21 MR. THOMAS: What is that? You -- when you wrote
22 down what it said, didn't you?

23 MS. STEPHENS: No, he want to the car to get the big
24 file.

25 MR. THOMAS: He going to the car to look for

1 something. That ain't going to be on me like that.

2 MS. CARTY: This is what I wanted to give you. This
3 is a tape. Do you have a DVD player? Do you have a DVD
4 player?

5 MR. THOMAS: What I got to have that for?

6 MS. CARTY: Because it shows an example of this
7 happening to somebody else. It's another guy that --
8 that I thought that --

9 MR. THOMAS: I don't have anything to do with nobody
10 in that car.

11 MS. CARTY: I know. I understand. I mean, I'm
12 trying to help you. I don't want anything to happen
13 when this comes out. That's all I'm saying.

14 MR. THOMAS: I don't care what come out. I'm saying
15 that all I know that if all --

16 MS. STEPHENS: What supposed to come out?

17 MS. CARTY: Well, there's a documentary coming out
18 about it, it will be all over the place. And, you know,
19 I'm telling you, I don't make up the court testimony.
20 He did say that. He probably was upset and nervous. He
21 was doing a lot of stuttering.

22 But I want him to know what is said, not -- I didn't
23 change it. You know what I'm saying? It's in books.
24 It's in -- it's in books. It's a court testimony.

25 He said that he said, All right, that'd be fine, and

1 shot one out the window, but then now he's saying not.
2 So -- so he needs to know what they're trying to do, and
3 I'm trying to explain that to him. That's all I'm
4 trying to explain to him, what the deal is. That's all
5 I'm trying to do.

6 And this is a DVD about ano -- how that happened to
7 somebody else where they were made to point out the
8 wrong person. So that's what it is.

9 MR. THOMAS: I don't even need to listen to that.
10 That -- that's what happened to somebody else. I don't
11 need -- I don't need that.

12 MS. CARTY: You might be surprised at how they do
13 these things. You were just talking about modern
14 technology and all this stuff. This guy realized, he
15 all of a sudden went, Oh, I get what you're saying.

16 MR. THOMAS: I don't -- I don't know what on that
17 DVD. I ain't trying to go by that DVD. It has nothing
18 to do with me.

19 MS. CARTY: It's six minutes, but I'm telling you it
20 really does. It has everything to do with you. I --

21 MR. THOMAS: It -- it don't have nothing to do with
22 me.

23 MS. CARTY: Well, it's just an example of these kind
24 of things that happen to people.

25 MR. THOMAS: I can believe that. I don't have

1 nothing to do with that.

2 MS. CARTY: And it's a guy talking about how
3 terrible it was for him going through this. So I asked
4 my friend to make a copy of it for you because he's
5 doing a documentary all about his case. And so I had
6 him make you this copy.

7 MR. THOMAS: I -- I don't -- I don't -- nothing
8 about this case.

9 MS. CARTY: This lawyer that I do work for sometimes
10 and is a nice guy said that he would help you if you
11 needed any help.

12 MR. THOMAS: I don't need no help from him. Help me
13 for what?

14 MS. CARTY: Well, because you had told me on the
15 phone yesterday, remember? Didn't you -- don't tell me
16 you didn't say that you said --

17 MR. THOMAS: I told you I'll -- I get me a lawyer;
18 you said you had one.

19 MS. CARTY: I said I know one.

20 MS. STEPHENS: What you need a lawyer for?

21 MR. THOMAS: I don't need no lawyer. What do you
22 think about that? What I need a lawyer for?

23 MS. STEPHENS: What does he need a lawyer for?

24 MS. CARTY: Are you asking me what does he --

25 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Why I need a lawyer?

1 MS. CARTY: Because yesterday he had said to me my
2 friends --

3 MR. THOMAS: No, no, no.

4 MS. CARTY: -- said that maybe I should get a lawyer
5 when I talk to you.

6 MS. STEPHENS: You talking about like --

7 MR. THOMAS: Talking to you all.

8 MS. STEPHENS: (Inaudible.)

9 MS. CARTY: Because we really know that there's a
10 wrongfully convicted man in prison and we feel terrible
11 about it. And we know that things like this happen, and
12 we know who it was, and it was his brother-in-law.

13 MR. THOMAS: Then why didn't you all go see the
14 brother-in-law?

15 MS. CARTY: No. No. I'm telling him -- I'm -- what
16 I'm trying to tell him is, when it comes out what he
17 said at the beginning of the trial, that's not my fault.
18 I was a mother with a kid. You know what I'm saying? I
19 didn't type the court transcripts. But that's what's
20 going to come out in a documentary so I wanted to make
21 sure he had a lawyer.

22 Do you remember yesterday when he --

23 MR. THOMAS: Let me see what you -- let me see what
24 you got in there.

25 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

1 MS. CARTY: This is the guy got Casey Anthony off.

2 MR. THOMAS: I don't need that. You can keep that.

3 MS. CARTY: Oh. His name is Jose Baez. You don't
4 want it?

5 MR. THOMAS: I don't need that.

6 MS. CARTY: Okay.

7 MR. THOMAS: I don't need that.

8 MS. STEPHENS: But what he need a lawyer for?

9 MR. THOMAS: I don't need no lawyer. What I need a
10 lawyer for?

11 MS. CARTY: Well, you said you wanted one. I
12 said --

13 MR. THOMAS: I said if you all -- I said -- I
14 mentioned do I need a lawyer.

15 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: I got a question I wanted to
16 ask you. Did you ever go back out with -- with the
17 police ever at all to the orange groves to show them
18 where the guns had been shot?

19 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. They rerouted me. I had
20 to reroute them the route that I went.

21 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Yes.

22 MR. THOMAS: And -- and they try to put in some kind
23 of time --

24 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Some kind of time (inaudible).

25 MR. THOMAS: -- or something place to place, you

1 know.

2 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

3 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Okay. Okay.

4 MR. THOMAS: And then when I (inaudible).

5 DETECTIVE JONES: So they was in a hurry, in a
6 lot -- in a lot more of a hurry than you all was in
7 probably, huh?

8 MR. THOMAS: I don't know. Probably everybody kind
9 of was speeding a little bit that night.

10 MS. CARTY: Sounds like it.

11 MR. THOMAS: Everybody was kind of speeding that
12 night.

13 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: It sounds like everybody was in
14 a hurry that night.

15 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

16 (Multiple people speaking at once.)

17 MR. THOMAS: I forgot the color of the car. A
18 yellowish looking car.

19 MS. CARTY: A what?

20 MR. THOMAS: A beige color.

21 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: An unmarked -- like an unmarked
22 police car?

23 MR. THOMAS: No. No. It wasn't -- it wasn't like
24 that. It was a regular car.

25 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Uh-huh.

1 MR. THOMAS: It was a regular car.

2 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Like a --

3 MR. THOMAS: And I ain't too good with models and
4 makes of cars anyway.

5 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Was it a long a car, big long
6 car, a big car?

7 MR. THOMAS: It was a nice ride. He -- it -- a lot
8 of --

9 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Kind of like a --

10 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Just --

11 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: An Oldsmobile?

12 MR. THOMAS: It was like an Oldsmobile or something
13 like that.

14 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: Most of them big Olds and
15 Buicks --

16 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

17 DETECTIVE THOMPSON: -- they had them -- them kind
18 of --

19 MR. THOMAS: It was something about like that there.

20 MS. CARTY: How many doors? Do you remember how
21 many doors it had?

22 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. It got four doors on it.

23 MS. CARTY: Okay. Because this -- you know who --
24 you know who the State Attorney is? It's not me, okay?
25 That's the other side. You know that, right?

1 MR. THOMAS: I don't know nothing about no --

2 MS. CARTY No. I'm saying -- I'm saying I am not
3 them. They are the opposite side, okay? They're the
4 ones that --

5 MR. THOMAS: That's the State Attorney that --

6 MS. CARTY: Okay. This is the internal file that I
7 got, okay? These are the words right here. This
8 them -- see, I just (audio ends).

9 (At which time audio recording ended.)

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STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF PINELLAS)

I, Laura Heckman, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did transcribe the audio recorded interview of Felton Thomas, Jr. to the best of my ability and that the transcript is a true and complete record of the audio recording.

DATED the 14th day of August, 2014, in Pinellas County, Florida.

Laura J. Heckman

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