



Memorandum of Interview

Date: August 6, 2015

Time: 12:30 - 13:30 hours

Person Interviewed: John Joseph McGarvey

Interviewer: Jack L. Barnhart

Details:

On the above time and date, Reporting Investigator interviewed John Joseph McGarvey at McGarvey's residence in West Alexandria, Ohio. The purpose of the interview was to obtain detailed information regarding McGarvey's recall of the events of 02/05 and 02/06/1982 in Moraine, Ohio. McGarvey resided at 2759 Cozy Lane, Moraine, Ohio, with Gayle Loftus, McGarvey's fiancé. McGarvey stated that he was 22 years old when the murder of David Rowell occurred.

McGarvey said that he did not personally know David Rowell. McGarvey stated that he saw David Rowell in the neighborhood. McGarvey, also, stated that he did not know Mike Rowell or any members of the Rowell family.

McGarvey stated that he knew Charles Keith Wampler, who lived in a trailer beside McGarvey's residence. McGarvey said that Wampler and he would work on handyman type projects around the trailer. According to McGarvey, he showed Wampler how to trap rabbits in the field adjacent to Gem City Estates Trailer Park. McGarvey described Wampler as being a "good kid." McGarvey said that Wampler would hang out at McGarvey's trailer, especially on the nights when Wampler's father was not home. McGarvey said that Wampler would either hang out with his father or with McGarvey and Loftus.

McGarvey said that on the night of 02/05/1982, Loftus and he did go to Huber Heights, Ohio, to visit with Loftus' parents, who resided there. McGarvey stated that if they visited Loftus' parents, they would often take their laundry and do it at Loftus' parents' residence. McGarvey could not remember if he saw Wampler prior to leaving for Huber Heights, but stated that he may have. McGarvey remembered that Loftus and he had no intentions of staying in Huber Heights that evening, but the time got late and Loftus' parents asked them to stay. McGarvey said the decision to stay in Huber Heights on the evening of 02/05/1982 was a last minute decision that was made while they were visiting Loftus' parents.

McGarvey stated that Loftus and he returned to Moraine on 02/06/1982 and it was sometime around noon. McGarvey believes that Loftus was planning some kind of party, possibly a birthday party, for Wampler. McGarvey could not remember the reason for the party, but did remember that Loftus was planning a party for Wampler.

McGarvey said that after Wampler was arrested on 02/06/1982, Loftus' father, who worked with the Military Police at Wright Paterson Air Force Base called and made the following statement; *"It was a good thing you weren't there or they would have had you there."* McGarvey believes that Loftus' father made some inquiries after Wampler's arrest. When asked how McGarvey interpreted that statement, McGarvey said that he felt that the Moraine Police was going to charge someone in the area with the murder regardless of the evidence. McGarvey said that the Moraine Police did not have a good reputation in 1982.

McGarvey stated that the Moraine Police questioned him and focused in on a hunting knife that he owned. McGarvey said that the police tried to associate the knife with the murder, but they did not have any evidence to support that claim. McGarvey stated that it was impossible for his knife to be involved. McGarvey said that nobody, including Loftus, knew where he kept his knife and that, even today, he hides his knives where nobody can find them. McGarvey said that

nobody had access to his trailer when he was not home and that his trailer was not burglarized. McGarvey stated that when the police asked about the knife, he went directly to where he kept it and it was there. McGarvey reiterated that nobody knew where he kept his knife and that Wampler was never in the room where the knife was stored, which was the second bedroom that McGarvey converted to an office. McGarvey said that when Wampler visited, Wampler stayed in the kitchen or the living room.

McGarvey said that knife was a hunting knife and was used to clean rabbits, which was used for food because Loftus and he were poor in 1982. McGarvey stated that the knife may have had blood specks on it from cleaning rabbits. McGarvey said that the Moraine Police took the knife and he has not seen it since, even after they promised to return it.

McGarvey said that Wampler is not capable of committing such a crime. McGarvey described Wampler as being nice and well mannered. McGarvey was shocked to learn that Wampler was still incarcerated for this because, according to McGarvey, he believes the police arrested the wrong person.

McGarvey said that he did not know too many people in the neighborhood because Loftus and he would mind their own business. McGarvey stated that he remembered Adrian West, who resided in a trailer behind his. McGarvey said that West was very difficult to get along with and that he (West) constantly complained about everyone.

The interview ended under favorable conditions.

Investigator's Note: McGarvey's recall of the neighborhood and the events of 02/05/1982 was accurate. When Reporting Investigator informed McGarvey that Wampler was in prison for this crime, McGarvey was genuinely surprised. Reporting Investigator believes McGarvey was honest and forthright during the interview.

