



Memorandum of Interview

Date: August 12, 2015

Time: 17:45 - 18:40 hours

Person Interviewed: Randall Patrick Hendricks

Interviewer: Jack L. Barnhart

Details:

On August 12, 2015 at approximately 14:00 hours, Reporting Investigator visited Randall Patrick Hendricks' residence in Monroe, Ohio. The attempt to interview Hendricks was met with negative results, so Reporting Investigator left a business card at the location. On the above date and time, Hendricks contacted Reporting Investigator and agreed to be interviewed. The purpose of the interview was to obtain information regarding Hendricks' involvement in the search for David Rowell on 02/05/1982.

Hendricks said that he was friends with Mike Rowell and knew the Rowell family. Hendricks stated that he occasionally spent the night at the Rowell home and Mike Rowell would spend the night at his. Hendricks described David Rowell as being a "jokester" because of the things he would say. Hendricks said that David Rowell could irritate people. Hendricks shared a story about David Rowell going to the Dayton Mall. According to Hendricks, he was present when David Rowell stole some goldfish from a pet store in the Dayton Mall. Hendricks said that David Rowell put the goldfish in his back pocket and exited the pet store. Hendricks said that David Rowell, then, walked to the hot tub display in the mall and put the goldfish in the hot tub that was operating in the display. Hendricks stated that David Rowell would constantly do things like that.

Hendricks said that the Rowell family were Pentecostal in their religious beliefs and that the mother, Myrtle, was extreme in her religion. Hendricks said that Bobby Jack Rowell, David's father, was a nice person, who worked on electronics in a little shop that was in the garage. Hendricks described the Rowell family as "good people".

Hendricks said that Myrtle Rowell told Hendricks' mother that the Rowells moved to Moraine from New Carlisle because of death threats from drug dealers. According to Hendricks, Myrtle Rowell said that the drug dealers accused the Rowells of informing the police about the drug dealers' illegal activities. Hendricks said that Myrtle Rowell was protective of her children to the point of being "paranoid."

According to Hendricks, on the night of 02/05/1982, the Moraine Baptist Church sponsored an open gym at Moraine Meadows Elementary School, located on Holman Street, behind the Moraine Civic Center, which is located on Kreitzer Road. Hendricks said that it was between 19:30 hours and 20:00 hours when James Watkins and he left the gym. Hendricks stated that as James Watkins and he were walking Mike Rowell approached them and asked them if they saw David. According to Hendricks, they both answered in the negative. Hendricks said that was the only time he saw Mike Rowell on the evening of 02/05/1982.

Hendricks said that he does not know Charles Keith Wampler and could not recall hearing the name.

Hendricks stated that he knew Mike Johnson. Hendricks described Mike Johnson as having a "mean streak." Hendricks said that he avoided Mike Johnson because he was prone to violence. Hendricks stated that his older brother was friends with Mike Johnson. Hendricks stated that Mike Johnson was visiting his (Hendricks) residence one day and, without any provocation, Mike Johnson pushed Hendricks to the ground. Hendricks said that Mike Johnson had a reputation of being a "bully." Hendricks stated that Mike Johnson was a thief and told a story of how Mike Johnson's older brother and Mike

Johnson stole Hendricks' bicycle. Hendricks said that his mother went to the Johnson house, which was a condemned residence in the Gordon Trailer Park, and recovered the bicycle.

Hendricks provided another story regarding Mike Johnson's violent tendencies. According to Hendricks, his neighbor had some puppies. Hendricks said that the neighbor gave a puppy to Mike Johnson. According to Hendricks, several weeks later the neighbor went to Mike Johnson's residence to check on the puppy. Hendricks said the neighbor took back the puppy because it was beaten and burned. Hendricks stated that the puppy had a large burn on its back.

Hendricks said that on 02/06/1982 in the late afternoon word spread that the police was recovering David Rowell's body on Kreitzer Road. Hendricks stated that his brother and he walked to Kreitzer Road using the sidewalk that separates Moraine Meadows School from the Moraine Civic Center. According to Hendricks, at the end of the sidewalk, at Kreitzer Road near the Civic Center, Mike Johnson, Andrew Choate and Choate's step-father were standing watching the police activity in the field. Hendricks said that, without provocation and "out of the blue", Mike Johnson turned around and looked at Hendricks and said, *"I had nothing to do with this. I spent the night at Andrew Choate's house."*

Hendricks described Andrew Choate as a thief. Hendricks further stated that Andrew Choate would steal things from stores, homes and neighbors and try to sell them to Hendricks because he knew Hendricks had some money from having a paper route. Hendricks said that Andrew Choate resided on Holman Street, near Hendricks' residence. Hendricks said that Andrew Choate came from a broken home and lived with his mother. Hendricks said that Andrew Choate and Mike Johnson were good friends.

When asked who in the neighborhood was capable of committing this type of crime, Hendricks said Andrew Choate and Mike Johnson.

Hendricks believes that Mike Johnson did murder David Rowell and believes it is possible that Andrew Choate was involved. Hendricks would not comment regarding Wampler because Hendricks said he did not know Wampler.

The interview ended under favorable conditions.

Investigator's Note: Hendricks' recall of the events on 02/05/1982 and 02/06/1982 was clear. Hendricks recalled the events as if they recently occurred, not 33 years ago. Reporting Investigator believes Hendricks was honest and forthright during the interview.