

PETITION FOR EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY

ROGER KEITH COLEMAN

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EXHIBITS

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Attorneys for Petitioner

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STATEMENT OF TERESA HORN

I, Teresa Horn, say:

1. My mailing address is at Route 1, Box 46, Oakwood, Virginia. My residence is in Patterson, Buchanan County, Virginia.

2. My date of birth is August 16, 1968.

3. I am making this statement in relation to the case of Roger Keith Coleman, who was convicted of the rape and murder of a woman in Slate Creek, in Long Bottom, in Grundy, Virginia. I am making this statement because another man, Donny Ramey, told me that he committed the crime.

4. I have never met Roger Keith Coleman.

5. I first met Donny Ramey through my boyfriend at the time, Larry Kenneth Clevinger, who goes by the name "Kenny." I saw Donny from time to time at Clancy's, the bar where I worked.

6. On the night that Donny Ramey first told me that he committed the crime, I was working at Clancy's. Donny Ramey was in the bar that night, along with Mark Helton and Jeff Chaffles.

7. To the best of my recollection, this was in March or April 1987.

8. I knew Mark Helton from high school. I am not sure of the spelling of Jeff Chaffles' name.

9. That night, I was working at Clancy's. Jeff had too much to drink, so he asked me to drive him home. Mark Helton and Donny Ramey drove my car to Jeff's house, and I drove Jeff in his car.

10. We drove to Jeff Chaffles' mother's house, which was in Deel. Jeff's mother was not home at the time.

11. When we arrived there, Jeff went inside and went to sleep right away.

12. I was ready to leave right away, but Donny and Mark persuaded me to stay. When I went into the house, Donny told me that I was going to be raped. I thought he was kidding at first, but then he started taking my clothes off against my will.

13. Once my clothes were taken off, Donny picked me up and carried me into a bedroom. He closed and locked the door behind him.

14. Donny threw me on a bed in the bedroom. As he threw me, I hit my face on the nightstand. This left a bruise on my face by my eye.

15. Donny pinned me on the bed by kneeling on my legs, and he tried to force my legs apart with his knees. He tried to force me to kiss him. I was yelling to make him stop, so he put his hand over my mouth very hard, which left bruises along the side of my mouth. With his other hand, he groped over my body.

16. He told me that if I didn't shut up and quiet down, he was going to do me like he did that girl <sup>at</sup> in Slate Creek. I didn't really know what he was talking about when he said that.

17. Donny is very strong, strong enough so that he could have succeeded in raping me. He kept telling me that I would like it. He also kept pulling my hair over my face.

18. I guess because I was yelling, Mark broke into the

bedroom and pulled Donny off me. He hit Donny, hard.

19. After I put my clothes back on, I drove to the house where Kenny was living. I was very upset. I didn't go to the police, though, because I thought it wouldn't do any good. *and because He threatened me. T.H.*

20. Kenny told me there why Donny's nickname was "The Hand." (Another nickname Donny has is "Trouble.") Kenny said that Donny got the nickname when he sexually attacked a woman, when he shoved his hand into her vagina.

21. I met Mark some days later. He said that he had moved out of the house he was sharing with Donny, because Donny had told him that he murdered that girl in Long Bottom. Mark said that he couldn't live with Donny after he heard that. Mark explained to me that Donny was referring to that when he told me that he would do me like he had done that girl in Slate Creek; until Mark explained it to me, I hadn't really understood what Donny meant.

22. I saw Donny a few months later at the Acapulco Club, which is in West Virginia. I asked him whether he had killed that girl in Slate Creek. He said yes.

23. Later that summer, I talked to Donny again about the attack on that girl on Slate Creek. I asked him if he wasn't afraid that the police would find out what he did. He said no, he wasn't concerned, because the case had been closed.

24. I originally contacted the lawyers for Roger Coleman because of an advertisement they placed in the Virginia Mountaineer. One important reason that I had called them was because of the obscene phone calls that I had been receiving. I

am frightened by those calls, because I think they may be coming from Donny Ramey.

*Teresa Horn*

Teresa Horn

Dated: September 11, 1990

STATEMENT OF TERESA HORN

1. My name is Teresa Horn. I have given a statement in relation to the case of Roger Keith Coleman in the past. I now make this additional statement to clarify and supplement my past statement in response to the Commonwealth's affidavits about me, and to assure the Court that I swear that my testimony in this case is true and correct under penalty of perjury.

2. I have read the statements of Bobby Donald Ramey, Mark Helton, and Wayne Horne. I have also read the portions of Jack Davidson's statement which relate to me. Because I believe that these statements contain inaccuracies, I make this statement to correct them.

3. On the night in 1987 when Donney Ramey attacked me at Jeff Chaffles' house and told me that if I did not shut up, he would do me like he did the girl on Slate Creek, I had no romantic interest in Jeff Chaffles, Mark Helton, or Donney Ramey. I did go to Jeff's house to take his car there since he was intoxicated, but to clarify my earlier statement, I do not remember how Jeff got to the house. I also did not take my clothing off voluntarily or go in the bedroom voluntarily to have sex with Donney Ramey. Instead, Mark Helton held me from behind while Donney took my clothes off.

4. Donney Ramey then picked me up and carried me into the bedroom, closed and locked the door, and tried to rape me. I have described the attack at more length in my previous statement. During that attack he did say that if I did not shut up, he would do me like he did the girl on Slate Creek.

5. I went directly after the attack and told Kenny Clevinger, my ex-boyfriend. He can confirm that it occurred. I did not tell the police because I decided it would not do any good since I thought they probably would not prosecute, and because Donney Ramey had threatened me. I did not tell or imply to Jack Davidson that I thought I would not be believed, instead, I said that it would have done no good, or words to that effect. He may have misinterpreted my comment.

6. I never had sex with Doney Ramey on a later occasion. Because Donney Ramey and I had mutual friends and went to the same parties, I had occasional contact with him and he even attempted to apologize for the incident on more than one occasion. I also got a ride home from him once by which time I was no longer concerned about him. Before the attack, I briefly considered moving in with Mark and Donney, because I considered Mark a friend, but decided not to. (I had originally met Donney through my then boyfriend Kenny, and had visited Mark and Donney's with Kenny.) I never lived in their home.

7. Donney Ramey admitted to the murder on two occasions after the attack in 1987. On the first occasion, I do recall mentioning Wanda McCoy's name by asking him whether he had really killed that McCoy girl on Slate Creek, or words to that effect. He said yes. That was at the Acapulco Club. The second incident was when he drove me home from the same club one night. That was the time when he said that he wasn't

concerned about the case because the case had been closed. I did not have sex with Doney on that or any other occasion. I have never had any sexual or other interest in him.

8. I am not a whore. I do not abuse drugs. I have used drugs occasionally, although probably not to the same extent as Donney Ramey. On the incident where Donney Ramey attacked me, I was completely sober and had not smoked pot, because I was working two jobs at the time and had just gotten off work. I do not even recall there being pot at Jeff Chaffles' house on that occasion.

9. The incident involving Rufus Viars, my mother's brother in law, was not unfounded. Although he did harass me and attempt to have sex with me, I eventually dropped the charges because my family had been torn apart by the incident, and Rufus and his son Ricky had been convicted of assault and battery of my mother's husband Bobby in relation to the incident. Glen Mullins and Terry Ward were present at the incident and can confirm that it occurred.

10. I have read the Commonwealth's argument in this case that Mr. Coleman should not be able to use this confession because it was available to him in 1987. That is wrong. It was not available to Mr. Coleman until 1990, when I called his attorneys to tell them about it.

11. I do not think the Commonwealth's attacks on my credibility are fair or correct. Donney Ramey admitted to the murder of Wanda McCoy to me, and Mark Helton also

told me that he stopped living with Donney Ramey because he had admitted to the murder. I would like the opportunity to testify about these events at a hearing, where I believe my credibility will be demonstrated.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statement is true and correct under the laws of Virginia and the United States.

*Teresa Horn*

Teresa Horn

dated: *Nov. 20, 1991*

Signed & sworn before me this 20th day of November, 1991.

*Shirley Gibson*

Notary Public

My commission expires:

*March 31 1994*



best of my recollection and knowledge, the events of the evening occurred sometime between 10 p.m. and 1:00 - 1:30 a.m., the approximate time that I arrived home.

7. In a back bedroom of the trailer, Donnie Ramey sexually attacked me. He climbed on top of me and held me down with his arms and legs and inserted one leg between my legs, using his foot to push down my pants. He was very strong.

8. To the best of my recollection, I yelled "get this mother-fucking son of a bitch off me" and became very scared when Kenny and Greg did not come to my aid. I was surprised and shocked. I cried over and over for them to do something because he was hurting me. I also told Donnie to leave me alone because I had my period, but he said that he had "fucked women on the rag before."

9. Using one hand to hold me down and the other to molest me, Donnie then reached his hand into my vagina and forcibly pulled out my tampon. It hurt a lot. When he raised himself to throw the tampon aside, I escaped his grasp and ran out of the room. I was yelling and swearing and attempting to put my clothes back on, when Donnie came into the living room out of the bedroom and attacked me again. He shoved me onto the couch and jumped on me again. This time I hit him in the groin and it must have hurt him, because he said, "Goddamn you," and got up. I then got up and ran out of the house.

10. I returned home, and have not spoken to Donnie Ramey since. To the best of my recollection, I have not told anyone about this story until now. I no longer talk on a regular

basis to Kenny or Greg.

11. Knowing Donnie from this incident and his reputation, and how frightened I am of him, it would not surprise me a bit if he was involved in the rape and murder of another woman.

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Jamie Sword Ross  
Dated: September \_\_, 1990

STATEMENT OF LINDA MULLINS

I, Linda Mullins say:

1. I reside at Route 1, Box 47, Pilgrim Knob, Virginia 24634.
2. I was born in 1964 and attended high school in Grundy, Virginia.
3. I am making this statement in relation to the case of Roger Keith Coleman, who was convicted of the rape and murder of a woman on Slate Creek, in Long Bottom, in Grundy, Virginia.
4. I knew Donnie "Trouble" Ramey when I was in high school. I graduated from high school in 1982.
5. To the best of my recollection, sometime in 1982 or 1983, Donnie Ramey attacked me sexually with a large knife.
6. On that date, I was with friends at the home of Serena Gail Collins. She lived in Grundy near the Miners and Merchants Bank. Earlier that evening, Donnie Ramey had asked me to drive around with him and go to a local airstrip. Because Serena Gail and a friend were arguing, I decided to leave. I told my friend Cythia Spraker, also present that evening, that I was going to take a drive with Trouble Ramey. She warned me about him, that he had a bad reputation, but I was not particularly afraid of him at the time. There were rumors that he had been involved in the murder of the woman in Slate Creek, but I ignored them.

7. When I left the apartment I met Trouble and drove to the airstrip with him in his car.

8. At the airstrip, we parked. It was very dark and desolate, though I recall there was a full moon.

9. To the best of my recollection, it was 9-10 p.m.

10. I wanted to smoke a cigar and told Trouble to give me the matches. Suddenly, he jumped on top of me and held a large knife to my neck. The knife was a survival, "rambo" style knife with a blade of 8 inches or more.

11. Holding the knife horizontally across my neck, Trouble began to bite me all over the neck. He tried to stick his tongue in my mouth and he used the hand which was not holding the knife to molest me.

12. Trouble used his knees to try to pry my legs apart but I stuck my heeled boots into the floor of the car and fought back.

12. Trouble Ramey then threatened me by saying "I could do anything I want to with you. I could kill you and throw you out of the car and nobody would ever know." He was still holding the knife to my neck.

13. I told him "Trouble, do it if you're that brave, go ahead. Cynthia knows I'm with you and she'll tell my brother Glen and he'll kill you by this time tomorrow."

13. At that point, Trouble stopped attacking me and started crying. He tried to give me the knife but I told him I had my own. I was also crying. He said "you hate

me now, you hate me."

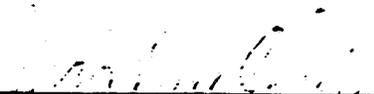
14. I told him, "I don't hate you, I despise you. Don't ever speak to me again."

15. We drove back in silence and he left me in Grundy near the Miners and Merchants Bank. To the best of my recollection, I returned to Serena Gail Collins' apartment and told my friends about the incident. I had bite marks all over my neck.

16. I also told my brother Glen about the attack, although I did not initially tell him about the knife because I was concerned that he would confront Donnie Ramey.

17. I have seen Donnie Ramey several times since then, once at the Acapulco Bar. He avoids me. I was ~~very~~ scared after the attack. I feel safer with men such as my brother Glen because Donnie is afraid of men.

18. After the attack, I thought that the rumors that Donnie had killed the woman on Slate Creek might be true.

  
Linda Collins

Dated: September 17, 1990

AFFIDAVIT

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA )

: ss:

COUNTY OF BUCHANAN )

GOLDIE OWENS deposes and states as follows:

1. I reside at Route 2, Box 173, Rowe, Virginia.
2. Roger Matney is married to my daughter, Brenda Matney. They were married on October 16, 1986.
3. An investigator came to my house to talk to Roger Matney ~~four~~<sup>460</sup> years ago about Matney's testimony at Roger Coleman's trial. Roger Matney and the investigator had a conversation.
4. The investigator left my house after he finished talking with Roger Matney. Roger Matney was visibly shaken and emotionally upset by the investigator's visit.
5. Brenda Matney asked Roger Matney if "the boy owned up to killing that girl when he was in jail with you." It was clear that Brenda was referring to Roger Coleman when she said "the boy". Roger Matney told Brenda "no" in response to her question. He said that

Roger Coleman never told him (Roger Matney) that Coleman had killed the murdered woman.

6. Brenda then asked Roger Matney, "if the Coleman boy didn't tell you he killed her, why did you tell them he did?" Roger Matney told Brenda in response that his statement was already on file at the courthouse. He then stated that he would never testify in the Coleman case again, even if under subpoena.

7. Later that evening, Brenda asked Roger Matney what he had done to be imprisoned. Roger Matney responded to Brenda that he had been sentenced to eight years for stealing. Brenda Matney asked Roger Matney why he did not serve eight years. Roger Matney responded, "If you use your head for something besides a hatrack, you can get out of a lot of prison time that you would have to pull."

8. That was the only time I heard Roger Matney discuss his testimony at Roger Coleman's trial.

9. I am not personally acquainted with Roger Coleman, nor am I related to him by blood or marriage.

10. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the

Commonwealth of Virginia that the foregoing is true and correct.

Go

Dated: June 11, 1991  
~~August 1, 1988~~  
ROWE, Virginia

Goldie Owens  
Goldie Owens

Sworn to before me this  
\_\_\_ day of ~~August, 1988~~  
June 11, 1991

I hereby certify that on this date  
Notary Public

I read the foregoing statement to  
Goldie Owens and witnessed  
her signature above.

James C. McCloskey

AFFIDAVIT

1. My name is Keester Shortridge. I currently live near Richlands, Virginia. In 1981, however, I lived near Long Bottom in Grundy, Virginia, approximately .2 of a mile south of the residence of Brad and Wanda McCoy.

2. On September 21, 1991, I signed a hand-printed affidavit that had been prepared by one of the people representing Roger Coleman. I now wish to clarify some of the statements that were made in the affidavit that I signed.

3. I did find a trash bag in the back of my truck, but I did not find it on the morning after Wanda McCoy was murdered. I estimate that it was approximately three or more days after the murder that I found the trash bag. I made this clear to Coleman's attorney when I signed the affidavit they prepared.

4. I usually check in the back of my truck every day and if there is any trash there I dump it that day. I believe I would have noticed the trash bag if it had been in my truck the day before I found it. I found the bag with the items in it after I had driven to the mine site to dump a load of trash.

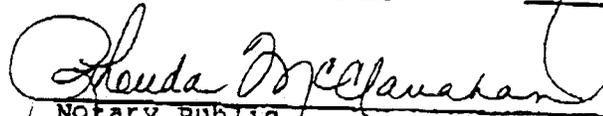
5. The trash bag I found in the truck about three or more days after the murder did contain several items including some bloody sheets. After checking with my wife to see if the items belonged to us I did throw the items away. My wife told me she was going to call Sheriff Ratliff to tell him what I had found but I do not know if she actually did so. I have no knowledge whether the police who were investigating the murder were ever told what I had found.



6. The first time I told the people representing Roger Coleman about what I had found in my truck was approximately two or more years ago.

  
Keester Shortridge

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1991.

  
Notary Public

My commission expires: January 31, 1993.

①

Statement of Keester Shortridge

Buchanan County )  
Commonwealth of Virginia )

I, Keester Shortridge, say:

1. I live in Claypool Hill near Richlands, Virginia.

2. In 1981 I lived on Slate Creek near Longbottom in Grundy, Virginia.

3. I make this statement in relation to the case of Roger Keith Coleman.

4. On the night of the McCoy murder in March, 1981, my truck was parked on the street outside my house on Slate Creek.

5. The morning after the murder I took my truck up to Upper

②

Mill Branch, where I was clearing a road in order to mine coal.

6. In the back of my truck was a trash bag. I assumed my wife had put it in the truck for me to dump out when I got to the mine site. I took the trash bag out of the truck and dumped out its contents to make sure **my** wife wasn't throwing away anything valuable.

7. In the trash bag I found two sheets, a clock, a flashlight, and a scissors, as well as one or two pillowcases. The sheets and pillowcases were covered with a large amount of fresh blood.

8. I took the sheets back to my wife in the plastic bag to ask her if she knew where

(3)

They came from or why she was throwing them away. I put the clock on a rock at the mine. I don't remember what I did with the scissors and the flashlight.

9. My wife said the sheets were not ours, and that I should throw them out, so I took them back to the mine site and dumped them over a hill. I took Jim McDoskey and Kitty Behan to see the spot where I ~~threw~~ threw them out on September 21, 1991. I bulldozed over that spot to clear a road, but I believe the trash bag with the sheets is still under the pile of bulldozed dirt.

10. A couple days <sup>④</sup> after I had thrown the sheets out, we heard about the McCoy murder. My wife then called Auburn Ratliff, the Sheriff, to tell him about what we had found. She told Sheriff Ratliff about the things in the trash bag, and told him where I had dumped them out.
11. No one ever called us back to find out more information about the sheets or to have me show them where I had dumped them.
12. I believe the sheets and scissors could be related to the McCoy murder.

(5)

I declare under penalty  
of perjury that the  
above is true and correct.

~~Keester Shortridge~~  
Keester Shortridge  
September 21, 1991

In September 21, 1991 I read  
the foregoing statement to Keester  
Shortridge and witnessed his  
signature above. ~~Kat~~ Ben

AFFIDAVIT OF NELL SHORTRIDGE

1. My name is Nell Shortridge. My address is Drawer 1160 Grundy, Virginia. I currently reside with my son Quinten up on Highway 19 in Claypool Hill, Virginia.

2. I make this statement in relation to the case of Roger K. Coleman.

3. Approximately ten years ago I lived with my family on Slate Creek in Grundy, Virginia.

4. One or two days after the murder of Wanda McCoy, my husband Keester Shortridge returned home from the mines where he was bulldozing and came into the kitchen where I was cooking supper. He had a big green plastic trash bag with him which he dumped onto the floor. He asked me what I was doing throwing good sheets away, and he asked me where all the blood that was on the sheets had come from. When he dumped the material onto the floor that was in the bag, I saw sheets that had a lot of blood on them. In my opinion, it was more blood than a person could lose without having to go to the hospital. It definitely could not have come from a woman's period or a minor cut. I also saw two Van Heusen cowboy shirts, a silver flashlight, and a Big Ben white alarm clock.

5. I told Keester to put them back in the bag because they didn't belong to us. I knew the sheets didn't belong to us because they were lilac and we didn't have any lilac sheets.

6. I then told Keester that I thought the sheets and other things in the bag might be connected to the murder of Wanda McCoy because there was so much blood on the sheets and because it was so soon after the murder, only one or two days.

7. I told Keester then that I was going to call Aubrey Ratliff to tell him about the sheets and other things in the bag. Aubrey Ratliff was the Sheriff of Grundy at the time and so I thought he should know. I then called Aubrey Ratliff while Keester was in the room. I told Aubrey I wanted to tell him something confidentially.

I told him about what we had found in the back of Keester's truck and I described the items to him. I told him there were bloody sheets and that I thought they might be linked to the murder. I told him that I wanted him to come and get them, I thought he would take them and test them to see if they were linked to the murder.

8. Aubrey Ratliff told me that he couldn't come and get the sheets and that Randy Jackson was the one who was investigating the murder. When he told me he couldn't come get the sheets I said "to hell with you". We were scared that it might be evidence related to the murder and I thought it was strange that the sheriff wouldn't come and get it.

9. Keester then took the bag the next morning back up to the mine where he bulldozed dirt over it.

When he came home that night he told me that he had covered the bag with dirt.

10. Our house was less than a half mile away from the site of the murder at the time.

11. One night in late November Kitty Behan, Roger Coleman's attorney, called me to ask me about the bloody sheets and other things. I told her this story.

A few days later Jack Davidson came by my mother's house where I was staying at the time and I told him the same story. He wrote it down and then asked me that night if I could meet him the next day at my house on Slate Creek. I met him the next day and he again wrote down what I had said. However, he never asked me to sign a statement either time he talked to me.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statement is true and correct, under the laws of Virginia and the United States.

Nell Shortridge

Nell Shortridge

12-19-91

Date



VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 23, 1981

BRADLEY DEWIGHT MCCOY, Stock Clerk for United Coal Company, telephone numbers, work - 935-7225, home - 935-4672, P. O. Box 427, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 11, 1981, at 1:45 p.m. (MCCOY is the husband of the victim.)

MCCOY stated that on March 10, 1981, he left his residence at approximately 9:35 p.m. He advised that at this time his wife, WANDA FAY THOMPSON MCCOY was in a good mood and nothing appeared to be wrong.

He advised that approximately 9:00 p.m., he called his residence and talked to his wife. He stated that the conversation was about her cold, the income tax return check and about purchasing some clothing. He stated they talked for approximately fifteen minutes. MCCOY advised that his wife said something about watching the television program "B.J. and the Bear". He advised they discontinued their telephone conversation and he told her that he would see her about eleven o'clock.

MCCOY advised that he remained at work until 11:05 p.m. and then drove straight home. He stated that when he got out of his vehicle he checked around the house to see if everything was all right and to check if the dogs had not gotten into the trash. He stated that the front porch light was not on and thought this was unusual. He advised that he knocked on the door but no one answered the door. He advised that he peered through the peek hole in the door and noticed the afghan spread laying on the seat portion of the couch. He advised that he thought his wife was hiding from him. He stated that he unlocked the door with his key, walked into the living room and yulled up the afghan spread. He advised that he noticed the spare bedroom light on and blood on the living room floor. He stated that he placed his dinner bucket in the living room floor and walked into the spare bedroom. He stated that he saw his wife lying on her back, partially nude, having a stab wound in the chest and bleeding from the neck. MCCOY stated that she appeared to be dead. He advised that he became afraid that the person(s) were still in the house and began to check. He stated he called his father, MAX MCCOY, and advised him of what he found. He stated that he was fearful to go outside until he saw his father coming up the hill. He stated that he went outside and met his father. He stated that they went back inside the house, checked his wife for any vital signs, and reported the offense to the Sheriff's Office.

Investigation on March 11, 1981 at Grundy, VA File # 81-4-0092 -40  
 by S/Lt J. E. Davidson and R. M. Owens/jac Date dictated March 19, 1981

MCCOY advised that his wife was fearful to stay at their residence during the night. He advised that she would not allow any strangers into the residence. He advised that she kept the door locked with a chain and a bolt lock. He advised that she always kept the porch light on.

He advised that his wife was receiving obscene telephone calls during the summer, 1980. He stated that this stopped after they had their telephone number changed.

He stated that the last person to visit his residence was his wife's sister and her husband. He advised that they returned some recipes on Monday night which she borrowed on a Saturday night. He stated that her sister's name is PATRICIA COLEMAN and her husband is ROGER KEITH COLEMAN.

MCCOY advised that only JUNIOR STEVENSON, DANNY RAY STILTNER, brother-in-law, and ROGER KEITH COLEMAN would come to his residence and possibly gain admittance to enter by his wife.

On the day of this interview, MCCOY was wearing a gray short sleeve shirt, pens in shirt pocket, blue "paint-spotted" pants, and white socks. There appeared to be no fresh wounds on MCCOY'S hands, arms, or face.

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 23, 1981

THOMAS D. MCDONALD, Medical Examiner for Buchanan County, telephone number home 935-2316, office 935-2111, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 11, 1981, at 12:10 a.m.

MCDONALD stated that the victim died at approximately 10:30 p.m. as a result of hemorrhage and shock from a wound to the neck and chest. He advised that the victim was stabbed and possibly raped. He advised that the victim is being sent to Roanoke, Virginia for an autopsy.

Investigation on 3-11-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-5-0092-17

by SA J. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-16-81  
*EAD*

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SANDRA KAY RATLIFF, housewife, telephone number - none, Route 2, Box 214, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 12, 1981, at 12:15 p.m.

RATLIFF stated that on March 6, 1981, at approximately 2:00 p.m., her husband, GARY SCOTT RATLIFF, left their residence enroute to work. She advised that DENISE SKEENS was at her residence and they talked until 2:30 p.m. She stated that SKEENS left and shortly, someone knocked on the door. She advised that a subject stepped inside the door and identified himself as ROGER COLEMAN. She stated that COLEMAN told her that he knew her husband for a number of years, that he worked with him and that he presently lives on Dismal. She stated that the conversation turned to her baby. RATLIFF stated that GARY OWENS came to the residence and a conversation was started between COLEMAN and OWENS. The conversation turned to tapes. She advised that OWENS stated he liked the tape "Super Tramps". COLEMAN stated that he had the tape in his vehicle. RATLIFF advised that COLEMAN returned with the tape and she played it on her stereo. She advised that after playing the tape, OWENS asked COLEMAN if he would sell it. COLEMAN declined. She advised that she placed the tape on top of the stereo. She advised that OWENS left and COLEMAN remained at her residence. She advised that she could not recall the entire conversation, but COLEMAN offered her some alcoholic beverage he had in his vehicle. She advised that COLEMAN stated that if she did not like the beverage he had, he would get her some other kind. RATLIFF stated that DENISE OWENS came back to her residence and borrowed some make-up. She advised that they talked for a short period of time and she told OWENS and COLEMAN that she had to leave. She stated that COLEMAN left, but did not ask for the tape. She advised that she completely forgot about the tape being in her residence.

Investigation on March 12, 1981 at Grundy, VA File # 81-4-0092 - 34  
by S/A s J. E. Davidson and E. M. Owens/jac Date dictated March 17, 1981

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Virginia State Police. It is the property of the Virginia State Police and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

GARY SCOTT RATLIFF, coal miner, telephone number - none, Route 2, Box 214, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 12, 1981, at 11:33 a.m.

RATLIFF stated that ROGER COLEMAN came to his residence between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., March 10, 1981. He advised that the program "Hart to Hart" was on the television. He stated that he believed the program had been on for fifteen minutes. RATLIFF advised that the lights inside his trailer were off and the curtains drawn. He advised that COLEMAN knocked on the door and stated, "I let her borrow a tape the other day and I want it back." RATLIFF stated that his wife, SANDRA KAY RATLIFF, handed him an eight tract tape. He advised that COLEMAN turned and walked away. RATLIFF stated that COLEMAN was wearing a jacket (color unknown), blue shirt, and his face was dirty.

RATLIFF stated that he normally goes to work between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00p.m. and returns home approximately 12:30 a.m. or 1:00 a.m. He advised that he does not know why he did not go to work on the evening of March 10, 1981. He stated that it was the first night he intentionally missed work.

RATLIFF stated that on March 6, 1981, at 1:00 p.m. while leaving his residence enroute to work, he met GARY OWENS, DAVID KELLER, TOM KELLER, GENE BAKER, JIM BAKER and ROGER COLEMAN talking outside his residence. He advised that he had a short conversation with DAVID KELLER, left, and drove to work.

RATLIFF advised that he has never associated with COLEMAN but knew him. He stated that the last time he saw COLEMAN was approximately one year ago.

Investigation on March 12, 1981 at Grundy, VA File # 81-4-0092-30

by Special Agents J. F. Davidson & R. N. Owens/jac Date dictated March 17, 1981

On March 11, 1981, at approximately 12:05 A.M., I was notified by a State Police Dispatcher to proceed with State Police Evidence Van to Grundy, Virginia, where my assistance had been requested, along with the Evidence Van.

Upon arrival at the scene at approximately 3:10 A.M., on March 11, 1981, I was met by Special Agents J. E. Davidson and R. M. Owens. At this time we began to process the scene as follows:

While processing this scene from approximately 3:10 A.M., to approximately 3:45 A.M., 25 items of evidence were collected—one latent fingerprint was lifted from the outside front door screen, and color and black and white photographs were taken of the scene. *the print*

The victim at the scene was WANDA FAYE MCCOY, white female, DOB 11-5-1961, Box 858, Grundy, Virginia, (Fairview Street). *Wanda D & B*

Special Agent Davidson will file a report listing the exact location of evidentiary items as well as a crime scene sketch of the scene.

The items of evidence will be submitted to the State Forensic Laboratory on March 13, 1981, by personal delivery, by Special Agent K. E. Andrews. A request has been made that a courtesy copy of all laboratory analysis results be mailed directly to Agent J. E. Davidson.

A copy of the request for laboratory analysis is made a part of this file.

Investigation on March 11, 1981 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092 -6  
by *KEA*  
K. E. Andrews, Jr. Date dictated March 12, 1981  
*EQD* KEAjr:mhk

CRIME SCENE

The residence of BRADLEY DEWIGHT and WANDA PAY THOMPSON MCCOY is a white, wooden, frame, five-room house located in the "Long Bottom", section in Grundy, Virginia. The residence is located upon an embankment above a town road and a number of other residences. The residence has only one entry which faces the town road.

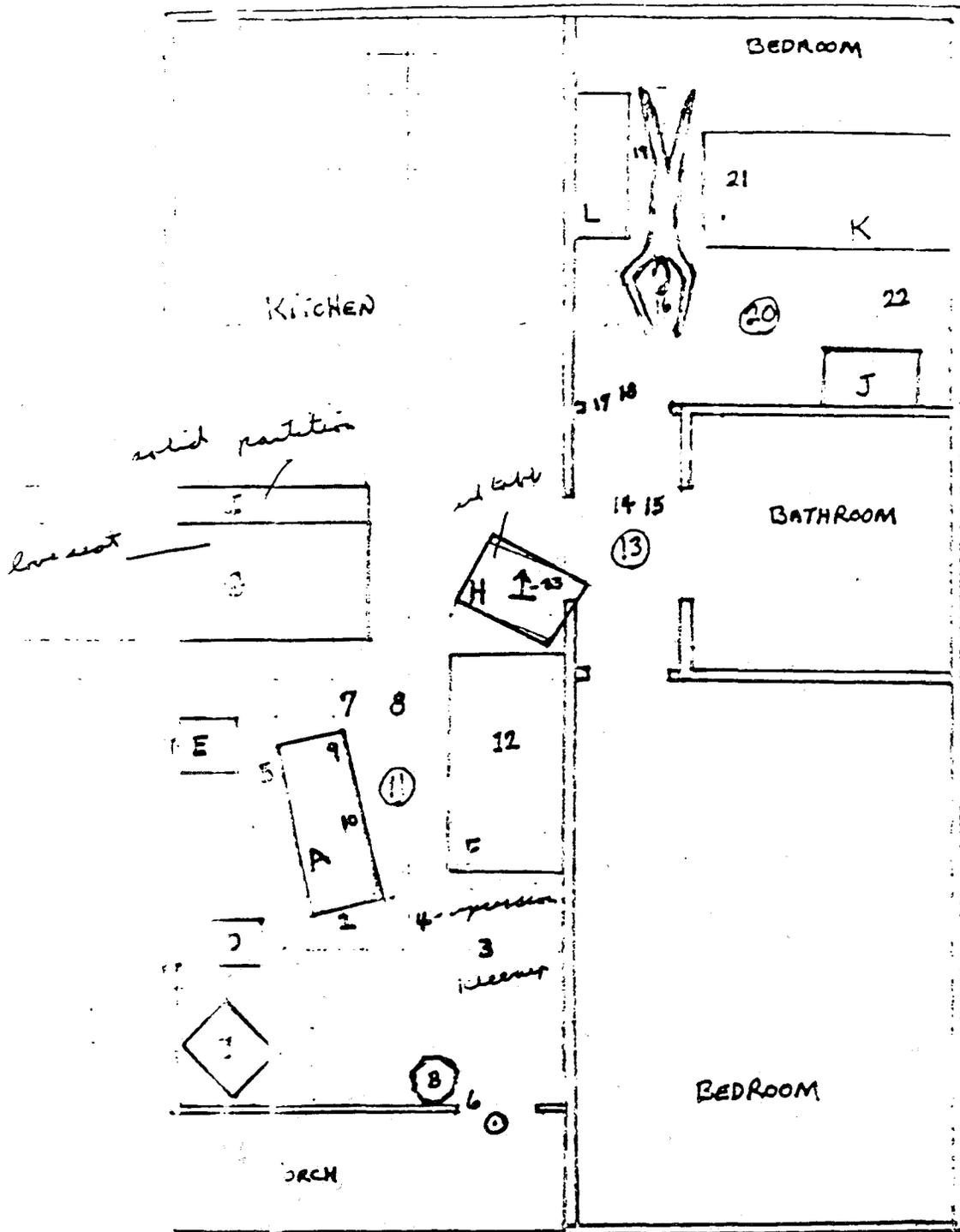
The front door leads into the living room. On the molding, three feet, two inches from the floor of the front door, a pressure mark which appeared to be a pry mark was found. This mark appeared to have been made with very little pressure. On the floor of the living room between the television set and coffee table a woman's hair clip was found. Between the door and coffee table a small drop of red substance was found. The coffee table was pushed sideways. Between the coffee table and the couch a clear and red stain was found. These stains appeared to have had something dragged through them leading to the hallway of the house. There was several drops of a red substance between the coffee table and a divider which divides the kitchen from the living room. In the living room the television and overhead light were on. At the entry to the hall from the kitchen and living room the end table was turned sideways. In the hall a green rug was found ruffled up and having several spots of a red substance. In the spare bedroom on the opposite side of the living room the victim was found. The victim was lying on her back, head tilted to the right nearest the hallway. She was lying in line with the hallway. The victim's arms were above her head. On her hands appeared to be a black dusty and red substance which appeared to be blood. To the right of the victim's head was a pool of what appeared to be blood. The victim's sweater and bra was pulled up around the victim's neck. The victim was nude except for her socks and underwear which was around her left ankle. There appeared to be a black dusty substance on the victim's right inner thigh and abdomen. The victim sustained what appeared to be stab wounds to the left breast, mid-line of the chest and a lacerated throat. The victim was lying between the spare bed and dresser. Her blue jeans were found on the middle edge of the bed nearest the victim's feet.

All the evidence in this investigation was collected and forwarded to the Bureau of Forensic Science Laboratory by SPECIAL AGENT K. E. ANDREWS.

Attached is the crime scene sketch prepared by S/A R. M. Owens.

Investigation on 3-11-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092 - 1  
 by [Signature] Sgt. J. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-19-81  
ead

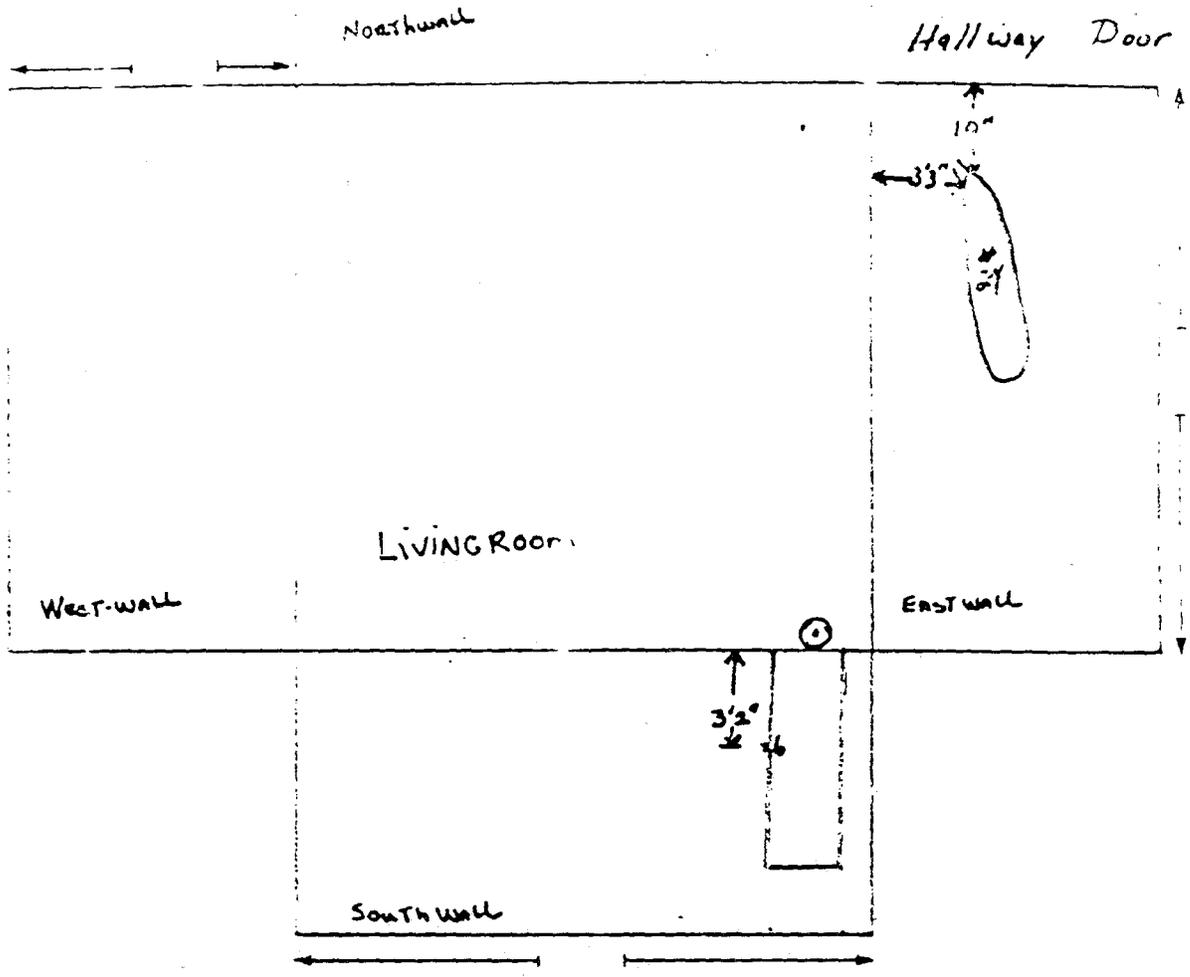
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WALL OUTLET    SWITCH    PHONE JACK

- |                                  |   |                    |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| HAIR CLIP                        | A | COFFEE TABLE       |
| RED STAIN                        | B | SMALL TABLE        |
| KLEENEX TISSUE                   | C | T.V.               |
| IMPRESSION                       | D | STEREO SPEAKER     |
| SOFT DRINK BOTTLE                | E | STEREO AND CABINET |
| DRY MARK ON DOOR FACE            | F | COUCH              |
| 7A THRU 7F - Group of 1 - STAINS | G | COUCH              |
| SMOURED Red STAINS               | H | END-TABLE          |

W N E  
S



Address \_\_\_\_\_ Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Leasee \_\_\_\_\_

Room Located In \_\_\_\_\_ Adjoining \_\_\_\_\_ Used for \_\_\_\_\_

Walls \_\_\_\_\_ Floor \_\_\_\_\_ Ceiling \_\_\_\_\_  
Composition, Color      Bare, Carpeted, Etc      Composition, Color

Lamps and Lights \_\_\_\_\_ Switch \_\_\_\_\_  
Location, and if Functional      Location, and if Functional

Entrance and Exits \_\_\_\_\_

Damage \_\_\_\_\_

- |          |                       |                           |                   |                     |
|----------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Symbols: | ⊖ = Electrical Outlet | ⬆ = Lamp                  | ☑ = Switch On     | ⌂ = Door Closed     |
|          | ⊙ = Entrance          | ☎ = Telephone             | ☒ = Switch Off    | ⌂ = Door Open       |
|          | ⊕ = Exit              | △ = Photo Taken from here | ▬ = Window Closed | NA = Not Applicable |
|          | ⌘ = Floor Furnace     | = Stairs                  | ▬ = Window Open   |                     |

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_ CASE \_\_\_\_\_

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 23, 1981

ROGER KEITH COLEMAN was reinterviewed on March 12, 1981, at 2:36 p.m.

COLEMAN stated, after confirming the date of the polygraph, that he would agree to take the polygraph. He also stated that he would relinquish any items he had for examination. He stated, after being asked if he had any other knives, that he had a double-edged hunting knife. He advised that he would relinquish this knife for examination. He advised, after being told that the mine site was dry and he couldn't have gotten his pants legs wet from there, that he got his pants legs wet when he took a shower at the bathhouse. He advised that he pulled his dirty clothes off, placed them on the shower floor and apparently got wet from the shower.

Investigation on 3-12-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-20

by EAJ J. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-19-81

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VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 23, 1981

ROGER KEITH COLEMAN, coal miner at T J and M Coal Company, telephone number home 935-8441, P. O. Box 237, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 11, 1981, at 12:32 a.m.

COLEMAN stated that on March 10, 1981, around midnight, PEGGY STILTNER, his wife and victim's sister, came to his residence to notify his wife, PATRICIA COLEMAN, of their sister's death. He advised that STILTNER left and they got dressed and drove to his wife's mother's residence. He advised that the reason they went to his wife's mother's residence was that STILTNER requested their presence. He advised that STILTNER stated that someone broke into the house, raped the victim, and the victim was killed by being shot or stabbed. COLEMAN advised that they left their residence after calling his uncle, ROGER LEE COLEMAN, at approximately 12:15 a.m. and arrived at his mother-in-law's residence at approximately 12:45 a.m. He stated that when he arrived they were talking about how BRAD MCCOY was taking the death of his wife and if all the family had been notified. He advised that he left his mother-in-law's residence around 2:00 or 2:30 a.m. and was driving back to his residence for some clothes and his wife's purse when he met DANNY THOMPSON'S vehicle coming toward him in Grundy, Virginia. He advised that he blew his horn and THOMPSON stopped his vehicle. He advised that he told THOMPSON that he was going up to "BRAD'S" and see if he could do anything. He stated that THOMPSON told him that they did not want anybody up there. He advised that he drove to his house, got some additional clothes and drove directly back to his mother-in-law's residence. He stated that he remained there until 7:30 a.m., at which time he and his wife drove back to their residence. He advised that they remained at his residence until this interview.

COLEMAN stated that he left his residence on March 10, 1981, at 8:30 p.m. en route to work. He advised that he stopped at the Speedy Market, Grundy, Virginia, and remained there until 9:00 or 9:05 p.m. He advised that he wanted to pick up a box to use for a cat litter box. He advised that he talked with "CHUCK" CRABTREE for a half of an hour. He believed that a STILTNER subject was also present. COLEMAN stated that they talked about a man they both knew getting hurt in a coal mine. He advised that he left the store at approximately 9:05 p.m., more or less, and drove to Looney's Creek to meet up with a ride to the mine where he worked. He advised that he arrived at approximately 9:10 p.m. and missed the ride to the mine. He stated that he drove up Looney's Creek toward the mine. He stated that he normally arrived at Looney's Creek at 9:45 p.m.

Investigation on 3-11-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-28  
 by [Signature] SA J. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-19-81  
200 SA R. N. Owens

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He advised that he made a mistake about the time and stated that he normally arrived at 8:45 p.m. He advised that as he drove up Looney's Creek, he saw his ride at Breeding's Grocery. He stated that he stopped and asked JOHNNY STILTNER, driver of the "man trip", where everyone was. He advised that he thought something was wrong when he didn't see his co-workers vehicles parked at the mouth of Looney's Creek. He advised that STILTNER told him that the third shift was cut off. He advised that he asked if it was because the problems between the Superintendent and the third shift boss. He advised that STILTNER told him that that probably was the reason. COLEMAN stated that he turned his vehicle around and started to drive home. He advised that when he got to the Grundy Texaco, Grundy, Virginia, he remembered that he left his coveralls at the mine. He advised that this was approximately 9:30 p.m. He stated that he turned his vehicle around and drove to the mine site. He stated that he arrived at approximately 9:50 p.m. He stated that he talked to the second shift boss, RONNIE, for four or five minutes. He advised that they talked about the reason for the third shift cut-off. He stated that after getting his coveralls, he left the mine site at 9:55 p.m., came by the "stock pile" and saw JOHNNY STILTNER, the mine's mechanic, and an electrician boosting off an end loader. He advised that he told STILTNER the reason for coming to the mine and asked about his payroll check. He advised that he drove out of Looney's Creek and met PHILLIP VANDYKE. He stated that he asked VANDYKE to drive back to the mouth of the hollow and talk until it was time for him (VANDYKE) to go to work. He advised that they remained at the mouth of Looney's Creek until 10:30 p.m. or a little later. He advised that they talked about trading pistols with his uncle, about the cut-off at the mine and other unrecalled matters. COLEMAN advised that when they parted company, VANDYKE drove to work and he drove to Boyd's Trailer Park to visit TOM KELLER, brother to the electrician he worked with. He advised that he pulled onto the driveway of his trailer and did not see any lights on. He advised that he didn't get out of his vehicle but drove to his bathhouse at 10:45 p.m. and arrived at the bathhouse at 10:50 p.m. He advised that he took a shower and put on his clean clothes. (He stated that the bathhouse is located below the barber shop across from the redlight.) He stated that he left the bathhouse at 11:00 p.m. and arrived back at his residence at 11:05 or 11:10 p.m. He stated that when he arrived at the house, he went directly to bed.

COLEMAN stated that the last time he was at the victim's residence was two months ago, and they talked about the stereo they had. He advised that he drove his wife to the victim's residence last Saturday night. He advised that his wife went inside and he remained in the vehicle. He stated that the past Monday evening he drove his wife back to the victim's residence to return some recipes.

He stated that he did not know who committed the offense.

COLEMAN agreed to relinquish all the clothes he wore on the night of March 10, 1981, as well as his mining boots and two pairs of coveralls he had in the pickup. COLEMAN stated, after his attention was drawn to the legs of his blue jeans being wet (10" from the bottom of the legs), that when he was at the mine site, he got his legs wet. He also relinquished a yellow-handled case knife.

COLEMAN agreed to undergo examination by polygraph.

CHECK - STARTED 10:05 P.M. TO BOYD'S TRAILER PARK - ARRIVAL 10:18 P.M. -  
MILEAGE 8.7.

This route was U. S. Route 460 to Grundy, Virginia, north on State Route 83.  
The surface on U. S. Route 460 was dry and the surface of State Route 83 was wet.  
Remained at the BOYD TRAILER PARK for two minutes.

BOYD TRAILER PARK - STARTED 10:20 P.M. TO LONG BOTTOM (AT VICTIM'S RESIDENCE) -  
10:27 P.M. - MILEAGE 4.

The total mileage was 12.2 miles.  
The total time was 22 minutes.

The test was conducted under normal flow of traffic and within the prescribed  
speed limits.

During this test, thirty oncoming vehicles were passed and came up behind three  
vehicles.

---

Investigation on 3-10-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 91-4-0092-38  
*J. N. Davidson*  
SA J. N. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-26-81  
*zak*

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VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription April 16, 1981

On April 13, 1981, at 6:20 P.M., ROGER KEITH COLEMAN was informed of his ADVICE OF RIGHTS and the capias for Murder, Rape, and Indecent Exposure were served.

COLEMAN stated after reading the contents of the three capias, that he was not at the library on the date of the offense. He advised that he was working for JUNIOR COMPTON on LOONEY'S CREEK. He stated that he kept his time down on a calendar and could prove this fact.

He also stated that his wife was with him during the day.

(COLEMAN did not make any statements during this time about the murder and rape charges.)

Investigation on April 13, 1981 at Big Rock, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-45  
by J. E. Davidson Date dictated 4-15-81  
JED:mhk

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VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription April 28, 1981

On April 13, 1981, at 6:25 p.m., when ROGER KEITH COLEMAN was arrested, a search of his person revealed a "Boker" brand pocket knife in his right front pants' pocket. This knife was retained and forwarded to the Bureau of Forensic Science for examination.

Investigation on 4-13-81 at Big Rock, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-49

by *rad* SA J. E. Davidson/vps Date dictated 4-23-81

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Virginia State Police. It is the property of the Virginia State Police and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JOHNNY LEE STILTNER, coal miner for T. J. and M. COAL COMPANY, telephone number - none, Route 1, Box 252, Grundy, Virginia was interviewed on March 12, 1981 at 2:36 p.m.

STILTNER stated that on March 10, 1981, at 8:50 p.m., he drove the company's vehicle (man trip) to the intersection of Looney's Creek and U. S. Route 460, awaiting the arrival of the men going to work. He advised that BOBBY KEENE and DAVID KELLER got into the vehicle and they drove to the mine site. He advised that KELLER stated that he talked to ROGER KEITH COLEMAN at the Grundy Post Office and COLEMAN stated that he was checking to see if his tax check had come in.

He advised that they stopped at BREKIDING'S GROCERY on Looney's Creek. He stated that at this time, COLEMAN drove up in his vehicle. STILTNER stated that he informed COLEMAN that the third shift had been laid off. He stated that COLEMAN advised that he guessed he would go out and have a good time. He advised that COLEMAN appeared a little nervous. STILTNER stated that this occurred at approximately 9:00 p.m. He advised that COLEMAN drove back in the direction he came.

STILTNER advised that after they arrived at the mine site, BOBBY KEENE and himself started working on a highlift at the coal stock pile below the mine. He stated that at 9:30 p.m., COLEMAN drove from the mine site and stopped at their location. He advised that COLEMAN had a conversation with KELLER. He stated that COLEMAN, after the short conversation, drove away from the mine site.

He advised that COLEMAN was wearing a blue work shirt and blue jeans.

Investigation on March 12, 1981 at None Creek, VA File # 91-4-0092-42

*[Handwritten initials]*

by J. S. Davidson/ao

Date dictated March 12, 1981



RONALD GENE PERKINS, Section Boss for WJ and M MINING COMPANY, telephone number - none, Route 1, Box 220, Sworn Creek, Virginia, was interviewed on March 12, 1981, at 1:35 p.m.

PERKINS stated that on March 10, 1981, at 9:30 p.m., he came out of the coal mine and walked into the mine office. He advised that he began to fill out his log book for the day. He advised that at 9:45 p.m., ROGER COLEMAN came to the mine office. He advised that they talked about the lay-off of the third shift. He advised that COLEMAN stated that he had a job at another mine. He advised that they must of talked for five to ten minutes. PERKINS advised COLEMAN told him that he was going to get his knee pads and gloves from the locker room. He advised that he went into the building beside the office and returned to his blue Chevrolet truck.

PERKINS advised that COLEMAN was wearing bluejeans, a red flannel shirt, and tennis shoes. He advised that COLEMAN'S shoes and pants were not wet.

He advised that COLEMAN left the mine site at 10:00 p.m.

Investigation on March 12, 1981 at Looney's Creek File # 81-4-0092-14  
by S/A J. F. Davidson/jac Date dictated March 20, 1981  
*EAD*

DATE REPORTED

DATE March 10, 1981 TIME 11:30p.m.

MURDER AND RAPE

PLACE Oak Street, Fairview Street  
"Long Bottom" Section

DISCOVERED BY: Bradley McCoy  
(HUSBAND)

WANDA FAY THOMPSON McCOY  
WHITE, FEMALE, DOB: 11-5-61  
P.O. BOX 855 GRUNDY, VA 24614  
FAIRVIEW STREET, "LONG BOTTOM"

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY SEIZED

ROGER KEITH COLEMAN (BROTHER-IN-LAW)  
WHITE, MALE, DOB: 11-01-58  
P. O. BOX 237 GRUNDY, VA 24614  
DAVE'S BRANCH-BEHIND MT. MISSION SCHL.

DATE RECOVERED

PLACE

DISPOSITION

VEHICLE ID

MAKE

MODEL

TYPE

COLOR

INC. NO.

YR.

STATE

REG. TO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

REPORT BY R. S. JACKSON, CHIEF

GRUNDY POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY: P. O. BOX 711, MAIN STREET  
GRUNDY, VA 24614  
935-2551 Or 935-2021

SEE ATTACHED REPORT

BACK OF COVER SHEET

11:28 AM

DR McDONALD

On March 10, 1981 at 11:20 p.m. I overheard a message over the police scanner that something was wrong in the "Long Bottom" section of Grundy Virginia. I left my residence and went to "Long Bottom." By this time there had been several messages over the police radio. I then knew what had happened.

I arrived in approximately 7-10 minutes from my residence. When I arrived I met "Deputy Sheriff's" Steve Coleman, Noah Horn, and Bill Justus. Deputy Coleman advised that there was a woman dead in the bedroom of the residence. At that time Patrolman Clinus Hall and Patrolman Teddy R. Owens arrived. Patrolman Hall and myself went into the house. We walked into the living room, then the hall and into the bedroom where the body was. When we entered the living room, I noticed that the coffee table was turned around sideways. The overhead light was on. The television was on channel 5, "Johnny Carson." also the end table at the end of the couch had been moved around sideways. There was a "Pop Bottle" on the floor. I noticed a red stain believed to be blood on the living room floor and wall near the entrance to the hall. This stain was also on a light shade that was on the end table. We went into the spare bedroom at my left. As we were entering from the hall, the body was located in about the middle of the floor. The head was nearest to the door of the bedroom. I observed the body at length and noticed that the blood was still in liquid form and it was oozing from her neck. The body was not stiff and there was no pulse on the wrist. The body and the area around it is described as follows: The victim was lying on her back, head tilted to the right nearest the hallway. The victim's arms were above her head. On her hands appeared to be a black dusty and red substance which appeared to be blood and coalmine dust. To the right of the victim's head was a pool of what appeared to be blood. The victim's sweater and bra was pulled up around her neck. The victim was nude except for her socks and underwear which was around her left ankle. There appeared to be a black dusty substance on the right inner thigh and abdomen. The victim sustained what appeared to be stab wounds to the left breast, midline of the chest and a lacerated throat. The victim was lying between the spare bed and dresser which was against the wall. Her blue jeans were found on the middle edge of the bed nearest the victim's feet.

Just after doing this I knew the victim had not been dead long. I searched the rest of the house to make sure that the suspect was not in the residence. After doing this I returned to the living room. The father-in-law of the victim was on the telephone with someone. I ask him to use the telephone. At that time I telephoned special agent J. E. Davidson of the Virginia State Police and the Sheriff Department Dispatcher. I advised her to contact Michael McGlothlin, Commonwealth Attorney, and his investigator, Paul Crouse.

I ask Patrolman Hall to go outside and keep everyone outside. I then ask Patrolman Owens to go to the residence of Dr. Thomas McDonald and pick him up. He lives within 100 yards of the victim's residence. At that time everyone left the residence.

Approximately 10-12 minutes later Patrolman Owens arrived back with Dr. McDonald, who is a medical examiner for the state. Myself and Dr. McDonald went back into the house and entered the bedroom. He looked at the body and advised the body had not been dead long, about one-half hour. Dr. McDonald viewed the body at about 11:40-11:45 p.m.

I then talked to Deputys Horn and Justus as to who made the complaint. They advised that the father-in-law, Mac Hezzie McCoy, had called the office. The victims husband was at his father's residence, located about 100 yards from the victim's residence. I ask Patrolman Owens to go stay with him and talk to him about the incident, because at that time I did not know who was a suspect.

After Dr. McDonald left the residence Patrolman Hall was stationed outside and advised to admit nobody unless Special Agent Davidson or myself said it was alright.

Approximately 15 minutes later Davidson arrived. We both entered the residence again and he viewed the body for the first time. It was agreed upon to have the State Police Crime Scene Van called to assist in the investigation. Special Agent Davidson contacted Wytheville by radio and advised them as such.

The door of the residence was closed and nobody entered it until the crime van arrived at 3:00a.m. During this time Special Agent R. A. Owens, with the State Police came to assist in this investigation. He did not enter the residence until after the van arrived. As stated earlier, the van arrived at approximately 3:00a.m. Special Agent K. E. Andrews was the operator. The crime scene was then taken over by Davidson, Owens, Andrews and myself. Owens sketched the scene and Andrews took photographs while myself and Davidson took measurements and collected evidence. All the evidence was turned over to Andrews for processing to the Forensic Lab.

While waiting on the lab van and Owens to arrive myself and Davidson interviewed the victim's husband at his father's residence, and also the victim's father-in-law.

After an investigation was conducted this information was given to Michael McGlothlin, Commonwealth Attorney, on March 31, 1981. At that time he advised that he would present this to a Buchanan County Grand Jury on April 13, 1981. On April 13, 1981 Roger Keith Coleman was indicted by the Grand Jury for murder and rape, also another change unrelated to this.

On April 13, 1981 at 6:25p.m., Coleman was taken into custody by myself and Special Agent J. E. Davidson at his work located at Big Rock, VA. At that time he was ~~by~~ advised of his Constitutional Rights and declined to make a statement concerning the murder and rape.



*you*



*right hand*



left  
hand

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

P. O. BOX 27472  
RICHMOND VIRGINIA 23261

October 26, 1981

The Honorable Michael Gordon McGlothlin  
Commonwealth Attorney  
Buchanan County, Virginia  
P. O. Box 804  
Grundy, Virginia 24614

RE: Wanda Fay Thompson McCoy- Victim  
Roger Keith Coleman - Accused  
MURDER - RAPE  
File Number: 91-4-0092

Dear Mr. McGlothlin:

Reference is made to my correspondence of April 6, 1981, confirming your decision to prosecute ROGER KEITH COLEMAN on charges of Murder and Rape.

Attached for your information and assistance is Special Agent J. G. Davidson's investigative report.

Sincerely,

*S. C. Delp*  
S. C. Delp  
Special Agent in Charge

SCD/JED/jac

Attachment



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

October 26, 1981

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION CONCERNING

WANDA FAY THOMPSON MCCOY - Victim  
ROGER KEITH COLEMAN - Accused

MURDER - RAPE

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Report of: S.A. J. E. Davidson

Office of Origin: Wytheville

Date : October 26, 1981

Office of Origin: Wytheville

Narrative of Offense:

This investigation was instituted upon receipt of a request for assistance from CHIEF R. S. JACKSON, Grundy Police Department, Grundy, Virginia, on March 10, 1981. The victim had been discovered, by her husband, dead and raped at their residence.

The front door did not reveal any evidence of a forced entry. The area in the living room was in a state of disarray and a red substance was found on the floor and the wall. It appeared that something was dragged from the living room into the spare bedroom. The body of the victim was found in this area with her throat cut and two post mortem wounds to the chest.

Investigation determined the semen and pubic hairs on the victim matched that of the accused, ROGER KEITH COLEMAN. Blood on the pants worn by the accused that night matched that of the victim.

ROBERT WALTER COLEMAN, described as:

RACE	White
SEX	Male
DATE OF BIRTH	11/01/58
PLACE OF BIRTH	Fort Gordon, Georgia
HEIGHT	5'9"
WEIGHT	160
BUILD	Medium
HAIR	Brown
EYES	Green
COMPLEXION	Fair
SCARS, MARKS OR TATTOOS	Tattoo of heart with arrow in it on right arm
RESIDENCE	P. O. Box 237 Grundy, Virginia
OCCUPATION	Coal Miner
PRIOR EMPLOYMENT	T J and M Coal Company Grundy, Virginia
EDUCATION	High School Graduate
MILITARY SERVICE	None
MARITAL STATUS	Married; PATRICIA THOMPSON COLEMAN Grundy, Virginia
RELATIVES	GARNETT MARGARET COLEMAN, grandmother, 73 WILLIE COLEMAN, father, 47

Full text of interviews, pages 28, 29, 30, and 32, attached.  
(Interview resulted in no admission.)

On March 31, 1981, the facts of this matter were presented to Commonwealth Attorney MICHAEL MCGLATHLIN, Virginia. He advised to conduct the investigation and logical conclusion.

2. On March 31, 1981, the facts in this matter were again presented to Commonwealth Attorney MICHAEL MCGLATHLIN, who advised that he would present the evidence to a Buchanan County Grand Jury on April 13, 1981.
3. On April 13, 1981, ROGER KEITH COLEMAN was indicted by the Buchanan County Grand Jury for the charges of Rape and Murder.
4. On April 14, 1981, COLEMAN was arraigned before Buchanan County Circuit Court Judge N. E. PERSIN. Trial date has not been set.

1. BRADLEY EDWARD BOBBY  
Stock Clerk, UNITED COAL COMPANY  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-7225  
Residence: P. O. Box 427  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-4672.

Can testify he left his residence for work at 2:35 p.m. Can state that he ~~returned to his residence at 9:00 p.m. and talked to his wife~~ ~~about fifteen minutes.~~ During the conversation, nothing appeared to be wrong. Can testify he returned home at 11:05 p.m. and found his wife dead in the spare bedroom. He can state that his wife was fearful at night and would not allow anyone she did not know into the house.

Full text of interview, pages 18 and 19, attached.

2. RANDALL SCOTT JACKSON  
Chief, Grundy Police Department (Buchanan County)  
Grundy, Virginia  
Telephone: 935-2240  
Residence: New House Branch  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-6172

Can testify that he responded to the scene and examined the victim. Can state that blood was seeping from the wounds and the body was warm.

Full text of interview, page 16, attached.

3. THOMAS D. McDONALD  
Medical Examiner  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-2111  
Residence: Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-2316

Can testify that the victim died as a result of hemorrhage and shock from wounds to the chest and neck. Can state that victim died at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Full text of interview, page 20, attached.

4. K. E. ANDREWS, JR.  
Special Agent, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Virginia State Police  
Wytheville, Virginia (Wythe County)  
Telephone: 228-3131

Can testify to results of crime scene search. Can testify that he can state that he took photographs of crime scene. Can testify that he carried evidence to the Bureau of Forensic Science and released it to proper authority.

Full text of interview, page 23, attached.

5. R. M. OWENS  
Special Agent, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Virginia State Police  
Wytheville, Virginia (Wythe County)  
Telephone: 228-3131

Can testify that he assisted in the crime scene investigation. He can state that he drew a crime scene sketch. Can testify that he was present at the time COLEMAN released the clothing he wore on the night of the offense.

Full text of interview, pages 24 through 27, attached.

6. ~~JOHN E. [REDACTED]~~  
Coal Miner, T J and M Coal Company  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: None  
Residence: Rt. 1, Box 252  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: None

Can state that he told COLEMAN that his shift was laid off. Can testify that COLEMAN came to the mine site at 9:30 p.m., talked to a subject and left.

Full text of interview, page 34, attached.

7. ~~[REDACTED]~~  
Section Boss, T J and M Coal Company  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: None  
Residence: Rt. 1, Box 220  
Swords Creek, Virginia (Russell County)  
Telephone: None

Can testify that COLEMAN came to the mine site on 3/10/81 at 9:45 p.m., talked for five or ten minutes and left.

Full text of interview, page 35, attached.

7-1-0012

8. SANDRA KAY RATLIFF

Housewife  
Telephone: None  
Residence: Route 2, Box 214  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)

Can testify that COLEMAN came to her residence between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. on March 10, 1981. Can state that his arrival was unexplained and unexpected. Can testify that her husband is generally at work during this time.

Full text of interview, page 21, attached.

9. GARY SCOTT RATLIFF

Coal Miner, Island Creek Coal Company  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 498-4558  
Residence: Route 2, Box 214  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: None

Can testify that COLEMAN came to his residence between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. on March 10, 1981. Can testify that his arrival was unexplained and unexpected. Can state that he was normally at work during this time.

Full text of interview, page 22, attached.

10. GARNETT MARGARET COLEMAN

Housewife  
Residence: P. O. Box 237  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Telephone: 935-8441

Can testify that ROGER KEITH COLEMAN came to the residence on March 10, 1981, at 11:30 p.m.

Full text of interview, page 15, attached

11. J. E. DAVIDSON

Special Agent, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Virginia State Police  
Wytheville, Virginia  
Telephone: \*228-3131

Can testify that he received clothing and knives from ROGER KEITH COLEMAN. Can state distances between LOONEY'S CREEK to BOYD'S TRAILER PARK and from BOYD'S TRAILER PARK to the victim's residence. Can state that blood, hair, and saliva samples were taken from COLEMAN and forwarded to Bureau of Forensic Science. Can testify to statements made by the Defendant.

Full text of interviews, pages 29, 30, 28, 33, 31, 2, and 32, attached.

12. DR. D. W. OXLEY,  
Pathologist, Office of Medical Examiner  
Roanoke, Virginia (ROANOKE COUNTY)  
Telephone: 982-7290

Can testify to results of autopsy of victim and cause of death. Can testify that he removed blood, hairs (pubic), and vaginal and rectal specimens from the victim.

See autopsy report of Office of Medical Examiner, pages 8 through 13, attached.

13. ELMER GIST  
Examiner  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services  
Roanoke, Virginia (Roanoke County)  
Telephone: 982-7192

Can be qualified as expert serologist and can testify the victim's blood is type "O"; Accused is type "B". Can state that hairs, foreign to the victim, matches the Accused and semen found on the vaginal specimens is type "B". Can testify the blood type "O" was found on the Accused's blue jeans and that human blood was found on the Accused's knife.

See Bureau of Forensic Science Laboratory report, pages 3 - 7, attached.

14. ROGER LEE MATNEY  
Inmate, Buchanan County Jail  
Grundy, Virginia (Buchanan County)  
Residence: P. O. Box 50  
Elkhorn, Kentucky (Pike County)

Can testify that COLEMAN stated to him that he killed the victim.

Full text of interview, page 17, attached.

Evidence:

1. Crime scene sketch of victim's residence dated 5/11/81, drawn by S/A R. M. Owens. (Original in possession of VSP, BCI, Wytheville, Virginia.)
2. Two (2) pubic hairs and vaginal specimens removed from the victim by DR. D. W. OXLEY, MD. (In possession of VSP, BCI, Wytheville, Virginia.)
3. One (1) pair of blue jeans worn by the accused on March 10, 1981. (In possession of VSP, BCI, Wytheville, Virginia.)
4. One (1) knife removed from the possession of the Accused. (In the possession of VSP, BCI, Wytheville, Virginia.)

Scientific and Technical Reports, Identification Records, Prior Arrests:

1. Bureau of Forensic Science, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services, Roanoke, Virginia, report concerning hairs and blood comparisons of the victim and accused. (See attached pages.)
2. Virginia State Medical Examiners, Roanoke, Virginia, report regarding autopsy results of WANDA FAY THOMPSON MCCOY. (See attached pages.)
3. CCRE Identification Division Arrest records disclose ROGER KEITH COLEMAN was arrested on 4/7/77 for Attempted Rape and Use of A Firearm in Commission of a Felony. Disposition was listed as convicted and sentenced to three years in the State Penitentiary, Richmond, Virginia.

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VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 22, 1981

GARNETT MARGARET COLEMAN, housewife, telephone number 935-8441, P. O. Box 237, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed on March 11, 1981, at 12:30 p.m. (COLEMAN is the grandmother of ROGER KEITE COLEMAN.)

COLEMAN stated that on March 10, 1981, at approximately 11:30 p.m., ROGER KEITE COLEMAN came to her residence. She advised that COLEMAN usually worked the midnight shift and left her residence at approximately 8:30 p.m. She stated that ROGER got laid off from the mine that night.

COLEMAN stated that COLEMAN came home right at the time the eleven o'clock news went off.

Investigation on March 11, 1981 at Grundy, VA File # 81-1-0092 - 32

by S/A s J. E. Davidson and P. M. Owens/jac Date dictated March 17, 1981

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Date of Transcription March 23, 1981

RANDALL SCOTT JACKSON, Chief of Police, telephone numbers home 935-6172, office 935-2551, P. O. Box 362, Grundy, Virginia, was interviewed at 11:48 p.m. on March 10, 1981.

JACKSON stated that on March 10, 1981, at 11:20 p.m., he overheard a message over the police scanner that something was wrong in the "Long Bottom" section of Grundy, Virginia. He advised that he arrived at approximately 11:27 p.m. and was met by DEPUTY STEVE COLEMAN, NOAH HORN and BILL JUSTUS. He advised that COLEMAN advised that there was a dead woman in the bedroom of the house. JACKSON stated that he instructed HORN and JUSTUS to keep everyone out of the house. He advised that PATROLMAN CLINUS HALL had arrived and met him on the porch of the house. He advised that they (HALL and he) walked into the living room, into the hallway and into the bedroom. He advised that he noticed the coffee table in the living room was turned sideways, a "pop" bottle on the floor, overhead living room light on, television set on and the end table next to the hallway was turned sideways. He advised that he looked into the spare bedroom and saw the body. He advised that the head of the victim was nearest the hallway. He advised that he observed the body and then checked the wrist of the body and could not find any pulse or other signs of life. He stated that he could see the blood from the neck wound on the body "oozing" onto the floor. He advised that he checked the different rooms of the house, thinking the assailant was still present. He stated that he thought that the offense had recently occurred. JACKSON stated that he came into the living room and picked up the telephone and called this writer. He advised that PATROLMAN T. R. OWENS came into the living room. He stated that he instructed OWENS to pick up DR. T. D. McDONALD, Medical Examiner, and transport him to this location. He advised that he questioned HORN or JUSTUS as to who called in the complaint. He advised that either the husband or father-in-law of the victim called the Sheriff's Department. He advised that after finding out that the victim's husband was at his father-in-law's residence he instructed one of the officers to check on him in regard to being a possible suspect. JACKSON advised that he instructed everyone to leave the house until the arrival of the Medical Examiner. He advised that McDONALD arrived, went into the house and examined the body. JACKSON stated that McDONALD stated that the victim had not been dead longer than a half of an hour. He advised that McDONALD examined the body at approximately 11:40 p.m. He advised that no one was in the house at this time except for he and McDONALD. He stated that they exited the house awaiting the arrival of this writer.

Investigation on 3-10-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-16

by SA J. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 3-19-81

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Virginia State Police. It is the property of the Virginia State Police and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Date of Transcription June 1, 1981

ROGER LEE MATNEY, incarcerated in the Buchanan County Jail, P. O. Box 50, Elkhorn City, Kentucky, contacted this writer on May 29, 1981, at 8:50 a.m. He expressed his desire to talk to this interviewing Agent in regard to certain statements made by ROGER KEITH COLEMAN.

MATNEY stated that he has been in a jail cell at Buchanan County Jail, Grundy, Virginia, with ROGER KEITH COLEMAN for approximately four to five weeks. He advised that approximately two and one-half weeks ago, the subject of the murder was brought up. MATNEY stated that he asked COLEMAN if he had any blood on his mining clothes. He advised that COLEMAN told him that he definitely did not have blood on his clothes because he checked his clothes after he left the house where she was killed. He stated that COLEMAN told him that he told the other guy with him not to cut her, but he did anyway. MATNEY stated that COLEMAN advised that the girl scratched this guy on the face and back. He advised that COLEMAN told him that the knife, a boot knife in a holster, was his and was supposed to be hidden under the Black Watch Coal Company Bridge in a brown paper bag. MATNEY stated that COLEMAN told him that when the victim's husband called the house at 9:00 p.m., they were in the house. He advised that COLEMAN stated that after she hung up the telephone, that is when it started. He stated that COLEMAN advised that one of them hit her in the face and she began to scream. He advised that COLEMAN stated that that was when the other boy cut her neck with his knife. MATNEY advised that COLEMAN advised that afterward, they took her into a bedroom and took off her pants. He advised that COLEMAN stated that they raped her. MATNEY stated that COLEMAN advised that the body could be seen in the bedroom from the front door. He advised that COLEMAN stopped talking about the matter when he said something about paper towels. MATNEY stated that COLEMAN never informed him who the other person was. He advised that COLEMAN stated that, if he could have gotten a gun when he was arrested, the officers would not have taken him in.

Investigation on 5-29-81 at Grundy, Virginia File # 81-4-0092-51  
 by [Signature] S. E. Davidson/bps Date dictated 5-29-81

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Virginia State Police. It is the property of the Virginia State Police and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

PROSECUTION'S ACCOUNT  
OF COLEMAN'S WHEREABOUTS  
ON MARCH 10, 1981 (REVISED FOR TRIAL ERROR)

Once time for wading Slate Creek is included in the Commonwealth's route, in light of the timecard corroborating Mr. Vandyke's testimony, an approximation of the times which would include Mr. Coleman's committing the crime is as follows:

<u>Starting Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Ending Range</u>
9:55 p.m.	Talk with men at stockpile	3-5 min.	N/A	10:00
10:00	Leave stockpile and meet Vandyke	15 min.	N/A	10:15
10:15	Talk with Vandyke	10-15 min.	N/A	10:25-10:30
10:27	Drive From Looney's Creek to Boyd's Trailer park	13 min.	8.2 miles	10:38-10:43
10:40	Retrieve tape from Stiltner	3 min.	N/A	10:41-10:46
10:43	Drive from Boyd's Trailer Park to Slate Creek	5 min	3.5 miles	10:46-10:51
10:48	Wade creek and climb hill	6 min.	350 yards	10:52-10:57
10:54	Commit crime (Gain entry, rape, ejaculate twice, stab victim, leave unnoticed)	3-10 min.	N/A	11:00 (outside limit on time of death)-11:04
11:00-11:04	Return to truck, drive to bathhouse, shower, get rid of evidence, return home			11:30 - 11:40 (Long after Mr. Coleman was home in bed)

Thus, the mistiming of the alibi and the withholding of Phillip Vandyke's timecard were crucial trial errors which made the Commonwealth's virtually impossible theory somewhat more plausible.

MR. COLEMAN'S CORROBORATED ACCOUNT  
OF HIS WHEREABOUTS  
ON MARCH 10, 1981

Based upon Mr. Coleman's testimony and the approximate driving times from one location to another, his explanation of his whereabouts that evening is as follows:

<u>Starting</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Ending(Range)</u>
9:55pm	Talk with men at stockpile	3-5 min.	N/A	9:58-10:00pm
10:00pm	Leave stockpile and meet Van Dyke	15 min.	N/A	10:15
10:15	Talk with Van Dyke	10-15 min.	N/A	10:25-10:30
10:27	Drive from Looney's Creek to Boyd's Trailer Park	13 min.	8.2 miles	10:38-10:43
10:40	Retrieve tape from Stiltner	3 min.	N/A	10:41-10:46
10:43	Drive from Boyd's Trailer park to the Bathhouse	8 min.	4.9 miles	10:49-10:54
10:51	Shower at the Bathhouse	10 min.	N/A	10:59-11:04
11:01	Drive from Bathhouse to home	6 min.	2.3 miles	11:05-11:10

STATEMENT OF KATHLEEN A. BEHAN

I, Kathleen A. Behan, say as follows:

1. I am an attorney for the law firm of Arnold & Porter, 1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

2. Since 1990, I have represented Roger Keith Coleman in the habeas corpus proceedings currently pending before this Court. I am in frequent contact with persons having information about Mr. Coleman's case.

3. On April 8, 1992, I interviewed Elmer Gist, the forensic serologist who performed the original blood typing analysis of the semen found in Wanda McCoy's bodily cavities. I was aware at that time that Mr. Gist had obtain an "inconclusive" result when he originally tested the semen found in Ms. McCoy's rectal cavity.

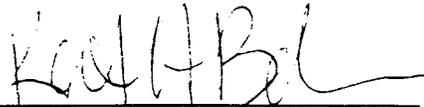
4. I asked Mr. Gist whether that meant that he had been unable to obtain a test result because the quantity of the sample had been insufficient. He said that this was not what an "inconclusive" result means. He stated that an "inconclusive" result is one in which the sample is sufficient to subject to tests, but the test results are deemed unreliable or not reported out for some reason. Among the reasons for an "inconclusive" result are a problem with the controls or perceived contamination in the sample.

5. I later spoke with Mr. Gist by telephone. When I asked him directly whether his handwritten notes of the tests on the scene contained indications of blood types other than type B, he refused to deny that possibility, but did indicate that he would have had a good scientific basis for not reporting any other type out.

6. On April 8, 1992, I also spoke with Dr. David W. Oxley, the Commonwealth's Chief Medical Examiner, who performed the autopsy on Wanda McCoy's body in 1981. Dr. Oxley informed me that in his examination of Ms. McCoy's body he had concluded that anal penetration had occurred.

7. In the past few months, I contacted the federal Social Security Administration by telephone, and asked to speak to someone with access to Donney Ramey's disability insurance records. The person on the other end of the line would not release the records without a formal authorization, but did confirm that Mr. Ramey's records may contain psychological information of potential relevance to this case. The records may indicate that Mr. Ramey has had a history of nightmares, incidents of acting out, and violent tendencies towards his present girlfriend.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

---

Kathleen A. Behan



Department of Forensic Sciences  
 Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services  
**BUREAU OF FORENSIC SCIENCES**

*Came back after - next*

**CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS**

**August 21, 1981**

Western Laboratory  
 920 S. Jefferson Street  
 Room #219  
 Roanoke, Virginia 24016

Tel. No. (703) 982-7192

**TO: Trooper J. E. Davidson  
 Box 277  
 Vansant VA 24656**



Your Case #

FS Lab # 80N-4273  
 80N-5584  
 80-8737

Victim(s): **McCoy, Wanda**

Examiner: **Elmer Gist, Jr.**

Suspect(s): **COLEMAN, Roger Keith**

Date Received **3/12/81**

Evidence Submitted By: **D. W. Oxley, M. D.**

- Item 1 Blood sample from victim.
- Items 2 thru 4, and 9 Vaginal, rectal and oral specimens from victim.
- Item 6 Two (2) hairs from pubic area of victim.
- Item 7 Pubic hair sample from victim.
- Item 8 Panties.

Evidence Submitted By: **Special Agent K. E. Andrews, Jr.**

Date Received **3/13/81**

- Item 10 "Red stain" from living room.
- Item 11 White napkin.
- Item 12 Eight (8) "red stains" from living room.
- Item 13 "Red stain" and "clear substance" from living room.
- Item 14 "Red stain" from coffee table.
- Item 15 Hairs from coffee table in living room.
- Item 16 Vacuum sweepings from living room.
- Item 17 Blanket.
- Item 18 Vacuum sweepings from hallway.
- Item 19 Carpet.
- Item 20 "Red stain" from N.E. bedroom.
- Item 21 "Red stain" from N.E. bedroom.
- Item 22 Yellow paper towel.
- Item 23 Vacuum sweepings from N.E. bedroom.
- Item 24 Blue jeans.
- Item 25 Clothing and white cloth rag.

**(Continued on next page.)**

**IN FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE REFERENCE THIS MATTER PLEASE REFER TO THE FS LAB # ABOVE**

Page 1 of 8

- 14/
- Item 26 "Red stain" from living room lamp.
  - Item 27 "Red stain" from wall.
  - Item 28 Paper tissues and napkin.

Evidence Submitted By: D. W. Oxley, M. D.

Date Received 3/16/81

- Item 29 Clothing from victim.

Evidence Submitted By: Certified Mail # P33 3386489

Date Received 3/16/81

- Item 30 Hair sample, saliva sample and blood sample from suspect.

Evidence Submitted By: Special Agent J. E. Davidson

Date Received 3/16/81

- Item 31 Blue jeans.
- Item 32 Shirt.
- Item 33 Cap.
- Item 34 T-shirt.
- Item 35 Plastic bag.
- Item 36 Pair of boots.
- Item 37 Thermal underwear bottoms.
- Item 38 Washcloth.
- Item 39 Towel.
- Item 40 Pair of socks.
- Item 41 Two (2) pair of coveralls.
- Item 42 Undershorts.
- Item 43 Knife with sheath.
- Item 44 Pocketknife.
- Item 45 Pair of tennis shoes.

Evidence Submitted By: Certified Mail # P33 3382887

Date Received 4/27/81

- Item 46 Pocketknife.

RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS:

- Item 1 The blood sample from the victim is type O.
- Items 2 thru 4 and 9 Spermatozoa were identified on the vaginal specimens from the victim. The results of tests indicate the secretion type is B. Spermatozoa heads were identified on the rectal specimens. The results of tests to determine the secretion type were inconclusive. No semen was identified on the oral specimens.
- Item 6 The two (2) hairs from the pubic area of the victim are consistent with the pubic hairs from suspect (Item 30). The hairs are dissimilar to pubic hairs from the victim (Item 7).
- Item 8 No semen was identified on the panties. No hairs were found.
- Item 10 The "red stain" from the living room consists of human blood which is too limited in amount for blood type determination.
- Item 11 Human blood which is too limited in amount for blood type determination was identified on the white napkin. No semen was identified.

(Continued on next page.)

Page 2 of 5

RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS (CON'T.):

- Item 12 One (1) of the eight (8) "red stains" from the living room consists of human blood, type O. Three (3) of the remaining red stains consist of human blood which is too limited in amount for blood type determination. The remaining "red stains" consist of blood which is too limited in amount for origin or blood type determinations.
- Item 13 The "red stain" from the living room consists of blood which is too limited in amount for origin or blood type. No semen was identified in the clear substance.
- Item 14 The "red stain" from the coffee table consists of blood which is too limited in amount for origin or blood type determination.
- Item 15 The hairs from the coffee table consist of several Caucasian hairs and two (2) animal hairs. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Item 16 The vacuum sweepings from the living room consist of several Caucasian hairs and animal hairs. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect.
- Item 17 Human blood, type O, was identified on the blanket. Several Caucasian hairs and animal hairs were found. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Item 18 Several Caucasian hairs and animal hairs were found in the vacuum sweepings from the hallway. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Item 19 Several Caucasian hairs and animal hairs were found on the carpet. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Items 20-21 The "red stains" from the N.E. bedroom each consist of human blood, type O.
- Item 22 No blood was identified on the yellow paper towel. No semen was identified.
- Item 23 Several Caucasian hairs and animal hairs were found in the vacuum sweepings from the N.E. bedroom. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Item 24 Human blood, type O, was identified on the blue jeans. No semen was identified. No hairs were found.
- Item 25 Human blood, type O, was identified on one (1) of the articles of clothing. Human blood was identified on four (4) other articles of clothing and the white cloth rag. The results of tests to determine the blood type on three (3) of the articles of clothing and the white cloth rag were inconclusive. The other article of clothing was too limited in amount for blood type determination. Blood which was too limited in amount for origin or blood type determination was identified on one (1) of the articles of clothing and no blood was identified on the remaining articles of clothing. No semen was identified. Several Caucasian hairs dissimilar to the hair samples from the suspect (Item 30) were found.

(Continued on next page.)

**RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS (CON'T.):**

- Items 26 and 27 The "red stain" from the living room lamp and the "red stain" from the wall consist of blood which is too limited in amount for origin or blood type determination.
- Item 28 No semen was identified on the paper tissues or napkin.
- Item 29 Several Caucasian hairs were found on the clothing from the victim. The hairs are dissimilar to the submitted hair samples from the suspect (Item 30).
- Item 31 Human blood, type O, was identified on the blue jeans. No semen was identified. Several Caucasian hairs and one (1) animal hair were found. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7).
- Item 32 Three (3) Caucasian hairs and two (2) animal hairs were found in the shirt. No blood was identified. No semen was identified. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7).
- Item 33 No blood was identified on the cap. No semen was identified. No hairs were found.
- Item 34 Several Caucasian hairs were found on the T-shirt. No blood was identified. No semen was identified. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hairs from the victim (Item 7).
- Item 35 No blood was identified on the plastic bag. No hairs were found. No semen was identified.
- Item 36 No blood was identified on the pair of boots. No semen was identified. No hairs were found.
- Item 37 Several Caucasian hairs and one (1) animal hair were found on the thermal underwear bottoms. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7). No semen was identified. No blood was identified.
- Items 38-40 Several Caucasian hairs were found on the washcloth, towel, and pair of socks. The hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7). No blood was identified. No semen was identified.
- Item 41 One (1) Caucasian hair and one (1) animal hair were found on the two (2) pair of coveralls. No blood was identified. No semen was identified.
- Item 42 Two (2) Caucasian hairs were found on the undershorts. The hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7).

(Continued on next page.)

Page 4 of 5.

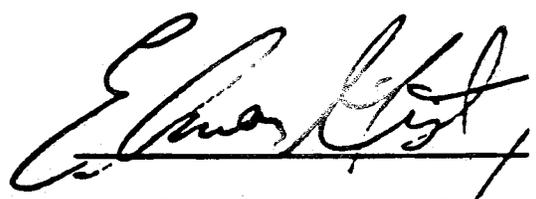
RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS (CON'T.):

- Item 43 No blood was identified on the knife or sheath.
- Item 44 Blood which was too limited in amount for origin or blood type determination was identified on the pocketknife.
- Item 45 Four (4) Caucasian hairs and one (1) animal hair were found on the pair of tennis shoes. The Caucasian hairs are dissimilar to the hair sample from the victim (Item 7).
- Item 46 No blood was identified on the pocketknife.

The results of the other requested examinations will be the subject of an additional report.

cc: D. W. Oxley, M. D.

EG/d  
STATE OF VIRGINIA  
CITY/COUNTY OF Roanoke



THIS day personally appeared before me Carol M. McGeorge, a notary public, in and for said city/county in the Commonwealth of Virginia, Elmer Gist, Jr., who signed the foregoing Certificate of Analysis, before me, and after being duly sworn, made a (1) that he performed the analysis and/or examination the results of which are herein contained, (2) that said analysis and/or examination was performed in a laboratory operated by the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services of the Commonwealth or authorized by such Division to conduct such analysis and/or examination and (3) that this Certificate of Analysis is true and correct.

Given under my hand this 21 day of August, 1981.

My commission expires June 19, 1982.

Carol M. McGeorge Notary Public  
I was commissioned Carol M. McGeorge.

Page 5 of 5

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  
WESTERN DISTRICT  
920 SOUTH JEFFERSON STREET  
ROOM 301  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24016  
PHONE (703) 982-7290



Resident  
 Non-resident

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY MEDICAL EXAMINER

DECEDENT WANDA FAYE Thompson McCoy AGE: 19 RACE: W SEX: F  
First name Middle name Last name  
ADDRESS Long Bottom (M) W S D OCCUPATION: Housewife  
Number and Street  
Grundy, VA. 24614 SSN \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
City or County Zip Code

TYPE OF DEATH: (Check one only)  
Sudden in apparent health  Suspicious  Violent or Unnatural   
Unattended by physician  Unusual   
In prison, jail, or police custody  Means: Stabbing + C/T

	Last Seen Alive	Injury or Illness	Death	Medical Examiner Notified	View of Body	Police Notified
DATE	3-10-81	3-10-81	3-10-81	3-10-81	3-10-81	3-10-81
TIME	9:30	10:25 PM	10:30 PM	11:30 PM	11:35 PM	11:27 PM

\* Motor Vehicle Accident - Check One Of The Follow:  
RIVER   
PASSENGER   
PEDESTRIAN

NOTIFICATION BY: Dispatcher OFFICIAL TITLE Buchanan Co. Dispatcher  
Address Grundy, Va.

	LOCATION	CITY OR COUNTY	TYPE OF PREMISES (E.G. HIGHWAY, ETC.)
INJURY OR ONSET OF ILLNESS	<u>Home - Long Bottom Sedim</u>	<u>Grundy, Va.</u>	<u>Home</u>
DEATH	" "	" "	" "
VIEWING OF BODY BY MEDICAL EXAMINER	" "	" "	" "

DESCRIPTION OF BODY	NOSE	MOUTH	EARS	RIGOR		LIVOR			NON FATAL WOUND:
				Jaw	Neck	Color	Anterior	Posterior	
Clothed <input type="checkbox"/> Unclothed <input type="checkbox"/> Partly Clothed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hair Color <u>Black-Brown</u> Beard <u>0</u> Mustache <u>0</u> Pupils <u>R3 L3</u> Eyes: Color <u>Blue-Green</u> Body Heat <u>WARM</u> Scars, Tattoos, etc. <u>-</u>	Blood <u>*</u>	* <u>*</u>	0	<u>None</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Color <u>Reddish</u>	Abrasion <input type="checkbox"/>	Burn <input type="checkbox"/>	Contusion <input type="checkbox"/> Stab <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gunshot <input type="checkbox"/> Incised <input type="checkbox"/> Laceration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fracture <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRIBUTION Scalp <input type="checkbox"/> Chest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Face Neck <input type="checkbox"/> Arm <input type="checkbox"/> Back Abdomen <input type="checkbox"/> Leg
Froth <u>*</u>	* <u>*</u>	0	Complete <input type="checkbox"/>	Anterior <input type="checkbox"/>	Posterior <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lateral <input type="checkbox"/>	Regional <input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (Sand, dirt, water, etc.)									
WEIGHT <u>120 lb.</u> LENGTH <u>63 in.</u>									

FATAL WOUNDS (GUNSHOT, STAB, ETC.)	SIZE	SHAPE	LOCATION	PLANE LINE OR DIRECTION
<u>Laceration</u>	<u>6 in</u>	<u>Linear</u>	<u>Neck</u>	<u>(2) R -&gt; LT</u>
<u>Stab</u>	<u>1/2" x 3/4"</u>	<u>Ovoid</u>	<u>Ant Chest. 19 in</u>	<u>A -&gt; P</u>

CAUSE OF DEATH: Hemorrhage & Shock  
Laceration Neck &  
Stab wound Chest

MANNER OF DEATH: (Check one only)  
Accident  Suicide  Homicide   
Natural  Undetermined  Pending

AUTOPSY: Yes  No   
AUTHORIZED BY Medical Examiner  
Pathologist DAVID ONLEY  
Autopsy No. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of the death described herein I took charge of the body and made inquiries regarding the cause and manner of death in accordance with Section §32.1-283, Code of Virginia as amended, and that the information contained herein regarding such death is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

3/11/81 Date  
Buchanan Co. City of County of Appointment  
Thomas W. Deneff Medical Examiner

A COPY TESTE: MAR 23 1981

NAME OF PHYSICIAN OR INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	DIAGNOSIS	DATE

**CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH:**

	NAME	Official Title or Relationship to Decedent	ADDRESS
UND DEAD BY	Brend McCoy	Husband	Grundy, VA.
LAST SEEN ALIVE BY			
WITNESSES TO SUICIDE OR ILLNESS AND DEATH			

**NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH:** Decedent was at home while husband was working - was called at 9:00 PM and was apparently O.K. - At 11:15 PM Husband came home and found her dead - Police + M.E. notified -

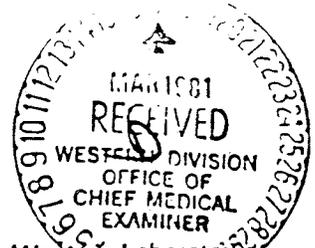
Exam of body revealed (1) Lying on back with arms elevated (2) clothing off except Suspenders + Bra which were slung up (3) Hemorrhoids, Panties on Lt. Ankle, Socks still on. Feet (4) a stab wound in mid chest 19 in ↓ Head (5) ~~Secondary~~ Laceration Lt. Chest (6) Laceration of neck  
 Nothing was disturbed or Body sent for Autopsy

Toxicology sent: Yes  No   
 Blood   
 Urine   
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

DECEDENT Wanda Faye Thompson McCoy



Department of General Services  
 Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services  
**BUREAU OF FORENSIC SCIENCE**



Western Laboratory  
 920 S. Jefferson Street  
 Room #219  
 Roanoke, Virginia 24016

Tel. No. (703) 982-7192

**CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS**

March 16, 1981

TO: Thomas McDonald, M.D.  
 P.O. Box 803  
 Grundy, VA 24614

Your Case # 810265  
 Victim(s): McCOY, Wanda

FS Lab # 80W-4273

Examiner: Richard J. McGarry

Suspect(s):

Date Received 3-12-81

Evidence Submitted By: Dr. David W. Oxley

Blood for Alcohol and Carbon Monoxide.

RESULTS:

Blood: Negative for Alcohol and Carbon Monoxide.

*Richard J. McGarry*  
 Toxicologist

RJM/bh  
 IN FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE REFERENCE THIS MATTER PLEASE REFER TO THE FS LAB # ABOVE

*[Signature]*  
 Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

Autopsy No. W-22-81  
Date 3/12/81  
Time 8:30 a.m.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

WESTERN DISTRICT  
920 SOUTH JEFFERSON STREET, ROOM 301  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24018  
PHONE: (703) 982-7298  
REPORT OF AUTOPSY



DECEDENT WANDA FAY MCCOY  
First Middle Type of Death; Violent or Unnatural

Autopsy Authorized by: Dr. McDonald, Buchanan County

Body Identified by: Dr. McDonald & Morgue Tag  
Delivered by Grundy Funeral  
Home 3/11/81 at 1:11 p.m.

Persons Present at Autopsy:  
Dr. Oxley Mr. Berger

Rigor: complete generalized jaw \_\_\_\_\_ neck \_\_\_\_\_ arms \_\_\_\_\_ legs \_\_\_\_\_  
Liver: color absent distribution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age 19 Race white Sex fem Length 64" weight 110-120 Eyes blue/gray Pupils: R 0.3 L 0.3  
Hair light brn Mustache \_\_\_\_\_ Beard \_\_\_\_\_ Circumcised \_\_\_\_\_ Body Hair absent

Clothing, Personal Effects: External wounds, scars, tattoos, other identifying features:

The body is well developed, well nourished, and clothed in a tan cable knit sweater which is pushed up from the waist above the breasts. The sweater shows extensive blood staining. The second item consists of a white bra which is also pushed above the breasts but is not unfastened. Third item consists of blue and white knee socks which are rolled down to the ankles. Fourth item consists of tan bikini panties which are hooked around the left ankle. There is a safety pin in the crotch of the panties suggesting that a sanitary napkin had been worn at some point. The clothing is submitted to the forensic science laboratory.

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES

1. Slash wound of throat with transection of right carotid artery, jugular vein and larynx.
2. Stab wounds of chest (2) with perforation of heart and left lung.

Cause of Death: SLASH WOUND OF THROAT

Provisional Report \_\_\_\_\_  
Final Report XX

The facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

3/17/81  
Date Signed

CHR  
Place of Autopsy

David W. Oxley  
Signature of Pathologist

David W. Oxley, M.D.

Wound in the pericardium. There is approximately 20 cc of blood in the peritoneal cavity.

HEART: Weighs 200 grams. There is a stab wound in the left lateral ventricle that measures  $1 \times 1/8$  inch, and penetrates the ventricle. There is no hemorrhage into the pericardium and this represents a postmortem wound. There are no other valve or chamber lesions and the coronary arteries are not remarkable.

LUNGS: Combined weight is 600 grams. The organs are crepitant, well aerated, and pinkish-tan. There is a stab wound in the left lateral aspect of the left upper lobe, from which there has been a small amount of bleeding. There is bloody froth in the tracheo-bronchial system. The arterial system is not remarkable.

LIVER: Weighs 900 grams. There is a stab wound perforating the inferior surface of the right hepatic lobe that measures  $1 \times 1/16$  inch and there has been a very scanty amount of bleeding into the peritoneal cavity. The wound was probably inflicted either very near death or postmortem. The organ is otherwise not remarkable.

SPLEEN: Weighs 100 grams and shows no pathologic changes.

KIDNEYS: Combined weight is 250 grams. The organs show no pathologic changes.

ADRENALS: Show no pathologic changes.

PANCREAS: Shows no pathologic changes.

GI TRACT: The stomach contains approximately 75-100 cc's of partially digested material resembling potatoes. The remainder of the GI Tract is not remarkable.

URINARY BLADDER: Empty.

INTERNAL GENITALIA: The uterus, cervix, tubes and ovaries are not remarkable and there is no evidence of pregnancy.

NECK ORGANS: The trachea has been severed at the level of the thyroid gland. The right carotid artery and jugular vein have been cut, as have the strap muscles on the right. There has been extensive hemorrhage externally from this wound. The cartilages and hyoid bone are intact and there is no evidence of blunt force injury or strangulation.

BRAIN: Weighs 1220 grams. Sagittal and serial coronal sections show no discrete lesions and there is no evidence of injury.

The skull, vertebrae, ribs, and pelvis are intact.

OTHER LABORATORY PROCEDURES: TOXICOLOGY  BACTERIOLOGY  DENTAL CHART  X-RAY  FINGER-PRINT   
PHOTOGRAPHY  SEROLOGY  FORENSIC SCIENCE

#### DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

TYPE (Clothing, Bullets, Etc.)	NAME OF RECIPIENT	ADDRESS	OFFICIAL TITLE	DATE
Autopsy	Dr. McNamee			3/17/61

W-82-81 WANDA FAY MCCOY

EXTERNAL DESCRIPTION

The head is normocephalic. There are no palpable fractures or injuries to the face. There is a slash wound on the anterior neck, angling upward from the lower left across the midline, cutting through the thyroid cartilage and strap muscles on the right. The direction of the cut is from right to left and downward. The thyroid gland on the right has been lacerated. The right strap muscles have been lacerated. The larynx has also been lacerated. There is a moderate amount of bloody frothy material in the larynx exuding from the wound. The margins are clean and there are no hesitation marks.

There are two stab wounds on the chest, these will be separately described. There is fine blackish-brown material on the hands, somewhat resembling coal dust. This material is also present over the upper pubis. There is blood present on both hands together with the dust material. The fingernails are chipped and broken. There is no appreciable quantity of material beneath the nails and no foreign hairs or other material is found upon examination. The pubic hair is fine and reddish-blond and there are two black somewhat longer hairs present on the right side of the pubis. These are saved for laboratory examination. There is no evidence of injury to the vulva, vaginal vault or perineum. Swabs are taken from the vaginal vault, rectum and oral cavity for laboratory examination.

There is no evidence of injury to the extremities, either upper or lower.

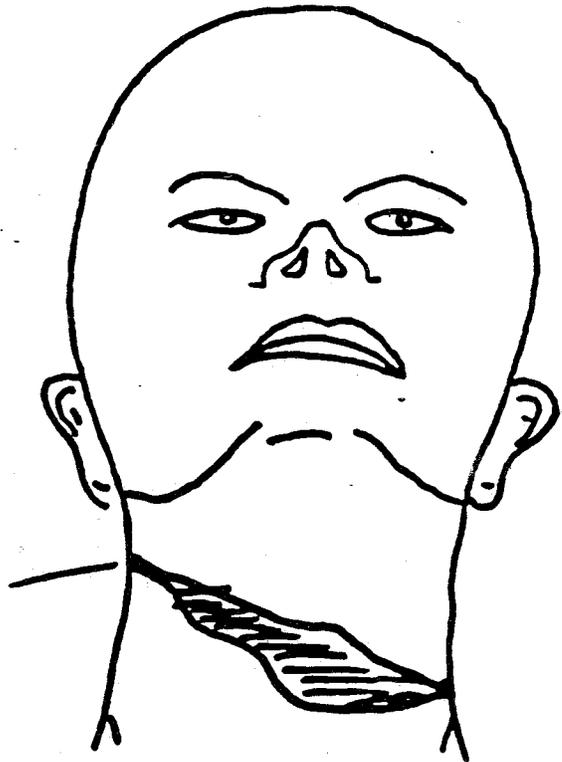
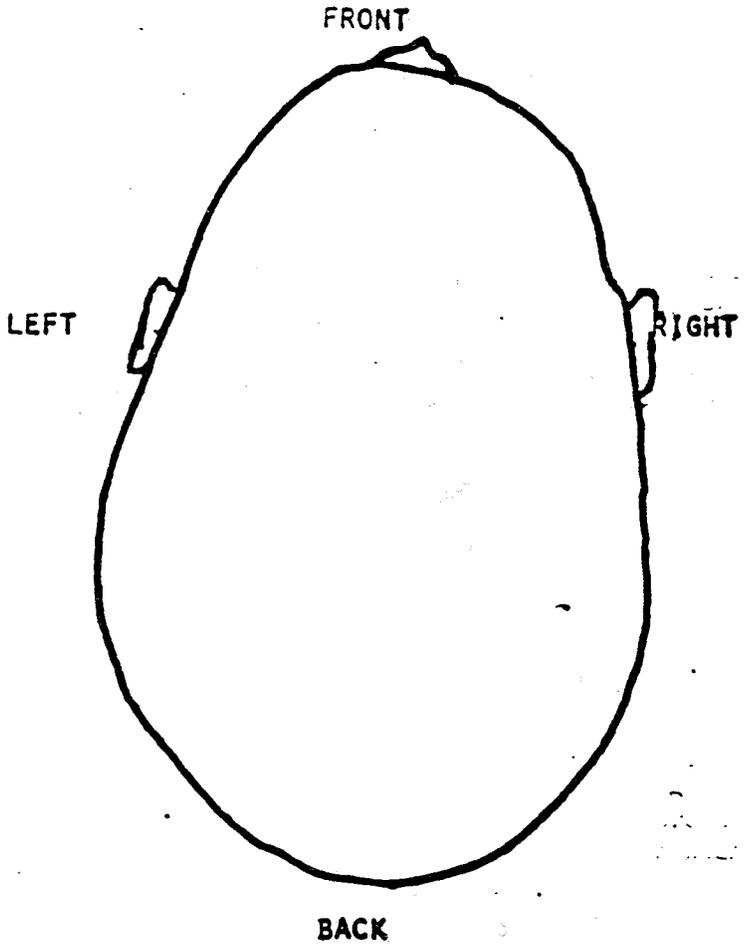
W-82-81 WANDA FAY MCCOY

DESCRIPTION OF FATAL WOUND

The slash wound on the throat is pictured in the head diagram. The wound is 4 inches long and gaps to 2 inches. The direction of the cut is from right to left and downward with the deepest portion of the cut being on the right. The wound has completely transected the carotid artery and jugular vein on the right. It has also transected the larynx, lacerated the thyroid gland and the strap muscles of the neck.

There are two wounds on the anterior chest. These are labelled wounds # 1 and #2. Wound # 1 is located on the upper inner quadrant of the left breast, at the point shown on the body diagram. The wound measures 1 1/2 x 1/16 inches. The margins are sharp. The direction of penetration is backward, and toward the midline, penetrating the left lung and the heart. There is very little hemorrhage from this wound and there is no hemorrhage into the pericardial sac. This is a postmortem wound. The depth of penetration is approximately 4 inches.

Wound # 2 is located in the epigastric region, at the point shown on the body diagram. The wound measures 1 and 3/4 x 1/16 inch. The margins are sharp. The direction of penetration is backward and slightly upward, penetrating the liver. There has been a very small quantity of intra-peritoneal hemorrhage from this wound and it represents either a perimortem or postmortem wound. The fatal wound is the slash wound present on the anterior neck

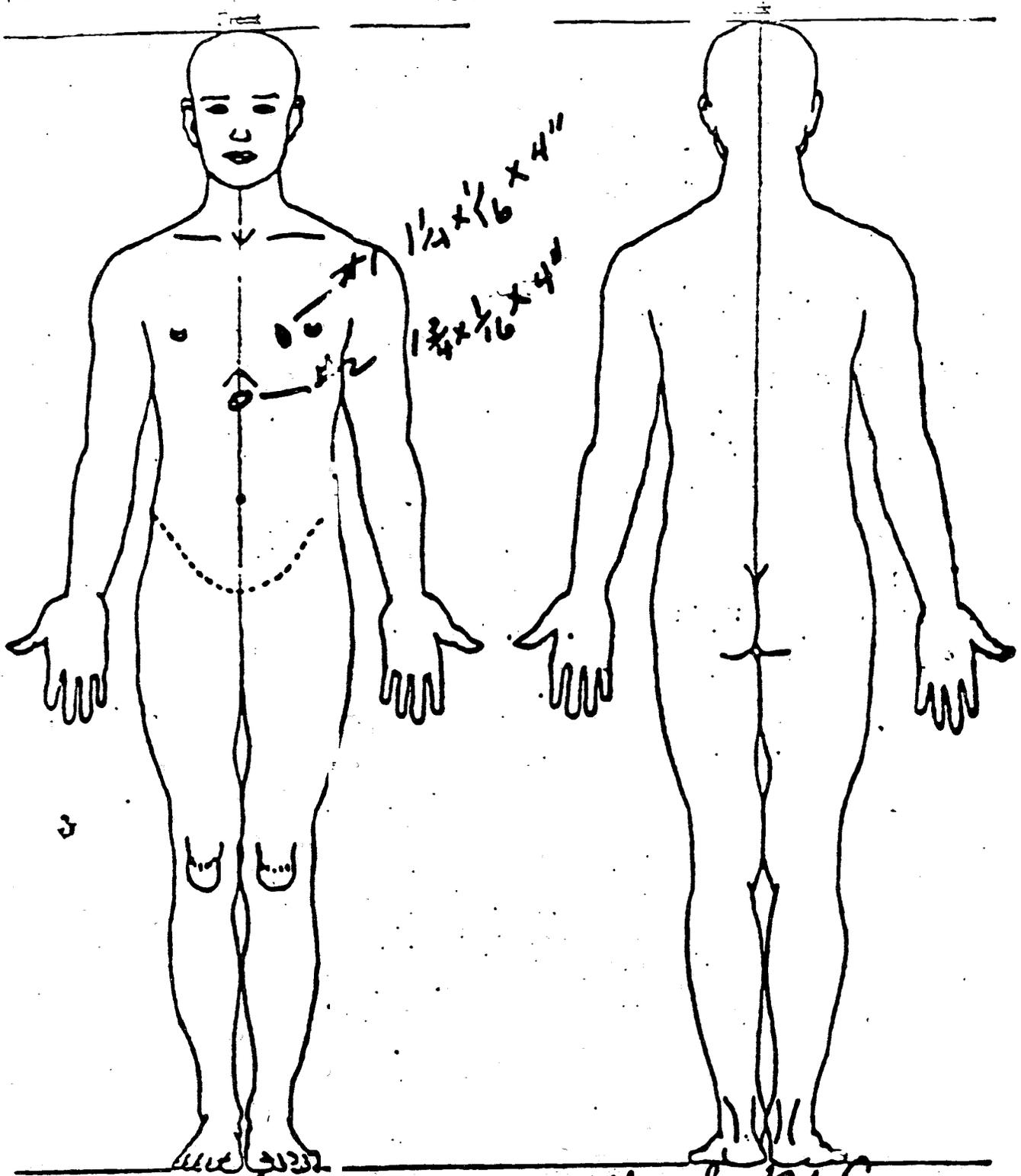


Slash  
Wound  
4" long +  
6" deep to 2"

Decedent Wanda McKay

Pathologist [Signature]

-12- Autopsy No. W-82-91 Date 3/12/81



Decedent's Height 64 1/2 inches

Name Wanda McCoy  
 Examined By [Signature]

Date 3/12/81

W-82-81

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES MCCLOSKEY

State of New Jersey     )  
                                  )     ss:  
County of Mercer         )

James McCloskey, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the founder and Director of Centurion Ministries, Inc., 20 Nassau Street, Suite 12, Princeton, NJ 08542. I perform investigations of crimes which I believe have resulted in the conviction of innocent people. As a result of evidence developed in the course of my investigations, I have testified in 3 cases, and 8 persons have been freed from prison where they were serving life or death sentences for the crimes of others.

2. I performed an investigation of the facts surrounding the conviction of Roger Coleman for the rape and murder of Wanda McCoy in March 1981, in Grundy, Virginia. From March 1988 through July 1991 I have traveled to Grundy, Virginia on four separate occasions to perform this investigation. In the course of my investigation, I have discovered numerous facts that convince me that Roger Coleman is innocent of the rape and murder of Wanda Fay McCoy. Many of these facts

could not have been discovered previously because they are based on confessions and recantations that only recently occurred. Other evidence discussed in this affidavit was discovered in the course of my investigation and I believe it should be considered by a court because it supports Mr. Coleman's persistent claim that he is innocent.

#### EVIDENCE OF OTHER SUSPECTS

3. During my investigation, I have spoken to numerous residents in the Grundy community, including 12 people who in 1981 were immediate neighbors of the victim. On three occasions I have spoken to members of the Ramey family who lived in the house nearest the victim. Based on my conversations with the Ramey family, and with a number of other persons in the Grundy community, discussed herein, I believe there is a strong likelihood that Donald Ramey participated in the murder of Wanda Fay McCoy and was actually interviewed as a suspect in the case.

4. The Ramey family lives in Longbottom on Slate Creek, in the house immediately behind, and overlooking, the 1981 residence of Brad and Wanda McCoy. The Ramey's have lived in that house since 1979. I first went to visit the Ramey family on March 23, 1988 and then again on April 1, 1988 before I learned that Donney Ramey had

committed crimes similar to the McCoy murder and had confessed to the murder. At that time I was simply canvassing the neighborhood to discover whether any of the neighbors of the McCoy's in 1981 had seen anything the night of the murder.

5. During the first visit, on March 23, 1988, I spoke to Mr. and Mrs. Ramey, Donald Ramey and Portia Ramey (Donald's sister) who lived in another neighboring house very close to the victim the night she was killed. During this visit Donald Ramey told me that when he and his brother Michael returned home from Big Rock, VA around 9:30-9:45 p.m. on the night Wanda McCoy was murdered, he was angry because Roger Coleman's blue 1978 Chevrolet pick-up truck was in his parking space. When he related this to me the other family members also recalled the same incident. Donald also remembered that he told VSP Davidson about Coleman's vehicle being there at that time. Donald "was positive" that, the time was 9:30-9:45 p.m. I remember thinking to myself when Donald told me this that it just couldn't be true because Roger's co-workers had placed him at the TJM Mines at that time on that night.

6. During this same first visit to the Ramey household both Donald and his mother told me that shortly after Donald and Michael arrived home on this same night that Wanda was killed, Michael went out onto

the porch to retrieve clothes from the clothesline, and observed a man standing right below the porch by the side of the house. Michael then ran inside, told Mrs. Ramey what he saw, grabbed a fire poker, and returned outside only to find that the man had gone. Donald said that when Michael did this, the time was shortly before 10:00 p.m. and that he (Donald) was on the telephone with his girlfriend. Donald then recalled that he went to sleep in his bedroom at 10:30 p.m. None of the family heard or saw anything more unusual that night.

7. Donald also told me during this visit that when VSP Davidson arrived at the Ramey home that next morning, he (Donald) answered the door clad only in his underwear, and that he had no scratches. Mrs. Ramey mentioned that Chief Randy Jackson came by the house soon after Wanda's death and told her that he wanted to see Michael at the high school. When he did interview Michael at school he made him take off his shirt so that he could look for scratches.

8. During my second visit to the Ramey home on April 1, 1988, Mrs. Ramey told me that I was the first one the Ramey family ever told about Michael seeing that man standing by the side of the house underneath the porch on the night that Wanda was killed.

9. In September 1990 I returned to Grundy, Virginia to continue my investigation into the murder of Wanda McCoy. I decided to return to Grundy to pursue my investigation further after learning that Teresa Horn, a Grundy resident, had come forward to Roger Coleman's attorneys to state that Donney Ramey had attacked her, and during that attack, had confessed to the murder of Wanda McCoy.

10. While in Grundy, I interviewed Teresa Horn and a number of other women who had been attacked sexually by Donney Ramey. Three of those women gave statements to me about Donney Ramey's attack on them.

11. I also returned to Grundy, Virginia in June, 1991. At that time, another woman, who would not give a statement because she was concerned about reviving painful memories told me that she was thirteen at the time she was sexually attacked by Donney Ramey. She told me that seven years ago, when she was thirteen years old, Donney Ramey, on the pretense of driving to pick up her sister, who he was dating at the time, took her to a remote area and then held her down with his right hand while he masturbated with his left hand.

12. Because I discovered such a substantial number of women who had been attacked by Donney Ramey in a relatively short period, I am concerned that Donney Ramey has a propensity to repeated instances of sexually

violent behavior, which instances could have included the McCoy murder, especially in light of the fact that Teresa Horn states that he actually confessed to the murder.

13. I also returned to the Ramey home on Slate Creek in September 1990 to follow-up on the new leads I had uncovered as a result of the Ramey attacks. While the Ramey sons were not at home, I once again spoke to the Ramey parents.

14. Mrs. Ramey told me on this occasion that both the Ramey sons were initial suspects after the McCoy murder.

15. As she and Donald had done before on prior visits, Mrs. Ramey stated that the night of the McCoy murder, Donney and Michael Ramey went out early that evening, and returned around 9:45 p.m. Mrs. Ramey stated that her sons said that Roger's truck was parked where Donald always parked his vehicle, near the McCoy house when the Ramey sons returned home. Donney and Michael came into the house and gave their clothes to Mrs. Ramey, who took them to be washed. Michael Ramey went out on the porch to get his shorts, where Mrs. Ramey said that he saw a figure lurking in the dark. Michael then grabbed a fire poker, but Mrs. Ramey kept him from going out. In 1988 she told me that he did go out, but the man had disappeared. Mrs. Ramey

said that the father, Mr. Ramey, was in his room attempting to sleep.

16. Mrs. Ramey said the boys then went in their bedrooms, and everyone went to bed. Even though Mrs. Ramey claims she is a very light sleeper, she stated that she did not hear anything that evening coming from the McCoy residence. Mrs. Ramey's bedroom is the closest bedroom to the McCoy house; her bedroom window and Donney Ramey's bedroom window looks out at the McCoy house. Both bedrooms are on the ground floor.

17. Mrs. Ramey stated that the first information the Ramey family heard about the McCoy murder was when the father, Bobby Ramey, Sr. went to work and heard about the murder from a fellow worker at about 10:00 a.m. on the morning after the murder. At about 11:00 a.m., Officer Randy Jackson came up to the Ramey house after Mrs. Ramey saw a neighbor, Bill Belcher, point up at her house. Mrs. Ramey said that her heart "would have liked to drop out" when that occurred.

18. When Randy Jackson arrived, Donney Ramey came out of his bedroom and the police surrounded him, and Mrs. Ramey stated to me that she believed they were looking for scratches on her sons. On a prior visit, Donney and Mrs. Ramey told me that VSP Davidson had come to their door at that time.

19. Later that same day, Mrs. Ramey said that the police went to the high school to check Michael Ramey for scratches. She said that they also forced Michael to pull down his pants and undershorts to check his pubic hair to determine whether it matched the hair found on Wanda McCoy. Mrs. Ramey did not explain to me why she thought the police might be looking for scratches or pubic hair on their suspects when she had no reason to know at that time that there was hair found on the victim, or that the victim's fingernails were chipped and broken.

20. The father, Bobby Ramey Sr., was present during my conversation with Mrs. Ramey. Mr. Ramey stated that he thought Wanda was one of the "best looking girls I've ever seen." Mrs. Ramey said that Wanda would sit out back with her sister, immediately in front of the Ramey House, and the two women would sun themselves in their bikinis. She said that, otherwise, Wanda was very shy and would not let anyone into her house.

21. Finally, on this visit, Mrs. Ramey told me that she had reported to the police the incident about the individual lurking near the side of the house, and about Roger's truck, but that they had ignored her. She said that the police, to her knowledge, had not otherwise pursued her sons. During my second visit with

her back in April, 1988, she stated that I was the first person that she had ever told about Michael seeing that figure in the dark, that none of the Ramey family had ever told the police about it.

22. Based on an anonymous letter received by Arnold & Porter, identifying the Ramey sons and father as possible suspects, and based upon my interviews with the neighbors who lived near the McCoy residence, I believe that there are individuals who, both at the time of the murder and today, reside in the neighborhood of the victim's home on Slate Creek, and have information related to this case, but are too apprehensive to come forward without a subpoena compelling their testimony at a hearing. I believe this because two of the neighbors, Mary Smith and the Johnson family, refused to speak with me, apparently because of their safety concerns, even though they lived in very close proximity both to the Rameys and to the McCoy residence at the time of the murder. I also believe there are persons in the Grundy community who have information on the crime but who are afraid to come forward, because of the anonymous letter received by Arnold & Porter from someone who apparently lived close enough to the Ramey family to know that they were having a fight, and that the father was drunk, the night of the McCoy murder, but stating that the writer and others in Grundy are afraid to come forward. If

asked to testify at a hearing, I believe these individuals might come forward with information which exculpates Roger Coleman.

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF INNOCENCE

23. In my investigation I have uncovered numerous other pieces of evidence which I believe points to Roger Coleman's innocence of the crime for which he is on death row.

A. Roger Coleman's Alibi

24. In 1988 I waded across the creek that the prosecution claimed Roger Coleman waded in March of 1981 in order to get to the McCoy's house. I waded the creek in March so that the water level of the creek would be about the same as it had been in March of 1981. I was wearing boots similar to those Roger Coleman was wearing on the night of the murder. I taped my pant legs to my boots in the same manner that coal miners like Coleman would have taped them. I discovered that, no matter how careful I was, the water rose above the boot line resulting in both my socks and the upper portion of my pants getting wet. The police analysis of Roger's clothing indicates only that the bottom portion of his pants were wet, and that his long underwear were not wet. I believe on the basis of these facts that Roger

Coleman could not have gotten his pants wet from wading Slate Creek, but more probably got them wet at the bathhouse as he testified at trial.

25. I also timed the distances for the route that Roger Coleman travelled on the night of the crime, as well as for the route the prosecution alleges he took. Looney's Creek is 8.2 miles from Boyd's Trailer Park. It takes 13 minutes to drive this route. Boyd's Trailer Park to the bathhouse is 4.9 mile route that takes approximately 8 minutes to drive. The route from the bathhouse to Roger's home covers 2.3 miles and takes approximately 6 minutes to drive. Because Roger had to spend approximately 30 minutes simply driving to the various locations he went to that night, whether he left Boyd's Trailer Park at 10:20 as the State said, or 10:40 as he said (and as was corroborated by Philip Van Dyke's timecard), in my view he simply would not have had time to go to Slate Creek and commit a rape and murder.

26. In addition, the prosecution contended that Roger Coleman waded a creek and climbed up a hill through a congested neighborhood (with barking dogs) in order to gain access to the McCoy residence. I traveled that route myself in order to time how long it would take to travel. I discovered that it took approximately 6 minutes each way. This fact also indicates to me that Roger had little or no time within which to commit the

crime, since the state did not even include these twelve minutes when they incorrectly timed Roger's alibi prior to the first trial.

27. I have spoken with Mark Branham, a volunteer investigator who was working for the Grundy police on the night of the murder. He was patrolling the stretch of road where the prosecution claimed Roger Coleman had parked his pick-up truck prior to crossing the creek to get to the McCoy's house. He did not see Coleman's pickup that night, and he believes he would have noticed a parked vehicle if it had been on the side of the road for the length of time the prosecution asserts that Coleman's car was parked there.

B. The Roger Matney Confession

28. I also spoke to people in the Grundy area about Roger Matney, the jail house informant who testified against Roger Coleman at trial, stating that Roger Coleman confessed to the murder of Wanda McCoy. In 1988, Jack Davidson, the Virginia State Police investigator who was the Chief Investigating Officer on the case, told me that in his view "Roger Matney's word is not very reliable."

29. On several occasions, I have spoken with Goldie Owens, Roger Matney's mother-in-law. Not only did she say on those occasions that Roger Matney is not

a credible witness, and is a career criminal who never seems to serve any time, but she said that Roger Matney admitted to his wife, Brenda Matney, in Goldie's presence, that he fabricated his testimony against Roger Coleman and that Roger Coleman never confessed to the murder of Wanda McCoy.

30. In 1990 I spoke with Kermit Owens, the jailor who was tied up during the 1981 inmate escape from the Buchanan County jail. Roger Matney's release records indicates that he was released because he assisted Kermit Owens during the jail house escape. However, Kermit Owens did not specifically remember anyone helping him during the escape, and only recalls that one unknown person came after the escape was over and untied him. Thus, I believe that Roger Matney was released for his testimony against Roger Coleman rather than for his conduct during the jail house escape.

#### C. The Forensic Evidence

31. My review of the forensic evidence in this case also leads me to believe that Roger Coleman is innocent of the murder of Wanda McCoy. First, I was able to actually review the contents of the bag of evidence which the prosecution opened the night before the trial, thereby breaking the chain of custody and preventing the introduction of that evidence at trial.

32. After reviewing this evidence, including Roger Coleman's pocket knife and blue jeans, I concluded that the evidence was so inconsistent that the prosecution was unfairly advantaged by being able to refer to the evidence at trial without it actually being introduced.

33. First, the knife that the prosecution referred to as the murder weapon was a pocket knife which simply could not have inflicted the fatal wounds. Its dimensions were far shorter and narrower than the dimensions of the fatal wounds found in Wanda McCoy. Had the jury had the opportunity to see this weapon they would have concluded that it could not have been the murder weapon, but more likely, consistent with Roger Coleman's explanation, was a knife which he used at work, and to hunt and clean squirrels.

34. Second, the purported spot of blood on Roger Coleman's jeans, said by the prosecution to be on Roger's left leg, and which was critical at trial because they said it matched a spot of blood on the victim's right leg made while he was lying on top of her, actually consisted of a few minute holes taken out of the right leg. Thus, the prosecutor's testimony at trial about the location of the blood, if any, was a bald lie. Moreover, those pieces of cloth removed from the pant leg for analysis altogether totalled an area

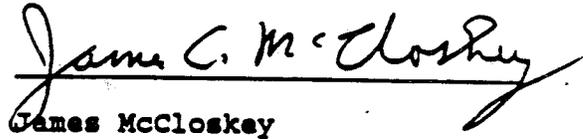
about the size of a dime, so if the jury had seen the jeans, they probably would have doubted the strength of that evidence.

35. Photos of the crime scene, showing that Wanda McCoy's hands and fingernails were covered with dirt, lead me to believe that, contrary to the state's theory, Wanda McCoy may have been outside her house on the night of her murder. That soil, analyzed by Elmer Miller, covers the entire area of both of Wanda's hands and fingers that would have been covered had Wanda McCoy been pushed to the ground or dragged along the ground with her hands clutching the ground. In addition, in 1988 I went to examine the area around the McCoy home and determined that the soil in the woods next to the Ramey house and behind the McCoy home closely resembles that found on the victim; i.e., darkish brown soil mixed with a reddish base.

36. Moreover, from the only recently available partial investigative report of the McCoy murder, and from a recent interview of Jack Davidson, I have, learned that the state investigators knew from Brad McCoy that Wanda may have voluntarily left the home that evening to take out the trash, and I believe she could have been accosted while taking out the trash. Because I also discovered in the investigative report that investigators found a pry mark and a latent fingerprint

at the scene of the crime, even if Wanda McCoy did not go outside that night, I believe that she may not have known her attacker, as the state insisted at trial, because of a pry mark and fingerprint found on the door to the McCoy house, which are evidence of forced entry.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

  
James McCloskey

Sworn and subscribed to  
before me this 25 day  
of July . 1991.

  
Notary Public

SUSANNE WALSH  
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY  
Commission Expires Dec. 20, 1994

## STATEMENT OF SHERRY PORTER

1. My name is Sherry Porter, I live on Slate Creek in Grundy, Virginia. I lived on Slate Creek in 1981 at the time that Wanda McCoy was killed.

2. My home on Slate Creek is across the street from Longbottom, the neighborhood where Wanda McCoy lived. I have a large glass window in the front of my house from which I can look down Slate Creek for a long distance.

3. On the night that Wanda McCoy was killed, I was sitting on my couch in front of the window for hours. I never saw a park trucked on Slate Creek that entire evening.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

Sherry Porter  
Sherry Porter  
March 4, 1992

AFFIDAVIT  
OF  
MORRIS S. CLARK

ANALYSIS OF HAIR EVIDENCE  
RELATING TO ROGER COLEMAN

1. My name is Morris S. Clark. I am a forensic science consultant in the area of hair and fiber evidence. I am also a Professorial Lecturer in forensic science at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. My resume is appended hereto as Exhibit A.

2. From 1955 to 1979, I was a Special Agent and Supervisory Special Agent at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. From 1957 to 1979, I was assigned to FBI Headquarters, Laboratory Division, Washington, D.C. Until 1968, my duties involved microscopic examination of trace evidence in criminal cases. During that time, I testified in hundreds of trials as an expert witness throughout the United States, frequently furnished crime scene support in major cases and often lectured to law enforcement groups.

3. In 1968, I was appointed Chief of the Microscopic Analysis Unit with administrative control of 22 employees. From 1977 to 1979, I served as Section Chief of the Scientific Analysis Section. During this

period, my administrative and management responsibilities included supervision of 172 investigative and scientific personnel; supervision of FBI agents in the application of physical and biological sciences for the examination of physical evidence; supervision of the FBI's entire scientific research program; supervision of the scientific training of Special Agents and other law enforcement personnel; and acting as a liaison between the FBI and crime laboratories as well as law enforcement and judicial officials both domestic and foreign. During my time at the FBI, I received 17 special commendations and incentive awards from FBI directors for performance and 100 commendatory letters from law enforcement and judicial officers throughout the United States. From 1968 to 1975, I was also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Department of Forensic Sciences of The George Washington University.

4. I have testified as an expert in literally hundreds of trials on the subject of microscopic examination of hair evidence in both federal and state courts.

5. In my administrative and management capacities at the FBI, I had extensive experience reviewing the technical work of other experts in the area of microscopic examination of hair evidence.

6. My experience has direct relevance to certain of the issues that I understand are presented in the pending case of Coleman v. Bass.

7. This affidavit contains my findings resulting from my review of relevant portions of the transcript and record of the trial of Commonwealth v. Roger Keith Coleman, that is: the direct examination and cross-examination of Elmer Gist, a forensic serologist, the opening and closing arguments of counsel and the laboratory report prepared by Mr. Gist in connection with Mr. Coleman's trial.

Expert Testimony

8. I understand that Mr. Gist microscopically compared two hairs which apparently were found in the pubic area of Wanda McCoy with pubic hairs from the body of Roger Coleman, and testified, upon direct examination, that: (a) the two hairs located on the body of Wanda McCoy were "dissimilar and inconsistent" with those originating from Ms. McCoy (Record at 575); (b) the two hairs were pubic hairs; (c) the hairs from the pubic area of Ms. McCoy were "consistent" with hairs from the pubic area of Roger Coleman; and (d) it is "unlikely" that the two hairs found on Ms. McCoy

originated from someone other than Mr. Coleman (Record at 581).

9. Based upon my review of the record, it is my expert opinion that the jury was misled about the significance of Mr. Gist's testimony by the direct examination of Mr. Gist and by the closing arguments of the Commonwealth's counsel. An effective cross-examination of Mr. Gist should have raised important and troublesome questions about his conclusions and established the limited significance of his conclusions. The cross-examination and defendant's closing argument did not raise these questions or put Mr. Gist's testimony into proper perspective.

10. Mr. Gist was not asked to testify as to the basis for his conclusion that the pubic hairs found on Ms. McCoy were "consistent with" Mr. Coleman's pubic hairs. Nor was he asked about the basis of his conclusion that it was "unlikely" that the hairs originated from someone other than Mr. Coleman. I believe that it is essential for a trier of fact to understand the underlying basis for an expert's conclusions with regard to hair evidence. It is essential because conclusions regarding hair evidence (unlike, for example, fingerprint evidence) are matters of judgment, based on experience, and can

involve a certain amount of subjectivity. Only if an expert is compelled to "walk through" his analysis of the evidence and reveal the basis for his conclusions can a trier of fact determine for itself the proper weight to be given to the expert's conclusions.

11. The testimony elicited from Mr. Gist was wholly inadequate in this regard. On direct, instead of describing the specific tests that he performed on the hairs, Mr. Gist was merely asked to describe the general nature of hair evidence, and then announce his conclusions that the hairs examined were "consistent" and that the hair found on Ms. McCoy was "unlikely" to have come from anyone but Mr. Coleman. Neither Mr. Gist's methodology nor his conclusions were explored on cross-examination.

12. In fact, it is improper to conclude merely from finding that two hairs are "consistent," that it is likely that they came from the same person. Two hairs are considered to be "consistent" if they exhibit similar physical characteristics, such as color, diameter and length. Hairs belonging to different people, however, are often consistent.

13. An expert can state, with reasonable certainty, that it is likely that a particular hair came from a particular person only in special circumstances. For example, the hair may exhibit certain highly unusual or unique characteristics present in only a small percentage of the population which would render it unlikely that the hair came from anyone but one particular person. Alternatively, other corroborative evidence (such as matching fibers, head hairs or other hairs) might be available to make such a conclusion possible. In this case, however, none of this information was adduced upon cross-examination.

14. Additionally, the reasonableness of Mr. Gist's conclusions, and the weight to be given them, are affected by the fact that pubic hairs, rather than head hairs, were examined. Published studies indicate that the probability that consistent head hairs come from two different people is six times less likely than the probability that consistent pubic hairs come from two different people. In other words, the probability of error arising from a conclusion drawn from consistent pubic hairs is significantly higher than in the case of consistent head hairs. None of this information was adduced upon cross-examination.

15. Mr. Gist examined only two hairs, which is too few hairs to give a good idea of the range of variations in an individual's hair characteristics. In the absence of unique and distinctive characteristics in the hair, examining only two hairs makes it difficult to establish a high degree of probability that consistent hairs are from the same person. This point, too, was not explored upon cross-examination.

16. The record indicates that the two hairs located on the victim were identified as "foreign hairs" by Medical Examiner David Oxley and removed from the body by Dr. Oxley (Record at 505, 507). It is extremely difficult for the unaided eye to detect significant differences in hairs, and there was no attempt by the defense to establish how Dr. Oxley determined that the hairs were foreign. Nor did the defense establish, upon cross-examination, the fact that the hairs were identified to Mr. Gist as "foreign" hairs may have prejudiced Mr. Gist's examination.

17. Based upon my experience as an expert witness in criminal trials, defense counsel typically explore, in cross-examination, all of the subjects identified above. My review of the record indicates that defense

counsel explored none of these areas. Had defense counsel done so, he may very well have significantly undermined or limited the impact of Mr. Gist's direct testimony.

18. Instead, the record reflects that the cross-examination of Mr. Gist with respect to the hair evidence by defense counsel consisted of a total of seventeen questions. The questions concerned the following areas: how Mr. Gist determined that the hairs were from the pubic area (one question; Record at 603); the alleged similarity of public hair to underarm hair (six questions; Record at 604-05); the differences between two hairs on the same body (three questions; Record at 605-06); whether Mr. Gist could say "with absolute certainty" that the two different hair samples came from the same body (two questions; Record at 606-07); and the types of tests used and samples examined (five questions; Record at 607-08). No questions were put to Mr. Gist relating to the hair evidence on recross-examination.

19. None of defense counsel's questions to Mr. Gist were probative of, or, in most cases, even relevant to, the significance of Mr. Gist's conclusions or the degree of certainty with which he held those conclusions. Based on my experience as an expert witness, it is my judgment that counsel with even a rudimentary

understanding of the area would have recognized that, and would have explored at least some of the areas identified previously. Such an understanding could have been gained from consulting books and journal articles generally available in law libraries.

20. Had counsel for the defense cross-examined Mr. Gist in any of the respects suggested above, there may have been a significant basis for doubting the conclusion that it was "unlikely" that the two hairs did not originate from Mr. Coleman. Moreover, the jury would have been informed that even if Mr. Gist accurately concluded that the hairs were "consistent," it is entirely possible that the hairs came from somebody other than the defendant. In my experience at the FBI and as an expert witness, I have seen such points made on numerous occasions.

#### Closing Argument

21. Experts in this area generally are very careful to qualify their conclusions. Mr. Gist would go no further than to say that it was "unlikely" that the hairs did not come from Mr. Coleman. Nevertheless, in closing argument, the Commonwealth asserted that Mr. Gist had testified that it was "highly unlikely"

(Record at 873) (emphasis added) that the hair found on the victim came from someone other than Mr. Coleman. Similarly, the Commonwealth represented on rebuttal that Mr. Gist had said it was "extremely unlikely" (Record at 918) (emphasis added) that the hairs did not come from Roger Coleman. There is a significant difference between "unlikely" on one hand, and "highly" or "extremely" unlikely on the other when drawing probability conclusions in this area. The prosecutor's statements represented a gross distortion of the actual testimony. Defense counsel neither objected to, nor sought to correct, these representations.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Morris G. Clark  
Morris G. Clark  
M.C.S.

State of Virginia  
County of Fairfax

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 2nd day of November 1955 by  
Morris S. Clark.

Robert G. [Signature]  
Notary Public

My Commission expires 24 Jan. 1956

STATEMENT OF TINA McNUTT

1. My name is Tina R. McNutt. I live on Route 460 in Grundy, Virginia, P.O. Box 399, 24614.

2. I make this statement in relation to the case of Roger Keith Coleman.

3. In 1980 and 1981 I lived with my husband Tom McNutt in Clevinger Trailer Park on Route 460 in Grundy. In 1980 until early 1981 Roger Coleman and his wife Patricia lived in a nearby trailer within about 50 feet of our trailer. Tom and I were friends with Roger and Patricia. We would play cards with them on the weekends and I would see Patricia several times a week.

4. Roger and Patricia had a cat at the time.

5. On several occasions when I was at the home of Roger and Patricia, either with Tom or my baby T.J. I recall that the ~~xx~~ cat would scratch people.

On one occasion I recall that the cat scratched me and I drew blood. On another occasion the cat scratched my son T.J. and he bled.

6. When I was at the trial of Roger Coleman his wife Patricia said that the cat had not scratched anybody where blood had been drawn, or something similar.

7/ I knew that she was lying and I was surprised, because the cat had scratched me and T.J. in the past and had drawn blood.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true.

April 9, 1992

*Tina R McNutt*

Tina R. McNutt

Affidavit of William F. McCormick, M.D.

State of Tennessee            )  
                                  )        ss.  
Johnson City                    )

William F. McCormick, M.D., deposes and says:

1. I am the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner of the State of Tennessee. I am also a professor and head of the Department of Forensic Pathology at East Tennessee State University, James H. Quillen College of Medicine. My address is Box 70,425, Johnson City, Tennessee 37614-0425.

2. I am board certified and have approximately thirty years of experience in forensic pathology, anatomic pathology and neuropathology. A copy of my curriculum vitae is attached as Exhibit A.

3. I have reviewed materials relating to the murder of Wanda Fay McCoy for the attorneys for Roger Keith Coleman. The materials I reviewed included the "Reports of Investigation By Medical Examiner" dated March 11, 1981; "Certificate of Analysis" dated March 16, 1981; "Report of Autopsy" dated March 12, 1981; and "Certificate of Analysis" dated August 21, 1981. A copy of those reports are attached as Exhibit B. Those reports were prepared by David Oxley, M.D., Richard J. McGarry, Thomas McDonald, M.D., and Elmer Gist, Jr. I also reviewed additional information on the

case, including a partial report of the state's investigation of the McCoy murder, and other background information, including portions of the trial testimony of prosecution witnesses.

4. Based on my review of the materials listed above, I have reached the conclusion that a more thorough forensics examination of the evidence still remaining in this case should be undertaken. I consider the following forensic testimony introduced at trial to be inconsistent or incomplete.

5. First, because this was an unwitnessed crime, based upon my review of the criteria used by Dr. McDonald in the autopsy and other forensic reports, I do not believe that any expert, with any degree of medical certainty, could have determined that the time of death occurred at 10:30 p.m. with a range of 30 minutes plus or minus. The time of death in an unwitnessed case is notoriously imprecise, and can only be estimated by reproducing exactly the circumstances of death, determining the actual body and environmental temperature and scientifically determining the time required for blood to dry under those circumstances.

6. Second, it is my belief that the semen sample found in Wanda McCoy was not "individualized" to Roger Coleman to the extent which was possible with the blood typing capabilities available at the time. The analysis

of the semen sample conducted by Elmer Gist was limited to a determination of the ABO groups and to whether the semen was deposited by a secretor. However, both at the time of this murder and today, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Forensic Serology Laboratory routinely tests for a number of blood characteristics in addition to ABO and secretion type in order to obtain a more specific determination of whether a given suspect's blood type matches that obtained from blood or semen samples left at a crime scene. Those characteristics routinely tested for include phosphoglutamase (PGM), Esterase D (EsD), Erythrocyte acid phosphate (EAP) and the Haptoglobins (HP). The table attached as Exhibit B indicates the percentage of individuals in the population with those characteristics. If any such tests were conducted on this sample, I would like the opportunity to examine the results of those tests, or find out why the state did not conduct such additional tests.

7. In addition, the jury in this case was given an inaccurate depiction of the percentage of the population who have type B blood, the type identified from the semen found in the victim's vaginal cavity. As the table attached as Exhibit B demonstrates, 13% of the population in the area of the country where Grundy is located (Southwestern Virginia and Tennessee) have

type B blood, not 10%, as was stated by witnesses for the Commonwealth at Mr. Coleman's trial. Because of the unique genetic makeup of individuals in the Southwestern Virginia area, it was inaccurate for the state to rely upon data from a nationwide sample in determining the percentage of a particular genetic marker in the population. In addition, the DNA results in this case likewise may have been affected by the unique genetic characteristics of the Southwestern Virginia population.

8. I also disagree with Dr. David Oxley's testimony at trial that it is seldom possible to state whether a one or two-edged blade has been used in a stabbing case. Had the cuts in the victim been carefully apposed with transparent tape and subjected to close-up photography, I believe that additional identifying information about the type of instrument used to kill Wanda McCoy might have been obtained. Indeed, I still may be able to analyze the photographs of the wounds to determine the general characteristics of the instrument used to kill Mrs. McCoy.

9. I believe that further review of the forensic information still available would be necessary to resolve the many questions I have about this case.

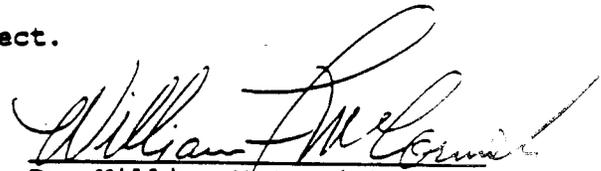
10. For example, with a full set of crime scene photographs I may be able to determine the manner in which the victim was killed, and whether or not the

perpetrator was right- or left-handed. If the photographs of the victim's wounds have been shot at sufficiently close range, I may be able to determine whether Roger Coleman's pocket knife could have inflicted the fatal wounds. It may also be possible, by reviewing the photographs of the victim and the forensic analyses of the dirt and plant material found on her arms and hands, to determine whether it was probable that Wanda McCoy was accosted when she was outside on the night of her murder in contrast to the Commonwealth's theory that she must have known her attacker because there was no evidence of forced entry. Finally, if the bag thrown out by Mr. Shortridge the day after the murder, containing sheets covered with blood, a flashlight, a clock, and a pair of scissors is uncovered, I may be able to conduct tests to determine whether the type of the blood on the sheets matches the victim's blood type or whether any bodily fluids or hair on the sheets can be used to identify the perpetrator, and possibly whether the scissors could have been the murder weapon.

11. Without access to the complete forensic reports from the investigation of the McCoy murder, including handwritten notes, crime scene photographs and other evidence in this case, which evidence was listed and briefly described in the Certificate of Analysis of

Elmer Gist, but never made available in full to the attorneys of Mr. Coleman, I cannot conduct a thorough review of this case. I cannot even determine the number of persons involved in the rape and murder of Wanda McCoy. Given that no such review has ever been conducted by the defense, and that Mr. Coleman could soon be executed, in my view it would be appropriate for this court to order that such analysis be conducted at this time.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

  
Dr. William McCormick

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 3rd day  
of October, 1991.

  
Notary Public

State of Tennessee  
County of Washington

My Commission Expires January 24, 1993.

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME: William Frederick McCormick

PRESENT POSITION AND ADDRESS: Professor and Head, Department of Forensic Pathology; Professor and Chief, Division of Neuropathology, East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine, Johnson City, Tennessee; Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, State of Tennessee.

OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS: Box 15250A, Johnson City, Tennessee 37614-0002, Telephone (615) 929-6797

BIOGRAPHICAL:

Date and Place of Birth: September 9, 1933; Riverton, Virginia

Marital Status: Married July 2, 1954 (to Deanne Bourne Petersen)

Children: Two, born August 8, 1961 - William, Jr., and March 16, 1966 - Cynthia Anne

Home Address: 1106 Skyline Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601

EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

Public grade schools in Virginia and Tennessee; graduate Oak Ridge, Tennessee High School, 1950.

University of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, Tennessee, September, 1950 to September, 1952. Graduated Senior in absentia, August, 1953. B.S.

University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, September, 1952 to December, 1955, M.D.

University of Tennessee School of Biological Sciences, January, 1957 to December 1957, M.S. in Pathology.

Internship (general rotating), Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, January, 1956 to January, 1957.

Residency (Pathology), University of Tennessee, January, 1957 to July, 1960.

Special Fellow (Neuropathology), College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, July, 1960 to June, 1961.

Short Course in Medical Genetics, Bar Harbor, Maine, August, 6-18, 1962. (Johns Hopkins University and Jackson Laboratory)

Visiting Scientist, Neuropathology, A.F.I.P., Washington, D.C., June to September 1965; July to October, 1966.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

Assistant (Pathology), University of Tennessee, January, 1957 to January, 1960.

Instructor, University of Tennessee, January, 1960 to July, 1960.

Instructor in Neuropathology, Columbia University, July, 1960 to June, 1961.

Assistant Professor, Pathology, University of Tennessee, July, 1960 to August, 1963.

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, State of Tennessee, July, 1961 to June, 1963.

Associate Professor of Pathology, University of Iowa, August, 1964 to July, 1968.

Professor of Pathology, University of Iowa, July, 1968 to September, 1973.

Professor of Neurology, University of Iowa, 1971 to September, 1973.

Faculty, A.F.I.P. Short Course in Neuropathology; 1966 to date.

Consultant, Veterans Administration Hospital, Iowa City, 1964-1973.

Professor of Pathology and Neurology, University of Texas Medical Branch, September, 1973 to 1984 and Professor of Surgery (Neurosurgery), September, 1975 to December, 1984; Clinical Professor, Department of Pathology, UTMB, January, 1985 to 1987.

Professor of Pathology, East Tennessee State University, January, 1985 to date.

Professor and Head, Department of Forensic Pathology, July, 1989 to date.

#### CERTIFICATION:

Diplomate, American Board of Pathology, Anatomic Pathology, 1960; Neuropathology, 1966; Forensic Pathology, 1979.

#### COLLEGIATE AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:

Executive Committee, Basic Medical Sciences, University of Tennessee, 1963-1964.

Member, C.P.C. Committee, University of Iowa, 1967-1969.

Chairman, Surgery Department Review Committee, University of Iowa, 1970.

Member, Pathology and Laboratory Procedures Study Group, Joint Committee for Stroke Facilities, ANA, 1970-1971.

Special Member, N.I.H. Pathology A Study Section, 1971.

Consultant, Section on Head Injuries and Stroke, N.I.N.D.B., 1974-1975.

Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Cerebral Death, Texas Neurological Society, 1976.

Member, Committee on Ionizing Radiation, UTMB, September, 1976-1978.

Member, Library Advisory Committee, 1977-1984.

Member, Head and Neck Injury Workshop, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1977-1978.

Member, National Research Council Committee on Evaluation of Research on Human Surrogates in Motor Vehicle Crashes, 1978.

Member, Education and Publications Committee; National Association of Medical Examiners, 1985.

Member, Admissions Committee, ETSU College of Medicine, 1986-1988.

#### SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS:

- \* American Academy of Forensic Sciences
- \* American Academy of Neurology (Assoc.)
- \* American Society of Human Genetics
- \* American Association for the Advancement of Science
- \* Society of the Sigma Xi
- \* American Society for Experimental Pathology
- \* Association of American Medical Colleges
- \* American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists
- \* College of American Pathologists
- \* American Association of Neuropathologists
- \* New York Academy of Sciences
- \* Texas Medical Association
- \* American Medical Association
- \* American Association of Physical Anthropologists
- \* National Association of Medical Examiners
- \* Paleopathology Club

#### \* (ELECTED MEMBERSHIP)

#### LICENSURE INFORMATION:

Licensed to practice medicine and surgery in Tennessee (#MD002622).

Iowa (#16999) and Texas (#E1671). All current.  
Controlled substances Reg. Certificate - U.S. Federal (DEA #AM5891634);

HONORS:

3rd Annual Milton Helpern Memorial Lecturer, 1985  
ETSU Department of Criminal Justice Recognition Award, 1986.  
A.F.I.P. Outstanding Teaching Award (Neuropathology), 1990.  
1st George Perret Memorial Lecturer, University of Iowa, 1990.

BIOGRAPHICAL LISTINGS:

Who's Who in America  
American Medical Directory  
Who's Who in Education  
Who's Who in Tennessee  
Who's Who in the South and Southwest  
American Men and Women of Science  
Directory of Medical Specialists  
The World of Learning  
International Scholars Directory  
Directory of International Biography  
Men of Achievement  
Who's Who in the World

RECENT RESEARCH GRANTS:

Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, 1984  
(Forensic Applications of Radiographic Technique for Age, Sex and Race  
Determination)

EDITORIAL BOARDS:

Member of the editorial board of the continuing medical education series Weekly Update "Focus on Neurology and Neurosurgery", Biomedica Inc., Princeton, NJ, 1979-1981.

Member, Publication Advisory Board, J. Neuropath. Exp. Neurol., 1984-86;  
National Association Medical Examiners, 1985-1987.

Frequent ad hoc reviewer for Archives of Pathology, Archives of Neurology, Neurosurgery, Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. and Med., Ann. Int. Med., J. Neuropath. Exp. Neurol., Am. J. Physical Anthropol.

COURSE DIRECTOR:

Neuropathology Course (1 day) - American Academy of Neurology. Course Director, 1981-1986.

Member, Advisory Board, National Cooperative Familial Aneurysm Registry.  
Neuropathology Course-Brazilian Academy Neurology, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, Sept. 22-25, 1986.

BOOKS:

1. a. Bell, W.E. and McCormick, W.F.: Increased Intracranial Pressure in Children, Philadelphia, W.B. Saunders, Co., 1972.  
Reviews of this book are:

- (a) JAMA, Vol. 223, Jan. 22, 1973.
- (b) Am. J. Ophthal., Vol. 75, Jan., 1973.
- (c) Ann. Int. Med., Vol. 78, Feb., 1973.
- (d) Radiol., Vol. 106, Jan., 1973.
- (e) Pediat., Vol. 51, Apr., 1973.

b. ibid. Ed. 2, 1978.

Reviews:

- (a) Arch. Neurol., Vol. 36, May, 1979.
- (b) J. Neurosurg., Vol. 51, Dec., 1979.
- (c) Develop. Med. Child Neurol., Vol. 21, 1979.
- (d) J. Neurol. Neurosurg. Psychiat., Vol. 42, 1979.

2. a. Bell, W.E. and McCormick, W.F.: Neurologic Infections in Children, Philadelphia, W.B. Saunders, Co., 1975.

Reviews of this book are:

- (a) JAMA, Vol. 234, Dec. 8, 1975.
- (b) Ann. Int. Med., Vol. 84, Jan., 1976.
- (c) J. Neurosurg., Vol. 44, Mar., 1976.
- (d) Arch. Path., Vol. 101, Jan., 1977.

b. ibid., Ed. 2, 1981.

3. McCormick, W.F. and Schochet, S.S., Jr.: Atlas of Cerebrovascular Disease, Philadelphia, W.B. Saunders Co., 1976.

Reviews of this book are:

- (a) JAMA, Vol. 236, Dec. 13, 1976.
- (b) Mayo Clinic Proc., Vol. 51, Nov., 1976.
- (c) J. Neurosurg., Vol. 46, Mar., 1977.
- (d) Arch. Path. Lab. Med., Vol. 101, May, 1977.
- (e) Brit. Med. J., Vol. 1, June 18, 1977.

4. a. Schochet, S.S., Jr., and McCormick, W.F.: Neuropathology Case Studies, Flushing, N.Y., Medical Examination Publish. Co., 1976.

Reviews of this book are:

- (a) New Physician, Vol. 25, Dec., 1976.
- (b) Neurol. Neurosurg. Psychiat., Vol. 39, Nov., 1976.
- (c) Arch. Path. Lab. Med., Vol. 101, Mar., 1977.
- (d) J. Neurosurg., Vol. 46, May, 1977.

b. ibid., Ed. 1, 1979.

Reviews:

- (a) Muscle and Nerve, July/Aug., 1980.

c. ibid, Ed. 3, 1983.

5. Schochet, S.S., Jr., and McCormick, W.F.: Essentials of Neuropathology, N.Y., Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1979.

Reviews of this book are:

- (a) Neurol., Vol. 29, Oct., 1979.
- (b) Brit. J. Hospital Med., March, 1980.
- (c) J. Clin. Path., 1980.
- (d) Human Path., Vol 11, May, 1980.
- (e) J. Forensic Sci., Vol. 25, July, 1980.

#### SYLLABI:

1. a. McCormick, W.F. and Schochet, S.S., Jr.: Syllabus of Neuropathology, Univ. Iowa, 1973.  
b. ibid, Ed. 2, Univ. Texas, 1974.  
c. ibid, Ed. 3, UTMB, 1976.  
d. ibid, Revised 3rd Ed., UTMB, 1978.
2. Neuropathology Course Syllabus, Am. Acad. Neurology, 1980-1986.
3. Neuropathology Review, A.F.I.P. Annual course syllabus, 1984 - 1990.

#### BOOK REVIEWS:

St. Louis Encephalitis (Monath, T.P., Ed. Washington, D.C., Am. Public Health Assoc., 1980.) Ann. Int. Med. 95:Nov., 1981.

Bone Ischemia and Infarction in Sickle Cell Disease. (Bohrer, S.P., St Louis, Warren Green, 1981.) New England J. Med. 306:756, March 25, 1982.

Neuropathology: A Summary for Students: (Leech, R.W. & Shuman, R.M., Philadelphia, Harper and Row, 1982.) J. Neuropath. & Exp. Neurol., 42:677-678, Nov., 1982.

Neuropathology of Parasitic Infections. (Brown, W.J. and Voge, M., New York, Oxford University Press, 1982.) J. Parasit., 69:911, Oct., 1983 (with Smith, J.H.).

Skeletal Muscle Pathology (Mastaglia, F.L. and Walton, J., Eds., New York, Churchill Livingstone, 1983.) New Engl. J. Med., 309:1528, Dec. 15, 1983.

Bone Disease in the Elderly (Paterson, C.R. and MacLennan, W.J., New York, John Wiley and Sons, 1984.) New Engl. J. Med., 312:929, April 4, 1985.

Forensic Neuropathology (Leestma, J., New York, Raven Press, 1988).

Journal of Neurosurgery, 69:469, Sept., 1988.

#### CHAPTERS OF BOOKS:

1. Stein, B.M., McCormick, W.F., Rodrigues, J.N. and Taveras, J.M.: Incidence and Significance of Occlusive Vascular Disease of the Extracranial Arteries as Demonstrated by Postmortem Angiography. Trans. Am. Neurol. Ass. 86:Springer, 1961, pp. 60-66.
2. McCormick, W.F.: The Pathology of Vascular ("Arteriovenous") Malformations. In: Sahs, Perret, Lochsley & Nishioka, (Ed.) Intracranial Aneurysms and Subarachnoid Hemorrhage, Philadelphia, J.P. Lippincott, 1969, pp. 194-199.
3. McCormick, W.F.: Vascular Disorders of Nervous Tissue: Anomalies, Malformations and Aneurysms. In: Bourne, J., (Ed.). Structure and Function of Nervous Tissue, Vol. 3, New York Academic Press, 1969, pp. 537-596.
4. McCormick, W.F.: Problems in Pathogenesis of Intracranial Arterial Aneurysms. Proc. Seventh Princeton Conf. on Cerebral Vascular Disease, New York, Grune & Stratton, 1971, pp. 219-231.
5. McCormick, W.F.: Is Anencephaly a Single Entity? A Brief Note on the Morphologic Heterogeneity of Anencephaly. Nervous System, Birth Defects: Original Article Series, Vol. 7, No. 1, (Feb.) 1971.
6. Zellweger, H., Ionasescu, V., Conway, T.H. and McCormick, W.F.: Identification of True Carriers of X-Linked Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy by a New Method. Proc. XIII Internat. Congress Pediatrics, 1971, pp. 359-364.
7. McCormick, W.F.: Biopsy as an Adjunct to the Study of the Natural History of Strokes. In: Fields, W.S. and Moossy, J., (Ed.). Stroke: Diagnosis and Management, 1973, pp. 256-263.
8. McCormick, W.F.: The Pathology of Strokes. In: Licht, S. (Ed.). Stroke and Its Rehabilitation, Vol. 12 of Physical Medicine Library, New Haven, Conn., Elizabeth Licht, Publisher, 1975, pp. 46-77.
9. McCormick, W.F.: Vascular Disease. In: Rosenberg, R.N. (Ed.). The Clinical Neurosciences, Vol. 3, Neuropathology, N.Y., Churchill Livingstone, 1983, pp. 35-83.
10. McCormick, W.F.: Trauma. ibid. pp. 241-283.
11. McCormick, W.F.: The Pathology of Vascular Malformations of the Brain. In: Wilson & Stein, (Ed.) Intracranial Arteriovenous Malformations. Baltimore. Williams & Wilkins, 1984, pp. 44-63.
12. McCormick, W.F.: Pathology of Closed Head Trauma. In: Wilkins, R.H. & Rengachary, S.S. (Ed.). Neurosurgery, Vol. 2, New York. McGraw-Hill Book Co. 1984, pp. 1544-1570.
13. McCormick, W.F.: The Pathology of Angiomas. In: Fein & Flamm, (Ed.). Cerebrovascular Surgery, Vol. 4, Springer-Verlag, 1985, pp. 1073-1095.
14. Langford, L.A., Contreras, F.L. and McCormick, W.F.: Tumors of the Spinal Canal. In: Davidoff, R.A. (Ed.). Handbook of the Spinal Cord, Vol. 4, Marcel Decker, 1986, pp. 371-409.

#### LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. 49th Ann. Meeting Am. Assoc. Path. & Bact., Memphis, Tenn., April 28, 1960. "The Pathology of Sickle Cell Trait."
2. Fed. Am. Soc. Exp. Biol., Chicago, Ill., March, 1960. "Immunologic Differences between Normal Fetal and Thalassemia Fetal Hemoglobins."
3. Knickerbocker Hospital, N.Y., March 22, 1961. "Aspects of Sickle Cell Disease."
4. Annual Meeting Am. Soc. Clin. Path., Seattle, Wash., Oct. 5, 1961. "Spinal Fluid Cytology."
5. 127th Ann. Meeting Tenn. Med. Assoc., Memphis, Tenn., April 9, 1962. "Cryptic Vascular Malformations of the CNS and Their Relationship with Fatal Hemorrhage."
6. 129th Ann. Meeting Tenn. Med. Assoc., Memphis, Tenn., April 12, 1964. "Familial Degeneration of the Globus Pallidus. A New Disease."
7. Ann. Meeting Iowa Assoc. Path., Iowa City, Iowa, April 12, 1964. "A-V Malformations of the CNS."
8. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 31-Feb. 4, 1966. "Genetics of Neurological Diseases" and "Vascular Disease."
9. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 23-27, 1967. "Vascular Disease."
10. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 22-26, 1968. "Vascular Disease."
11. Ann. Meeting Iowa-Midwest Neurosurgical Soc., Des Moines, Iowa, May 4, 1968. "Histopathology of Intracranial Hemorrhages."
12. Postgraduate Course-Iowa Regional Medical Program. Conference on Strokes, Iowa City, Iowa, Oct. 3-5, 1968. "Pathological Findings in Hemorrhagic Strokes."
13. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Feb. 24-28, 1969. "Vascular Disease."
14. Ann. Meeting Iowa-Midwest Neurosurgical Soc., Council Bluffs, Iowa, May 3, 1969. "Causes of Death in Craniocerebral Injuries."
15. Second Symposium on Congenital Malformations, Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore Md., May 26-30, 1969. "Anencephaly."

16. Seventh Princeton Conf. on Cerebral Vascular Disease, Princeton, N.J., Jan. 7-9, 1970. "The Pathogenesis of Saccular Aneurysms."
17. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Feb. 9-13, 1970. "Vascular Disease."
18. Neuropathology Short Course - Int. Acad. Path., St. Louis, Mo., March 12, 1970. "Pathology of Stroke."
19. Symposium on Neurology Honoring A.L. Sahs, M.D., Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 12 1970. "Pathology of the Pituitary."
20. Iowa Regional Medical Program-Conf. on Paraplegia and Related Spinal Cord Disease, Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 24, 1970. "Pathology of Paraplegia."
21. Ann. Meeting Iowa-Midwest Neurosurgical Soc., Iowa City, Iowa, Nov. 14, 1970. "Pathology of Pituitary Neoplasm."
22. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Feb. 1-5, 1971. "Vascular Disease."
23. Houston Neurological Symposium, Houston, Texas, March 10, 1971. "The Use of the Biopsy in Cerebral Vascular Disease."
24. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 31-Feb. 4, 1972.
25. Ann. Meeting Iowa-Midwest Neurosurgical Soc., Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 11, 1972. "Neoplasms of the Sella Region."
26. Iowa Assoc. Path., Iowa City, Iowa, Nov. 18, 1972. "Proper Selection and Handling of Neuropathology Specimens."
27. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 22-26, 1973.
28. Lecture, Henry Ford Hospital, "Pathology of Massive Brain Hemorrhage", Detroit, Michigan, March 4, 1973.
29. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan.-Feb. 1, 1974.
30. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 27-31, 1975.
31. Lecture, Univ. Iowa, "Pathology of the Spinal Cord", Iowa City, Iowa, Feb. 8, 1975.
32. Lecture, Univ. Alabama, "Strange Strokes: Cerebral Vascular Accidents of Unusual Types", Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 28, 1975.
33. Lecture, Southwestern Medical School, U.T., "Pathology of the Pituitary Gland", Dallas, Texas, Oct. 1, 1975.
34. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 26-30, 1975. (Faculty)

35. "Neuropathological Considerations of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage", Symposium on Non-traumatic Subarachnoid Hemorrhage, Austin Neurological Society, Austin, Texas, March 26, 1976.
36. Practical Neuropathology Course, Univ. Maryland, Baltimore, Sept. 10-12, 1976. (Faculty)
37. Lecture, National Association of Medical Examiners, Orlando, Florida, Oct. 15, 1976. "The Potential Value of Computed Axial Tomography to the Forensic Scientist."
38. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 31 - Feb. 4, 1977. (Faculty)
39. Lectures, Univ. Tenn. Health Science Center, Memphis, Tenn., May 5, 1977. a) Pediatric Neuropathology. b) Pathology of the Pituitary.
40. Ann. Meeting, Neurosurgical Soc. America, Acapulco, Mexico, Jan. 23, 1978. "The Neuropathology of Aneurysms", Symposium of Aneurysms.
41. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 26-27, 1978. (Faculty)
42. Lectures (3), Baylor Medical College, Houston, Texas, Feb. 13-14, 1978. (1) "Studies of Intracranial Hemorrhages;" (2) "Natural History of Saccular Aneurysms;" (3) "Pathology of the Pituitary;" (4) "The Role of Hypertension in Stroke."
43. Lecture, Univ. Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 16-17, 1978. "Infections of the CNS" and "Vascular Disease of the CNS." (Guest Faculty).
44. Lecture, Univ. Tenn. Health Science Center, Memphis, Tenn., May 30, 1978. "Massive Brain Hemorrhage - A Study of Etiologies."
45. Lecture, Univ. Hawaii John A. Burn's School of Medicine, June 8, 1978. "Hypertension and Stroke."
46. Lecture, Tripler Army Hospital, Hawaii, June 9, 1978. "Etiologies of Brain Hemorrhages."
47. Lectures (4), Hilton Head Island Neurosurgical Symposia on Cerebrovascular Disease, Hilton Head, S.C., Aug. 2-6, 1978. (1) "Natural History of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage;" (2) "Pathology of Angiomas;" (3) "Pathology of Extracranial Occlusive Disease;" (4) Panel discussion on STA-MCA Bypass.
48. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 18-19, 1979. "Vascular Disease." (Faculty)
49. Lecture, St. Vincent's Medical Center Neurological Surgery Symposium, Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 26, 1979. "Subarachnoid Hemorrhage."
50. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 18-19, 1980. "Vascular Disease." (Faculty)

51. Lecture, Regional Meeting, Galveston, Texas Soc. Histotechnologists, May 3, 1980. "Neuropathology Laboratory Techniques, Diagnostically Important Sections."
52. a. Lecture, Western Michigan Neurological Society, Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 13, 1980. "Brain Hemorrhage."  
b. Lecture, Pathology Society, Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 13, 1980. "Forensic Anthropology."
53. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 5-9, 1981. "Vascular Disease." (Faculty)
54. Lecture and Discussion, A.H.A. Stroke Meeting, Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 13, 1981. "Natural History of Aneurysms."
55. Visiting Professor, Univ. Virginia, May, 1981.
56. Lecture, Blodgett Memorial Medical Center, Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 2, 1981. "Unusual Traumatic Lesions of the C.N.S."
57. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 18-22, 1982. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease."
58. Lecture, Univ. Maryland, Baltimore, Nov. 19, 1982. "Pathology of Angiomas."
59. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 17-21, 1983. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease."
60. Lecture, St. Mary Hospital Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, Oct. 4, 1983. "Unusual Brain Tumors - CT and Morphologic Studies."
61. Lecture and Discussion, Second Annual Stonewin Medical Conference, Cerebral Arteriovenous Malformations; New York, July 12 & 13, 1984. "Pathology and Natural History of Angiomas."
62. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 22-23, 1985. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease."
63. Lecture, Natural History of Aneurysms, Washington-Johnson-Unicoi Co. Medical Soc. March 7, 1985.
64. Lecture and Discussion, Third Annual Stonewin Oratorical Conference, "Pathology of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage;" New York, July 15 & 16, 1985.
65. The Helpern Memorial Lecture: "Sickle Cell Trait: A Cause of Death?" National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, Memphis, Tennessee. September 26, 1985.
66. "Direct Brainstem Trauma." NAME Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN, Sept. 27, 1985.
67. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 20-24, 1986. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease."
68. "Age Determination in Skeletal Materials." Univ. Tenn. Dept. Anthropology Graduate Seminar in Forensic Anthropology, Jan. 28, 1986, Knoxville, TN.

69. "Chest Plate (Plastron) Morphology: Age and Sex Related Changes." Physical Anthropology Section, American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February, 1986.
70. Non-Traumatic Brain Hemorrhages ("Patologia Do Acidente Vascular Cerebral Hemorragico") 120 Congresso Brasileiro de Neurologia, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, September 23, 1986.
71. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Feb. 24-25, 1987. ("Trauma" and "Vascular Disease").
72. "Aneurysms; Angiomas; Brain Hemorrhage." Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, N.C., March 10-11, 1987.
73. "Plastron Morphology as an Aging Technique in Forensic Anthropology." Physical Anthropology Class, Appalachian State University, April 2, 1987.
74. "Closed Head Trauma." Miss. Death Investigation Training School, Jackson, Miss., Aug. 31, 1987.
75. "Plastron Morphology in Sex and Age Determination." Dept. of Anthropology, Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C., Nov. 3, 1987.
76. A.F.I.P. Course in Neuropathology, Washington, D.C., Jan. 26-27, 1988 "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease".
77. "The Sex Predicting of the Human Clavicle." Physical Anthropology Section, American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Feb. 19, 1988.
78. "Closed Head Trauma." Miss. Death Investigation Training School, Jackson, Miss., Feb. 29, 1988.
79. Onondaga Co. Med. Exam Course, "Scene Investigation & Recovery of Human Skeletal Remains," Syracuse, NY, July 30, 1988 ("Plastron Morphology for Age & Sex Determination").
80. "Forensic Pathology and the Forensic Odontologist." East TN Dental Club, Johnson City, TN, Oct. 11, 1988.
81. A.F.I.P. Course Neuropathology Review, Washington, D. C., Jan. 30 & 31, 1989. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease".
82. "Blunt Trauma and Closed Head Trauma." Miss. Death Investigation Training School, Jackson, Miss., May 5, 1989.
83. Forensic Pathology 7th Annual Appalachian Chapter Emergency Nurses Association Seminar, Johnson City, TN, Nov. 10, 1989.
84. "Sternal Development in Childhood." Physical Anthropology Section, American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 28, 1990.
85. A.F.I.P. Course Neuropathology Review, Washington, D.C., Feb. 26 & 27, 1990. "Trauma" and "Vascular Disease".

86. "The Role of the Medical Examiner/Forensic Pathologist in Arson Investigation." Annual Meeting, TN Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators, Johnson City, TN, July 24, 1990.
87. Pathology of Arteriovenous and Cavernous Angiomas. Neurosurgery Symposium, Cook County Graduate School, Chicago, IL, Sept. 15 & 16, 1990.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS:

KEY - + = Abstracted in Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology  
 \* = Abstracted in Year Book of Neurology and Neurosurgery  
 0 = Abstracted in Year Book of Pediatrics  
 x = Abstracted in Year Book of Ophthalmology

1. McCormick, W.F.: Studies on the Use of Mecamylamine in 10 Cases of Moderate and Severe Hypertension. J. Tenn. State Med. Assoc. 50: 148-150, April, 1957.
2. McCormick, W.F.: Intussusception of the Vermiform Appendix with a Mucocele. Arch. Path. 64:686-690, Dec., 1957.
3. Hand, A.M., McCormick, W.F. and Lumb, G.: Malignant Carcinoid Tumor. Am. J. Clin. Path. 30:47-57, 1958.
4. McCormick, W.F. and Blake, C.C.: Some Notes on Paul Grawitz and his Tumor. Cancer 11:Sept. - Oct., 1958.
5. McCormick, W.F.: Endocardial Fibroelastosis: A Summary of the Literature and a Review of 24 New Cases. South. Med. J. 51:1232-1240, Oct., 1958.
6. + McCormick, W.F., Flanigan, C, Jr., and Francisco, J.T.: Effect of Sickle Cell Erythrocytes on in vitro Growth Characteristics of Certain Bacteria. Proc. Soc. Biol. Med. 100:847-850, 1959.
7. 0 McCormick, W.F.: Rupture of the Stomach of Children. Arch. Path. 67:416-426, April, 1959.
8. Campbell, J. and McCormick, W.F.: Intussusception of the Vermiform Appendix Presenting Clinically as a Cecal Carcinoma. Arch. Surg. 79:825-826, Nov. 1959.
9. McCormick, W.F. and Walker, R.H.: Immunologically Different "Normal" Fetal Hemoglobins. Am. J. Clin. Path. 33:500-504, June, 1960.
- 10.a McCormick, W.F.: Abnormal Hemoglobins. I. Incidence in Memphis and Western Tennessee, with Special Reference to Autopsy Material. Am. J. Clin. Path. 34:220-224, Sept., 1960.
- 10.b McCormick, W.F.: Letter to the editor. Typographic Error in Article Dealing with Abnormal Hemoglobins. Am. J. Clin. Path. 35:452, May, 1961.
11. McCormick, W.F. and Humphreys, E.W.: High Fetal-hemoglobin C Disease: A New Syndrome. Blood 16:1736-1744, Dec., 1960.
12. + McCormick, W.F.: Abnormal Hemoglobins. II. The Pathology of Sickle Cell Trait. Am. J. Med. Sci. 241:329-335, March, 1961.

13. McCormick, W.F., Vinci, V.G. and Bertero, G.J.: C.P.C. A Space-occupying Lesion in the Brain. N.Y. State J. Med. 61:3302-3309, Oct. 1961.
14. McCormick, W.F.: Abnormal Hemoglobins. III. The Stability of Non-sterile Whole Blood for Electrophoretic Analysis. Am. J. Clin. Path. 37:140-142, Feb., 1962.
15. McCormick, W.F. and Stein, B.M.: A Technique for the Study of the Extracranial Arteries. Arch. Path. 74:52-56, July, 1962.
16. McCormick, W.F. and Coleman, S.A.: A Membrane Filter Technique for Spinal Fluid Cytology. Am. J. Clin. Path. 38:191-197, August, 1962.
17. Stein, B.M., McCormick, W.F., Rodriguez, J.N. and Traveras, J.M.: Postmortem Angiography of Cerebral Vascular System. Arch. Neurol. 7:545-559, Dec., 1962.
18. McCormick, W.F., Cristy, N.P. and Raben, M.S.: Combined Staff Clinic: The Adenohypophysis. Am. J. Med. 34:365-378, March, 1963.
19. Wood, M. and McCormick, W.F.: Clinicopathological Conference: Cryptococcosis. J. Tenn. State Med. Assoc. 56:92-96, March, 1963.
20. McCormick, W.F.: Fatal Anaphylactic Reactions to Wasp Stings: A Review with Immunologic Studies of a Fatal Case. Am. J. Clin. Path. 39:485-491, May, 1963.
21. McCormick, W.F.: Coroner's Corner. Medical Times 91:Sept., 1963.
22. McCormick, W.F.: Clinicopathologic Conference: Glioblastoma Multiforme. J. Tenn. State Med. Assoc. 56:410-414, Oct., 1963.
23. McCormick, W.F.: Intramedullary Spinal Cord Schwannoma. Arch. Path. 77:378-382, April, 1964.
24. Daly, R. and McCormick, W.F.: C.P.C.: Sensory Radicular Neuropathology. J. Tenn. Med. Assoc. 57:152-159, April, 1964.
25. Canale, D.J. and McCormick, W.F.: C.P.C.: Acoustic Neurinoma. J. Tenn. Med. Assoc. 57:262-269, June, 1964.
26. McCormick, W.F. and Beals, J.D.: Severe Epistaxis Due to Ruptured Aneurysms of the Internal Carotid Artery. J. Neurosurg. 21:678-686, August, 1964.
27. McCutchen, J.J. and McCormick, W.F.: Neoplasms Masquerading as Cerebral Vascular Accidents. J. Tenn. Med. Assoc. 57:429-434, Nov., 1964.
28. McCormick, W.F.: Abnormal Hemoglobins. IV. An Analysis of More Than 9,000 Patients. J. Tenn. Acad. Sci. 39:145-147, Oct.-Dec., 1964.
29. McCormick, W.F. and Lemmi, H.: Familial Degeneration of the Pallidonigral System. Neurol. 15:141-153, Feb., 1965.

30. \* McCormick, W.F. and Nofzinger, J.D.: Saccular Intracranial Aneurysms. An Autopsy Study. J. Neurosurg. 22:155-159, Feb., 1965.
31. McCormick, W.F. and Kashgarian, M.: Abnormal Hemoglobins. V. Age at Death of Patients with Sickle Cell Trait. Am. J. Human Genetics 17:101-103, March, 1965.
32. McCormick, W.F. and Kashgarian, M.: The Weight of the Adult Human Spleen. Am. J. Clin. Path. 43:332-333, April, 1965.
33. \* Pitner, S.E., Edwards, J.E. and McCormick, W.F.: Observations on the Pathology of the Moebius Syndrome. J. Neurol. Neurosurg. Psychiat. 28:362-374, August, 1965.
34. Zellweger, H., Brown, B.I., McCormick, W.F. and Tu, J-B: A Mild Form of Muscular Glycogenosis in Two Brothers with Alpha-1, 4-Glucosidase Deficiency. Ann. Paediat. 205-437, Nov.-Dec., 1965.
35. McCormick, W.F., Perret, G. and Pribram, H.F.W.: C.P.C.: von Recklinghausen's Neurofibromatosis. J. Iowa Med. Soc. 56:262-275, March, 1966.
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The "frequencies" listed below are for this area (Tennessee/Virginia). The source of this data is the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Serology Laboratory, Donelson.

BLOOD GROUP SYSTEM	BLOOD TYPE	PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION
ABO	A	37.0%
	B	13.0%
	O	46.0%
	AB	4.0%
Erythrocyte acid phosphatase (EAP)	BA	43.0%
	B	40.0%
	A	9.0%
	CB	4.0%
	CA	3.0%
	C	< 1.0%
Phosphoglucomutase (PGM)	Type 1	63.0%
	2-1	31.0%
	2	6.0%
Esterase D (EsD)	Type 1	79.0%
	2-1	20.0%
	2	1.0%
Haptoglobins (Hp)	Type 2-1	50.0%
	2	31.0%
	1	19.0%

July, 1991

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM F. MCCORMICK, M.D

William F. McCormick, M.D., deposes and says:

1. I am the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner for the State of Tennessee, and am a professor and head of the Department of Forensic Pathology at East Tennessee State University, James H. Quillen College of Medicine. I have previously given an affidavit in the case of Roger Keith Coleman, which is attached as Exhibit G to Mr. Coleman's Second Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus. I am giving a second statement after reviewing, and in response to, the affidavits presented in Respondent's Motion in opposition to that Petition.

2. With respect to the affidavit of Dr. Thomas D. McDonald: I strongly question Dr. McDonald's ability to place the time of Wanda McCoy's death at 10:30 P.M., plus or minus 30 minutes. See McDonald Affidavit, ¶ 4. The time of death in an unwitnessed case is notoriously imprecise even when great attention to detail is paid, and the imprecision is compounded by the criteria used by Dr. McDonald to state that death occurred in this case at 10:30 P.M.

3. Dr. McDonald's earlier statement that the body was "still warm" does not provide a basis for an adequate estimate of the time of death. Based on my own

rather extensive personal experience, and on the published results of others, residual warmth can be felt in a body for a number of hours following death.

4. Dr. McDonald's earlier statement that "there was no rigor mortis" likewise does not provide a basis for an adequate estimate of the time of death. Rigor mortis is usually tested by moving an extremity, attempting to open the jaws, and so forth, in a very imprecise manner. Under controlled conditions, and according to numerous published reports, rigor mortis has an onset between 63 and 199 minutes after death.

5. Dr. McDonald's earlier statement that "all bleeding had ceased" does not provide a basis for an adequate estimate of the time of death, and is somewhat puzzling, since large wounds will often bleed for many hours following their infliction and the death of the individual.

6. Dr. McDonald's earlier statement that the spilled blood was beginning to dry does not provide a basis for an adequate estimate of the time of death, since the drying time of blood is subject to innumerable variables, including ambient temperature, air movement, humidity, the type of surface the blood is spilled on, etc.

7. I also question Dr. McDonald's assertion that "at no time did I ever have any indication that Wanda

McCoy had been sexually assaulted by more than one person or that there was sperm from more than one person in her vagina." McDonald Affidavit at ¶ 3. It is unclear to me what evidence Dr. McDonald would have to confirm or deny this hypothesis, based on his examination of the body at the scene.

8. With respect to the affidavit of Dr. David W. Oxley: I strongly question Dr. Oxley's statement that "the victim's wounds could not have been inflicted with a pair of scissors". See Oxley Affidavit, ¶ 4. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that scissors can produce deep slash and stab wounds with sharp margins. It is unclear to me how Dr. Oxley could make his statement without examining the scissors which are alleged to have been used as the murder weapon.

9. I also question Dr. Oxley's statement that "at no time during the examination of the body did I have any reason to believe that the victim had been sexually assaulted by more than one person or that the victim's body contained the sperm of more than one donor." McDonald Affidavit at ¶ 3. It is unclear to me what evidence Dr. Oxley could have found in the course of a gross autopsy, which would confirm or deny the hypothesis that two donors were involved.

10. With respect to the affidavit of Dr. Elmer Gist: I would like to clarify that, in advocating the use of

erythrocyte acid phosphatase, phosphoglucomutase, esterase D and haptoglobins tests, I was referring to the testing of blood found on the scene, not semen. If the Commonwealth had done additional test on the spots of blood purportedly found on Mr. Coleman's blue jeans, it could have determined with a high degree of certainty whether that blood came from the victim. Given that her blood type was "O", a very common type, I do not know why such additional testing was not conducted.

11. I believe that additional tests on the semen found at the scene were also possible and would have proved useful in "individualizing" the semen found there.

12. With respect to the affidavit of Dr. Scott Kauma: I question Dr. Kauma's statement that "it is not unusual to find live sperm on a vaginal swab obtained more than 72 hours after reported intercourse". In my experience, while this may be possible, it is not "usual" by any stretch of the imagination.

13. With further reference to Dr. Kauma's affidavit: I simply do not see its significance. To my knowledge, no one in the Roger Coleman case has claimed to have found live sperm. There is no doubt that sperm DNA is the same whether the sperm is live or dead. Certainly by the time the DNA is extracted the sperm is dead.

14. I would also like to note that the autopsy report from the Richmond Office of the Virginia Medical Examiner (Western District, Roanoke) is very brief and contains ambiguities and contradictory statements. For example, in describing the neck organs the autopsy report specifically states that "the cartilages and hyoid bones are intact"; yet on other occasions in the autopsy report and in Dr. Oxley's deposition, statements are made which contradict this: "cutting through the thyroid cartilage...", "the larynx had also been lacerated...", etc.

15. I continue to believe that further analysis of forensic materials and other evidence is appropriate, given that no such review has ever been conducted by the defense, and given Mr. Coleman's pending execution.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

*William F. McCormick*  
 Dr. William McCormick

Signed and sworn to before me this 25th day of November, 1991.

*Cathy J. Butler*  
 Notary Public  
 My commission expires

January 24, 1993



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Mrs. Bowman is the daughter of Knox District Supervisor Julius Hall and Mrs. Blankenship is the wife of his half-brother. The U. S. Department of Labor had alleged nepotism in both cases and Mrs. Bowman's employment as a coordinator in the Manpower Program for Buchanan County was terminated in April, 1980. She had been employed by the county since 1974.

The county appealed the case and the March 30 ruling stated in summary, "it is the Hearings Officer's opinion that the employment of Lois Bowman with the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors did not constitute an act of nepotism in the performance of its CETA contracts and since she was otherwise eligible to continue as a staff member under the board of supervisors, she should not have been terminated from her employment."

The Hearings Officer declined to award Mrs. Bowman back pay, however, stating that there had been no showing that the complainant suffered a loss due to wrongful termination on discriminatory grounds.

The county had argued that Mrs. Blankenship as the wife of the half-brother, would not be considered immediate family, but the Hearings Officers ruled that she would be considered a sister-in-law and stated "it is evident that nepotism by definition was present in the hiring of Eunice Blankenship."

Although Mrs. Bowman was more closely related to Hall, there were numerous other issues in the case that resulted the decision in her favor.

In ruling that the county violated the nepotism provisions in hiring Mrs. Blankenship, the Hearings Officer further directed that the county should reimburse the CETA Division of VEC for wages and fringe benefits paid to Mrs. Blankenship in the amount of \$27,994.21.

County officials indicated they would attempt to secure a waiver of this reimbursement if possible.

### NO ARREST REPORTED IN McCOY KILLING

Authorities have reported no arrest as yet in the murder of 19-year-old Wanda Faye McCoy who was found dead at her home in Grundy on the night of March 10.

At last report, the investigation was continuing into the stabbing.

Officers from the state and town police are involved in the probe although details of the investigation remain sketchy.

Sources said the cause of death appeared to be a stab wound and that the assailant appeared to have entered the victim's Long Bottom home through the front door.

reported on his gross work and gave the supervisors figures which he described as "for the most part, final."

Belcher said that some work remained regarding minerals and the board approved his recommendation to retain Garland Wright for 90-90 days to do this work.

Belcher indicated that his group would present a final report, complete

## New Policy

Facing the first graduating class that will have to pass a competency test in order to receive a diploma, the Buchanan County School Board adopted a new policy Monday governing the awarding of such documents.

Students who fail to pass the competency test will receive a certificate rather than a diploma, according to the school board action. It was reported Monday's meeting that out of a proximately 500 graduating seniors the county only 10 are expected to fail the recently given competency test.

The new policy procedure establishes two diplomas, one regular diploma to be given to students who have completed requirements and passed the co



PADDLE PRACTICE--Curtis Munnold were busy brushing up week in anticipation of the Raft Race set for this Saturday sponsored by the Kiwanis Club statewide publicity. Registration a.m. Saturday near the the

*Professional Investigation Services  
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October 31, 1990

Ms. Kathleen A. Behan, Esq.  
Arnold and Porter  
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Re: ROGER KEITH COLEMAN

Dear Ms. Behan:

Enclosed is my investigative report and bill for services.

Included in the bill for services is the time spent with Chris Yukins who contacted me initially in this case.

I have not yet had the opportunity to recontact my Confidential Informant in this case. However, when I do so, I will give you the benefit of the results of that contact if they are positive in nature.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Very truly yours,

*Bob Craig*

Robert E. Craig

REC:je

Enclosures

*Professional Investigation Services  
of Virginia*

P.O. Box 1986  
Abingdon, VA 24210

(703) 628-1300

October 31, 1990

INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD: 10/12/90 -- 10/23/90

Investigator: Robert E. Craig

Subject: ROBERT KEITH COLEMAN  
Inmate  
Virginia Penal System

Client: Ms. Kathleen A. Behan, Esq.  
Arnold and Porter  
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

ROGER KEITH COLEMAN  
Inmate  
Virginia Penal System

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ROGER KEITH COLEMAN  
Inmate  
Virginia Penal System

INTERVIEW REPORT

Date: Friday, 10/12/90  
Place: Vansant-Grundy, Virginia

Investigator: Robert E. Craig

SPECIAL AGENT JACK DAVIDSON, Virginia State Police,  
Vansant, Virginia furnished the following:

He was the primary investigator on the murder investigation of WANDA McCOY which led to the arrest and conviction of RONALD KEITH COLEMAN. On the night that the murder occurred CHIEF OF POLICE RANDY JACKSON was apparently the first officer to respond to the murder scene, having been notified of the murder by a telephone call to the Buchanan County Sheriff's Office from McCOY's father-in-law HEZZIE McCOY. JACKSON then called DAVIDSON from the murder scene or from a nearby residence, and DAVIDSON went directly to the murder scene. DAVIDSON never received any call dispatching him to the scene from the Virginia State Police in Wytheville, Virginia. He has never heard of any call being made to the State Police in Wytheville, Virginia from anyone, including a neighbor of McCoy's. If such a call was ever made, he does not recall ever having heard about it. There were numerous state police and local officers involved in the investigation at the residence on the night of the murder and subsequently. He recalls that SPECIAL AGENT KELLY ANDREWS was the primary crime scene investigator.

He recalls reference to a pressure mark on the door jamb of the McCOY residence. In reviewing his report of the incident, he noted that this was referred to as a "pressure mark, somewhat like a pry mark". However, he did not at all consider this to be any type of pry mark that was used to gain entry to the McCOY residence for the murder. This merely looked like some type of bump or hit onto the door jamb of the residence. There was no corresponding mark on the door itself, as would be the case with a pry mark. He has seen plenty of pry marks in burglary investigations over his 22 years as an investigator and knows the difference between a pry mark and a pressure mark or bump. It was his opinion that this mark was probably caused by some furniture or object being brought into or out of the house when the door was open. As far as he was concerned, this mark had no

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significance whatever in regard to the case but was only noted because they were trying to be extremely thorough in what they were doing.

In regard to a fingerprint on the door, he seems to recall that this was nothing more than a fingerprint smudge and was of little or no value whatever in the investigation. Even smudge prints are removed from objects in an investigation like this in order to "be on the safe side".

Roger Coleman became a suspect at the very outset of the investigation after interviewing BRAD McCOY, the victim's husband. BRAD McCOY indicated that COLEMAN was the last person to visit with BRAD and WANDA McCOY at their residence and had been there two or three times at least in the last month. It was known to the police that ROGER COLEMAN had a prior conviction for Rape and had served eight years in prison. This made him a prime suspect. BRAD McCOY mentioned that ROGER COLEMAN was one of three individuals who would be admitted into the residency by WANDA McCOY without much question if he were there at night. Other than that, WANDA McCOY was said to be extremely leery of anyone coming into their residence. The glass in the front door of the house had been painted over by the McCoys so that no one could see into the house. However, they had scratched a small "peep hole" in the paint in order to look out and see who was at the door. In fact, it was this peep hole in the paint on the door glass that BRAD McCOY looked through when he arrived home that night. He thought something was funny when he didn't see the porch light on. He then checked the exterior of the house and the garbage cans to see if the garbage had been put out. Then in looking through the peep hole, he could see that the afghan that was normally on the back of the sofa in the living room was laying on the bottom or the seat of the sofa. He then suspected that his wife was playing games with him and was hiding from him on purpose. BRAD McCOY then went into the house and pulled up the afghan, thinking that his wife was hiding. When he didn't find her, he then noted blood on the floor and a light on in the spare bedroom that was usually unused. He then went into the bedroom and found his wife dead. Apparently then BRAD McCOY then called his father about what had happened and became extremely hysterical over finding his wife with her throat cut. Asked if he had ever heard about a story alleging that BRAD McCOY went to a neighbor's house and had banged his head on the refrigerator saying, "They are coming to get me, they'll come back to get me," or

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words to that effect. DAVIDSON said that he had never heard any such story, but would not be very concerned about such a statement from BRAD McCOY under the circumstances of having found his wife brutally murdered.

At the outset of the murder, BRAD McCOY, simply because he was the husband of the victim and had found the body, was a suspect in the case. McCOY was interviewed extensively and also was given a polygraph about any knowledge of the murder. There was no indication from the polygraph that McCOY had anything to do with the murder. Likewise, DAVIDSON recalls that he looked at McCOY's hands and wrists and did not see any scratch marks of any kind on them. This is as a result of having observed that WANDA McCOY's fingernails were broken, possibly during a struggle. DAVIDSON assumed there may have been possible scratch marks on the attacker. However, he also noted that the attacker may have been wearing heavy clothing during that time of the year and that scratch marks would only be on the hands or face of an attacker. DAVIDSON further assumed that any struggle took place in the living room of the house, and he believes that WANDA McCOY may have been unconscious by the time she was taken into the bedroom. He seems to recall that there was some kind of substance on the floor, blood or urine, that was smeared in such a way as to indicate that WANDA McCOY may have been dragged into the bedroom. She could have been knocked out, and knocked unconscious, and thrown onto the bed. In fact, due to the way that her body was laying, with the arms up over the head and her head partially off of the bed, indicates to DAVIDSON that she may have been dropped down on the bed after having been carried there and stayed in the position that she landed on the bed during the time that she was disrobed and raped.

DAVIDSON does not believe that the body of WANDA McCOY was turned over because of the characteristics of the blood pool on the floor under her head. He believes that if the body had been turned over, that the pool would be oblong in shape. Further, if McCOY had been laying on her stomach and her head pulled back when her throat was cut, that there would have been some spurting of blood away from the pool on the floor under her head. This was not the case.

DAVIDSON does not believe that there two attackers in this case. He further does not believe that McCOY was assaulted both vaginally and anally. He explained the presence of semen from the anal swab taken from McCOY's body

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in this way: He believes that the attacker had an ejaculation on top of McCOY who was laying on her back. This ejaculation was partly outside the body and the semen dripped down from the vagina area into the anus area. Because of the difficulty in taking an anal swab from a body in which rigor mortis has set in, he believes that the medical examiner picked up semen stains on the swab from the buttocks area of the anus. That would also account for the reason that there was not a sufficient amount of semen on this anal swab to type for blood type. It is DAVIDSON's understanding of this type of sex crime that ejaculation often occurs outside the victim and there may not be any actual penetration of the vagina or anus.

DAVIDSON believes that McCOY was laying on her back when her throat was cut, and the body pumped the heart dry - before the stabs were made in the chest as there was no blood in the stab wounds. He believes the fact that McCOY was killed is further evidence that ROGER COLEMAN was responsible for the murder because he feels that COLEMAN did not want to risk going back to jail again, as had been the case earlier. In other words, in the prior rape, COLEMAN did not kill the victim. The victim identified COLEMAN and he spent eight years in jail. Therefore COLEMAN, on this occasion, deliberately killed the victim in order that he could not be identified and sent back to jail.

DAVIDSON noted that during the week after the McCoy murder, COLEMAN was positively identified by the librarian at the Grundy Library as having masturbated in front of her. COLEMAN was subsequently charged with this crime, Indecent Exposure. It was ironic to DAVIDSON that when COLEMAN was actually arrested for the rape and murder of WANDA McCOY, as well as for Indecent Exposure, that COLEMAN's primary concern was with the charges of Indecent Exposure. COLEMAN was extremely upset about these charges and was very vocal about it. Yet COLEMAN had very little, if anything to say in defense of himself on the Rape/Murder charges.

COLEMAN further became a suspect in this case after having been questioned at the very outset of the investigation because of discrepancies found in COLEMAN's statement. One of the things that DAVIDSON recalled was that COLEMAN said that his pants legs were wet because the conditions at the mine where he had been working were very wet. DAVIDSON had a State Police Officer go to the mines and check the conditions there and determined that there was