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**Arthur Rutherford v. State of Florida**

TEST, TEST , .

THE MARSHAL: HEAR YE , HEAR YE, HEAR Y E. THE SUPREME COURT O F FLORIDA IS NOW IN SESSION. ALL WHO HAV E C AU SE T O P LE A , DRAW NEAR, GIVE ATT EN TION , A ND Y OU SHALL B E H EA RD . GOD SAVE THE UNITED STATES , THE GREAT STATE O F FLORIDA , AND THIS HON OR ABLE C OURT . LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, T HE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT. PLEASE BE SEA TE D .

CHIEF JUSTICE: GOOD MORNING , LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO THE F LORIDA SUPREME COURT . WE HAD MORE T HAN ONE CAS E O N THIS MORNING'S D OC KET , B UT O NE OF THE CASES HAS B EE N T AKEN OFF, ONE O F THE CIT IZ EN INITIATIVE CASES. SO WE WILL STA RT W IT H A ND END WITH LOTT VERSU S S TATE O F FLORIDA. ARE T HE P ARTIES R EA DY ? YOU MAY PRO CE ED .

M ADAM CHIEF JUSTICE , MEMBERS OF THE COURT, GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS F RA NK B AN KOWI TZ . I'M HERE R EPRE SE NT IN G K EN L OT T W ITH REGARD TO HIS A EA L OF THE DENIAL OF HIS POST-CONVICTION RELIEF M OT IO N , HIS 3.8 50 , 3 .8 51 M OTIO N B EFOR E THE C IR CUIT C OU RT O F O RANGE COUNTY.

ARE YOU R EGIS TR Y C OUNSEL O R RETAINED COUNSEL?

REGISTRY C OU NSEL , YOUR HONOR .

B ASICALLY THE F ACTS OF T HI S CASE ARE THAT MR. LOTT W AS CONVICTED IN ORANGE COUNTY OF FIRST DEGREE M URDE R , REC EIVE D THE DEATH PEN ALTY. THIS COURT HAS AFFIRMED THAT DEATH PENALTY CONVICTION AS WELL AS THE U NI TE D S TATE S SUPREME COURT DEN IE D CERTIORARI.

WE'VE GOT A VERY LIM ITED AMOUNT OF TIM E . WE ARE VER Y F AMILIAR WIT H BOTH THE P ROCEDURAL FACTS AND T HE FACTS OF THE CASE. IF YOU COULD GET RIGHT TO THE ISSUES YOU ARE GOING TO ADDRESS?

YES, S IR. FIRST OF ALL , I T I S OUR C ONTENTION AND IN OUR BRI EF AND IN OUR ARG UMENT BEFORE THE TRIAL COURT T HAT M R. L OT T DI D NOT REC EIVE EFF EC TIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL WITH REGARD TO THE I NVES TIGA TI ON O F THIS CASE, PRIMARILY T HE INVESTIGATION OF HIS A LIBI . MR. LOTT FROM THE B EG INNING OF THIS CASE ADVISED C OUNSEL , PUBLIC DEFENDER COUNSEL AS WELL AS PRIVA TE C OU NS EL W HE N PRIVATE COUNSEL WAS RETAI NED THAT HE HAD AN A LIBI. HIS FAMILY GAVE PHO TO GR AP HS , LOCATIONS O F W HE RE AND WHE N T HIS A LI BI C OU LD B E C ONFI RM ED. BASICALLY IN THE --.

WHO WAS HE WIT H D URING T HE COURSE OF THAT ALIBI?

IT WAS A LLEGED THAT H E W AS WITH HIS WIF E , A ND -- > > SO W AS HIS W IF E Q UESTIONED?

HIS WIFE WAS QUE ST IO NE D DURING T HE PROCEEDINGS. SHE WAS LISTED AS A D EF ENSE WITNESS. SHE G AVE SEVER AL D IFFE RENT STATEMENTS A S T O T IMES , LOCATIONS A ND H ER CRE DIBI LI TY W AS I N Q UESTION. SHE WAS NOT --

DID SHE SUP PO RT H IS A LI BI ?

SHE DID INITI AL LY , AND ABOUT SIX WEE KS PRIOR TO TRIAL SHE ADVISED D EF EN SE C OU NSEL THAT SHE DID NOT WANT T O TESTIFY.SHE WASN'T GOING T O T ES TIFY , AND SHE D IDN' T W AN T A NY TH IN G FURTHER TO DO WITH MR. LOT T.

JUSTICE L EWIS ?

DID SHE S AY M OR E T HA N SHE JUST DIDN'T WANT TO TESTIFY?

THERE WAS A STATE ME NT SHE WASN'T GOING TO LIE F OR K EN NY ANY MORE.

DOES T HAT NOT M AKE SOM E DIFFERENCE IN OUR CALCULATI ON OF THE FACTS AND HOW T HE SE F ACTORS WORK TOGETHER?

I T W OULD I F O THER F AC TORS C AME OUT T HA T , I N F AC T , MRS . LOTT HAD SOMETHING TO D O WITH M R. W ITTM AN W HO W AS T HE K EY WITNESS AGAINST MR. LOT T AS TO HIS CON FE SS IO N I N OTHER MATTERS REGARDING P RO PERTY TAKEN IN THE ROBBERY, B UT THERE WAS A WIT NE SS I N N ORTH FLORIDA IN THE S TARK E A RE A WHO WAS G IV EN T O DEF EN SE COU NS EL EARLY ON. I THINK HE ENTERED T HE CASE I N EITHER APRIL OR M AY O F 1 99 4 , AND THIS PER SO N W AS T HE NAM E T HE WAS GIVEN T OM , THE LOCATION, A ROXIMATE LOCATIO N OF A FRUIT S TAND IN T HE S TARK E AREA. HE WAS TOLD THIS F RU IT S TA ND WAS ONLY OPEN ON THE WEEKENDS. IT WASN' T U NTIL O CT OB ER O R NOVEMBER, SOME SIX M ONTHS AFTER HE CAME INTO T HE C AS E THAT HE SENT AN I NV ES TI GATO R , WE BELIEVE HE SENT A N INVESTIGATOR. THERE ARE N O INV ESTI GATI VE NOTES, THERE ARE NO --

WHAT WAS T HE UPS HO T AS FAR AS DID THE OWNER OF THE F RU IT STAND NOW COM E FORWARD AND S AY THAT AT THE TIM E O F T HE CRI ME AND THE TIME O F D AY THA T I C AN SWEAR T HAT YOU R C LIEN T W AS A T MY F RU IT STA ND AND I WAS HANDING HIM FRUIT AT THE ALLEGED TIME THAT THE V ICTI M WAS MURDERED? IS THAT WHAT H AENED HERE?

THAT IS NOT W HAT H AENED. THE FRUIT STAND OWN ER W AS LOCATED B Y M Y I NV ESTI GATO R A FTER S OM E E FF OR T , AND H E C AME TO COU RT A T T HE EVIDE NT IARY HEARING, AND HE S AID I K NO W THAT MAN. I'VE SEEN THAT MAN. I REMEMBER THA T M AN . I CAN'T GIV E YOU A N E XACT D ATE OR TIME. THIS MAN WAS ALMOST 8 0 YEA RS OLD BY THE TIME T HE EVIDENTIARY HEARING CAME AROUND.

WAS THE ORIGI NA L A TT OR NE Y GIVEN THE NAME OF THIS PER SON AND ADDRESS AND L OC ATIO N O F THE STAND? ALL OF THIS I NF OR MA TION AND I T W AS ONLY OPE N O N T HE WEEKENDS? WAS ALL OF THAT GIVEN?

YES, SIR, IT WAS , I NCLUDI NG PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE S TA ND A ND THE ROAD WHERE THE S TAND WOULD HAVE BEEN SET UP . C OLLATERAL I NVESTIGATOR ACTUALLY WENT TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRIC UL TURE A ND LOCATED T HIS M AN EIG HT Y EARS LATER.

WHERE DID THE P HOTO GR APHS COME FROM?

THEY WERE TAKEN B Y MR. LOTT'S MOTHER AND P ROVIDE D T O COUNSEL , AND T HE Y WERE PROVIDED TO T HE PUBLIC DEFENDER INITIALLY AND PROVIDED TO M R. SPE CTOR W HO WAS E VE NTUA L T RIAL C OUNSEL. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE FRU IT STAND WAS GIVEN TO H IM.

HOW DO WE EVA LU AT E T HE EVIDENCE ABOUT THIS F RU IT STAND NOW? AS I U ND ER STAN D , MR. L OT T S AY S THA T HE H AD GON E T HERE O NCE T O THIS FRUIT S TAND A ND H IS MOTHER SAYS THAT HE HAD BEE N THERE NUMER OU S TIM ES , AND S O HOW ARE WE T O EVA LU AT E T HA T WHEN WE HAV E , EVE N I F H E HAD GONE TO THE FRUIT S TAND O N SOME OCCASION , H E

SAY S O NC E , HIS MOT HE R S AY S S EVER AL. IN CONFLICT.

T WE L , I F THE C OURT REC AL LS MR. LOTT'S OTHER TESTIMONY HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD VISITED ANOTHER FRUIT STAND WITH H IS MOTHER, A ND THERE WAS DISCUSSION ABOUT R ELIS H T HA T M R. , I B EL IEVE ELM ER J ON ES SOLD R EL IS H A T H IS F RUIT STA ND UP I N N OR TH F LO RIDA AND T HERE WAS A Q UE STIO N A BO UT WHETH ER HE PURCH AS E D REL IS H T HERE OR NOT. HE HAD IND ICAT ED H E H AD PURCHASED RELISH AT ANOTHER FRUIT STAND WITH HIS MOTHER ON A NUMBER OF O CC AS IO NS, S O , AGAIN , T HERE I S S OM E C ON FLICT THERE. BUT I DON'T THINK IT IS U NRESOLVE AB LE C ONFL IC T AS FAR AS Q UE STIO NI NG W IT NESSES AND BRI NGING T HI S P ER SO N B EFORE THE COURT. MRS. LOTT OR M R. L OT T' S M OT HE R DID TESTIFY AT TRIAL .

WELL , EVEN I F W E ACC EP T THAT HE HAD GON E TO T HAT F RUIT STAND THAT DAY, D OE S I T CONCLUSIVELY D EMON ST RA TE T HA T H E COULD NOT HAVE BEE N A T T HE SCENE OF THE CRIME AT THE T IME OF THE MURDER W AS COM MI TTED ?

WELL, WHAT WE H AV E T O D O THEN IS L OOK AT THE FACTS AND HOW THEY WERE NARROWED D URIN G THE TRIAL. THE MEDICAL EXAMINER GAVE A 2 7-HOUR WIN DO W O F W HEN T HE MURDER COULD HAVE O CCUR RE D FROM EARLY ON A S AT URDA Y AFTERNOON TO A RO XI MATE LY 5:00 P.M.ON A SUNDAY. THAT W IN DOW W AS NAR ROWE D B Y A NEIGHBOR OF THE VICTIM , MR. BIONES WHO TESTIFIED THAT HE ACTUALLY HEA RD SCR EAMS AT THE V IC TI M' S R ES ID ENCE MID-MORNING AROUND 10 :3 0 O N S UNDAY MORNING.

WASN'T THERE ALSO EVIDENCE THAT THOSE S CREAMS W ERE O F SOME B ODY WHO HAD W IT NE SS ED T HE BODY WHO SAW THE BOD Y AND N OT THE S CREAMS OF THE V IC TI M O R AT LEAST IT COULD H AV E B EE N INTERPRETED THAT WAY?

IT WAS M Y REC OL LECTION OF THE FACTS THAT THE PERSON WHO FOUND THE B OD Y F OU ND I T MUCH LATER BECAUSE THE MEDICAL EXAMINER PUT TIME OF DEATH POSSIBLY UP T O 5:00 P.M.. ON THAT SUNDAY. THIS WAS SUN DA Y M ORNI NG ; THEREFORE , GIVEN THA T T IME FRAME I D ON'T B ELIEVE THAT T HE SCREAMS, THE PERSON WHO FOUND THE BODY DID S CREAM BUT I T W AS MUCH LATER IN T HE DAY, EAR LY E VENING ON T HAT SUNDAY THAT SHE FOU ND THE B OD Y . A ND --

TO HAVE A VIA BLE C LA IM O N SOMETHING LIKE THIS , WOULDN' T YOU HAVE T O H AV E V ER Y CRE DIBL E W ITNESS THAT SAYS I WAS W IT H THE DEFENDANT OR I KNOW T HE DEFENDANT WAS S OM EP LA CE E LS E AT PRECISELY T HE T IM E O F THE CRIME AND P ER HAPS EVE N MO RE THAN O NE , A ND T HE E VIDE NC E GRANTED, YOU K NOW , A FTER T HE FACT, BUT IT IS VER Y D IFFICU LT TO -- BUT Y OU D ON'T H AV E EVIDENCE THAT E VEN COMES C LOSE TO THAT STANDARD , DO YOU?

WELL, YOUR HON OR , I F W E THEN GET I NT O WHE THER MR. LOTT'S TESTIMONY AND H IS NOT TES TIFYING OR T ES TIFY ING AT TRI AL . I THINK H IS T ES TIMO NY C OU PLED W ITH M R. JON ES ' TES TIMO NY O F HIM REMEMBE RI NG HIM , B EI NG THERE, AND M R. JONES T ES TIFIED AT THE EVIDENTIARY T HA T HIS MEMORY 1 1 Y EARS AGO .

BUT H E D IDN'T SAY THA T A NY TIME OVER A LONG PERIO D OF TIME BASED ON THAT KIN D O F TESTIMONY, COULD HE HAVE NOT?

HE C OULD HAVE BEEN , YOUR HONOR, YES , B UT M R. J ON ES NARROWED HIMSELF, H E I NDIC AT ED IN HIS T ESTIMO NY T HA T H E - - H IS M EMORY WOULD H AV E B EEN MUCH MORE S OLID, M UC H MOR E TIME-BASED 11 Y EARS BEF OR E H AD HE BEEN INVESTI GATED.

C ORRE CT . BUT WHERE WE ARE A T T HI S P OINT IS THAT I F H E HAD C ALLE D J ON ES AS A W IT NE SS , W HA T W OULD JON ES HAVE BEEN ABL E T O SAY A BO UT T HIS 2 7- HOUR T IM E?

IT WOULD NOT HAVE JUST BEEN JONES.

WHAT WOULD JONES HAVE SAID? JONES WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SAY ANYTHING ?

WE BELIEVE THAT JONES WOULD HAVE TESTIFIED OR COULD HAVE TESTIFIED AND NARROWED THAT TIME. HE COULDN'T HAVE GIVEN AN EXACT HOUR, MINUTE , TIME SPOT IN TIME.

WELL , HE DID TESTIFY AT THE POST-CONVICTION, HEARING , RIGHT?

YES, HE DID.

DID HE NARROW AT THAT TIME THAT YOU SAID YOU BELIEVE HE COULD HAVE DONE?

HE SAID HE COULDN'T REMEMBER, IN FACT , BECAUSE OF IT HAD BEEN SO LONG AGO .

IS THERE DNA --

I THINK JUSTICE CANTER HAS --

HE COULDN'T POINT OUT THE YEAR AT THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING, CORRECT? HE COULDN'T EVEN NARROW IT THAT MUCH .

RIGHT.

AND SO IT IS TOTAL SPECULATION TO SAY THAT HAD HE TESTIFIED EIGHT YEARS EARLIER HE COULD HAVE NARROWED IT DOWN TO HOURS WHEN HE COULDN'T NARROW IT DOWN TO YEARS AT THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING.

THE ONLY ARGUMENT I CAN MAKE TO THAT IS THAT HE TESTIFIED AT THE EVIDENTIARY IF HE HAD BEEN CONTACTED WAY BACK THEN, WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME , HIS MEMORY WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH BETTER THAN IT WAS 11 YEARS LATER .

WELL , THAT'S TRUE OF MY WITNESS, CORRECT, NOT JUST OF MR. JONES, OF ANY WITNESS , BUT IT STILL DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT WOULD HAVE GONE FROM NOT BEING ABLE TO TELL THE YEAR BUT BEING ABLE TO TELL THE EXACT HOUR?

WHEN PRESENTING AN ALIBI , THE EXACT HOUR MAY NOT BE THAT IMPORTANT. IT IS HELPFUL IF YOU CAN HAVE SOMEONE TO PUT SOMEONE THERE THE EXACT MINUTE AND THE EXACT HOUR.

IT IS PRETTY IMPORTANT IN THIS CASE, ISN'T IT , BECAUSE HE HAD TO EXPLAIN 27 HOURS WHERE THE MURDER COULD HAVE OCCURRED, SO IT IS PRETTY IMPORTANT FOR HIM TO -- FOR JONES TO BE ABLE TO PINPOINT BECAUSE NOT EVEN IF HE HAD JONES PINPOINTING A CERTAIN HOUR HE STILL WOULD HAVE HAD TO EXPLAIN THE OTHER HOURS TO OTHER WITNESSES, CORRECT?

HE WOULD HAVE HAD THE OTHER WITNESSES AS WELL AS HIMSELF , LOTT HIMSELF , TONARROW THAT TIME, PLUS MR. BONES WHO HEARD THE SCREAMS IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS WHICH BELIEVE NARROWS THE 27- HOUR TIME FRAME VERY SIGNIFICANTLY .

CHIEF JUSTICE: NOW, YOU HAVE , OF COURSE , REBUTTAL TIME , BUT AS JUSTICE ANSTEAD WAS ASKING, WHAT OTHER POINTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADDRESS?

THE OTHER POINT I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS PRIMARILY IS MR. LOTT'S TESTIFYING OR NOT TESTIFYING IN THIS CASE. IT IS OUR POSITION AND IT WAS OUR POSITION AT THE E

VIDENTIARY HEARING THAT HE DID NOT GIVE A KNOWING, VOLUNTARY AND INTELLIGENT WAIVER OF HIS RIGHT TO TESTIFY OR TO REMAIN SILENT.

AS TO THAT ISSUE, THE TRIAL COURT ASKED MR. LOTT AT THE TRIAL, CORRECT, ABOUT THAT, AND HE SAID IT WAS A JOINT CHOICE BY ALL THREE OF YOU THAT YOU WOULD NOT TESTIFY IN THE TRIAL? YES, MA'AM. AND LATER ON, SO YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH EVERYTHING THEY HAVE DONE? YES, MA'AM.

THAT COLLOQUY WITH THE TRIAL COURT WAS AFTER THE JURY WAS CHARGED, AFTER CLOSING ARGUMENT AND AFTER THE JURY HAD BEEN OUT SOME HOURS DELIBERATING THE CASE.

BUT THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT THAT ANY CAL QEE BE CONDUCTED AT ANY TIME, CORRECT?

BOTH THIS COURT AND FOLLOWING THE WHICH IN SUPREME COURT HAS RULED, IN FACT, THAT THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT OF AN ON THE RECORD COLLOQUY.

SO GIVEN THE REQUIREMENT THAT THERE IS NO COLLOQUY AT ALL AND WE DO HAVE ONE AFTER THE EVIDENCED BEEN PRESENTED, ISN'T THAT EVIDENCE FOR US THAT THERE WAS A VOLUNTARY AND KNOWING WAIVER OF THE RIGHT TO TESTIFY?

WELL, I THINK WHAT THE COURT SHOULD LOOK AT IS THE PROCEEDINGS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE DEFENSE RESTED, WHEN DEFENSE COUNSEL AND ANOTHER PERSON, ANOTHER ATTORNEY, A FRIEND OF DEFENSE COUNSEL'S WAS IN THE JURY BOX DISCUSSING A ARGENTLY WITH MR. LOTT HIS TESTIMONY AND WHETHER HE WAS GOING TO TESTIFY OR NOT. AND CO-COUNSEL, MR. RICHARDSON, DESCRIBED THAT DISCUSSION AS MORE OF A CONFRONTATION THAT THEY WERE BROWBEATING HIM, SAYING YOU CAN'T TESTIFY. YOU SHOULDN'T TESTIFY. THERE IS NO WAY YOU CAN TESTIFY. YOU KNOW, YOU'VE GOT THIS VOLATILE PERSONALITY. YOU'VE GOT THIS AND THAT AGAINST YOU AND YOU SHOULDN'T TESTIFY.

AND HIS ADMISSION WAS THAT HE ACCED TO THEIR SUGGESTIONS AND DECIDED NOT TO TESTIFY?

HE FELL IN LINE WITH THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS, YES, YOUR HONOR.

CHIEF JUSTICE: DO YOU WANT TO MENTION BRIEFLY THE ARGUMENT ON THE DNA TESTING? >> IT IS OUR POSITION THAT THE -- THERE WAS VIA BLE DNA. THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE VICTIMS WERE SCRAPED. THERE WAS NEVER ANY DNA DONE BY EITHER THE STATE OR THE DEFENSE IN THIS CASE, AND IT IS OUR POSITION THAT THERE WAS EVIDENCE THERE THAT THAT EVIDENCE COULD HAVE ELIMINATED MR. LOTT OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE ESTABLISHED THAT ANOTHER PERSON OR PERSONS WERE THERE. NOW, THE STATE CONCEDED THAT THIS CRIME AT TRIAL COULD HAVE BEEN PERFORMED BY MORE THAN ONE PERSON AND MAY HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF THE --

WAS THERE A SHOWING AT THE POST-CONVICTION HEARING THAT THERE WAS EVIDENCE THERE? THAT IS, THAT THERE WAS SCRAPINGS OR THERE WAS BLOOD OR THERE WAS SKIN OR THERE WERE HAIRS? IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT SHOWING DID YOU MAKE AS TO WHAT THING EXISTED THAT MAY BE RELEVANT AND THAT DNA TESTING COULD BE DONE ON?

AT THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING ITSELF THERE WAS NO SHOWING WITH REGARD TO THE DNA, YOUR HONOR.

AND ISN'T THAT AN ESSENTIAL PREDICATE THAT YOU FIRST HAVE TO SHOW THE EXISTENCE OF CERTAIN MATERIAL THAT COULD BE TESTED BEFORE YOU EVEN REALLY GET TO RELEVANCY ANALYSIS?

THE EVIDENCE MATERIALS TAKEN BY THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IN THIS CASE, THE PEOPLE WHO COLLECTED EVIDENCE AT THE SCENE INDICATED THAT THERE WAS - - THERE WAS ESCAPING - - SCRAPPINGS, THERE WAS A RAP KIT THAT WAS DONE. THERE WAS THE MEDICAL EXAMINER TOOK SAMPLES, UNKNOWN HAIR SAMPLES BECAUSE THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WENT THROUGH AND PULLED ALL OF THE DRAINS IN THE SHOWERS AND THE SINKS TO PULL HAIR SAMPLES, SO THERE WERE THINGS TO TEST, AND THESE WERE FROM AREAS WHERE MR. LOTT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THAT HOUSE. IN FACT, AREAS WHERE HIS FINGERPRINTS WERE FOUND IN THE HOUSE.

SO IF, IN FACT, EVERY THING HAD BEEN TESTED AND IT HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT IT WAS NOT MR. LOTT'S DNA BUT IT BELONGED TO SOME OTHER PERSON WHAT WOULD THAT HAVE DONE IN REGARDS TO WHETHER OR NOT MR. LOTT WAS GUILTY OF THIS OFFENSE OR HOW WOULD IT HAVE CHANGED THE SENTENCE THAT MR. LOTT WOULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN?

IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT IN PARTICULAR WITH THE PLIERS THAT WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE, PLIERS WERE ESSENTIALLY ARGUED AS BEING A SUBSTANTIAL AGGRAVATOR IN THIS CASE AS THE HEINOUS, ATROCIOUS AND CRUEL AGGRAVATOR IN THAT THE VICTIM WAS GRABBED WITH THE SEPLIERS AND TORTURED WITH THEM.

IF ANOTHER PERSON HAD BEEN IN THE SCENE AND USED THOSE PLIERS BUT MR. LOTT WAS ALONE THERE, A PART OF THIS AND WITNESSING ALL OF THIS WOULD THAT HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

I THINK IT WOULD HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE AS TO HIS POTENTIAL SENTENCE BECAUSE HE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE PERSON -- IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A PROPORTIONALITY ARGUMENT AT THAT POINT AS TO WHETHER HE WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTUAL TORTURE WHICH TOOK PLACE.

CHIEF JUSTICE: YOU ARE SUBSTANTIALLY INTO YOUR REBUTTAL.

THANK YOU. >> CHIEF JUSTICE: I HAVE THREAND A HALF MINUTES FOR REBUTTAL.

GOOD MORNING. SCOTT BROWNE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA. YOUR HONORS, THE PROBLEMS FOR MR. LOTT HERE BEFORE THE COURT TODAY IS THE SAME PROBLEM THAT TRIAL COUNSEL HAD BELOW. IT IS THAT TRIAL COUNSEL INVESTIGATED LOTT'S CLAIM OF ALIBI BUT THERE WAS SIMPLY NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT IT.

NOW, COUNSEL ARGUES HE HAS GIVEN DEFENSE ATTORNEY PHOTOGRAPHS, NAMES, ADDRESSES, DATES OF OPERATION, I MEAN, EVERYTHING EXCEPT BRINGING THE WITNESS TO THE DEFENSE COUNSEL'S OFFICE. IS THAT THE STATUS OF THE RECORD?

NOT EXACTLY, YOUR HONOR. THE EVIDENCE WAS THAT MR. SPECTOR DID, I NEEDED, INVESTIGATE THE CLAIMED ALIBI. HE SENT HIS INVESTIGATOR, BARTLES, OUT.

I UNDERSTAND THAT. I'M TALKING ABOUT COUNSEL.

YES, HE IS INCORRECT IN THAT AN ADDRESS WAS GIVEN FOR THE FRUIT STAND. MAYBE PHOTOS WERE SHOWN TO HIM BUT THERE WAS NO ADDRESS. THEY KNEW IT WAS SOMEWHERE IN STARKE. HE SENT HIS INVESTIGATOR OUT TO FIND THE FRUIT STAND BUT IT WAS NOT FOUND. THE INVESTIGATOR WENT TO ST. AUGUSTINE TO LOOK FOR RECORDS FROM SONNY'S BARBECUE. NO RECORDS WERE FOUND. NOW, WHAT HAPPENS DURING POST-CONVICTION IS THAT THEY DO FIND ELMER JONES AND HE IS BROUGHT IN TO TESTIFY, BUT AS JUSTICE CANTEROPPOINTED OUT HE COULDN'T EVEN NARROW DOWN A YEAR IN WHICH HE MIGHT HAVE SCENED MR. LOTT, MUCH LESSE NARROW IT DOWN TO EVEN THE TIME FRAME OF THIS MURDER OCCURRED. IN FACT, MR. JONES COULDN'T EVEN NARROW IT DOWN TO A DECADE IN W

HI CH HE M IGH T HAV E SEEN OR T ALKED TO MR. L OT T. HE SAID I T WAS ANY WH ER E FROM THE EARLY ' 80 s T O 1 99 6.

WERE THE P IC TURES THA T WER E G IVEN TO T RI AL C OUNSEL , T HE ACTUAL PICTURES OF MR. JON ES' STAND? I MEAN, D O W E - - ARE W E A BL E TO SAY THAT?

I'M TRYING T O R EC ALL , YOUR HONOR, FROM I F M R. B ANKO WI TZ HAS A RECOLLECTION. I C ANNO T D ISPUTE THAT. I DON'T RECALL THAT FROM THE EVIDENTIARY H EARING THAT I KNOW THAT PICTURES WER E G IV EN TO C OLLA TERA L C OU NSEL 'S I NVESTIGATOR A ND PERHAPS A P HOTO WAS S HOWN F RO M LOT T' S MOTHER REGARDING A FRUIT STAND , BUT EVEN IF WE ASS UME THA T COUNSEL WAS S OM EHOW D EF ICIENT AND T HE S TATE I SN'T CON CE DI NG THAT, THE B UR DE N U PON M R. L OT T IS TO SHO W P REJU DI CE AND I F MR. JONES CAN'T NARROW I T D OW N TO A Y EA R O R E VE N A D EC AD E HOW CAN W E FIN D COU NS EL I NE FFECTIVE?

T HE S IMPL E ANS WE R I S T HA T WE CANNOT , AND O N T HE I SSUE OF LOTT TESTIFYING, THE TRIAL COURT MADE A SPECI FI C F ACTU AL FINDING.

BEFORE YOU MOVE ON TO H IM TESTIFYING, IN THIS CASE T HE FRUIT STAND WAS ONLY OPE N A T CERTAIN HOURS OF THE DAY, CORRECT?

CORRECT.

AND I F W E A SSUM E T HA T H E , IN FACT , VIS ITED T HA T FRU IT STAND ON THA T PARTI CU LA R D AY , HOW D OE S THA T , D UR IN G - - SOMETIME DURING THO SE H OU RS , HOW DOE S THAT SQU AR E W IT H T HE T IME O F D EA TH I N TH IS CAS E?

YOUR HONOR, HE V IS ITED T HE FRUIT STA ND A LL EGEDLY O N T HA T SUNDAY, W HI CH WAS WIT HI N PERHAPS THE 2 7-HO UR P ERIO D. THE MURDER COULD HAV E OCC URRED BETWEEN SAT URDAY A ND M ARCH 2 6TH AT 2 :00 A ND SUNDAY , M AR CH 27TH AT 5:00. SO EVEN IF W E ASS UM E T HA T ELMER JON ES WAS AVAIL ABLE AND COULD HAVE PLACED L OTT A T T HAT FRUIT STAND, IT S TI LL LEF T MR. LOTT AMPLE TIM E T O C OM MIT THE MURDER. SO EVEN IF W E A SS UM E M R. J ONES AND THA T' S G RO SS SPECU LATI ON , COULD H AVE P LA CE D MR. L OT T A T THE FRUIT S TA ND , I T I S A T B ES T A P AR TIAL B UY .

CHIEF JUSTICE: HOW F AR IS THE FRUIT STAND FROM THE P LA CE OF THE MURDE R ? > > STARKE FROM O RA NG E COU NT Y , A COUPLE OF H OURS , YO UR HON OR, A FEW HOURS . MAYBE THREE AT THE MOST. I THINK IT IS P ROBA BL Y M OR E LIKE TWO. NOW, LET'S GO B AC K T O W HA T WAS PRE SENTED BY T RIAL COUNS EL.

COULD YOU ALS O B EFORE Y OU GO THERE, C OU NS EL M AD E JU S T A VERY IN P ASSI NG S TA TE MENT ABOUT A CONNECTION BET WE EN MR. LOTT AND M R. L OT T' S W IF E . A ND T HE PER SO N T HA T , AND W E KNOW THIS IS, Y OU KNOW , H E I S LIE - - W HA T WAS THE M OT IV E FOR THIS PERSON T O A LL O F T HE SUDDEN TURN ON HER H USBAND ? WOULD YOU ELABORATE?

YES , YOUR HONOR, WHA T M R. SPECTOR TESTIFIED TO BELOW WAS THA T H E HAS A LW AY S PLA NN ED AND PREPARED TO PRESENT THIS ALIBI AND THE WIFE , TAM MY , W AS THE CRI TI CA L P IECE OF E VIDENCE , BECAUSE MR. LOTT WAS PLACI NG HIMSELF WITH HIS WIFE DURING THE RELEV ANT T IM E FRAME O R MOST OF T HEM. JUST PRIOR TO TRI AL, T AMMY CALLED UP AND SAID I'M NOT GOING TO LIE FOR KEN NY A NY MORE AND M R. S PECT OR T ES TI FI ED , WELL, THE ALIBI FEL L A PART BECAUSE HE HAD NO ONE E LS E T O SUORT IT AT T HAT TIME. NOW, DURING THE E VIDE NTIARY HEARING THE ONLY A TT AC K U PO N THE CRE DI BI LI TY O F T AMMY , L OTT'S WIFE , W AS FRO M L OT T HIMSELF WHO M ADE A C LAIM T HA T TAMMY WAS SOMEHOW CON NE CT ED T O W HITMAN OR SHE W AS UPS ET A BOUT HIM S IGNING O VE R INS URANCE PAPERS ON A TRUCK BUT T HA T , A GAIN, THE ONLY ATTAC K U PO N TAMMY SHE WAS NOT CAL LE D BEL OW BY C OLLATERA L C OU NS EL O R HER CREDIBILITY WAS MR. LOTT AND HIS UNS

UORT ED S TA TEMENT AND M R. SPECTOR TESTIFIED ONCE A WITNESS GOES SOUTH ON Y OU LIK E THAT, THA T'S IT. YOU KNOW, YOU WOU LDN'T WANT TO CALL HER AND RIS K H ER A LT ERIN G CONSI STENT STATEMENTS A ND SAYING I AM NOT GOING TO L IE FOR HIM. THAT'S A VERY CLE AR S TATE MENT THAT SHE WAS NOT G OING T O SUORT MR. L OT T' S C LAIM O F A LIBI . IF I CAN GET T O T HE S EC ON D ISSUE ON LOTT T ES TI FYIN G , T HE TRIAL COURT MADE A S PE CIFI C FACTUAL FINDING BELOW THA T LOT T WAS ADVISED B Y COU NS EL NOT TO TESTIFY , A ND T HA T MR. LOTT MADE THE D EC ISIO N V OLUNTARILY NOT TO TESTIFY , AND THAT D ECISION WAS SUORTED BY M R. S PE CTOR'S TESTIMONY, M R. RIC HA RD SON 'S TESTIMONY B ELow, BEC AU SE MR. RICHARDSON TESTIFIED THA T ALTHOUGH INITIALLY HE A GR EE D THAT LOTT S HOULD TESTIFY A ND HE W AN TE D L OTT T O T ES TIFY , H E AGREED THAT L OT T U LTIM AT EL Y , HEHEDED THE ADVICE OF C OU NSEL IN THIS CASE , NOT T O TES TI FY . AND HE HAD VER Y S PE CI FI C REASONS F OR ADVISING LOT T N OT TO TESTIFY. LOTT HAD A S IG NIFI CA NT CRIMINAL HISTORY. LOTT HAD A T EM PE R , A ND T HA T W AS BORNE OUT B Y T HE CROSS -EXAMINATION THAT M R. LOTT U ND ER WE NT D URING T HE SPENCER HEARING. HE LOST HIS T EM PER W IT H THE PRO SECUTOR . HE SAID YOU DON E G AV E M E A N ATTITUDE. SO THERE WER E V ER Y CLE AR REASONS , F OR M R. LOT T' S T RI AL COUNSEL TO ADVISE HIM NOT T O TESTIFY . FURTHERMORE, LOTT'S TESTIMONY WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY UNSUORTED AT THE TIME OF TRIAL AS IT WAS AT THE POST-CONVICTION HEARING B ELow . AND INT ERES TI NG LY ENOUGH , LOTT'S TESTIMONY DURING THE POS T-CONVICTION HEARING W AS C ONTRADICTED B Y H IS M OT HE R A S THIS COURT HAS R EC OG NI ZED. HE TESTIFIED SPECIFICALLY THAT HE HAD ONL Y G ONE TO THE F RUIT STAND ONCE. HIS MOTHER TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD GONE THERE A NUMBE R O F TIMES AS SHE H AD . WHI LE LOTT T ES TIFIED THAT H E WOULD NEVER B UY T HE REL IS H BECAUSE HE W ASN' T S UR E ABO UT THE H YGIENE PART O F T HING S H IS MOTHER DIDN'T GET THAT PART OF THE STORY. SHE T ES TI FIED T HAT LOT T RAV ED ABOUT THIS R ELIS H S HE G OT F RO M THE FRU IT STAND AND T HAT H E USED IT AND SHE USED IT ON H ER GRE AT NORTHERN BEA NS.

WHY WOULD V ER Y H AV E G ON E SEVERAL TIMES TO A FRU IT S TAND I N STARKE FROM ORA NG E C OU NTY? WHAT WAS THE REASON TO D RI VE TWO HOURS?

EXACTLY, I D ON'T KNO W, YOUR HONOR. IT D IDN' T M AK E S EN SE T HEN.

CHIEF JUSTICE: IT IS PROBABLY CLEAR THAT HE MUST HAVE FREQUENTED I T AT SOM E POINT.

IT IS NEAR T HE P RI SO N WHERE HE WAS HOUSED , U NFOR TU NATE LY N OT LON G E NOUGH , F OR 2 0 YEA RS . YOUR HONOR , S IM PL Y C OM IN G I N A ND CAS TI NG ASP ERSION S O N TRIAL COUNSEL SAYING THERE WAS THIS ALIBI IS O NE T HING , BUT WHEN YOU ARE GIVEN AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING YOU N EED TO PROVE IT UP , AND T HE RE I S A C OM PLETE F AILURE OF P ROOF I N THIS CASE, AND O N M R. L OT T NOT TESTIFYING, THAT WAS A C HO IC E THAT HE MAD E BELOW , A ND I T W AS ON THE B EST R EC OMMEND AT IO N O F C OUNSEL, A ND YOU HAV E T HE COLLOQUY ON THE R ECORD , YOUR HONOR, IT DOESN'T MAT TE R WHE N THA T C OL LOQUY T OOK PLACE. INDEED THIS COURT HAS STATE D THAT A C OLLOQU Y I S N OT E VE N REQUIRED ON THE RECORD , BUT YOU HAVE ONE HERE. AND M R. L OT T C LE AR LY S AYS, Y ES , IT WAS A JOINT D EC IS ION B Y MYSELF AND COUNSEL NOT TO TESTIFY. HE WANTS A S EC ON D B ITE AT THE ALE HERE, A ND BRIEFLY O N T HE DNA ISSUE, IT I S THE S TATE 'S POSITION THAT T HIS ISS UE I S PRO PERLY BEFORE T HE C OU RT HERE. THAT WAS A S EP AR AT E M OTIO N UNDER R ULE 385 3. IT WAS AN ORD ER , A S EP AR AT E ORDER DENYING IT FAR A PA RT FROM THE MOTION FOR POST-CONVICTION RELIEF . INDEED WE DON'T E VEN H AVE A TRANSCRIPT OF T HE H EARI NG O N THIS M OT IO N B EF OR E THE COU RT . IT IS SEPARAT EL Y A EALA BLE. HE WATTS GIV EN 3 0 D AYS T O AEAL. HE CHOSE NOT TO A EA L .

DID HE H AV E C OUNSEL AT T HE TIME?

DID HE H AVE C OUN S EL ?



YES . DOE SN'T THE R UL E R EQ UIRE THAT THE RIGHT TO AEAL WIT HI N 30 DAYS HAS TO BE S TATE D W IT HIN THE ORDER?

YES, YOUR HONOR.

AND WAS IT STA TE D I N T HI S ORDER?

I BELIE VE SO , B UT I 'D H AV E TO CHECK THAT.

MY RECOLLECTION WAS THAT I T WASN'T SO MY FOLLOW- UP QUESTION WAS W HAT' S T HE REMED Y FOR THAT I F T RI AL COU RT F AI LS T O STATE THAT IN THE ORD ER ? > > I'M N OT S URE , YOUR HONOR , BECAUSE IT IS CLEAR FRO M T HE RULE ITSELF A ND COUNSEL WAS AWARE OF THE RULE THAT YOU HAVE TO A EAL T HA T .

CHIEF JUSTICE: L ET 'S J US T , YOU KNOW, BECAUSE FROM T HIS COURT'S POINT OF VIEW IT IS NOT BAD TO HAVE IT I N O NE AEAL RATHER THAN TWO SEPARATE AEALS WHEN YOU KIND OF HAVE T HE WHOLE PICTURE OF THE CASE. SO LET'S GO TO THE M ERIT S J US T LET'S ASSUME WE GET PAST THE PROCEDURAL ISSUE ABOUT W HETHER THE TRIAL COURT PRO PERLY DENIED THE M OTIO N F OR D NA TESTING.

YES, B RI EFLY ON THE M ERITS , IT IS THE STATE'S POS IT IO N THAT THERE WAS N O REA SONA BL E P ROBABILITY AS F OUND B Y THE TRIAL COURT OF A D IF FE RE NT RESULTED SUCH TES TI NG BEE N C ONDUCTED IN T HIS C ASE. IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT THREE OF LOT T' S F INGE RP RI NT S WERE FOUND IN AREAS OF THE HOME OR ONE OUT SIDE T HE H OM E WHICH WERE A SSOCIA TE D WIT H ACTS WHICH OCC UR RE D D UR ING T HE MURDER. ONE OF WHICH WAS O N THE MAS TE R BATHROOM SINK , AND L OT T W AS I N POSSESSION OF THE VIC TIM' S S TOLEN PROPERTY IMMED IA TELY AFTER THE MURDER. HE WAS, INDEED , FOU ND USI NG THE VICTIM'S A TM C ARD WIT HI N HOURS OF THE TIM E T HA T T HE MEDICAL E XAMINER PLACED H ER TIME OF D EATH. YOU HAVE HIM USING THE VICTIM'S ATM C ARD WIT H HER PIN NUMBER S UN DA Y E VE NING. THAT E VI DE NC E , C OM BI NED W ITH WITNESS TES TI MO NY , M AD E A BUNDANT LY C LE AR T HA T LOT T W AS INDEED GUILTY AND THIS T ES TING OF HAIRS, T HE RE W AS N O C LAIM THAT THE HAI RS W ER E R EM OTE L Y A SSOCIATED WITH THE CRIME L IKE HAIRS FROM THE TRAP OF THE SINK, AND SHE DID H AV E INVESTIGATOR - - VIS IT OR S I N HER HOME. THERE WASN'T HAIR IN HER HAN D OR HAIRS ASSOCIA TE D WITH THE MURDER. AS TO THE FINGERNAI LS T HE TRIAL TES TI MONY I ND ICAT ED THERE WAS A N I N S IS WOU ND AND H AIR CLIED OFF BUT T HE RE W AS NO TES TIMONY THAT THERE WAS ANY VIABLE MATERIAL UNDER THE FINGERNAILS.I'M A WARE THAT THE M ED ICAL EXAMINER SAID IN A PRO FORM A MATTER THAT T HERE WER E F INGERNAIL SCRAP IN GS D ON E B UT THERE WAS NO SHOWING B Y MR. LOTT THAT THERE WAS A NY MATERIAL TO HAEN I N T HIS CASE.

CHIEF JUSTICE: HOW DOES THAT HAEN IN A PRACTICAL MATTER? DO WE KNOW WHETHER T HE RE ARE STILL FINGE RNAIL S KRAP TI ON AVAILABLE FOR - - SCR APIN GS A VAILABLE FOR T ESTI NG ?

I DON'T RECALL. WE DON'T HAVE THE ERROR OF THAT HEARING AND I DID NOT ATTEND IT. I T HI NK I T W AS E VE N COM E BAN T -- ENC UMBE NT U PO N COU NSEL T O A EAL THAT, A ND I T I S M Y UNDERSTANDING THERE WAS NO MATERIAL. THERE WERE V AG IN AL S WABS T AK EN AND COUNS EL H AS N' T SHOWN THE RE WAS ANY G ENETIC MATER IA L THA T WAS TESTED IN THI S CAS E .

CHIEF JUSTICE: THAT SEEMS LIKE THE F IR ST HUR DL E.

THE TRIAL C OU RT F OU ND S O W HAT, EVEN I F H E C OMMITT ED A CRIME WITH ANOTHER PERSON I T IS NOT G OI NG T O MAK E A D IFFERENCE IN THE SEN TE NCE IN THIS CASE. I DON'T THINK THAT LOT T H AS MADE A PRE LI MINARY S HO WING THERE WAS MATERIAL TO BE TESTED

IN THIS CASE. IT IS NOT LIKE YOU HAVE EVIDENCE OF A RAPE HERE THAT YOU CAN GET SEMEN FROM THE RAPE KIT AND THE ONLY EVIDENCE BELOW ON THE FINGERNAI LS WAS THAT ONE WAS SHORN OFF BY A KNIFE WOUND AND YOU ARE NOT GOING TO FIND A GENETIC MATERIAL UNDER A FINGERNAI L UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. IF THERE ARE NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, THE STATE HAS NOTHING FURTHER. THANK YOU.

CHIEF JUSTICE: THANK YOU. REBUTTAL ? > > JUSTICE QUINCE , I DID N' T MEAN TO EAR LIER M IS LEAD THE COURT.THERE WAS NOT A SPECIFIC ADDRESS GIVEN FOR THIS FRUIT STAND. WHAT WAS GIVEN WAS THAT THE FRUIT STAND WAS LOCATED ON STATE ROAD 16 BETWEEN STARK E AND LAKE BUTLER. SO IT WAS AN AREA THAT WAS GIVEN , NOT 2100 , NOT A SPECIFIC ADDRESS THAT WAS GIVEN, AND THERE WERE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE STAND . THEY WERE PLACED IN EVIDENCE AT THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING AND THE SAME PHOTOGRAPHS WERE THE PHOTOGRAPHS THAT WERE GIVEN TO DEFENSE COUNSEL.

DID THE WITNESS , MR. JONES , WAS HE SHOWN THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS AND SAID, YES, THIS IS MY FRUIT STAND AS IT EXISTED WHENEVER?

YES, HE WAS , AND HE ALSO NARROWED IT DOWN WHEN THE STATE - - ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY ASKED HIM QUESTIONS ABOUT A TRAILER THAT WAS THERE WHEN THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT THE TIME FRAMES AND HE SAID , YES, I HAD THIS TRAILER AND I HAD PURCHASED THE TRAILER WITHIN I BELIEVE IT WAS A YEAR BEFORE THE PICTURE WAS TAKEN OR SOMETHING TO THAT EFFECT BUT HE DIDN ARROW THAT TIME FRAME DOWN SOMEWHAT.

CHIEF JUSTICE: JUST ON THIS ISSUE OF THE STRICT AND STANDARD OF UNDERMINING OUR CONFIDENCE. NOW THAT WE KNOW THAT THE WIFE WOULD NOT TESTIFY BECAUSE SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS N'T GOING TO BE A PART OF KENNY'S LIES ANY MORE, WHAT DO WE DO WITH THAT TESTIMONY? IN OTHER WORDS, HIS WIFE BASICALLY SAYS THIS IS A LIE . THAT THIS IS A LIE . DO WE TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION AS TO WHETHER OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE OUTCOME IS UNDERMINED?

WELL , SHE NEVER SAID THAT THE ALIBI WAS A LIE. SHE SAID SHE WASN'T GOING TO LIE FOR HIM ANY MORE. THERE WAS NO OTHER TESTIMONY EITHER AT THE EVIDENTIARY OR DURING DEPOSITIONS OR ANYTHING TAKEN DURING PREPARATION FOR THE EVIDENTIARY TO INDICATE THAT THE LIE WAS SPECIFICALLY REGARDING THE ALIBI.

WELL, WHAT ELSE WAS SHE GOING TO TESTIFY CONCERNING? I MEAN , IF SHE WAS GOING TO BE CALLED AS A WITNESS, IT WAS TO SUPPORT HIS ALIBI . SO WHAT ELSE WOULD SHE NOT BE LYING ABOUT? > > WELL , AGAIN AT THAT POINT I WASN'T THERE. I NEVER HAD ANY CONVERSATION WITH HER. WE ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE HER , TRACKED HER TO DIFFERENT EMPLOYERS AND ADDRESSES , AND COULD NOT GET HER UNDER SUBPOENA TO COME TO COURT TO TESTIFY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT EXACTLY SHE WAS GOING TO TESTIFY TO.

CHIEF JUSTICE: JUSTICE BELL?

WAS HER DEPOSITION TAKEN BEFORE TRIAL BY THE STATE ?

SHE GAVE ONE DEPOSITION , I BELIEVE, AND THAT DEPOSITION DID NOT - - THAT DEPOSITION GAVE LOTT THE ALIBI , BUT THEN SHE STARTED TO GIVE OTHER STATEMENTS AND OTHER VARIABLES AND IT IS MY CONTENTION AT THAT POINT IS WHEN MR. SPECTOR SHOULD HAVE REALLY STARTED THIS ALIBI INVESTIGATION WHEN SHE IS STARTING TO WAFFLE ON HIM LONG BEFORE SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO TRIAL.

ON THAT POINT, I GUESS WHAT I CAN'T TELL FROM THE RECORD HERE, IS AT SOME POINT WAS THERE A CONCERN THAT SHE WOULD BECOME A WITNESS FOR THE STATE ? > > NOT REALLY. THE STATE NEVER CALLED HER , NEVER SUBPOENAED HER OR ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT HER

THAT I RECALL FROM THE TRIAL RECORD OR ANY OF THE DEPOSITIONS , SUBPOENAS , ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

ANY INVESTIGATOR'S NOTES OR WHATEVER DISCUSSED WITH HER PRIOR TO HER OR SUBSEQUENT TO HER TELLING THIS TO MR. SPECTOR THAT SHE NOW WAS NOT GOING TO SUORT MR. LOTT? > > NO, SIR.

CHIEF JUSTICE: WHY DIDN'T YOU AEAAL THE DNA ORDER ?

I FELT AT THAT POINT IN TIME THAT THE REQUIREMENT OF 30 DAYS WAS NOT IN THE ORDER . THAT IT WAS BETTER AT THAT POINT THAT IT COULD BE CONSIDERED A NONFINAL ORDER AND THAT ONE AEAAL WAS SUFFICIENT.

WHAT ABOUT THE RECORD AT THAT HEARING? IS THAT NOT - -

WHAT HE NEEDED THAT --.

CHIEF JUSTICE: YOU MAY ANSWER JUSTICE QUINCE'S QUESTION AND THEN WE ARE OUT OF TIME.

THERE WAS NO FORMAL HEARING. THE COURT , BOTH COUNSEL , STATE AND MYSELF, ADVISED THE COURT THAT THE COURT HAD GIVEN US LIKE TEN MINUTES AND WE FELT IT WAS BETTER THAT THE COURT DECIDE THE ISSUE ON THE MOTIONS THAT WERE FILED.

BUT IT WAS ARGUMENT ON THE RECORD, WAS A COURT REPORTER THERE?

YOUR HONOR , WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE COURT DETERMINING THE VIABILITY OF THIS MOTION ON THE BASIS OF THE MOTIONS THAT WERE FILED BY THE STATE. THE STATE'S RESPONSE AND THE DEFENDANT'S MOTION.

CHIEF JUSTICE: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE COURT WILL TAKE THIS MATTER UNDER ADVISEMENT AND THE COURT WILL BE IN RECESS UNTIL 9:00 TOMORROW MORNING .

THE MARSHAL: PLEASE RISE .