



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INNOCENCE PROJECT

AT SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY June 3, 2004

Mr. Jeffrey M. Burks, B64401 .
P.O. Box 5002, D1-224
Calipatria, CA 92233-5002

Dear Mr. Burks:

We have received your letters dated January 14, 2004 and March 24, 2004. In those letters you requested a copy of correspondence from the Sacramento Forensic Laboratory denying that they have any physical evidence connected to your case and mentioned that you had retained counsel. We do not have such a letter from the laboratory, and have only spoken to them over the phone. I apologize if my previous letters were unclear. Below please find a list of the steps I have taken to obtain a letter from the laboratory since your letter of January 14:

- 1/20/04 Called Criminalist Mary Hanson, and asked her to put her statement that the laboratory had no evidence in writing
- 2/6/04 Received a message from Ms. Hanson, who asked me to submit the request in writing
- 2/17/04 Sent letter to Ms. Hanson, requesting letter documenting her claim that laboratory has no evidence
- 4/5/04 Left a message with Ms. Hanson, asking her for status on the letter
- 5/24/04 Tried to call Ms. Hanson, learned that she was no longer with crime laboratory
- 5/25/04 Learned the identity of Ms. Hanson's supervisor
- 5/26/04 Left message with Ms. Hanson's supervisor, requesting a callback
- 6/2/04 Left second message with Ms. Hanson's supervisor

In addition, we sent an investigator to speak to Officer Walker this past September. Unfortunately, Officer Walker was uncooperative to the point of being abusive, so our investigator was unable to conduct an interview or gather any information about what Officer Walker saw the day of the stabbing.

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I will continue communicating with the laboratory to obtain the letter, and will forward a copy to you as soon as I receive it. If any of the material in our files could be of use to your attorney, please sign the enclosed consent form and return it to us. After we receive the consent, we will be able to turn over documents from our files directly to your attorney upon request.

Sincerely,

Maureen R. Pettibone
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Maureen R. Pettibone
Research Assistant
Northern California Innocence Project

MRP:s
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