

SNOW NOTES

THE WRONGFUL CONVICTION OF JAMIE SNOW AND HOW THEY GOT AWAY WITH IT

Edward Hammond Perspective

BPD Interview with Detectives Charles Crowe and Rick Barkes River City Correctional Center, June 7, 1996

Hammond reported he was childhood friends with Jamie. He said Jamie told him everyone knows he did the Clark Station murder-robbery but they can't prove it. He said that Troy Moews, a man he himself committed a robbery with, did not tell him he was the getaway driver. Hammond said that while together in Illinois River, Mark "Stretch" McCown told him that he knew where the gun was, and he's sure Denny Hendricks would know about it.

Ed Hammond Recorded BPD Interview with Detectives Rick Barkes and Dan Katz March 17, 1999

Hammond confirms that before they started recording, he discussed the 1991 robbery-homicide crime with these detectives. He said he knows for a fact that Jamie did it, and he knows that Mark "Stretch" McCown, Troy Moews, Denny Hendricks, and Donny Westerfield all know for a fact that he did it.

In March 1995, Moews told him he drove the car. They robbed a bank together and spent that night in a hotel. Hammond was currently serving time for that crime. He said Moews confided that he and Jamie went to the Clark Station for a robbery, parked on Linden St around the corner, in front of Brian Whitmer's house (who was actually Hammond's cellmate), which was 2 houses North of the station. Moews said he heard a gunshot or gunshots, and Jamie came running out to the car, said, "get the hell out of here," and then told him what happened after they arrived at Stretch's house, and in fact said he killed him. He thinks Jamie used a 22 caliber pistol. He said he knows Moews was into cocaine like he was, and thought he might testify against him for the robbery out of desperation for a \$1000 crime stoppers reward. He has not talked to Moews since that night.

Hammond said he went to prison in Centralia in 1995, and made contact with Jamie Snow when he walked into an area to get his ID. He said Jamie recognized him right away. They later hung out in the yard, where Jamie said he knew he would never get caught, Stretch took care of the weapon, and he knew they would never get it. He said Jamie said, "I shot the kid." Hammond said Jamie did it because the victim said Jamie's name. He said that Jamie said he snagged the rack on the way out when he was flying out, and he knocked it over, and slammed the door open so hard he thought the glass would break, and saw a car pull into the parking lot, but since he was not since caught, he knew that he would never be caught.

He said Jamie trusted him and told him because he hasn't told on anyone in 20 years, so he can look at him and just know to trust him. He said they were childhood friends, he used to come over his house to play pool in his basement, and he stole his brother's Atari tapes, but they did

not press charges because he was a family friend. He said he drank with him, partied with him, did cocaine with him, and they fought people with Denny Hendricks and Stretch, in a group of 15-20 people.

Hammond said Jamie never told him he did the murder between 1991 and 1995, before they were in Centralia, but it was common knowledge that he did. He said Jamie did not confess explicitly until they were alone in prison together in 1995, because he didn't want other untrustworthy people to overhear at a party. He said there was complete trust in Centralia between the two of them, and he also confessed his own crimes to Jamie, and he would not tell the detectives what he himself said. The detective replied that they don't want to know what he did.

Hammond said Ed Palumbo had something to do with the crime. He recalls Palumbo was told by Jamie to shut up about it and not talk about it in front of him. It was when they were all three together in the county jail once when Jamie came back from Florida. He can even remember the exact spot they were sitting. He has no doubt that Palumbo knows who did it.

Hammond said that Jamie smokes cigarettes (Marlboro's and Cool's), weed, and crack. He said he thinks Jamie got \$65 for the robbery, and Detective Crow or any other police officer did not tell him how much was taken, and the amount was never printed in the paper.

Hammond said he saw Jamie a minimum of 3-4 times a week on the yard, and yard lasted for two hours. He said they discussed it for maybe 3 or 4 hours over time. He claimed Jamie said he went to Stretch's house after the crime, and it started because they all planned the robbery for drug money, and Stretch was waiting on him to come back. He said he partied with Denny Hendricks before, and they would all scheme on how to get more drug money, by either a robbery or even pawning a wedding ring. He said he's has minimal conversations with Moezs and Stretch about this, since they have not been alone together. All he recalls that Stretch said was they would never get Jamie. He doesn't know what kind of car Jamie used since none of them owned cars, they always used their girl's car or a family member's car.

He confirmed he spoke to Detective Crowe and Barkes on June 7th 1996, at the River City Correctional Center, and what he told them was not true. He was smiling and laughing when they brought this up. The report was read to him, and he confirmed that it is true he was childhood friends with Jamie, and that said everyone knows he did it but they can't prove it. But its not true that Moez didn't tell him he was the driver, he did in fact explicitly talk to Moez about it. He said he got slammed on his federal case in 1996 and didn't want to talk to them about Moez back then since he was mad he got nothing in return, but now he will. He confirmed it was true when he said while in Illinois River, Stretch told him that he knew where the gun was and that Denny Hendricks would know about it.

Hammond said he has nothing to gain by this, he will not get a time cut, he will tell what he knows to help and do the right thing, and he will ask for no help and nothing in return. He said that what he is saying today is all true and he will take a polygraph. He said he was not lying to set Jamie or Moez up.

Claycomb Trial, August 2000

Hammond testified at Susan's trial but his entire testimony was stricken from the record. Defense Attorney Steve Skelton had tried to question Hammond on what he thought about Bill Moffit being a liar, in an effort to impeach what Moffit said on the stand. Apparently, Hammond could not offer more than his own opinion after all, so his entire testimony was stricken from the record.

Snow Trial, January 4, 2001

Prosecutor Charles Reynard asks the Judge to enforce a prior motion that alternative suspects may not be introduced into the testimony by witnesses through defense cross examination without prior approval from the court. Troy Moews apparently made a statement to Ed Hamond that he was the getaway driver. Defense Attorney Frank Picl would like to ask Hammond about this, to show that other people were bragging about being involved in the crime, and it wouldn't be so bizarre that people would brag about such a thing. Therefore, the state's accusation that if Jamie bragged about it, so he must be guilty, is not so true. The Judge agrees with Reynard, stating that reason is not sufficient enough to override his prior order, and Hammond is not to be questioned about Moews (p 125-131).

Direct Examination via Charles Reynard

Hammond claims to have known Jamie Snow for 25 years (p 131, lines 20-23).

Hammond confirms he was convicted of armed robbery in 1995 and currently serving a sentence for a 1994 forgery conviction. He also confirms he was convicted of theft over \$300 and two other forgeries in 1990 (p 132, lines 20-24), & p 133).

He states he was in Centralia Correctional Center in July of 1995 and had contact with Jamie on the South yard (p 133, lines 3-24, & p 134, lines 1-4).

He describes talking to Jamie in the yard about the Clark Gas Station crime, and claims they would meet in the yard and walk, then sit down alone. He claims Jamie said he shot the kid, and he knew he wouldn't get caught because there was a car in the parking lot when he left, and if they recognized him, he would have been busted long before. He claimed Jamie said he knocked something over when he left and he slammed the door real hard, and that Jamie said he used a pistol (p 135, lines 15-24, p 136, p 137, lines 1-6).

He claims that Jamie had Mark "Stretch" McCown take care of the gun (p 137, lines 7-10).

He claims Jamie said he went to Stretch's house the night of the crime and got high (p 137, lines 11-15).

Cross Examination via Frank Piel

Hammond confirms he has known Mark “Stretch” McCown for as long or longer than he has known Jamie, 20 plus years, and his nick name has been Stretch for at least 10 years (p 138, lines 6-18).

He confirms Jamie supposedly told him details of the Clark Station crime on several occasions (p 138, lines 19-24 & p 139, line 1).

He claims Jamie told him because he trusted him, since he had a lengthy criminal record and never snitched on anyone before (p 139, lines 2-17).

He affirms that he believes he is for the most part an honest and truthful person although he has made mistakes and has a bad record (p 139, lines 18-24 & p 140 lines 1-6).

He confirms that the timing of the confession from Jamie was supposedly in July of 1995, about one week after he arrived to Centralia, and they had about six conversations about it, within a short period of time, less than one month (p 140, lines 10-24 & p 141, lines 1-18).

He confirms that while at Centralia he had access to a phone, writing materials, and stamps, he believed Jamie was telling him the truth about the confession, and he never contacted any authorities, because everyone knew Jamie did it and they didn’t need his help to solve the crime (p 142, lines 21-24, p 143 & p 144, lines 1-8).

Hammond confirms that Jamie said there was a car in the parking lot that night, he almost knocked something over on his way out, and he slammed the door hard. He also claimed Jamie said that he did the crime with Stretch and one other person who waited in the car (p 144, lines 9-24, & p 145, lines 1-22).

He claimed that he hadn’t been offered anything for his testimony, and his time served is almost up (p 145, lines 21-24).

Piel attempts to ask Hammond if he knows Bill Moffit, and what he previously testified to in regards to Moffit being a liar, but the prosecution objects and wins, because Hammond previously testified to this at Susan’s trial, and his entire testimony was stricken from the record as inadmissible. Griffin also complains that Piel keeps asking witnesses if they said things at previous trials just by picking up a piece of paper and reading from it, without laying a proper foundation to ask the question first, so she wants the judge to remind him its inappropriate. The judge declines and instructs her to make objections as necessary (p 146 – 152, & p 153, lines 1-5).

Hammond asserts he has known Jamie for 20 or 25 years but he doesn’t know anyone’s name in his family besides his wife (p 153, lines 11-24).

Hammond confirms he was house in Centralia in E5 and Jamie was housed in the south cluster, and they went to the south yard together at the same time (p 154, lines 2-21).

Hammond confirms he knows Carroll Landres, who is coincidentally a grandfather to one of his daughters, and he saw him at Susan's trial five months prior in August. But he denies ever telling him that he never even knew Jamie (p 154, line 24 & p 155, lines 1-21).

Hammond confirms he did not work on the road crew while at Centralia, he worked in laundry and he doesn't know where Jamie worked. The prosecution objects to the relevance, and Picl explains to the judge that the road crew was never on the yard at the same time as Hammond, so he would like to ask Hammond about it some more, and plans to call a guard, Herbert Lambert, and Jamie himself, to explain the schedule. The Judge sustains the objection since Picl can ask those witnesses directly and he is not allowed to ask Hammond about it again (p 156-158).

Hammond confirms that he does not know where Jamie went to school, he doesn't know where he lived before 1992, or 25 years ago (p 159).

Hammond is asked again if he knows where Jamie lived 20 years ago, and he gets aggravated and says when he was in fifth grade Jamie broke into his house, and confirms he doesn't know where he lived 20 years ago (p 160, lines 1-7).

Herbert Lambert Testimony Snow Trial, January 12, 2001

Direct Examination via Charles Reynard

Lambert confirms he is an identification technician at the Centralia correctional facility and he knew Jamie Snow in July of 1995 through September of 1995 (p 64).

Lambert confirms he was in charge of the road crew at that time and Jamie was on his crew (p 65, lines 7-10).

Lambert stated the road crew worked Monday through Friday, from 7:30am to 2:00pm (p 65, lines 22-24 & p 66, lines 1-4).

Lambert stated road crew did not go out on Saturday and Sunday, and they were treated like normal inmates then with access to the yard (p 66, lines 20-24 & p 67, lines 1-3).

Lambert said that it was against the rules for prisoners to use the yard in which they were not assigned to but sometimes they did since there was no barrier fence (p 67, lines 10-19).

Cross Examination via Picl

Lambert confirmed that in order to get on the road crew, an inmate had to have good behavior and less than 5 years left on their sentence (p 68, lines 16-22).

Lambert stated that there were two yards in Centralia and he does not know if Jamie or Hammond ever went into the wrong yard, but they were in fact assigned to different yards (p 69, lines 17-24 & p 70, lines 1-10)

Lambert confirmed if an inmate walked from one yard to another he would be in full view of a manned guard tower (p 71, line 24 & p 72, lines 1-4).

Redirect Examination via Charles Reynard

Lambert confirms that after an inmate left their housing building and entered the yard, he would get mixed in the area, and a guard in the tower would not know which one had privileges for which yard by looking down on the walkway (p 73, lines 19-24 & p 74, lines 1-3).

Carroll Landres Testimony Snow Trial, January 15, 2001

Direct Examination via Frank Picl

Landres confirms that he knows Hammond because he is the father of one of his grandchildren (p 20, lines 8-12).

Landres confirms that he saw Hamond at the court house in August of the previous year, and he said he did not know Jamie Snow (p 20, lines 13-20).

Cross Examination via Charles Reynard

Landres confirms that the conversation took place down in booking, as he was in jail at the time. He confirms that in July 1999 he was arrested for felony driving without a license, and convicted of two counts of theft in August of 1999 (p 21, lines 3-12).

Snow Federal Habeas Petition February 5, 2016

“Of the eight witnesses who the State argued in closing the jury would have to disbelieve [...] in order to acquit, Edward Hammond is the only one for which Snow did not present new evidence to discredit. However, Hammond’s testimony at trial was weak, he was cross-examined thoroughly on his priors and claimed familiarity with Snow, impeached by a prison official about his claim that he had access to Snow while incarcerated with him, and he was substantively impeached by both Snow and an independent witness (Carroll Landres).”