

SNOW NOTES

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

Jody Winkler Perspective

Prior Charges

November 25, 1999: Aggravated Battery / Great Bodily Harm

November 27, 1989: Burglary

January 25, 1997: Unlawful Restraint

January 25, 1997: Narcotic Schedule I & II

November 24, 1999: Forgery

March 10 – 12, 1999 Forgery Crime

Winkler forged a check from his father's company for \$929.26 and was arrested on November 24, 1999.

BPD Interview with Detective Dan Katz

November 24, 1999

Winkler told Katz he knew what he wanted to talk to him about, he couldn't believe he got there so quick and he would like to tell him what information he had. He said he worked with Jamie at Half Price tree service and lived in his apartment from June through mid August of 1999. He said about 3 weeks after moving in, they took a day off of work because of the rain and went to the beach and were sitting in the truck drinking beer. They were talking about Bloomington and the third time the Clark gas station case was brought up, Jamie said "yes I did it." He said he stepped out of the truck and walked away because he didn't want to hear anymore. He said two other times they discussed it at Jamie's house when Jamie said he was aware of the Grand Jury, and he asked Winkler if he had ever told him he did it, and he responded that he did not because he did not want to be involved. He said Jamie started hiding out at different motels and places in August of 1999 because he was concerned about being arrested, and planned to hide out until he found out if he was indicted.

BPD Interview with Detective Dan Katz

January 3, 2000

Detectives Katz and Barkes interviewed Winkler at the McLean County Sherriff's Department, telling him they knew he knew more than he was saying, and he needed to come clean. Winkler asked what he could get in return, and they said they couldn't make any promised, but would forward what he stated to the State's Attorney's Office for review. He said Jamie told him he would never find the gun because it was buried on Martin Luther King Drive. He said Jamie told him he was running because he knew about the Grand Jury and was afraid of being "hooked up."

Jody Winkler Forgery Sentencing Hearing

January 28, 2000

Winkler forged a check from his father's company for \$929.26 in March of 1999, a class III felony, with a maximum sentence of 10 years (since he is already a class III felon) and one year mandatory supervised release. He accepted a plea deal for 4 years imprisonment with 66 days credit time served, and restitution in the amount of \$929.26. The hearing was held by Judge Donald Bernardi.

Snow Trial
January 5, 2001

Direct Examination via Charles Reynard

Winkler confirms he was convicted of delivery of a controlled substance, unlawful restraint, deceptive practices, and theft and violation of the electronic funds transfer act in 1997, and deceptive practices in 1993 (p 111, lines 3-13).

Winkler confirms he was living in St. Petersburg, Florida in spring of 1999, he secured employment with Jamie at Half Price Tree Service, and he lived in an apartment of Jamie's, behind Jamie's house, from June through August of 1999 (p 112, lines 3-18)

Winkler claims that within a couple weeks of moving in, Jamie and he had a conversation about the Clark gas station murder. He said they had a half day at work due to rain, and went to the beach to drink beers and talk, and Jamie indicated he was going to be indicted on it. (p 113 & p 114, lines 1-9).

Winkler claimed he later asked Jamie what his involvement in the case was and he indicated he had done it (p 114, lines 9-24 & p 115, lines 1-7).

Winkler claimed there was another conversation about the murder within a week, occurring at Jamie's house, and Jamie supposedly told him he was aware of the Grand Jury investigation, and asked Winkler if he had ever told him that he did it, and Winkler responded to Jamie, that no, he did not tell him that (p 114, lines 8-24 & p 116, lines 1-16).

Winkler claimed that in August of 1999, Jamie stopped working with him every day and told him he was laying low until he found out what was going on, and he was staying at various places, because he heard that detectives from Florida were looking for him, and he thought about taking off (p 117, lines 2-24 & p 118, lines 1-15).

Cross Examination via Picl

Winkler confirms he is currently serving time in prison and is not expecting or hoping to receive anything in return for his testimony, that he was not paid, and he is just involved because he is a good citizen (p 119, lines 2-13).

Winkler confirms that he heard Jamie had been arrested in connection with the trial charges on the day he got into country jail, November 23rd or 24th of 1999 (p 119, lines 16-22).

Winkler confirms he never knew Jamie personally while he lived in Bloomington, he knew his name, but only met him in spring of 1999 in Florida (p 120, lines 1-9).

Winkler confirms he was a regular user of crack cocaine around the time he supposedly had discussions with Jamie about the crime and through September of 1999 (p 120, lines 23-24 & p 121, lines 1-7).

Winkler clarifies that when Jamie started telling him the first story about doing the murder the day at the beach, he got out of the truck because he didn't want to be involved or hear it (p 121, lines 8-15).

Winkler claims he was a good citizen when he heard the confession but never called the police because he couldn't believe it, he did not know if Jamie was telling the truth at the time (p 121, lines 16-24).

Winkler confirms he never contacted the State's Attorney to tell them what he had heard the first, second, or third time he supposedly discussed the crime with Jamie (p 122, lines 11-15, p 123, lines 18-24, & p 125, lines 16-21).

Winkler clarified that Jamie supposedly told him he was thinking of taking off because he didn't know what the Grand Jury had come up with, he did not specify to avoid prosecution (p 124, lines 19-24 & p 125, lines 1-2).

Winkler admitted he did not contact authorities because he was on the run himself (p 126, lines 1-9).

Winkler confirmed that the authorities contacted him in November of 1999 when he was in the county jail, and he asked what he could get for his cooperation. He said they did not receive any leniency of consideration for his pending charges (p 127, lines 1-21).

Winkler said he was never in the company of David Arison when Jamie asked him if he told him he was involved in the case (p 128, lines 15-19).

Redirect Examination via Charles Reynard

Winkler claimed that when the detectives interviewed him in the county jail, he told them he had a good idea what they wanted to talk about, he said that he was already thinking about telling them, and that he did ask them if he could get anything out of it but Detective Katz said he couldn't do anything (p 129 & p 130, line 1).

Winkler agrees that the State's Attorney has not promised him anything or given him any advantage or consideration for his testimony (p 130, lines 2-6).

Recross Examination via Frank Picl

Winkler clarified that Katz told him he would let the State's Attorney know that he had some information for them but he couldn't promise him anything (p 130, lines 12-24).