
TRIAL TESTIMONY

Gary Chiurazzi - Los Angeles Police Custodian of Records

Transcript Pages: 21781 - 21785

Page #

21782 Mr Chiurazzi is the L.A.P.D. Custodian of Records

Made an effort to locate Latent print LP0345.

21783 Located a request for fingerprint comparison for LP0345

21785 There is no record of latent print LP0345 other than the request for comparison.

1 TABLE, SIR. RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

2 DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
3 ARE ABOUT TO GIVE IN THE CASE NOW PENDING BEFORE THIS
4 COURT SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT
5 THE TRUTH SO HELP YOU GOD?

6 THE WITNESS: I DO.

7 THE CLERK: PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND SPELL IT FOR
8 ME.

9 THE WITNESS: OFFICER GARY CHIURAZZI,
10 C-H-I-U-R-A-Z-Z-I.

11 THE CLERK: SPELL YOUR FIRST NAME, PLEASE.

12 THE WITNESS: G-A-R-Y.

13 THE CLERK: THANK YOU. PLEASE TAKE THE WITNESS
14 STAND.

15 GARY CHIURAZZI, +
16 CALLED AS A WITNESS ONN BEHALF OF THE DEFENSE, WAS
17 EXAMINED AND TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION +

19 BY MR. MERWIN:

20 Q MR. CHIURAZZI, HOW DID YOU PRONOUNCE IT, IS
21 IT CHIURAZZI?

22 A CORRECT.

23 Q MR. CHIURAZZI, BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED
24 CURRENTLY?

25 A LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT.

26 Q AND ARE YOU A CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR

1 RECORDS OF LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT?

2 A YES, I AM.

3 Q DID YOU RECEIVE A SUBPOENA THAT INSTRUCTED
4 YOU TO SEARCH FOR A LATENT, PARTIAL LATENT FINGERPRINT
5 WHICH HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE LETTER AND NUMBER LP 0345?

6 A YES, I HAVE BEEN.

7 Q PURSUANT TO THAT SUBPOENA, DID YOU MAKE AN
8 EFFORT TO LOCATE THAT FINGERPRINT?

9 A YES, I DID.

10 Q WHAT DID YOU DO IN THAT REGARD?

11 A I CONTACTED WENDELL CLEMENTS, WHO IS THE
12 SUPERVISOR FOR LATENT PRINTS, GAVE HIM THAT LP NUMBER AND
13 ASKED HIM IF IT WAS POSSIBLE TO FIND THE, ANY DOCUMENTS
14 FINGERPRINTS, WHATEVER ON IT.

15 Q HOW ARE FINGERPRINTS KEPT BY LOS ANGELES
16 POLICE DEPARTMENT?

17 A I AM NOT AN EXPERT IN THE RETENTION OF
18 FINGERPRINTS. I CONTACTED THE PERSON WHO WAS THE EXPERT
19 AND ASKED HIM TO LOCATE THE INFORMATION FOR ME.

20 Q DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE SEARCH ALONG WITH
21 THIS PERSON THAT YOU ASKED TO ASSIST YOU?

22 A PARTICIPATE?

23 Q DID YOU PHYSICALLY OBSERVE WHAT EFFORTS THIS
24 PERSON MADE TO FIND PRINT LP 0345?

25 A NO, I DID NOT DO THAT.

26 Q ALL RIGHT. DID YOU ASK THE PERSON WHAT WAS

1 NECESSARY TO TRY TO FIND IT?

2 A YES.

3 Q AND WHAT IS NECESSARY, WHAT PROCEDURE?

4 A AGAIN, I AM NOT AN EXPERT, BUT HE EXPLAINED
5 THE MANNER IN WHICH FINGERPRINTS ARE KEPT VERY BRIEFLY AND
6 HE WENT THROUGH A NUMBER OF BOOKS AND HE DID LOCATE IN ONE
7 OF THE BOOKS AN ENTRY IN WHICH WHAT APPEARED TO BE A
8 FINGERPRINT REQUEST WAS MADE TO, TO EXAMINE A FINGERPRINT.

9 Q WITH THIS SAME NUMBER LP 0345?

10 A YES.

11 Q DID IT HAVE ANY, ANY NOTATION WITH IT IN
12 ADDITION TO THE REQUEST TO EXAMINE IT?

13 A I BROUGHT THAT DOCUMENT WITH ME.

14 Q COULD I SEE IT? IS THIS AN EXTRA COPY OR IS
15 THERE -- THIS YOUR ONLY COPY?

16 A THAT'S MY ONLY COPY.

17 MR. MERWIN: COULD WE HAVE A COPY OF THIS MADE?

18 THE COURT: SURE.

19 MR. MERWIN: THERE IS A LOT OF IRRELEVANT MATERIAL
20 ON THIS, SO MAYBE WE WILL JUST DO IT BY GOING THROUGH THE
21 ENTRY.

22 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT.

23 BY MR. MERWIN:

24 Q SIR, THERE'S THE LEFT-HAND COLUMN THERE'S A
25 NUMBER 0345. WOULD THAT REFER TO THE NUMBER OF THE LATENT
26 PRINT ITSELF?

1 A NO.

2 Q I AM LOOKING AT THIS. WHAT DOES THE 0345
3 REFER TO?

4 A I WOULD JUST HAVE TO SPECULATE SINCE THIS IS
5 NOT MY RECORD, BUT IT APPEARS TO BE JUST A NUMERICAL
6 LISTING OF LOG ENTRIES AND THAT WOULD BE A WAY OF
7 IDENTIFYING THE PARTICULAR ENTRY.

8 Q OKAY. WHICH CORRESPONDS TO THE LP 0345
9 DESIGNATION THAT WE GAVE YOU?

10 A YES.

11 Q OKAY. AND THEN IN THE COLUMN NEXT TO IT, IT
12 SAYS SWAN, WOULD THAT REFER TO THE EXAMINER?

13 A I COULD JUST SAY THAT IT APPEARS TO BE THE
14 PERSON WHO MADE THE LOG ENTRY.

15 Q OKAY. AND IN THE COLUMN NEXT TO THAT IT'S
16 HEADED BFV, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THOSE INITIALS STAND FOR?

17 A NO.

18 Q THE ENTRY IN OR OPPOSITE 0345 IS H-O-M-I. I
19 I ASSUME THAT IS SHORT FOR HOMICIDE?

20 A YES, I WOULD ASSUME THAT TOO.

21 Q THEN IN PARENTHESES, ST. JOHN HANDLING, END
22 PARENTHESES?

23 A WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

24 Q IS THAT TRUE, IS THAT WHAT IT SAYS?

25 A YES. IT SAYS ST. JOHN HANDLING IN
26 PARENTHESES.

1 Q AND THEN IN LAST COLUMN IN, IN THIS LEDGER
2 THERE IS A NUMBER AT THE TOP, THE LETTER B 196 P, AS IN
3 PAUL, LOOKS LIKE A 95; IS THAT RIGHT?

4 A YES.

5 Q DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT PURPORTS TO REFER TO?

6 A THAT AGAIN I'M -- I'M NOT SURE.

7 Q AND IN THE COLUMN OPPOSITE THIS 0345 ENTRY IT
8 SAYS NOT IN BOOK, IS THAT WHAT IT SAYS?

9 A CORRECT.

10 Q DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT REFERS TO?

11 A NO.

12 Q SO ESSENTIALLY WHAT THE PERSON WHO WAS
13 HELPING YOU LOOK FOR THIS LP 0345 PRINT DID WAS GIVE YOU A
14 PHOTOCOPY OF THIS PAGE TO SHOW YOU THAT HE HAD LOOKED AND
15 FOUND AN ENTRY THAT SAID NOT IN BOOK?

16 A HE DID AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH AND THAT WAS HIS
17 CONCLUSION, THAT WE HAVE NO RECORD OF THE FINGERPRINT
18 OTHER THAN THAT DOCUMENT.

19 Q OKAY. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU LEARNED IN
20 THE SEARCH OR THROUGH CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM THAT WOULD
21 LET YOU KNOW WHETHER IT WAS DELIBERATELY DESTROYED?

22 A NO. HE GAVE ME NO INDICATION OF IT BEING
23 DELIBERATELY DESTROYED.

24 Q OR ACCIDENTALLY DESTROYED?

25 A NO INDICATION WHATSOEVER.

26 Q OR PURGED FROM THE FILE?