

REPORT

EVIDENCE OF MISCONDUCT
by
OFFICIALS OF THE STATE OF MAINE

in connection with the

**INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION
of
DENNIS DECHaine**

**for the 1988 murder of
SARAH CHERRY**

--

THESE ARE THE ACTS
REGARDING WHICH
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
COMMISSION CONDUCTED A REVIEW

MMVIII

JAMES P. MOORE
POST OFFICE BOX 1032, BRUNSWICK, ME 04011

January, 2008

Attorney General Rowe handpicked three attorneys to investigate allegations of official misconduct during the investigation and prosecution of Dennis Dechaine. Two years later, those three lawyers reported, "we find that none of the allegations . . . have any substantive merit."

They offered no evidence to support their conclusion.

This report contains the evidence of misconduct.

James P. Moore

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:
 Following their investigation, law enforcement officers altered their notes and/or reports to falsely attribute incriminating statements to Denis [sic] Dechaine.

Evidence Regarding Detective Westrum

Westrum's trial testimony (transcript page 830 and 831):

Page 830:

WESTRUM: . . . He said: Mark, I went home and told my wife that I did something bad and she just laughed at me.

Q: (by Prosecutor Wright) What else did he say?

A: May I refer to my notes?

Q: If you think it would help you to get it exactly right.

THE COURT: Yes

Page 831:

WESTRUM: I let him walk around the room again without saying anything, he went back and sat down in his chair or the chair he was sitting in. At that point he looked up at me and he said --

Q: (by Prosecutor Wright): Read your notes.

A: I didn't think it actually happened until I saw her face on the news and then it all came back to me. I remembered it. He started to cry again, and he said Why did I kill her?

DISCREPANCIES -- from Det. Westrum's contemporaneous notes which were concealed by the State until the Legislature ordered the AG to open their file:

#1 Det. Westrum's notes quoted Dechaine as making this normal protestation of innocence: "*How could I kill her*" At some later time, Det. Westrum crossed out "*How could,*" and altered the notes into the incriminating phrase, "*Why did I kill her*"

#2 Det. Westrum's contemporaneous notes quote Dechaine as saying, "*I told my wife something bad had happened.*" [NOTE: Interrogation by police about the abduction of a little girl qualifies as "something bad had happened." It's an innocent statement.]

However, in his trial testimony, upon being instructed to "read your notes," Westrum claimed Dechaine had said, "I told my wife I had done something bad."

Westrum's switch of Dechaine's words from "*something bad had happened*" to, "I did something bad" transforms an innocent comment into an incriminating admission. See transcript of Westrum's testimony on pages 8 and 9. See photocopy of Westrum's notes on page 10.

[NOTE; Dechaine signed no statement; none was ever recorded.]

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:
 Following their investigation, law enforcement officers altered their notes and/or reports to falsely attribute incriminating statements to Dennis Dechaine.

Evidence Regarding Detective Hendsbee

Hendsbee's trial testimony (transcript page 799 and 800):

Page 799:

Hendsbee: The time was 1:57 in the afternoon. . . Dennis stated that I know what you are here for. I can't believe I could do such a thing. It's not –

Q: (by Prosecutor Wright) If you don't remember, please refer to your notes.

A: He stated, I can't believe that I could do such a thing. The real me is not like that. It must be somebody else inside of me. At that time I hadn't even gotten out of my car.

Q: It must be somebody else inside of me that –

A: Who is doing this.

Q: You hadn't said that. It must be somebody else inside of me doing this?

A: Yes. At that time I hadn't gotten out of my car. I

Page 800

asked Dennis to step away from my door so I could get out of my car, at which time he did. But he kept saying that there has got to be somebody else inside of me doing this. I couldn't have done such a thing.

DISCREPANCIES from Det. Hendsbee's contemporaneous notes, withheld by the State even after ordered by the Legislature to open this file, and concealed for 16 years until an appeal was filed to the Supreme Court of the State of Maine in 2005:

Det. Hendsbee's contemporaneous notes for the event described in testimony:

1357 hrs

Dennis – I can't believe this guy I know would do anything like that – I heard the bad knews [sic] I can't believe that I could do such a thing – the real me is not like that – I know what your [sic] here for Do what you got to do –

Pete [Lt. Peter McCarthy] interrupted with Miranda – wanted a lawyer.

Hendsbee's contemporaneous notes do not contain the incriminating statement "there has got to be somebody else inside of me doing this" which he testified he was reading from those notes.

A transcript of Hendsbee's testimony may be seen on page 11 and 12.

A copy of Hendsbee's contemporaneous notes may be seen on page 13

[NOTE: Some Maine media, based on the testimony of Dets. Hendsbee and Westrum, informed readers and viewers that Dechaine had "confessed" to these crimes. Many Mainers still retain an impression that Dennis Dechaine confessed to these officers.]

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:
Prosecutors misled the jury with respect to Sarah Cherry's time of death.

Rather than properly answering the blank on the autopsy form which requires "Date and Time of Death." Dr. Roy wrote simply, "Found 7/8/88." (See form, Page 14.)

Neither the complete autopsy report, nor anything else furnished to the defense or anyone else prior to Dr. Roy's testimony, gave any indication regarding time of death.

At trial, Medical Examiner Ronald Roy testified to conclusions concerning time of death. Based on his own observations regarding rigor mortis, decomposition, and progress of digestion, plus photos taken of the body during autopsy, his conclusion is contradicted by experienced pathologists and leading textbooks on forensic pathology. This evidence is extensively detailed in *Human Sacrifice*.

Dr. Roy testified that he was Chief Medical Examiner. In fact, Dr. Henry Ryan was the chief medical examiner.

Dr. Roy testified that he was a forensic pathologist. In fact, while he claimed training in anatomical and clinical pathology, nothing in the trial record or in Dr. Roy's official personnel file shows any training or education in the specialty of forensic pathology.*

Dr. Roy's report and testimony do show that he failed to attempt the routine, elementary procedures employed by experienced forensic pathologists in cases of this nature: recording the ambient temperature and body temperature; and potassium testing of eye fluid. Further, while the species and state of maturity of fly larvae can aid in establishing time of death, Dr. Roy discarded the fly larvae which were found on the victim without any effort to identify their species, or making any examination of them whatsoever.

* Forensic pathology is a subspecialty of medicine that studies the causes of human death. A forensic pathologist is a physician who has received special training in pathology and forensic pathology. This training process lasts for up to six years after graduation from medical school. After completion of the training period, physicians can sit for examinations offered by the American Board of Pathology. If a passing grade is achieved on the examination, the physician is considered board certified.

(FORENSIC MEDICAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, PLC.)

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:
At the time of the trial, prosecutors and law enforcement officers had information about an alternative suspect which they should have shared, but did not share, with defense counsel.

Reports filed by Detectives Hendsbee and Drake show that these officers followed two sets of footprints -- small bare footprints and large footprints -- down the Fickett Road (½ mile from where Sarah Cherry, who was known to be barefoot, had vanished the day before) to "a trailer by the name of Fickett." Hendsbee's report states that he told Drake, "We'll have the wardens look into this tomorrow."

(NOTE: If the footprints were considered unimportant, why have anyone check on them the next day?)

Neither detective made any effort to determine whether anyone was inside this trailer. They didn't even knock on this door, even though officers canvassed every other house in the area seeking witnesses to anything that might aid them. (See Hendsbee and Drake reports, pages 15 - 16.)

#1 The state kept secret the fact that, only 25 days before Sarah Cherry's disappearance, during an ongoing investigation, Detective Hendsbee took a detailed statement from a 12-year-old girl who stated that the resident of that trailer, Jason Fickett, an adult, had oral sex and intercourse with her. (Hendsbee's 6/11/88 report, page 17.)

Fickett was eventually convicted of that and other sex crimes against children. This information was kept secret by the State until I discovered Hendsbee's inquiry, several years later. (See Fickett's criminal record, pages 18-20.)

These facts prove that on the day after Sarah Cherry vanished, the day before her body was found, detectives had focused their suspicion and investigation solely on Dennis Dechaine -- excluding the possibility of any other suspect.

Jason Fickett was never questioned about this case.

#2 The name of Douglas Senecal was given to detectives as a suspect by Sarah Cherry's step-father on the day Sarah vanished. Senecal, at that time, was facing indictment for sexually abusing a minor step-daughter. The Senecal family shipped that daughter to California until, with no witness, the state dismissed the sex charges against Mr. Senecal.

Mr. Senecal has offered several alibis for the time in question; each was disputed by the witnesses he offered.

Mr. Senecal was never interrogated by police. Neither he, his home or his vehicle were ever searched.

NOTE: Mr. Senecal still refuses to submit his DNA for comparison with the unidentified mystery DNA in the blood under Sarah Cherry's nails.

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:

In 1992, law enforcement officers, with the approval of prosecutors, inappropriately destroyed physical evidence including a rape kit as well as hairs and fibers discovered at the scene where Sarah Cherry's body was found.

Dechaine filed a Motion For A New Trial on May 5, 1992.

Before that motion could be heard, on June 18, 1992, pursuant to an order by Deputy Attorney General Fernand LaRoche, biological evidence containing potential DNA evidence (vaginal swabs, vaginal aspirate, and never-identified hairs found on the victim's body) were incinerated. (See Order, page 21.)

The mystery DNA of a male person found under the victim's thumbnails (preserved only because defense counsel Thomas Connolly had previously recovered them) was, although partially degraded, sufficient to exclude Dennis Dechaine as the donor. Also excluded: Sarah Cherry's family members, officers who handled the body, and medical examiner personnel who handled the body.

The biological evidence incinerated by the State, were it still available, might have been sufficient to positively identify the donor of the DNA, i.e. the man Sarah Cherry scratched while he tortured and strangled her.

Were it not for the fact that Dechaine's pre-trial request for DNA tests was opposed by the State and denied by the Court, all of these DNA samples would certainly have been fresh enough to positively identify Sarah Cherry's killer.

Allegation, as stated by Attorney General Rowe to his Commission:

Prosecutors inappropriately failed to notify the court and defense counsel of a consultant's opinion regarding the reliability of an outside laboratory and DNA tests conducted in 1993.

This allegation, acknowledged by AG Rowe's commission, was considered (by them) to be of dubious importance despite the fact that this expert certified the reliability of the DNA tests eliminating Dechaine as a suspect.

Other Allegations

State Secrets and the 2nd edition of *Human Sacrifice* document numerous additional acts of misconduct by police and members of the Attorney General's staff -- acts which the AG did not ask his commission to investigate.

Among the improprieties by prosecutor Eric Wright: telling Dechaine's jury falsely that, "there is no evidence . . . in this case of an alternative perpetrator" (See page 22, transcript of Prosecutor Wright's closing statement to jury); and stating falsely to two state legislators and four other persons that Dechaine had confessed guilt to the state psychologists "and we have it on videotape." (See statement of witnesses to this event, page 23.)

That videotape, made available for viewing by order of the Maine legislature, may be viewed at the Office of the Attorney General.

It contains nothing remotely resembling a confession.

Every allegation of misconduct is supported by hard evidence – police reports, documents from the files of the Attorney General, and court records.

The AG's commission's opinion of the allegations insinuates the existence of facts which they fight to keep it secret. Why conceal facts that vindicate the accused officials? Why would they hide evidence that makes officials look good?

DECHAINÉ'S SUPPORTERS URGE ONLY THAT HE HAVE A TRIAL WHERE JURORS HEAR ALL THE EVIDENCE.

THAT REALLY DOESN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH TO ASK.

1 A After we cleaned up we went back into the booking room
2 and both of us sat down.

3 Q How much time passed before anything else occurred?

4 A I would say another two to three minutes. He sat down
5 in a chair and I sat down. Then he said to me: Oh my God, it
6 should have never happened. He said: Why did I do this? At
7 this time he again started to sob and he cried again
8 somewhat. And then he said to me: I'm sorry, I forgot your
9 name. I reminded him that my name was Mark. And then he was
10 silent. He said: Mark, I went home and told my wife that I
11 did something bad and she just laughed at me.

12 Q What else did he say?

13 A Can I refer to my notes?

14 Q If you think it would help you to get it exactly right.

15 THE COURT: Yes.

16

17 BY MR. WRIGHT:

18 Q With that helping you to get it exactly, tell us what
19 other comments he had to say?

20 A After he made that comment to me, he said: I told her I
21 wouldn't kill myself; besides that's the easy way out. Again
22 he sobbed somewhat. I offered him a cigarette which he
23 smoked for several minutes. At that time when he was
24 finished smoking his cigarette he said to me: Mark, please
25 believe me, something inside must have made me do that.

1 Please believe me. He repeated that please believe me.

2 At that time I told Mr. Dechaine he had every right to
3 remain silent and he didn't have to speak to me at all. He
4 sat with his head down and he said; I know. Again I said I
5 wasn't there or in the room to make him talk and he didn't
6 have to.

7 He was silent for a moment then he said to me; I knew
8 they were coming after me. I was waiting. He said; It was
9 something inside that must have made me do that. Again he
10 said; I can only look forward; that's all I have left. Then
11 he was saying; Why would I do this? At that point I said I
12 can't answer that question. I don't know. He's emotional at
13 this point. He walked around the room and kept saying; Why?
14 Why? I let him walk around the room again without saying
15 anything. He went back and sat down in his chair or the
16 chair he was sitting in. At that point he looked up at me
17 and he said - -

18 Q Read your notes.

19 A I didn't think it actually happened until I saw her face
20 on the news; then it all came back to me. I remembered it.
21 He started to cry again, and he said; Why did I kill her?
22 At that point he cried and he was shaking his head back and
23 forth. He was clasping his hands together very tightly. He
24 said; What punishment could they ever give me that would
25 equal what I've done. At that point he started to cry very

To Ed wife
 - I want to bring her back -
 I feel so bad for her
 My Cal skin must be Mother + Father Feel -

Why did
~~How~~ I kill her

I didn't think it actually happened until I saw
 her face on the news and then it all
 came back I remember it ~~now~~ now.

I went home and told my wife something bad had
 happened she just laughed at me.

I wished ~~if~~ I had never gone on that road
 that day - Why didn't my truck break down instead
 something inside me must have made me do that.
 How can I ever live w/ myself again

1 THE COURT: 68 is also admitted.

2
3 BY MR. WRIGHT:

4 Q Now, before we talk about how you conducted the search,
5 could you tell the jury, please, what time you arrived at Mr.
6 Dechaine's residence and what happened, with some precision,
7 what happened when you arrived on Friday afternoon at the
8 defendant's residence?

9 A The time was 1:57 in the afternoon. I pulled into
10 Dennis Dechaine's residence and Dennis and his wife Nancy
11 were sitting on the front porch. When I pulled in, Dennis
12 came down off the porch towards my car, and at a rapid pace.
13 His wife was following him. Dennis stated that I know what
14 you are here for. I can't believe I could do such a thing.
15 It's not - -

16 Q If you don't remember please refer to your notes.

17 A He stated; I can't believe that I could do such a thing.
18 The real me is not like that. I know me. I couldn't do
19 anything like that. It must be somebody else inside of me.
20 At that time I hadn't even gotten out of my car.

21 Q It must have been somebody else inside of me - -

22 A Who is doing this.

23 Q You hadn't said that. It must be somebody else inside
24 of me doing this?

25 A Yes. At that time I hadn't gotten out of my car. I

asked Dennis to step away from my door so I could get out of my car, at which time he did. But he kept saying that there has got to be somebody else inside of me doing this. I couldn't have done such a thing.

When I got out of my car Dennis stated: do what you have to do. At that time I told Dennis I was there just to serve a search warrant. He said do what you've got to do. I just can't believe I could do that.

Q You then conducted your search that went on for some period of time?

A No. At that time I went in the house with Dennis and Nancy and also arrived there with me was the Peter McCarthy. It was very difficult for me to do the search because I couldn't secure one area and leave them in another area because things could change. I had to get some assistance in doing the search. So I basically stayed with Dennis and Nancy.

Q Did you make any requests of them or have any conversation with them regarding how the search would be conducted?

A I told them that the items on the search warrant were so small and the house was so big that I didn't know where to begin the search. And he asked if he could be of any assistance. Basically I asked for his sneakers and where the dirty clothes were. I was told at that time that the dirty

1357 he

Denari - I can't
believe this guy I
know could do anything
like that - I heard
the book knows - I
can't believe that I
could do such a thing -
The real me is not
like that - I know
what you here for
Do what you got to
do -

Pete interrupted w/
Miranda - Wanted a
lawyer.

1417 Denis gave sneaker
9⁴/₂ Nike

1511 1232 1944
A tent search see this detail

REPORT OF INQUIRY AND EXAMINATION BY MEDICAL EXAMINER

2

DECEDENT SARAH CHERRY AGE: 12 SEX: F RACE: W

ADDRESS Meadow Rd Bowdoin MWSID: _____

NOTIFIED BY: F. LaBrecque DATE AND TIME: A.G. office 7/8 12:50 PM

POLICE INVESTIGATOR: MSP DEPT. _____

Write None if Applicable

INFORMANT: Including Relationship to Deceased

MSP

PLACE OF DEATH: WOODS - HALLOWELL RD BOWDOIN

SCENE VISIT: (DATE AND TIME OR NONE) 7/8/88 - APP. 2:30 PM

PLACE BODY EXAMINED: SCENE and HOME DATE AND TIME: 2:30 PM ; 3:00 PM

IMMEDIATE CAUSE

(a) ASPHYXINATION DUE TO LIGATURE STRANGULATION WITH
DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(b) MULTIPLE STAB WOUNDS OF NECK AND CHEST.
DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(c) OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS:

ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, etc.	DATE & TIME OF INJURY	HOW INJURY OCCURRED
<u>HOMICIDE</u>	<u>Found 7/8/88</u>	<u>STABBED and STRANGLED BY ASSAILANT</u>
AT WORK?	PLACE OF INJURY	LOCATION
<u>NO</u>	<u>WOODS</u>	<u>OFF HALLOWELL RD BOWDOIN</u>

DATE AND TIME OF DEATH: Found 7/8/88

DATE AND TIME FOUND: 7/8/88 - APPROX NOON LAST SEEN ALIVE: 7/6/88

AUTOPSY AUTHORIZED BY: R Roy (Name and Title) PATHOLOGIST: Roy

BODY RELEASED TO: _____

TOXICOLOGY OR OTHER STUDIES PENDING: _____

I hereby declare that the information contained herein regarding this death is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, as is the information contained on the death certificate if signed by me.

8/16/88
Date

SAGADAHC
County of Death

Ronald P. Roy, M.D.
Signature of Medical Examiner

Typed or Printed Name of Medical Examiner: Ronald P. Roy, M.D. (203)

ORIGINAL TO BE FILED WITH CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER, STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS.

CONTINUATION REPORT

MAINE STATE POLICE

COMPLAINANT - LAST NAME, FIRST, MIDDLE

SIGNATURE AND NAME

CODE NO.

2134
APPROVED

Sagadahoc Sheriff's Office

Det. ALFRED HENDSBEE, mc

PLACE OF OCCURRENCE

Homicide (SARAH CHERRY)

TOWN Bowdoin COUNTY Sagadahoc
CASE STATUS CA CRK CRV CRW CRX OTHER

FORM 18-18

7/2/88

CONTINUED:

1845 - A person came into the command post and advised he had just found a white approximately three foot high fishing pole off from the side of the Lewis Hill Road.

1907 - Det. DRAKE and I arrived at a small dump that is located approximately two tenths of a mile from the Command Post up the Lewis Hill Road. I photographed the fishing pole described as an orange and white, approximately three foot high fishing pole. The line was in the pole; however, was not strung through the eyelets. The pole was leaning against a tree off the side of a dump approximately 50 feet from the roadway. It was unknown if it was part of the dump or whether someone had placed it there purposefully to hide it. I took photos of the pole and retained it to be examined by the Lab.

1920 - Det. DRAKE and I were at a private driveway leading to a FICKETT's trailer. This private drive in the upper half of the driveway which is located approximately a mile into the woods, a party had observed bare footprints in the roadway. Det. DRAKE and I examined the footprints and found that there was a small sized barefooted footprint as well as a larger sized barefooted footprint leading from the roadway into the FICKETT trailer. These were believed to not belong to the case as there were two different sized footprints and believed belonging to the people owning the FICKETT trailer.

1950 - I interviewed a LARRY YOUNG. See attached Summary of Interview. 257 ✓

2020 - I cleared the C P.

2140 - I called Wdn. BILL ALLEN in reference to the information received from LARRY YOUNG in reference to the footprints as well as material. Wdn. ALLEN stated he would take care of it in the A.M. Wdn. ALLEN also advised that throughout the night, there would be some warden scent dogs used to travel the various roads in the area to see if they can pick up a scent of SARAH.

MAINE STATE POLICE

CONTINUATION REPORT

COMPLAINANT - LAST NAME, FIRST, MIDDLE

Sagadahoc S.O.

SIGNATURE AND NAME


 Det. STEVEN DRAKE, mc

CODE NO.

1153

APPROVED



PLACE OF OCCURRENCE

Bowdoin

Sagadahoc

NATURE OF CASE Homicide (SARAH CHERRY)

TOWN	CASE STATUS	CA	C-EX	C-INV	C-DRY	OTHER
						X

FORM 10-14

CONTINUED:

1924 - I spoke to DEBBIE CROSMAN who advised there were no fingerprints taken at the school but would get a hairbrush for me so we could have a sample of SARAH's hair.

1938 - Det. HENDSBEE and I checked the footprints on the Fickett Road and tracked them to a trailer by the name of FICKETT. The tracks were barefoot but showed two different sizes going right into this trailer.

It should also be noted that one of the searchers advised that off one of the side roads which he marked with a big wooden arrow that he made from logs, they found a mud hole which had some barefoot footprints, a shirt and a chain and looked like some broken glass. Someone may have been four wheeling and hit a tree and the tree had a scar on it. Det. HENDSBEE advised he would advise the wardens about this location in the morning.

2041 - I interviewed RICHARD DUNBAR in my vehicle. See attached Summary of Interview.

7/8/88

0532 - I received a wakeup call from Augusta as I requested. The officer advised that the Triple I check had been started yesterday.

0652 - I arrived at the C P in Bowdoinham and was advised to check on the babysitter for the HENKELS and who it was and to see if DENNIS DECHAIINE had any tie in with that babysitter, to finish the neighborhood on the Dead River Road and to check with the Farmer's Market where DENNIS DECHAIINE had his stand. It was also suggested that we check on Washington state and Oregon for DENNIS DECHAIINE'S background and the Madawaska area.

0744 - I received from CHRIS CROSMAN, dob 8/3/49 of RFD '2, Box 79, Topsham, Meadow Rd., Bowdoin, 666-3477, the following items:

One red hairbrush belonging to SARAH CHERRY

One sheet from SARAH's bed. It was advised that she slept with a sheet Monday and Tuesday night

OF INTERVIEW

MAINE STATE POLICE

IDENTITIES of VICTIM and her brothers excised

FORM 18-17

LAST NAME

Victims date of birth -

ADDRESS

EMPLOYER

PLACE OF INTERVIEW

SP Headquarters

(date of interview)

advised that the first time JASON had sex with her, was at Deer Run Estates in Palmyra. advised that she and JASON went to the estates to remove some personal property from the residence to bring to Woolwich. After the car was packed, JASON asked to go into the house to see if there was anything else that needed to be taken with them. When went into the house, JASON followed her, shut the door, and told that he needed her. At this time he started to undress her. screamed but due to the remoteness of the house, no one could hear her. JASON then forced her down onto the couch, took his penis, and penetrated her. After awhile JASON removed his penis from her and ejaculated into his hand. He told not to tell anyone or someone might get hurt.

stated that the next time they had sexual intercourse was at the boat house, which is the residence they live in now in Woolwich. JASON would make her two younger brothers, and stay upstairs while he would take onto the water bed in a bedroom downstairs and have sex with her. JASON would spit on his hand and apply it to her vagina and then penetrate her. Each time he would remove his penis from her vagina and ejaculate into his hand.

stated that these sexual incidents happened at least once a week during April and then in May JASON would do this same act on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. JASON would also fondle her buttocks as well as make her perform oral sex on him. JASON would not ejaculate in her mouth or vagina, always in his hand.

stated that JASON always tells her that he loves her and needs her while he's having sex with her. stated that she did not dare say anything due to the fact that JASON beats her mother and the younger boys, and.

stated that when she would get up in the morning that she would get completely dressed upstairs as quickly as possible in hopes that JASON would not bother her but every time JASON wanted sex he would send the two boys upstairs and tell to come down to make coffee or breakfast for the boys. He would then take her into the bedroom and have sex with her. stated that her brothers became suspicious due to the fact that when they came downstairs for breakfast, all they would have was a light breakfast like toast or dry cereal and they didn't understand what was going on.

advised that she just started having her periods about two months ago.

State Bureau of Identification

Maine State Police

Augusta, Maine

Name and Residence as Listed in SBI Files:

JASON EDGAR FICKETT
BRUNSWICK, MAINE

Date of Birth: 09-01-61 ALSO USES 09-01-64
Place of Birth: BRUNSWICK, MAINE
SBI NUMBER: K-6508
FBI NUMBER: 22 525 AA1

APR 21 2000

USE OF, ACCESS TO AND THE TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS SBI RECORD IS REGULATED BY LAW.

Dorothy Morang

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND CASE NUMBER	DATE ARRESTED	OFFENSE(S) CHARGED AND DATE	DISPOSITION AND DATE
*DISTRICT COURT SKOWHEGAN, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT.# 85-5102	PD FAIRFIELD, MAINE	06-24-85 NEGOTIATING A WORTHLESS INSTRUMENT 17-A MRSA §708	01-29-86 \$100.00 FINE.
*SUPERIOR COURT SKOWHEGAN, MAINE	JASON FICKETT DKT.# CR-88-719	MAINE STATE POLICE	09-25-86 & 09-01-87 1. & 2. RAPE 17-A MRSA §252	07-25-89 10 YEARS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, CONSECUTIVE TO SENTENCE NOW BEING SERVED, ALL SUSPENDED. 6 YEARS PROBATION.
*SUPERIOR COURT BATH, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT.# CR-88-213		BETWEEN 04-15-88 AND 06-10-88 GROSS SEXUAL MISCONDUCT CLASS A 17-A MRSA §253(1)(B)	03-31-1989 10 YEARS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ALL BUT 6 YEARS SUSPENDED, 6 YEARS PROBATION, TIME SERVED AT MAINE STATE PRISON. 02-14-1994 PROBATION VIOLATION 120 DAYS WITH CONDITIONS ADDED. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

It is understood that, owing to the fact that no fingerprints, SBI number or police number were received from you, this bureau cannot guarantee in any manner the identity of this record which is being furnished you in order that you may determine whether it pertains to the individual in whom you are interested.

* REPRESENTS NOTATIONS UNSUPPORTED BY FINGERPRINTS IN STATE BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION FILES

SBI record sheets do not include the following past or present offenses: Title 29 M.R.S.A., motor vehicle offenses (contact the Secretary of State Motor Vehicle Division for this information); Title 12 M.R.S.A., marine resources offenses (contact the Department of Marine Resources for this information); and Title 12 M.R.S.A., inland fish and wildlife offenses (contact the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for this information). Further, SBI record sheets do not include certain unrelated offenses reflecting conduct no longer treated in Maine as criminal. A list of such latter offenses is

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND CASE NO.	DATE ARRESTED	OFFENSE(S) CHARGED AND DATE	DISPOSITION AND DATE
*SUPERIOR COURT BATH, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT# CR-88-213			CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 11-15-95 PROBATION REVOCATION 3 YEARS AND 8 MONTHS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. PROBATION TO TERMINATE.
MAINE STATE PRISON BOX A THOMASTON, MAINE	JASON EDGAR FICKETT #18444	SO LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE	BETWEEN 04-15-88 AND 06-10-88 GROSS SEXUAL MISCONDUCT CLASS A 17-A MRSA §253 (1)(B)	RECEIVED 03-31-89 10 YEARS, ALL BUT 6 YEARS SUSPENDED, PROBATION 6 YEARS.
*SUPERIOR COURT BATH, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT.#CR93-357	SO SAGADAHOC COUNTY, MAINE	09-29-93 TERRORIZING, CLASS D 17-A MRSA §210	02-14-94 60 DAYS COUNTY JAIL, CONCURREN WITH PROBATION VIOLATION DKT.#88-213 AND CR93-358.
*SUPEIROR COURT BATH, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT.#CR93-358	SO SAGADAHOC COUNTY, MAINE	09-29-93 FURNISHING LIQUOR TO A MINOR, CLASS E T.28A MRSA §2081	02-14-94 60 DAYS COUNTY JAIL, CONCURREN WITH PROBATION VIOLATION DKT.#88-213 AND CR93-357.
*SUPERIOR COURT BATH, MAINE	JASON E. FICKETT DKT# CR-95-327	SO SAGADAHOC COUNTY, MAINE	08-11-95 1.UNLAWFUL TRAFFICKING IN SCHEDULED DRUGS CLASS B 17-A MRSA §1103 2.UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF SCHEDULED DRUGS CLASS C 17-A MRSA §1107	11-15-95 1. 10 YEARS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ALL BUT 6 YEARS SUSPENDED. PROBATION 6 YEARS. CONCURRENT WITH DKT# CR-88-213. \$1,100.00 FINE & FEES. \$50.00 VICTIM'S COMPENSATION FEE. 2. 5 YEARS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, CONCURREN.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND CASE NO.	DATE ARRESTED	OFFENS(S) CHARGED AND DATE	DISPOSITION AND DATE
<p>VE CORRECTIONAL CENTER WINDHA, MAINE</p>	<p>JASON EDGAR FICKETT #4389</p>	<p>SO SAGADAHOC COUNTY, MAINE</p>	<p>BETWEEN 04-15-88 AND 06-10-88 1. GROSS SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, CLASS A 17-A MRSA §253 08-11-95 2. UNLAWFUL TRAFFICKING IN SCHEDULED DRUGS CLASS B 17-A MRSA §1103 3. UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF SCHEDULED DRUGS CLASS C 17-A MRSA §1107</p>	<p>RECEIVED 11-15-95 1. REVOCATION OF PROBATION 3 YEARS AND 8 MONTHS. PROBATION TERMINATED. CONCURRENT WITH DKT# CR-95-327. DKT# CR-88-213 2. 10 YEARS, ALL BUT 6 YEARS SUSPENDED. CONCURRENT WITH DKT# CR-88-213. 3. 5 YEARS, CONCURRENT WITH COUNT 1. DKT# CR-95-327</p>

State of Maine

DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

M E M O R A N D U M

To: LIEUTENANT RICHARD ARNOLD
 From: FERNAND LAROCHELLE, Deputy A.G.
 Date: March 31, 1992
 Subject: EVIDENCE DISPOSAL

F.L.
disposition of property
To Incinerator 6-18-92
Widow

The following is a list of cases in which the evidence in your possession can be disposed. Money and other valuables should be returned to the owner (unless ownership is contested, e.g., Sylvia Howe) and firearms should be returned to the owner (if not a convicted criminal) or otherwise appropriately disposed of if the owner cannot be found or cannot receive the weapon:

✓ DAWN DENNY and EVELYN MEYER	L 87-269	Sanford
✓ DAVID PHILLIPS	L 88-141	Phillips
✓ VERA MORIN	L 88-163	Westfield
✓ SARAH CHERRY	L 88-309	Bowdoin <i>Wallet + Papers (P)?</i>
✓ DAVID PAYNE	L 88-329	Lewiston <i>Wallet (P)?</i>
✓ THANE POWELL	L 88-353	Bar Harbor
✓ HARRIS STOCKMAN	L 88-487	Limington
✓ JESSICA WOODLEY	L 88-488	OOB
✓ KIMBERLY SHRIVER and CHRISTOPHER GRESKA	L 88-518	Bethel
✓ EDMOND ST. PETER	L 88-614	Presque Isle
✓ PRISCILLA DICKERMAN	L 89-45	Cornish
✓ CHARLOTTE THOMPSON	L 89-54	Winthrop
✓ GEFREY HART	L 89-136	Mars Hill
✓ GILES LANDRY/DAVID GROVER	L 89-142	Leeds <i>Money F.P.N</i>
✓ SYLVIA HOWE	L 89-151	Augusta <i>Money F.P.N</i>
✓ JAMES SWAN	L 89-167	Lyman

1 perhaps should not do that. Considering the mess in that
2 truck, nobody can say for certain what movement of papers
3 there might have been, both at the Henkel residence and in
4 towing the truck to Augusta from Bowdoin.

5 There is no evidence, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury,
6 in this case of an alternative perpetrator. There is only
7 the sheerest of speculation. Your duty is not to decide this
8 case on speculation but on the evidence. Dr. Roy did not say
9 anything about the feet except that they are a moot point.
10 It is then pointed out that by Mr. Connolly that there were
11 other trucks, red trucks in the area; one of which, although
12 he did not specifically mention the name, was that seen by
13 Gary Jasper who testified. The only thing I can say about
14 Gary Jasper is that he's hopelessly confused. What he told
15 you was he saw a truck earlier in the afternoon on the Dead
16 River Road which was the same truck that was later stopped on
17 the Meadow Road in Bowdoin. You've got the radio log and
18 what you will see is that the tag number of the red truck
19 later stopped. James Boudin does not have the same tag
20 number as the defendant's truck. He's just hopelessly
21 confused.

22 The point in sum and substance is that Dennis Dechaine
23 is just a gentle Bowdoinham farmer with a character flaw of
24 drugs. That's not it at all. His character flaw is that
25 he's a far different person than he portrays himself to be.

TRIAL AND ERROR P.O.
Box 153 Madawaska, ME
04756

June 2004

William Stokes
Deputy Attorney General
State House Station
Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Mr. Stokes:

On September 1, 1994, there was a meeting about the Dennis Dechaine case with Attorney General Mike Carpenter, Assistant Attorney General Eric Wright and Phil Dechaine, Don Dechaine, Senator Judy Paradis, Representative Doug Ahearn, his father, Dan Ahearn, and Carol Waltman.

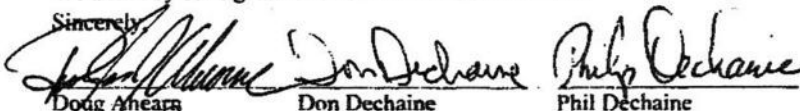
At that meeting, many aspects of the arrest, trial, conviction and imprisonment of Dennis Dechaine were discussed, but two are presented here for your consideration.

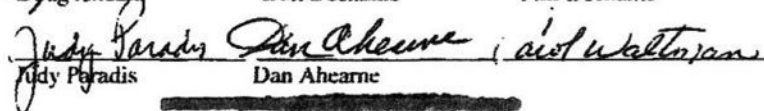
We requested several documents and at the top of the list were the handwritten notes of Mark Westnim, which he referenced at the trial. We were told by Eric Wright that those notes were "unavailable". [As we now know, with the August, 2003 opening of the files to the public, those notes were faxed by Mark Westrum to Eric Wright on the same day. In those notes, Mark Westnim recorded "How could I kill her?" with the words "How could" crossed out and replaced with "Why did".]

Toward the close of the meeting, we were told by Eric Wright that Dennis had confessed to the state psychologists and that the confession was recorded on videotape. Judy Paradis's strong recollection is that Eric Wright made that statement while looking directly into her eyes. After this shocking revelation, the meeting adjourned with Dennis' supporters and brother severely shaken by this seemingly authoritative representation by Eric Wright. [To our current understanding, no statements by Dennis on the tape, also made available in August, 2003, of his interviews with the psychologists come close to a confession.] When asked for a copy of the tape, Eric Wright replied, "Ask the defense lawyer for one".

We affirm by our signatures below the truths stated above.

Sincerely,


Doug Ahearn Don Dechaine Phil Dechaine


Judy Paradis Dan Ahearn

