



## Memorandum of Interview

**Date:** August 26, 2015

**Time:** 17:10 - 17:45 hours

**Person Interviewed:** Ted D. Ritchie

**Interviewer:** Jack L. Barnhart

### **Details:**

On the above time and date, Reporting Investigator interviewed Ted D. Ritchie at Ritchie's residence in Nicholasville, Kentucky. The purpose of the interview was to obtain detailed information regarding Ritchie's recall of the events of 02/05/1982 in Moraine, Ohio, and his testimony at Wampler's trial. At the time of David Rowell's murder, Ritchie was in Moraine residing with his mother at Gordon's Trailer Park. Ritchie's actual residence was in Orlando, Florida. Ritchie was in Moraine for his brother's funeral. Ritchie's brother committed suicide one month prior to David Rowell's murder.

Ritchie said that he met Mike Johnson sometime in January 1982, while he was residing with his mother. Ritchie said that he really did not know Johnson that well. Ritchie stated that he hung out with Johnson a few times.

Ritchie stated that he did not meet Wampler until the evening of 02/05/1982. Ritchie described Wampler as "quiet" and "not outgoing."

Ritchie described the events of 02/05/1982. According to Ritchie, Johnson and he went to Wampler's residence in Gem City Estates Trailer Park. Ritchie said that another teenager was present when they arrived. Ritchie stated that all of the individuals drank beer and smoked marijuana. Ritchie said that he needed to use the

bathroom and Wampler showed him to the bathroom. Ritchie stated that trailer had two bedrooms and a bathroom between them. Ritchie said that he noticed the door closed to the bedroom at the end of the hallway and did not think anything about it. Ritchie stated that Johnson and he stayed at Wampler's residence for about two hours and Ritchie did not notice anything unusual.

Ritchie said that from there they walked to Kreitzer Road, towards the Moraine Civic Center, then between the Civic Center and the school to Johnson's friend's house. Ritchie could not remember the name of the friend. When asked if it could be Andrew Choate, Ritchie said it was possible. Ritchie said that Johnson and he remained at this location for almost an hour. Ritchie said that Johnson was into knives and that Johnson and his friend was playing with knives while they were there.

Ritchie stated that when Johnson and he left the friend's residence, they returned to the area around Gem City Estates Trailer Park. Ritchie said that is when they went their separate ways. Ritchie did not know where Johnson went, but Ritchie went to Judy Tabor's residence. Ritchie said that Tabor was one of Johnson's relatives. Ritchie stated that from Tabor's he went home. Ritchie could not remember if he returned to Tabor's residence or not. Ritchie said that he did not see Johnson or Wampler for the rest of the evening or the next morning.

Ritchie said that he believes Johnson wore some kind of boots that evening, but cannot recall what kind.

Ritchie stated that he cannot give an opinion as to whether or not Johnson or Wampler was capable of committing this type of crime. Ritchie said that he only knew Johnson for approximately a month prior to this crime and he only knew Wampler for two hours.

Reporting Investigator asked Ritchie about the police report that claimed Johnson, VICTIM and he were seen on Kreitzer Road at 19:00 hours on 02/05/1982. Ritchie stated that was a false report. Ritchie said he never met VICTIM or his family until the trial when he met Mike Rowell. Ritchie stated that the Rowell family and he were staying in the same hotel and were there to testify at Wampler's trial.

Ritchie stated that he was questioned by Moraine Police, but could not remember the detective's name, and took a polygraph examination.

Ritchie said that the prosecution convinced him that VICTIM was in Wampler's residence the whole time and as a result, Ritchie has dealt with guilt of not doing something to prevent this. Ritchie said that he did not sense anything usual at Wampler's trailer.

Ritchie said that he is willing to provide DNA, fingerprints or anything else that will assist in this investigation. Ritchie stated that if Wampler did not commit this crime, then he must be set free and focus must be on locating and bringing to justice VICTIM's murderer.

The interview ended under favorable conditions.

**Investigator's Note: Ritchie's recall of the events on 02/05/1982 appeared to be accurate. Ritchie appeared to be genuine in his responses to questions. Ritchie claimed that this case has bothered him for the past 33 years and is willing to help. Reporting Investigator believes Ritchie was honest and forthright during the interview.**