

Affidavit of Richard Altpater

I, Richard Altpater, state under oath and penalty of perjury that the following statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

1. My name is Richard Altpater.
2. My date of birth is March 7, 1959.
3. In the early 1990's, I was good friends with Stanley Jalowiec. As friends, we hung out a lot together. We often rode our bikes together.
4. I recall hearing about the Ron Lally murder in 1994. I was shocked when I heard Stan's name involved in the case. Stan was not the kind of guy to get involved in something like that.
5. After I heard about the Lally murder, I asked Stan numerous times what he knew about it. Stan always told me that he didn't know anything about the murder. Stan has always maintained that he was innocent and had absolutely no involvement in the murder of Ron Lally.
6. Detective Leiby contacted me several times during the police investigation of Lally's death. One time, I recall that Leiby caught me either coming or going from Corrine Fike's house. He told me to come down the street. Leiby wanted to know who was in the house and what I was doing there. I told him that we were just playing pool in the house. Leiby stated that the house was under investigation because the car was used in a murder. I told him that I heard about that. Leiby told me that he knew that Danny paid for someone to kill Lally. Leiby basically said that when he gets Danny charged with murder it would be his last 'hurrah'. I told Leiby that I didn't believe him. I then went back to the house and played pool.
7. Corrine had a similar experience with Leiby that day. Corrine was crying after she met with Leiby down the street. Corrine was crying because Leiby had threatened to charge her as an accessory to the murder because her car was used in it. Leiby also threatened to take Corrine's car from her. She was incredibly upset.
8. Danny Smith and Corrine Fike were more than just friends. In fact, I recall that Danny and Corrine hooked up several times. I also recall that Danny Smith used to give Corrine drugs in exchange for using her car. This happened frequently.

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9. Another time, I spoke with Leiby on the phone. He told me to come down to the police station in order to give him a statement. I went into a room with Leiby. There was no one else there. Leiby told me he was going to record it. In fact, a recorder was on the table. Leiby asked me some questions about the case and at some point he turned the recorder off. Leiby then told me that this was off the record and said he could get my case dropped if I told him that "Danny offered to pay me to kill Lally." I told Leiby that that was not true and that I was not going to lie. I told him that Danny offered to pay me in order to get him on a bus out of town. Leiby didn't want to hear it. Leiby kept trying to force me to say that Danny offered to pay me for killing Lally.
10. A short time later, Leiby showed up at my house. I recall him pulling up in my driveway. Leiby motioned for me to come outside. I stood outside the car, by the driver-side door. Leiby asked me if I was ready to talk. Leiby then said "tell me what I want to hear and I will get your drug case dropped for you." I told Leiby to get out of my driveway. I then went back inside my house.
11. Leiby questioned me several times about the offense. At the time of the interviews, I had a drug related charge pending against me. Detective Leiby attempted to use the pending drug charge as leverage against me. Leiby showed little interest in the truth. He didn't want to know what I actually knew about the case. Instead, Leiby was only interested in what he wanted to hear.
12. I had a similar experience with Prosecutor Rosenbaum and his office. I recall being subpoenaed to the Lorain County Courthouse to testify at one of the trials regarding the Lally murder. For the majority of the time I was sitting in the outside hallway. At some point, Leiby and Rosenbaum came and got me. They brought me into an empty room in the courthouse where we discussed my possible testimony. Rosenbaum said that I was brought in as a defense witness, but that he was going to put me on the stand first. He then said that "this is what I want you to say." He wanted me to say that Danny offered me money to kill Lally. I told him that was not what happened. I told Rosenbaum that I already told Leiby previously that Danny never asked me to kill Lally. I told him that when I got on the stand, I was going to tell the Judge that Mr. Rosenbaum told me to lie on the stand. Rosenbaum then told me that I wasn't allowed to go into the courtroom. I sat out in the hallway for the rest of the time.
13. Both Rosenbaum and Leiby were pushing me to testify a certain way. They were both telling me what they wanted me to say on the witness stand. I told them that I would not lie. I told them that I would go up there and tell the truth. They were both very upset with my refusal to lie for them on the stand.

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14. I am giving this statement of my own free will. This statement is the truth to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have not been coerced nor promised anything in exchange for this statement. If called upon to testify, I could do so competently.

Name:

Richard Altwater

Date:

5-25-12

Richard Altwater

Sworn and subscribed in my presence this 25 day of MAY, 2012.

Gerald Mielcarek

NOTARY PUBLIC

