

2008-93435
Homicide
8-13-08/ 1149 hours
1300 W. Capitol, LR AR
Vic: William Gwatney
Sus: Timothy Johnson

On August 13, 2008 at approximately 1149 hours Officers of the LRPD responded to a shooting just occurred at 1300 W. Capitol (Arkansas Democratic Headquarters). Upon arrival to the location Officers secured the building where they found William Gwatney (Chairman) suffering from multiple GSW's to the head and right arm. Memos transported Mr. Gwatney to UAMS for treatment to his life threatening injuries. The scene was secured and Detectives and CSSU were called out to investigate the shooting.

Sgt. Bethell arrived on scene obtained suspect information from witnesses and made visual contact with the suspect in the area of Capitol and Arch. The suspect was pointed out to be driving a Blue Dodge Pickup bearing Arkansas LPN 10ALL. Sgt. Bethell and several other supporting patrol units engaged the Blue Dodge. The driver of the Blue Dodge believed to be Timothy Johnson at this time refused to stop for Officers. Officers pursued this vehicle into Grant County where the driver (Timothy Johnson) was fatally shot. The LPN to the Blue Dodge Pickup returned to Mr. Johnson. (For details of pursuit see ASP case number CID-C-04882-08.)

While receiving medical treatment at UAMS Dr. Liebovitch found a projectile inside the clothing of Mr. Gwatney. This projectile, along with other personal property was given to Det. Simpson and stored in the property room. Mr. Gwatney was not expected to survive his injuries. At 1559 hours Dr. Jenson pronounced the death of Mr. Gwatney. The Pulaski County Coroner responded to UAMS and transported Mr. Gwatney's body to the ASCL for autopsy.

Death notification was made to the victim's wife, Rebecca Gwatney. She was present at the hospital at the victim's time of death.

Witnesses at the scene were interviewed and those with direct information were transported to the Detective Office for interviewing. Below is an account of their statements.

Contact was made with Amy Bell who is employed with the Arkansas Democratic Headquarters. She was present at the time of the shooting. In her statement to Detectives she advised that she was present inside the office when Sam walked in and told them that a Mr. Tim Johnson was out front wishing to speak with Chairman Gwatney. She then asked Mr. Gwatney if he knew the subject. He advised no that he did not and continued on with paperwork. She went out front in the lobby and made contact with Mr. Johnson. Johnson told her that he needed to speak with the Chairman about problems in White County. She advised him that he needed to speak with the Chairman of that particular county first. She then handed him some Obama campaign material. She thought he was

) going to leave when he stood up but he began to walk towards the Chairman's Office. When he entered the Office Johnson pulled a gun from his pocket and fired several shots at Mr. Gwatney. Bell then ran from the building. She identified Johnson from a photo spread. She knew of hate mail that had been sent in reference to Obama. She did not know of anything as serious as this.

Contact was made with Victoria Adams who is employed with the Young Democratic Office. She was present at the Party Headquarters when she heard several shots from inside the building. After hearing the shots she and others in the office hid under their desk. She observed staff members running out of the building and soon heard a Peter Grumbles knocking at the door. She remained under the desk until Officers arrived. Mrs. Adams was unable to identify the subject that was shooting.

Contact is also made with Gary Moody who is also employed at the Democratic Headquarters. He advised that he was at the headquarters at the time of the shooting. Mr. Moody was inside his office along with interns Tori and Cody when the shots rang out. He then heard people screaming at which time he and the interns hid under their desk. He called 911 and reported that he had heard gunshots coming from inside the business. Peter Grumbles had come by his office and told them that they could go out back to where it was safe. As they began to exit the building he could hear Mr. Grumbles say that someone was hurt. He looked into Mr. Gwatney's office where he observed the Chairman lying on the floor suffering from GSW's. They called 911 and waited for emergency personnel to arrive. Mr. Moody advised that he did not get a look at the subject who shot Mr. Gwatney.

Contact is made with David Huggs. Mr. Huggs is employed with the Capitol Police. Huggs advised that he was flagged down by a subject who told him that a W/M had shot a man and taken off down Capitol Street in a Blue Pickup. At around this same time LRPD Officers began to arrive on scene. Huggs and the LR Officer cleared the Democratic Headquarters building. While clearing the building they observed Mr. Gwatney injured and holding his chest. Gwatney was unable to speak and they advised him that help was on the way while continuing to clear the building. After securing the building he observed Mems working on Gwatney. Huggs remained at the scene until he was relieved to come to the Detective Division.

Contact is made with Hanna Hatta. Mrs. Hatta is employed at the Democratic Headquarters. Hatta advised that she and Mr. Gwatney were inside his Office signing paperwork an intern walked in and told Mr. Gwatney that a Tim Johnson was there to speak with him. Amy Bell who was also inside the Office went to see what Mr. Johnson wanted. A short time later Johnson appeared inside the doorway of Gwatney's Office and introduced himself. She looked over at Gwatney to see his reaction at which time she heard a single gunshot, a pause then 2 more gunshots. After the third gunshot she ran through Amy's office and told Direnda to call 911. Hatta advised that she also called 911. Hatta believed that Amy was standing behind Johnson when he fired the shots. Hatta was unable to say for sure that she saw Johnson with a gun but recalled seeing him with Obama material that was given to him at the front desk. She positively identified Johnson from a photo spread. Hatta advised that she had never seen Johnson before

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and did not know of any threats that had been made against the Chairman. Detectives viewed the paperwork in which the Chairman was signing at the time of the shooting. Nothing was noted of evidentiary value. Hatta also believed that the Chairman responded back to Johnson but was unsure of what was said.

Contact is made with Peter Grumbles. Grumbles is also employed at the Democratic Headquarters. Grumbles advised that he was inside his office when he heard approximately 3 shots, a pause, then another single shot. He observed Amy Bell running out the back exit and screams coming from inside the office. Grumbles then locked his door and waited a few minutes before exiting towards the back exit. Outside he made contact with Direda Sharp who advised him that she was told to call 911. Grumbles went back inside the building and began telling coworkers to exit out the back of the building. Upon entering the Gwatney's office he observed the Chairman suffering from GSW's to his upper body. Grumbles called his wife Clare Ellender (Arkansas Children's Hospital) who instructed him over the phone on life saving techniques for Mr. Gwatney. Grumbles also called 911 from the conference room phone. Grumbles further advised that he never saw the suspect. Grumbles was also unaware of any threats against Mr. Gwatney.

Contact is made with Keith Rancifer. Rancifer is also employed at the Democratic Headquarters. Rancifer advised that he was just outside the Chairman's office when he observed Johnson come into the building and ask for Mr. Gwatney. He also witnesses Johnson walk at a hurried pace towards the Chairman's Office, enter the Office and shut the door. He observes Amy the receptionist open the door behind Johnson. It is at this time that Rancifer observes Johnson with a revolver and the actual shooting of Mr. Gwatney. Rancifer could not advise if Johnson said anything to Mr. Gwatney. Rancifer leaves out the building at which time Rancifer hears what he believes is another shot. As Rancifer is fleeing from the building he advises that Johnson is behind him and he observes Johnson point the gun at him. Rancifer continues to run from the location and he hears 2 more shots. Rancifer identifies Johnson from a photo spread.

Contact is made with Sam Higginbotham. Higginbotham is an intern for the Democratic Headquarters. He advised that he was volunteering at the location when Johnson walked in. He greeted Johnson and Johnson asked to speak with Mr. Gwatney. He told Johnson that Mr. Gwatney was in a meeting. Higginbotham told Johnson that he would try and find someone to help him. He knocked on the Chairman's door and Amy answered. He told her that Tim Johnson was out front wishing to speak with Mr. Gwatney. Amy then went to the front reception area where she spoke with Johnson. Johnson advised her that he was interested in volunteering and was given some materials. Johnson then stood up and began walking towards the Chairman's Office door. He observed Johnson walk into the Chairman's Office and then looked at Amy. As he and Amy began to walk towards the Chairman's Office he heard 3 shots, a short pause, and then 2 more shots. Donnell Meadows told him to run at which time Higginbotham ran behind Meadows. As Higginbotham was fleeing the Headquarters he observed Johnson running behind them with the revolver. He did not believe that Johnson was chasing after them. He waited until police arrived down the

street from the Headquarters. Higginbotham had only worked for the Headquarters for 3 days and did not recall seeing Johnson before.

Contact is made with Cody Bassham. This was Mr. Bassham's first day working for the Democratic Headquarters. In his statement he advised that he was in the office with Gary Moody and Tori Adams when he heard what sounded like one shot. He remembered a short pause then 3-4 more shots. He and the others in the office got under the desk and waited a few until Mr. Grumbles knocked on the door. He recalled Mr. Moody calling 911 and someone saying that Mr. Gwatney had been shot. Prior to the shooting he recalled Amy talking with someone about volunteering at a local committee. He did not recall seeing Johnson inside the Headquarters.

Contact is made with Darinda Sharp. She is also employed with the Democratic Headquarters. Mrs. Sharp advised that she was working in her office when she heard gunshots. She believed 2 or 3 then a pause then 1 or 2 more. She then heard a lot of screaming and observed Mariah walking through the office. Mariah told her to call 911. She never saw anyone with a gun inside the Headquarters. She did not know Mr. Gwatney was there because he usually comes in for a couple of hours and sometimes works half a day. Mr. Gwatney was never set on a time table as to when he would be in the office.

Contact was made with Matthew Welch. Mr. Welch advised that he is employed in the Victory building where he was located at the time of the shooting. Mr. Welch was inside the building looking towards the direction of the Democratic Headquarters building. He observed people running from the building and also observed a W/M described as Johnson walking behind the group. He observed the W/M running with a Grey object in his hand but he could not positively identify if it was a gun or not. He then observed the W/M get inside a Blue Truck and drive off. Mr. Welch advised that he believed he could not identify the suspect.

Contact is made with Linda Miller. Mrs. Miller is employed at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention building. In her statement she advised that she was working as a receptionist this date when Johnson entered the building looking lost. Miller advised that she asked him if he needed assistance and that he told her that he needed help. Johnson would not provide her with the type of help he asked for but just stated that he needed help. Miller called for her boss, Kirby Martin and told him that she needed help at the receptionist desk. When Miller turned around to speak to Johnson she observed him walking around the corner. She then informed Martin of the direction in which she observed Johnson walking last. A few seconds past and Martin advised her to call 911. She also overheard Dan telling 911 that there was a subject with a gun inside the building. She described Johnson as appearing distraught. Miller identified Johnson from a photo spread. She also recalled seeing an automatic pistol sticking out of the rear waistband of Johnson's pants. Martin along with Dan Thorton escorted Johnson out of the building. Miller also believed that Johnson might have spoken to others inside the building.

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Contact is made with Kirby Martin. Mr. Martin is employed at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention building. Martin advised that he was working at the location around noon when Linda Miller called him and asked him to come downstairs to help her. He walked to her desk in the receptionist area and made contact with Miller. She pointed around the corner and stated that he went that way. Miller then stated to Martin that he (Johnson) had gone up stairs. Martin ran up the stairwell reaching the top where he ran into Johnson who was pointing a gun at him. Martin ran back down the stairs and told Miller to call 911. He then took the elevator back up to the top where upon opening the door he again ran into Johnson. At this time he did not see Johnson with a gun but did notice that his hands were behind his back the entire time. He rode the elevator downstairs with Johnson asking Johnson if he needed assistance. Johnson replied "I've just lost my job" and walked out of the business. He followed Johnson who he observed walking out of the building and getting into a Blue Dodge Dakota Truck. At this same time Martin also observed a LRPD patrol (Sgt. Bethell) car pull up and told him what happened. He pointed out the vehicle to the Officer. Martin described the gun as being a silver semiautomatic.

Positive identification was made of Timothy Johnson as the person that shot Mr. Gwatney through Witness interviews and evidence gathered at the scene of the shooting in Grant County.

Detectives began to look into any connection or motive as to why Mr. Johnson would have wanted to shoot and kill Mr. Gwatney.

On August 13, 2008 at approximately 1735 hours Sgt. John Bishop of the ASP made next of kin notification to Janice Peacock. Mrs. Peacock is Mr. Johnson's sister. Peacock advised ASP investigators that she did not know why her brother would have wanted to shoot and kill Mr. Gwatney. She further advised that she had figured investigators were coming to tell her that her brother had committed suicide.

At approximately 1635 hours Detectives of the LRPD along with assistance from other agencies conducted a search warrant of Mr. Johnson residence located at 128 Janet Lane, Searcy Arkansas. Entrance was gained through the front window of the residence. Upon entering the residence, detectives observed a sticky note with the name "Gwatney" and a phone number on the wall next to the kitchen table. Several thousand rounds of various caliber of ammunition were located in the northwest bedroom. Smaller amounts of ammunition were located in various other parts of the residence. A safe was also located inside the residence which contained several rifles and a last will and testament. Also inside the safe were 2 key rings with the name of Gwatney Chevrolet printed on them. These items were processed by CSSU technicians and stored in the LRPD property room. Detectives did not locate any thing that directly linked Mr. Johnson to Mr. Gwatney. The residence was secured and Mr. Johnson's family notified of the conclusion of the warrant. A property receipt was also left at the residence. Detectives also located 2 pawnshop receipts from a local pawn shop in which Mr. Johnson pawned a Browning .22 automatic and a Winchester 12 gauge shotgun. The 12 gauge shot gun was recovered at the house along with a Browning .22.

According to paperwork located at the residence the Browning was picked up by Mr. Johnson on the morning of August 13, 2008.

The phone number (681-1466) recovered at the Johnson residence returned to Gwatney Towing Company in Jacksonville Arkansas. This number has not been in use for the past 5-7 years and the company itself is no longer in service. Gwatney Collision repair is the new service and using an entirely new number. The other numbers on the paper were to other local towing companies in the area.

Detectives also made contact with Jamie Cobbs who is the general manager of Gwatney Chevrolet. A search was conducted with Mr. Gwatney's businesses to cross reference the name of Timothy Johnson. This search netted negative results. Both a search of computer records and hard copy files were searched.

Contact was made with Jessica Brewer who is the niece of Mr. Johnson. According to Brewer she would usually only see her Uncle on holidays. She knew that his parents had passed away 2 years ago. She also knew that Johnson had worked at Target in Conway. She last spoke to her Uncle around Christmas of 2007. She knew her Uncle to have a lot of guns but figured they were for hunting. She also thought he suffered from some mental disorder but could not elaborate. She was advised to secure the Johnson residence after Detectives left.

LRPD Detectives make contact with Jessie Raney who identified herself as one of Mr. Johnson's sisters. In her taped statement he advised Detectives that she and her other siblings had pretty much a normal childhood growing up on a farm around the Searcy area. She had last spoke to her brother approximately 1 year ago when she had asked him if she could move in with him because she was in need of help. He had told her no and they since had not really talked. She did recall that when there parents died several years ago that Tim had taken it pretty hard. He had pretty much relied on his parents to take care of him his entire life. She did not know her brother to have any violent tendencies or mental problems.

Preliminary Autopsy

On August 14, 2008 Detectives attended the autopsies of Gwatney and Johnson at the ASCL

Mr. Gwatney's autopsy initially revealed that he had suffered from 3 GSW's. The first GSW entered his right arm where the projectile remained. The second also entered the right arm exiting and grazed across the right front part of the chest. The third and fatal GSW entered the right side of the head and remained lodged at the top of the head. Mr. Gwatney also had minor abrasions to various parts of his body which were consistent with falling after being shot.

Mr. Johnson had a total of 6 GSW's to various parts of his body. The lethal wound was the GSW to the head. A pistol holster was removed from the back of Mr. Johnson's waistband.

There was evidence of medical intervention to both Mr. Gwatney and Johnson present at both autopsies.

Follow up Investigation contacts/ leads

On August 14, 2008 Detectives responded back out to Arkansas Baptist Convention Center at the request of Kirby Martin. Mr. Martin gave Detectives 3 .38 shell casings in which he advised were found on the parking lot of the business. Mr. Martin advised that this was the same area in which he observed Johnson getting into his vehicle and fleeing the scene prior to police arrival.

On August 15, 2008 LRPD Detectives made contact with Janice Peacock. She advised in her taped statement that Timothy had a normal childhood for the most part. She knew he was a very smart kid and usually got A's and B's. She could not think of anything in his childhood that would have caused him to do such a thing. Her parents bought Timothy a house in Conway Arkansas in which they sold when their parents got sick. Timothy had moved back to Searcy to take care of his parents where he remained until this date. During the time of taking care of his parents he did not work. When their mother died Timothy took the death hard because he was present at the house when she passed. When their father took ill Timothy would not visit him in the hospital because of that reason. During this time Timothy developed anxiety attacks and went to a local doctor for medication. When asked about political views she advised that Timothy's views were not much different from many others. She knew that he normally voted Democrat and would watch the news to keep up with current events. She could provide no insight as to why her brother would kill Mr. Gwatney. She did not know of any direct relation between her brother and Mr. Gwatney. She did advise that she knew her brother was somewhat depressed and thought that he was suicidal. She believed that her brother had also been having financial problems because he asked to borrow several hundred dollars to pay for tuition for school. He had pawned some guns to pay for it and asked her for the money to get the guns out of pawn. (See educational history, and pawn shop information)

On August 20, 2008 Contact is made with Russell Gwatney. He advised that neither he nor any of his family members knew Mr. Johnson. He advised that if anyone knew of the relation between his brother and Mr. Johnson would be Jamie Cobb. Mr. Gwatney felt that the shooting could possibly have been related to the elections in White County. If any further information about Gwatney was needed he directed Detectives to speak with Donell Meadows.

Last Calls

Detectives went over the last phone calls in Mr. Gwatney's phone. Below is a summary of those interviews.

Contact was made with Mike Roe who advised that he and Mr. Gwatney were golf buddies. He had last spoke to Gwatney that morning when Bill told him he had to cancel their golf game for that afternoon. Bill had told him that he and his wife were preparing to leave for an out of town trip.

Colleen Black advised that she had called Mr. Gwatney as a direct contact to Governor Beebe. She had asked Gwatney for help in a family member's case in which they were seeking a pardon from the Governor for the family member. According to Black, Bill was a close friend of hers and was directing her on what she needed to do.

Dusty Maxwell advised that he left a message for Mr. Gwatney in reference to Mrs. Black. He further stated that he had been in contact about the same thing Mrs. Black was inquiring about and just wanted to make sure that they were in contact with each other.

Gary Hogan advised that he and Bill Gwatney were good friends and that Bill helped out the UALR athletic program with vehicles. He had an autographed basketball that he needed to give to Mr. Gwatney.

On August 22, 2008 contact is made with Rebecca Gwatney (wife). She could provide no reasoning as to why Mr. Johnson would have wanted to kill her husband. She advised she did not know Mr. Johnson and that Bill had not told her of any threats that were made against him. She did not know that he was going into the Office that day because he had made plans to go to the dealership, then hair appointment, and then was to have been coming home to pack. He later called her on the way to the Democratic Office and told her that he was stopping by to sign some paperwork. She knew that there was fund raiser in Searcy but Bill was not going. She knew that Bill was not liked by several politicians in the state but did not think that issues were serious enough for someone to have him killed. Mrs. Gwatney could provide no insight to why her husband was killed. She could not provide any direct link between her husband and Mr. Johnson.

Contact was made with Donnell Meadows. He advised that on the day of the incident he had been told that a shooting had just occurred at the Headquarters. He flagged down a Deputy Sheriff driving an unmarked car and wearing civilian clothing and told them what had just happened. He was told that the suspect vehicle was parked on Victory Street in front of the Arkansas Press Association. Meadows could provide no link between Mr. Gwatney and Johnson.

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Contact was made with Christy Raney who is the owner of The Villa Salon in Cabot Arkansas. She advised that on the day of the incident Mr. Johnson had come into the business and asked about Kristy who was one of her employee's. Kristy had cut Mr. Johnson's hair on several occasions. She believed that he had been coming into the Salon for approximately 1 to 2 years. When he came in on August 12, 2008 she knew that something was wrong because he had never just dropped in. When he came in he asked them how Kristy was doing and if she had the baby. They told him that she was out on maternity leave and that she was doing fine. He left out without saying another word. Later on that evening Kristy called her and asked if she had seen what Mr. Johnson had done. That was the first Raney had heard about it. She further advised that Brooke Robertson was also present when Johnson came in. She described Johnson as being weird and that he would sometimes show up 45 minutes before his scheduled appointment. Johnson would never speak with anyone else in the Salon other than Kristy.

Contact was made with Brook Robertson. She advised that she was working on the day Mr. Johnson came into the Salon asking about Kristy. She advised that between 1045 and 1110 Mr. Johnson came into the Salon and asked if Kristy had her baby. They told him no and he just left. She thought it was strange because he had never done that and that he had kept his hands in his pockets the entire time.

Events leading up to Johnson fatally shooting Gwatney

Detectives learned early in the investigation that Mr. Johnson had been involved in an incident at the Conway Target Store early in the morning on August 13, 2008. Johnson had been identified as leaving graffiti on a wall inside the store in reference to dumb jocks and cheerleaders. Below is an account of the incident. (Photos of the graffiti, Johnson are also contained in the file.)

Contact is made with Tammy Goudie on August 14th, and 25th, 2008. In her taped statement to Detectives she revealed the following. Goudie had meet Johnson there at Target in 2006. She did not communicate with Johnson on a regular basis until approximately 1 ½ months before the shooting. She described their relationship to only be friends and nothing ever sexual. Johnson had asked her out on several dates be she never gave him a definite answer of yes or no. She advised that they very seldom talked and that she felt she could not provide much information. However pretty much every night Johnson would send her a text message telling her good night. She recalled towards the end of July Johnson had begun to ask her to marry him so that he could take care of her and her son. She never declined the proposal but never accepted either.

On August 12, 2008 she recalled leaving the doctors office and going to Target to do some shopping. She advised that she had spoken to Johnson and told him that she was at the doctor's office with her son and that she was heading to Target afterwards. She denied telling him to meet her there. She advised that when she arrived at Target she found Johnson waiting for her at the store. She claims that this was a complete surprise to her. While she and her son shopped around the store Johnson sort of tagged along talking with her. Mainly asking how was she doing and so forth. She further advised that she began to check out and that Johnson just left out the store. She further

advised that after checking out she went to lunch with her live in boyfriend Gary Kellar. Kellar is a team leader for the Target Store. She advised that she never told Johnson that she had a boyfriend but that she just assumed he knew since others in the store might have known. After eating lunch with Kellar she advised she exited the store and began to walk towards her vehicle when she was approached by Johnson who had been waiting for her. She advised that Johnson seemed upset at this time. Johnson demanded to know what she wanted him to do about their relationship. She advised that she told him to just go home. She became spooked of Johnson at the time and waited for him to leave the parking lot before she would leave. She did this so he could not follow her. She went home afterwards and did not think anything else of it. Around midnight the next evening (Wednesday morning) she received a text from Johnson telling her again to have a good night and that he would see her in the morning at work.

On August 13, 2008 she arrived at work at approximately 0630 hours. She stated that as soon as she walked in other workers pulled her aside and told her what had happened. Management held a meeting and asked if anyone had information about Johnson. It was at this time she told them about Johnson's behavior. Johnson was escorted off property and she remained at work while 2 male co-workers watched over her. She claims to have immediately changed her cell phone number that morning.

Goudie denied every being a cheerleader in high school or college. She believed that Kellar might have played football in college. She could provide no direct link between Mr. Gwatney and Mr. Johnson but felt somewhat to blame for Johnson's actions.

Contact was made with Gary Kellar via telephone conversation August 25, 2008. Kellar advised Detectives that he was a team leader at the Target Store and that he knew of Mr. Johnson. He advised that he never had any problems with Mr. Johnson and only thought he and Goudie were friends.

Contact is made with Brenda Morgan who is also employed at Target. She was interviewed on August 15th, and 25th, 2008. In her interviews with Detectives she advised that she worked with Mr. Johnson for several years. On August 13, 2008 she received a phone call from Johnson that morning around 1015 or 1030. Johnson had called her and said "Brenda, I really need..." at which time she cut him off and told him that he would have to call her back at a later time. She then hung up the phone. She knew that he had spoken about political issues in the state but she described them to not be of radical nature. She recalled some legislation that had been passed some several months ago but did not know for sure what it was but knew that it had bothered Johnson. She could not provide anything that directly linked Mr. Johnson to Mr. Gwatney. She did not know him to have any problems with any political figures. The only conversation she recalled them having about Gwatney was about a used car in which she bought several years ago from the dealership. Mrs. Morgan advised that she only figured that Johnson felt his life was over after the incident at Target. She felt that the job was pretty much his life and it meant more than just a job to him. She knew that Johnson was different then other people because he could not communicate with them like a normal person would.

Mrs. Morgan further advised that Johnson had a hard time speaking with women. She had heard about an incident involving Johnson and a lady at a dentist office in Searcy. Johnson's accounts of the incident were different than what she had heard. Johnson had told her that the lady was flirting with him but that he could not date her because she was married.

Searcy Incident

On August 13, 2008 Detectives made contact with Searcy Police Department in reference to Mr. Johnson. Detectives had investigated Mr. Johnson in reference to a harassing communications/ disorderly case. Detectives had begun looking into an incident in which Mr. Johnson had made contact with Mrs. Crawford in reference to a complaint she filed. In the complaint she advised that Mr. Johnson had come to her upset about his dog and that she had felt sorry for him. He then asked her out and she told him that she was married. Johnson began sending her flowers, and cards. On February 17, 2005 he sent her a disturbing card at which time she called the police. Johnson was advised on several occasions that his advances were unwarranted. On February 8, 2006 Johnson again came into the office and left flowers for the victim. She again called police and Detectives made contact with Johnson advising him to leave the victim alone.

Traffic Stop (Vilonia Police Department)

On October 28, 2007 Officers of the Vilonia Police Department attempted to stop Mr. Johnson for speeding. Mr. Johnson refused to stop initially and lead officers on a short pursuit. After being stopped by Officers Mr. Johnson was issued citation # 107816 for speeding and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle. Mr. Johnson was stopped driving his Blue 2000 Dodge Dakota Pickup.

Investigative Leads and Follow-up

Detectives received a phone call from Paul Daubitz who offered his services. Mr. Daubitz believed that he could read the victims and suspects phone records and possibly find a link between the two. He was advised that Detectives would get back to him if needed.

Contact was made with Kendra in the Dailey Citizen in Searcy. Information had been received earlier that Mr. Johnson had been online with there newspaper comments section. Kendra advised that if she found any such comments from Johnson that she would contact this department.

Detectives also received information from Pulaski County Sheriffs Department from a Tim Rupert who advised that he might have information on the homicide. Mr. Rupert advised in his telephone conversation with Detectives that he called Mr. Gwatney 6 months ago. He had known Gwatney since growing up with him in Jacksonville. Rupert had asked Gwatney to check into a background of Jay Martin in reference to a guardianship case in Pulaski County Probate Court. He had not received a call from Gwatney and felt that the homicide might have been because of this. He could provide no direct link between Johnson and Gwatney. He further advised that he did not know Johnson.

Medical History

Mr. Johnson's medical history showed that he had been prescribed Effexor in 2005 for a sleep disorder and anxiety attacks. He also mentioned feeling depressed at the time. He remained on the drug up until his death. Detectives located nothing else in his medical history that could explain the reasoning for his behavior.

Educational History

Mr. Johnson's education history showed that he had been currently enrolled at ASU Beebe in computer science classes. Mr. Johnson had also previously attended the University of Central Arkansas and Arkansas Tech University. Mr. Johnson had completed his Bachelors Degree at Tech. Mr. Johnson had registered for his upcoming classes on August 1, 2008 in which he wrote a check for. The check showed to have insufficient funds at the time. On August 7, 2008 Mr. Johnson paid cash for the classes.

Phone Records

Detectives subpoenaed the phone records of Mr. Johnson's cell phone. It showed that Mr. Johnson made only one phone call on August 12, 2008 at 0818 in the morning. That phone call is to Tammy Goudie which she identifies in her statement to Detectives. There are also 4 text messages which 3 were sent on August 12, 2008 and 1 on August 13, 2008 at 0253 hours.

This is believed to be the text in which Mrs. Goudie received around midnight on August 12, 2008.

Pawn Shop information

Detectives made contact with Keith Maddock at the Corner Pawn Shop in Searcy Arkansas. He advised that Mr. Johnson had come into the store on July 24, 2008 and pawned a Browning .22 caliber pistol. He then came back to the store on August 11, 2008 and Pawned a Winchester 12 gauge shotgun. On August 13, 2008 at approximately 0900 hours Mr. Johnson had come back into the store and picked up the Browning .22 pistol. Mr. Johnson had never gone into details about why he was pawning the guns.

15

ASP Investigators had also made contact with Maxine Rister who advised that she had given Mr. Johnson a ride to the pawn shop on August 11th, 2008. Mr. Johnson had told her that he had run out of gas and needed the money. Mr. Johnson had also told her that his sister was sending him a check for \$500.00 dollars but he could not deposit it until the following week.

Citizens Commission on Human Right International

Detectives received information from the CCHRI in reference to the homicide of Mr. Gwatney. They provided information on the drug Effexor and the numerous studies in which suicide or homicide was a violent reaction to the drug.

According to medical records and autopsy report Mr. Johnson was prescribed Effexor and was found to have it in his system upon his death. There is a strong possibility with the research done that Effexor could have played a part in the irrational and violent behavior.

JC White