

2015 Louisiana High School Mock Trial
Competition Case Problem

The State of Louisiana v. Lennon Oakley

A CRIMINAL CASE WRITTEN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA-MONROE MOCK TRIAL TEAM:

ADAM NETTLES
OLIVIA SAGE
GABRIEL SILVA
RAYA BOYTE

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
BOB NOEL

EDITED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION YOUNG
LAWYER'S DIVISION COUNCIL

NO. 2014-20136

STATE OF LOUISIANA
VERSUS
LENNON C. OAKLEY

DIVISION “L”

Martha Jones
GRAND JURY FOREPERSON

75TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO. 2014-20136

VERSUS

DIVISION “L”

LENNON C. OAKLEY

PRETRIAL ORDER

On this 2nd day of October, 2014, the above-captioned matter came before the undersigned judge for pretrial conference. The parties, appearing through their counsel, indicated their agreement to, and approval of, the terms of this Order, and requested that it be made the Order of this Court. The terms of this Order, accordingly, shall not be altered, except upon a showing of good cause.

I. Statement of the Case

Emory Rivers was a 20 year old college student at Southern Atchafalaya University (“SAU”). Emory also worked at a frozen yogurt shop, and used the income from that job to pay for an apartment close to SAU’s campus. Emory was an excellent student in Biology and planned to attend medical school. Emory had many friends and had close family relationships. Taylor Rivers, Emory’s parent, found Emory dead in Emory’s apartment on March 14, 2014.

The State contends that Lennon Oakley, upon meeting and befriending Emory Rivers, attacked Emory in the bathroom of Emory’s apartment with the hammer that was found on the apartment grounds outside.

By indictment, the State of Louisiana charged the Defendant, Lennon Oakley, with one count of Second Degree Murder in violation of Riviere Rapide Parish Statute 14:30.1 alleging that between March 12 and March 14, 2014, Lennon Oakley unlawfully caused the death of Emory Rivers.

Upon arraignment, Lennon Oakley pled not guilty to all charges.

II. Witnesses

The State will call the following witnesses:

- (1) Dallas Winston
- (2) Taylor Rivers
- (3) Eden Periwinkle

The Defense will call the following witnesses:

- (1) Lennon Oakley
- (2) Rowan Ivy
- (3) Colorado Camden

III. Exhibits

- (1) Coroner's Report
- (2) Text Messages
- (3) Picture of the hammer
- (4) Letter retrieved by police from Emory Rivers's apartment, and Transcription.
- (5) Report by Atchafayala Bureau of Investigation
- (6) Footprint from the crime scene
- (7) Footprints taken at the police station

Objections may be made to an exhibit's admissibility using only the Mock Trial Rules of Evidence found in the Handbook published with this problem. Student-Attorneys will be judged on their ability to make relevant objections and to argue their position. Student-Attorneys will also be judged on their ability to articulate a response to the objection.

However, all exhibits will be admitted into evidence following argument.

IV. Stipulation of the Parties

The parties have entered into the following stipulations, which shall not be contradicted or challenged:

1. Hadley Fontenot is not available for trial due to armed services deployment.
2. The chain of custody for evidence is not in dispute.
3. The signatures on the witnesses' statements and all other documents are authentic.
4. All witnesses who were questioned by law enforcement were properly advised of their Miranda rights.
5. The search of Lennon Oakley's apartment was conducted with consent, and was, therefore, proper in accordance with the law.

6. Exhibit 1 was prepared by Eden Periwinkle.
7. Exhibit 2 is an accurate reflection of text messages retrieved from Rowan Ivy's cell phone pursuant to a valid subpoena for information.
8. Exhibit 3 is a true and accurate representation of the hammer recovered from the grounds of Bayou Lagoon Apartments.
9. Exhibit 4 includes a transcript that accurately reflects the contents of the letter found by law enforcement at Emory's apartment on March 14, 2014.
10. Exhibit 5 was prepared by Atchafalaya Bureau of Investigation, which is a public entity.
11. Exhibit 6 is a true and accurate reflection of a footprint found by police at Emory's apartment on March 14, 2014.
12. Exhibit 7 is a true and accurate reflection of Lennon Oakley's footprints taken by Dallas Winston at the station on March 17, 2014.

V. Applicable Law and Jury Charges

Statutes and case law applicable to this case are binding only if they are from the jurisdiction of Riviere Rapide or from the Riviere Rapide Parish Statutes (RRPS). The only statutes and law applicable to this case are set forth below.

In addition, all trials are governed by the National High School Mock Trial Rules of Evidence, as well as Rules of Competition provided in the Handbook.

RRPS 14:30.1 SECOND DEGREE MURDER

- A. The crime of Second Degree Murder includes the killing of a human being when the offender has a specific intent to kill or inflict great bodily harm.
- B. Thus, a jury must convict a defendant of second degree murder if it finds that
 - (1) The Defendant killed the victim, and
 - (2) The Defendant acted with a specific intent to kill or inflict great bodily harm.

- C. Whoever commits the crime of second degree murder shall be punished by life imprisonment at hard labor without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence

RRPS 14:101 INTENT DEFINED

Criminal intent may be specific or general.

Specific criminal intent is that state of mind which exists when the circumstances indicate that the defendant actively desired the prescribed criminal consequences to follow his act or failure to act.

General criminal intent is present when the circumstances indicate that the defendant must have adverted to the prescribed criminal consequences as reasonably certain to result from his act or failure to act. General criminal intent is always present when there is specific intent.

Whether criminal intent is present must be determined in light of ordinary experience. Intent is a question of fact which may be inferred from the circumstances.

RRPS 14:102: RESPONSIVE VERDICTS

To convict the Defendant of the offense charged, for each count the jury must find beyond a reasonable doubt that the State proved each and every element of second degree murder.

If the jury is not convinced that the Defendant is guilty of the offense charged, the jury may find that Defendant guilty of a lesser offense, if the jury is convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the Defendant is guilty of a lesser offense.

The following offenses are the responsive lesser offenses for an indictment of Second Degree Murder:

MANSLAUGHTER

NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE

Thus, if the jury is convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the Defendant is guilty of second degree murder, the jury's verdict should be: "Guilty".

If the jury is not convinced that the defendant is guilty of second degree murder, but the jury is convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of manslaughter the form of the jury's verdict should be: "Guilty of manslaughter."

If the jury is not convinced that the defendant is guilty of second degree murder, but the jury is convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of negligent homicide the form of the jury's verdict should be: "Guilty of negligent homicide."

If the State has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of either the offense charged or of a lesser responsive offense, the form of the jury's verdict should be: "Not Guilty."

RRPS 14: 107: REASONABLE DOUBT STANDARD

While the State must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, it does not have to prove guilt beyond all possible doubt. Reasonable doubt is doubt based on reason and common sense and is present when, after you have carefully considered all the evidence, you cannot say that you are firmly convinced of the truth of the charge.

RRPS 14:31.2 MANSLAUGHTER DEFINED

Manslaughter is the killing of a human being when the defendant has the specific intent to kill or inflict great bodily harm, but the killing is committed in sudden passion or heat of blood immediately caused by provocation sufficient to deprive an average person of his self-control and cool reflection.

Thus in order to convict the defendant of manslaughter, the jury must find:

1. That the defendant killed the victim; and
2. That the defendant had a specific intent to kill or inflict great bodily harm; and
3. That the killing was committed in sudden passion or heat of blood immediately caused by provocation sufficient to deprive an average person of his self-control and cool reflection.

RRPS 14:31.3 NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE DEFINED

Negligent homicide is the killing of a human being by criminal negligence.

Criminal negligence exists when there is such disregard of the interest of others that the offender's conduct amounts to a gross deviation below the standard of care expected to be maintained by a reasonably careful person under similar circumstances.

In order to have criminal negligence, it is not sufficient that a person merely fail to act reasonably. The conduct must be so far below that expected of a reasonably careful person that it can be considered a gross deviation.

Thus, in order to convict the defendant of negligent homicide, the jury must find:

1. That the defendant killed the victim; and
2. That the killing was a result of the defendant's criminal negligence.

AFFIDAVIT OF DALLAS WINSTON

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

Dallas Winston, police chief of the city of Corbeaux, Louisiana, duly sworn, under oath, and based upon personal knowledge, attests as follows:

1. I am 42 years old and the police chief of Corbeaux, Louisiana, a position I have held for the last two years. I have worked for the Corbeaux police department for the past 15 years.
2. I graduated from SAU (Southern Atchafalaya University) and then attended the Riviere Rapide Parish Police Academy to pursue my dream of being an officer.
3. This dream, one I have had since I was a child of 11 years old when I witnessed the murder of my cousin at a gas station, has fueled me in my studies and my actions as an officer and now as chief. I feel like it is my duty to serve the community that once served my family after an awful tragedy.
4. On March 14, 2014, at 5:30 p.m., I received a distraught call from Emory Rivers' parent, Taylor Rivers, who had found Emory's body in a pool of blood at Emory's apartment at Bayou Lagoon Apartment Complex. I personally went to survey the scene, along with a team of detectives.
5. I observed Emory Rivers' body face down on the floor in the bathroom with significant bleeding from the head. Foul play was suspected, so we immediately began scouring the area for evidence and prints.
6. There was a significant amount of blood on the floor in the bathroom. I also observed that the bathtub in the bathroom was slightly damp. There was a towel on the floor that was soaked in blood.
7. The bathroom of Emory's apartment was small – about 6-feet by 8-feet and fairly standard. It had a bathtub/shower on one side, a counter and sink on the other side, and the toilet was on the back wall between the bathtub and shower. There was a free-standing, iron toilet paper holder by the toilet, a picture of a palm tree on the wall, and several decorative vases on the countertop. Other than Emory's body and the blood soaked towel on the floor, nothing else seemed to be out of place in the bathroom, or in the apartment.

8. I collected blood samples according to standard protocol and sent them to the Atchafalaya Bureau of Investigation ("ABI") for DNA analysis. ABI analyzes all DNA evidence recovered from any crime scene in Riviere Rapide Parish. The analysis from ABI showed that all DNA found at the scene matched that of Emory Rivers, with the exception of the DNA from the blood found underneath Emory's finger nails, which was inconclusive.
9. I also observed a bloodied footprint near the door of Emory's apartment. Evidence of the footprint was collected according to standard protocol and kept in the evidence room at the police station.
10. I also collected a handwritten letter on the kitchen counter at Emory's apartment. The letter was marked, transcribed, and kept in the evidence room at the police station.
11. A few days later, on March 17th, the groundskeeper at Bayou Lagoon Apartment Complex, Colorado Camden, called me at the station and said Colorado had found a hammer on the grounds near Emory's apartment. Since the coroner had established that a hammer was likely the cause of death, we immediately went to the scene and collected the evidence. The hammer was marked, and sent off to ABI for analysis.
12. On March 17, 2014, I brought Lennon Oakley in for questioning. Lennon was overly confident and arrogant to say the least, and had an answer to every question without hesitation. The information provided was entirely consistent with Lennon's written affidavit Lennon later prepared. To be safe, I read Lennon the *Miranda* rights before questioning Lennon.
13. At the time of questioning, I also collected several footprints from Lennon. This was the first time I had ever attempted to finger-print or foot-print someone, but I had just recently attended a seminar on fingerprinting. I was the only person at the station at the time of Lennon's questioning, and I felt it was necessary. In my opinion, Lennon's footprints taken at the station were clearly identical to the footprint found at Emory's apartment.
14. On March 17, 2014, I, along with my investigative team, also searched Lennon Oakley's apartment at Rapides Point apartment complex, with Lennon's consent. Lennon's roommate Rowan Ivy was present at the time. Rowan identified the clothes Lennon was wearing on March 13, 2014 and March 14, 2014, and those clothes were collected, marked, and sent to ABI for analysis.
15. On March 18, 2014, I arrested Lennon Oakley for the murder of Emory Rivers.
16. The inconclusive findings from the ABI analysis were frustrating, but science can only do so much. I instinctively know that Lennon did this, I could just tell from Lennon's overall demeanor.
17. This isn't the first time I've come into contact with Lennon Oakley. Assault charges were brought against Lennon a while back by someone else, whose name I cannot

remember, but unfortunately, there was not enough evidence to indict Lennon for any crime at that time. All charges were eventually dropped.

18. I am sincerely hoping for a quick resolution to the case to give the family closure, as someone who has also lost a family member in a violent way I can only hope for an end to this.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, on March 20, 2014, by
Dallas Winston.

Signature: *Dallas Winston*

NOTARY: /s/ Marcus Benton

My Commission Expires: October 23, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF DR. EDEN PERIWINKLE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

Dr. Eden Periwinkle, duly sworn, under oath, and based upon personal knowledge, attests as follows:

1. I am currently 40 years old. I have been serving as Coroner in Corbeaux, Louisiana for almost seven (7) years now. I received my undergraduate degree in biology from Southern Atchafalaya University (SAU), and then went on to graduate from Atchafalaya State School of Medicine.
2. I am also a board certified forensic pathologist, and an expert in ballistics. I've written many articles in the fields of forensic pathology and ballistics. I have been admitted as an expert in ballistics in four states and testified in over thirty trials. I also have significant training in toxicology, blood analysis, and DNA technology.
3. After I graduated from medical school, I moved back to Corbeaux for work because I felt it would be the safest place to raise a family. I mean, I was raised here. I couldn't help but long for home.
4. I am a specially trained physician who examines the bodies of people who died suddenly, unexpectedly, or violently.
5. As Corbeaux's Coroner, I am responsible for investigating and determining the cause of death of persons who did not die under direct medical supervision. As Coroner, I lead autopsies.
6. On March 14, 2014, I was called out to investigate the death of Emory Rivers, whose body was found in the bathroom at Emory's apartment here in Corbeaux. March 14th was a busy day. I actually had to be in several places for investigative purposes, a rare occurrence in this normally safe town.
7. When I arrived at Emory's apartment, I surveyed the scene, observed Emory's body and conducted a routine investigation. However, I forgot to take the temperature of the room and of the body, making it impossible to determine the exact time and date of death.
8. Emory was 5'10" and 165 lbs. I observed Emory's body face down on the floor and wrapped in a towel. A significant amount of blood was coming from Emory's head, and there was a pool of blood on the floor. A clean SAU t-shirt and athletic shorts were folded on the counter in the bathroom.
9. Once I autopsied the body of Emory Rivers, I concluded that the cause of death was a large blunt force trauma wound to the head that was likely inflicted by a hammer, around thirteen ounces (13 oz), which is a typical household item.

10. A hammer of the same description was found outside of Emory's apartment a few days later. Even though there were no fingerprints or signs of blood on the hammer, my conclusion was supported.
11. In my professional opinion, Emory Rivers's death was clearly a homicide.

Signature: Dr. Eden Periwinkle

NOTARY: /s/ Kathryn Jones

My Commission Expires: December 1, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF TAYLOR RIVERS

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

Taylor Rivers, duly sworn, under oath, and based upon personal knowledge, attests as follows:

1. I am Taylor Rivers. I've been a stay at home parent since the birth of my first child Emory, 20 years ago. I am the parent of three children, well, I was the parent of three living children, now I am only the parent of two.
2. My spouse Cam and I moved to Corbeaux, Louisiana from Chicory, Louisiana right before the birth of Emory. We moved here because of the good schools, and how safe this little town seemed to be.
3. Emory always did well in school, played soccer, and was an active member of several organizations, most of which focused on heavy volunteer work. As a stay at home parent, I was always there to make sure Emory made it to everything on time, although for Emory, time was never an issue.
4. From an early age, Emory expressed the desire to go into the medical field. Emory wanted to be a pediatrician and work overseas in underprivileged countries. I tried my best to foster Emory's goal, and all of my children's goals, while always reminding them that the world was not always as kind as them.
5. Emory was accepted into Southern Atchafalaya University, the Alma Mater of my spouse Cam, and was a biology major. Emory chose to live at home for the first two years that Emory was in school. This decision was surely made because we found out Cam had an inoperable brain tumor, which was devastating to our family. Cam passed away in December of 2013.
6. Soon after Cam died, Emory asked if we could go apartment hunting with Emory's friend from elementary school, Hadley Fontenot.
7. Emory and Hadley had been on-again off-again friends for a long time, and they were very different and had disagreements on many occasions. Emory was a people-person, always the life the party, and very involved with many activities. Emory was such a good kid. Hadley was a good kid too, but did not seem to like to socialize as much as Emory, and was not involved in as many activities as Emory. Hadley seemed to demand Emory's undivided attention at all times. Sometimes they would go months without talking to one another, but then they would all of a sudden be close friends again. However, it had been several years since the last time I heard they had gotten into an argument, and they were inseparable after Cam's death.
8. Emory and I were very close and Emory would always confide in me about friends and relationships. Emory made it clear to me that with all of Emory's commitments, and active social life, Emory was just not interested in a serious romantic relationship with anyone.

9. When Emory asked to move into an apartment with Hadley, I understood Emory wanted to move on from Cam's death, and was struggling in a house filled with memories of Cam, so of course I agreed. They had both grown into good young people, I knew Hadley's parents well, and I thought they would be good roommates. Emory had been saving money earned from working at the yogurt shop and I knew Emory could afford to live away from home.
10. We found a nice apartment near SAU's campus in the Bayou Lagoon Apartment complex, and Emory began living there with Hadley on February 1, 2014.
11. There are no words to describe a parent's heart when their child moves out. I was scared, I was sad, but I knew – well, I thought I knew – that that was exactly what Emory needed. Plus the apartment complex was the safest in town, and had a groundskeeper on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. What could be safer than that?
12. On March 14, 2014, I called Emory several times in the morning, but got no response, which was highly unusual as Emory always answered my calls. Emory knew I worried constantly.
13. I then called Hadley, who was not much help. Hadley had spent the week out of town. From Hadley's tone of voice it was easy to determine that Hadley and Emory had gotten into an argument. Hadley sarcastically suggested that I contact Emory's "Rapides Point friends" for information, but could not identify anyone specifically. I didn't know what to do or who to contact. I now know that Lennon lived in Rapides Point, so perhaps that is who Hadley was referring to.
14. I then decided to go to Emory's apartment complex, and the groundskeeper gave me the spare key to Emory's apartment. I walked in and to my heartbreak, although I knew something was wrong when Emory did not answer my calls, I saw my baby, my first born, lying on the ground dead, in a pool of blood. I screamed, I cried, and I called the police.
15. Since that day I have found sleeping difficult. My other two children are now suffering the loss of Emory, and Cam, and frankly, so am I. How am I supposed to get over the death of my own child? I just want to know why...why this happened. Why did anyone feel like they had to blow out a candle that was just starting to glow?

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, on March 27, 2014, by Taylor Rivers.

Signature: Taylor Rivers

NOTARY: /s/ Diana McCullough

My Commission Expires: December 1, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF LENNON OAKLEY

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

Lennon Oakley, duly sworn, under oath, and based on personal knowledge attests as follows:

1. I am 22 years old and live in Corbeaux, Louisiana in an apartment at Rapides Point apartment complex. My roommate is Rowan Ivy, who has been my best friend for three years.
2. I attend St. Francis Community College ("SFCC") in Corbeaux. I'm a fifth year senior, and I am an English major. I used to be a Chemistry major, but struggled, so I switched majors after my sophomore year. I've been actively involved in a Greek Organization on campus since my freshman year. I'm currently the President of Kappa Iota Pi, a co-ed fraternity, which is the most popular fraternity on campus. We have a reputation of having the highest grade point average, most profitable charity events, best intramural record, and, of course, the best parties.
3. I also work on campus in the writing section of our English department three days a week. I love to help fellow students develop their writing skills. It is very rewarding. Too bad it took me so long to find my passion.
4. Most of the Kappa Iota Pi members also live in Rapides Point, and therefore there is a Kappa Iota Pi party there at least once a week. Because Rapides Point is close to both SFCC and SAU, students from both schools attend Kappa parties.
5. Rowan and I have lived in the same apartment at Rapides Point for three years. It is in an ideal location. It is on the third floor in the very front of the apartment complex next to the swimming pool, hot tub and gym. I work out at the gym every day and it is always very crowded. The hot tub is also very popular on cool nights. The facilities are always crowded since Bayou Lagoon residents are allowed to use them.
6. On March 12, 2014, Chi Alpha Beta was hosting a toga-themed dinner party for the Greek Life community. As President of Kappa Iota Pi, I was required to make an appearance at this, and all other parties or events hosted by other Greek Organizations. Even though I was so exhausted from class and work that day, I came home and spent my usual two-hours getting ready for the event. I hate how I look in toga costumes and refused to wear one, so I finally I chose a white collared shirt and white dress-pants instead. It was very important to make a good impression, and I always make sure to look my best. I was under a lot of pressure as President of Kappa Iota Pi.
7. When Rowan got home that day, we got into a minor tiff about who was going to do the dishes that had stacked up in the sink, and there was so much laundry to do. I can't stand it when the apartment is a mess, and it had been messy for several days. I angrily left the apartment around 6:00 p.m., and I headed off to the Chi Alpha Beta house on the SFCC campus.

8. I only spent about two hours at the dinner party before leaving. I made my appearance, had a glass of wine or two to be polite, and ate a plate of food. However, it just wasn't where I wanted to be anymore. I was so tired, had a terrible headache from the cheap wine, and this party certainly did not live up to the standards of Kappa Iota Pi. Plus, I got into a minor altercation with a Chi Alpha Beta member over the placement of a three-foot tall plant arrangement and vase that I had bumped into and knocked over, ruining my clothes. I knew it was time to leave.
9. Rowan and I share a car, so I was pretty much stranded until I called Rowan because I despised walking home by myself at night. I walked around campus until I found a charity event that was being co-sponsored by Omega Theta, another co-ed Greek Organization at SFCC, and the student life organization at Southern Atchafalaya University. The event was almost over by the time I had arrived. I later found out it was "Lose Litter-bug Louisiana" an anti-litter event. I can't believe SAU didn't ask Kappa Iota Pi to assist with the event. It was between 8:00 and 8:30 pm when I arrived at the event.
10. While mulling around the charity event, looking for bottled water or something, I ran into Emory Rivers. Emory was assisting with the charity event, and was helping clean up. We chit-chatted for a while, and I helped Emory move some tables back into one of the buildings. I had seen Emory before at Rapides Point and was glad to see a familiar face.
11. Emory also told me about a paper that was due soon and was worried about not being able to timely complete it due to Emory's job and volunteer work, and the recent death of Emory's parent. Plus, Emory struggled with writing. I offered to help Emory with the paper if I found the time.
12. While I was talking to Emory, I let it slip that my roommate Rowan and I were in an argument, and Emory offered to let me stay the night at Emory's new apartment at Bayou Lagoon. During our conversation, I learned that Emory had gotten into an argument with a roommate named Hadley, about a person Emory had gone on one date with. I'd say that Hadley had some clear jealousy issues. It sounded like Hadley demanded a lot of Emory's attention.
13. Emory invited me to stay the night at Emory's apartment, and I agreed. I just wasn't ready to have to deal with Rowan. We walked to Emory's apartment around 9:30 p.m.
14. I stayed at Emory's apartment the next day. Neither one of us felt like attending classes, so we just hung out, talked, played video games, watched a movie, etc. – just really normal stuff. We never got around to writing Emory's paper, though.
15. On March 13, 2014, I left Emory's apartment after dark, after Emory had gone to bed. Emory had started to annoy me and talked constantly about Hadley. Emory's apartment was also a mess, with dirty dishes and dirty clothes everywhere. It was very clear to me that we were not going to develop any sort of relationship after that day. I made sure to leave a note when I left so Emory wouldn't be too concerned, but I decided not to leave my phone number or email address, even though Emory could have easily found my information on Kappa Iota Pi's website. I was ready to go home and see Rowan. Rowan always cleans up after me, does the dishes and washes my laundry, and is a great friend. Rowan is the best roommate I could ever ask for.

16. After I got back to my apartment, I changed clothes and went to sleep. I woke up the next day to find that Rowan had put all of my clothes through the wash. I told Rowan everything that happened, and we apologized to each other and agreed not to argue about stupid stuff like that again.
17. Emory never attempted to contact me after I left, even though Emory knew where I lived. I didn't think anything of it. I mean, we had only known each other for a few days, we weren't exactly close.
18. It wasn't until the police were knocking on my door that I even found out something had happened to Emory.
19. Emory's death has come as a shock to me, to think that someone I saw warm-blooded and very alive one day could be brutally murdered was a bit unsettling. However, I am more shocked at the charges being brought against me.
20. I barely knew Emory. Emory didn't even go to St. Francis, I mean, I can only assume that Emory had enemies, maybe a jealous friend, I don't know.
21. I am a good kid, a good student, a good student-worker, and I've never been convicted of any crime. A few years ago, Harper Breaux, my roommate before Rowan, filed assault charges against me but the allegations were entirely made up. Harper was just jealous of Rowan. There was obviously no evidence against me, so the charges were dropped.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, on March 20, 2014.

By Lennon Oakley.

Signature: Lennon Oakley

NOTARY: /s/ Josiah Green

My Commission Expires: April 8, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF ROWAN IVY

Rowan Ivy, duly sworn, under oath, and based on personal knowledge, attests as

follows:

1. I'm 23 years old. I graduated from Southern Atchafalaya University (SAU) in December 2013 with a degree in Religious Studies. I am currently a youth minister at a local church here in Corbeaux.
2. I met Lennon Oakley three years ago at a party. We hit it off, and before we knew it we were putting a down payment on an apartment at Rapides Point Apartments. It was the first place for the both of us, and it is where we both live now.
3. Lennon is still a student at St. Francis Community College, works part time, and is very involved in a Greek Organization. Lennon is often gone, and so I do most of the cleaning, cooking, and housework. Usually, I'm okay with this, but Lennon can be so messy and refuses to help with housework at all, and it is sometimes very frustrating. However, Lennon and I are best friends and have been through everything together. Lennon would do anything for me, and I would do anything for Lennon. Lennon also does have a knack for fixing things around the apartment and has a large collection of tools.
4. Sometimes Lennon and I get into arguments, usually over household chores – sometimes Lennon gets upset if everything is not in its place when Lennon gets home, and sometimes I get frustrated at Lennon's messiness. Lennon has quite a temper, and so do I. When we argue, one of us agrees to stay the night somewhere else for a few days, it really helps to lessen the strain. Usually, it is me that leaves, and I stay with my sister, who also lives at Rapides Point apartments.
5. The day of March 12, 2014, I had just finished a big youth event at my church, which had taken months to plan. Both of us have been really busy and neither of us had been home very much. When I got home, I found Lennon prepping for a party, and the apartment was in complete disarray. Lennon had obviously tried on multiple outfits and there were clothes everywhere. We argued and Lennon left, promptly. I texted Lennon a few times that night but Lennon never answered.
6. The next day Lennon was also gone, but we exchanged some texts.
7. In the middle of the night on the 13th, or early morning on the 14th, Lennon came in wearing the same clothes from the day we argued, promptly changed and fell asleep.
8. When I woke up the next day, I was sure to wash the clothes in the strongest bleach we had, they stunk, and were covered with dirt stains.
9. Lennon woke up and told me about Emory Rivers and the two days they spent together. We had a good, long talk and established more rules and boundaries so as to avoid a situation that has one of us seeking refuge with a complete stranger ever again.

10. I also bandaged a few scrapes that Lennon had, along with noticing a few bruises on his hands.

11. Next thing I know Lennon calls me and lets me know about the arrest and the death of Emory. I was shocked. There is no way Lennon could have killed someone.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, on March 20, 2014, by
Rowan Ivy.

Signature: Rowan Ivy

NOTARY: /s/ Hayden Pain

My Commission Expires: November 17, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF COLORADO CAMDEN

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF RIVIERE RAPIDE

Colorado Camden, duly sworn, under oath, and based on personal knowledge, attests
as follows:

1. I am 34 years old, and I am employed at Bayou Lagoon Apartments where I have been a groundskeeper for 5 years. I also live at Bayou Lagoon Apartments.
2. Bayou Lagoon Apartments is across the street from Rapides Point Apartment complex. It is walking distance to Southern Atchafalaya University (SAU) and St. Francis Community College, as well as many local restaurants and bars. Most of the residents of Bayou Lagoon are students who attend either SAU or St. Francis.
3. As a groundskeeper, I am responsible for the landscaping and maintenance at the apartment complex and for making sure the grounds are as beautiful and wonderful as the tenants that live there. I oversee a staff of two other people who assist with landscaping and maintenance during the day. I usually report to work at noon each day, but I am always on call since I live at the apartment complex.
4. Because I care for our residents so much, I also volunteer to patrol the grounds at night, from around 10:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., to make sure everyone is safe. During my patrol, I drive around the apartment complex on a golf cart. I'm not a trained security guard, and I am not certified to carry a firearm, but I feel as if my presence on the grounds late at night helps to maintain the peace and safety of our residents. That's why Bayou Lagoon is a popular choice of apartments for college students.
5. Unlike at Rapides Point, late night parties at Bayou Lagoon are strictly forbidden, and if I see a party starting to take place I will immediately call the police. I do often see Bayou Lagoon residents walking home late at night from Rapides Point, and I watch them to make sure they return home safely.
6. Because of my responsibilities, I try to really get to know the residents in the apartment complex. I had gotten to know Emory Rivers pretty well, even though Emory had just moved to the apartment complex in February.
7. Emory's apartment was on the 2nd floor, right above mine, and faced south towards Rapides Point, which was right across the street. Emory owned a few plants and flowers at the apartment, and was often asking me for gardening tips, so we talked regularly. Emory seemed to have a passion for caring for the environment and had invited me to attend the popular "Lose Litter-bug Louisiana" event on March 12, which is an

annual anti-litter event. Emory was in charge of planning the event this year. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend.

8. Emory appeared to be a good student as I saw Emory walking towards SAU's campus with many books in hand almost every day, and then Emory would return from SAU every afternoon on weekdays. Sometimes I'd invite Emory to dinner, but Emory always declined because of school work. I wish Emory would have accepted my invitations as I'm sure we would have had a lot in common to talk about.
9. I would also often see Emory walk across the street to Rapides Point. Rapides Point allows Bayou Lagoon residents to use its pool, hot tub, and gym, although Emory seemed clumsy and often tripped on the stairs, so I doubt Emory used the gym much.
10. Emory often had guests over to the apartment but it never appeared that Emory was dating anyone seriously. I got the impression that Emory was a very popular person. I would often see Emory leaving in the evenings all dressed up, and sometimes I would see Emory walking home from parties at Rapides Point late at night.
11. I had also met Emory's roommate Hadley, but I did not know Hadley as well as Emory. Hadley was always polite, but not what I would call a people person. Hadley hardly said anything to me other than an occasional "hello". I never saw Hadley go to parties or come home late.
12. On March 12, 2014, I saw Emory and a person whom I had never seen before walk towards Emory's apartment complex around 10 o'clock at night, when I had just begun my patrol. It was not unusual for Emory to have visitors late at night. I exchanged pleasantries with them and found out that the person Emory was with was named Lennon. After that, they both went into Emory's apartment.
13. I know that Hadley wasn't home on March 12, 2014. I had seen Hadley leave the day before in a huff. I assumed Emory and Hadley must've had another fight, as I had received several complaints from the other residents about loud voices coming from their apartment. Since they moved into the apartment on February 1, 2014, I've heard them argue loudly on several occasions, although I did not know what they were arguing about or who was yelling.
14. On March 13th, I had taken the day off of work to visit my grandmother. I returned to Bayou Lagoon around 7:00 p.m. I knocked on Emory's door to invite Emory to dinner, but there was no answer. I began my patrol at 10:00 p.m. as usual. I never heard anything or saw anything out of the ordinary that night.
15. During my patrol on March 13, 2014, it was very quiet and I may have dozed off to sleep for a few minutes since I was tired from traveling. However, I do remember seeing someone leave Emory's apartment late that night. It was dark and I could not see the person's face. The person was walking casually and quietly, so I didn't think anything of it. If Emory had been attacked that night, I'm sure I would have known.

16. In the evening on March 14, 2014, Taylor Rivers knocked on my door and asked for the key to Emory's apartment because Emory had not been answering the phone. As groundskeeper, I had an extra to key to all of the apartments. I heard Taylor scream when Taylor opened the door of Emory's apartment, and it sent chills down my spine.
17. A few days later, while I was working in the flower beds at the apartment complex, I found a hammer in the grass behind Emory's apartment. It's possible that one of my workers had left it behind after a maintenance call, but I felt compelled to immediately call the police. They came and picked it up. Other than the hammer, I have found nothing out of the ordinary in the area around Emory's apartment.
18. I am entirely shocked and devastated at the death of Emory Rivers. Nothing like this has ever happened at Bayou Lagoon.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, a Notary Public, on March 20, 2014, by
Colorado Camden.

Signature: Colorado Camden

NOTARY: /s/ Melissa Anton

My Commission Expires: June 1, 2015

1. Multiple blunt force injuries to the head
 - a. Bruises on the face

2. Early decompositional changes
3. Bruising on elbows and knees
4. Random old scars
5. Fresh cut on the upper arm

Toxicology Report:

1. The victim tested clean of alcohol and illegal substances. The victim was also negative for all drugs.

Lennon Oakley

I bleached your clothes like you asked.

So everything is taken care of?

Yes. We don't need any more adventures like this again.

I mean it, Lennon

I can't put up with this anymore



Whatever Rowan. 😏



Send

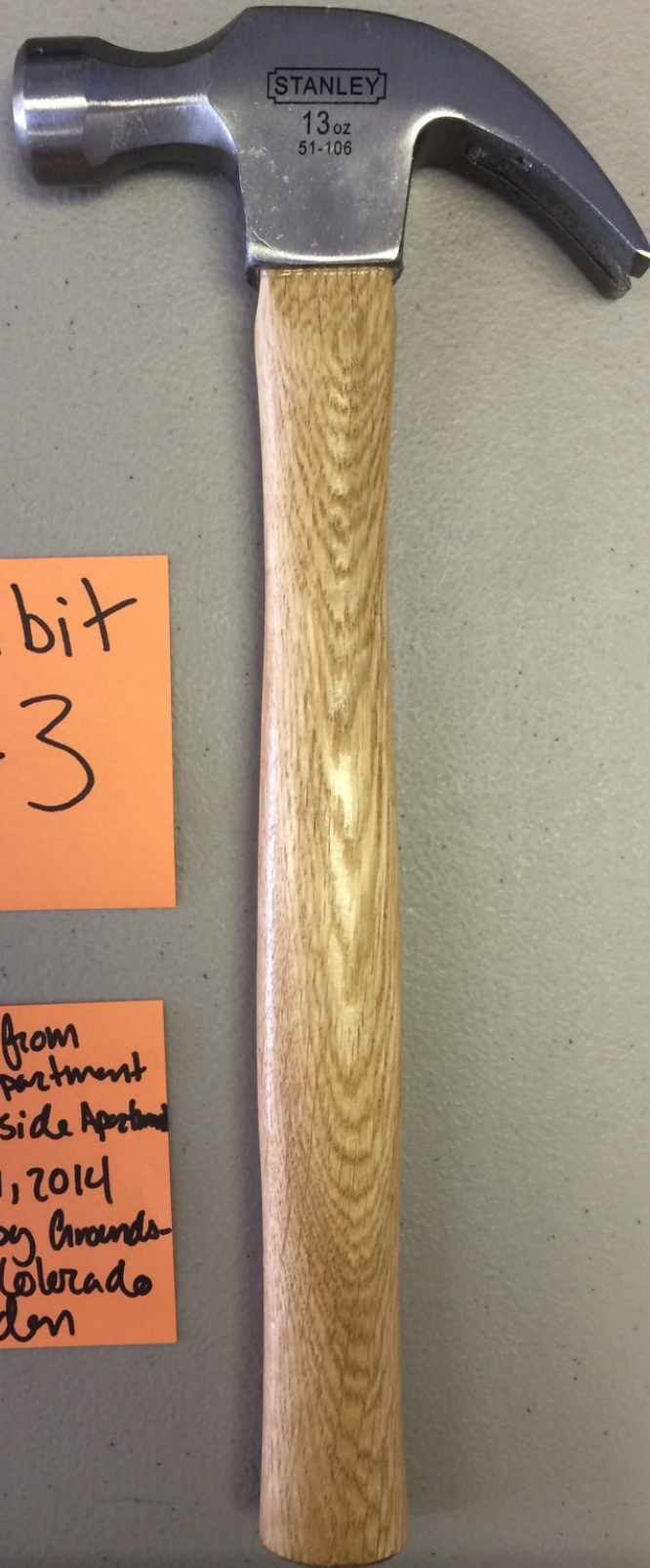


Exhibit
#3

- Hammer from
Rivers Apartment
- found outside Apartment
- March 17, 2014
- Found by Grounds-
Keeper Colorado
Camden

Emory,

Thanks so much for the last two days. I just didn't feel comfortable staying here anymore, with Rowan at home and all. Hope I didn't wake you up. Text me about that paper next week if you can, though I know that may be a bit difficult for you.

Nice to know you,

- Lennon

Exhibit
#4

- Letter from Rives Apt.
- Found on Kitchen Counter
- March 14, 2014
- Found by Police chief Winston.

TRANSCRIPT FROM EXHIBIT 4

Emory,

Thanks so much for the last two days. I just didn't feel comfortable staying here anymore, with Rowan at home and all. Hope I didn't wake you up. Text me about that paper next week if you can, though I know that may be a bit difficult for you.

Nice to know you,

-Lennon

Exhibit 5

ATCHAFALAYA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
PONTCHARTRAIN CITY, LA

To: Police Chief Dallas Winston
Riviere Rapide Parish Police Office

Date: April 1, 2014

Title: LENNON C. OAKLEY:
EMORY RIVERS- VICTIM
HOMICIDE

The specimens listed below were submitted under DNA Analysis Unit 1:

ITEMS RECOVERED FROM EMORY RIVERS'S BODY AND APARTMENT:

Swabs from the blood around the Victim
Swabs from the bloodied foot print
Swabs from blood found under the fingernails of the Victim
The hammer

ITEMS RECOVERED FROM LENNON C. OAKLEY:

Blood Sample
Clothes from the days spent at the residence of the victim

This report contains the results of the blood samples and DNA examinations

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

The swabs recovered from the body and residence of Emory Rivers came back all as matching Emory Rivers except the blood under the fingernails. The person to whom the blood under the fingernails belonged to was unable to be determined due to a lack of workable DNA present.

The Hammer found outside of Rivers's residence had neither fingerprints, DNA, or blood to work with.

The blood and DNA sample taken from Lennon Oakley did not match anything found at the crime scene or the hammer.

The clothes from the event taken from the Oakley household were found to have been bleached and thus unworkable for examination.

Exhibit 6

(The Footprints from the Crime Scene)



Exhibit 7

(The Foot Prints Taken at the Station)





