

BEFORE THE TORTURE INQUIRY AND RELIEF COMMISSION

In re:

Claim of Tony Anderson

TIRC Claim No. 2011.014-A

FILED
13 MAY 29 PM 2:13
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
CRIMINAL DEPT.
DOROTHY BROWN
CLERK

CASE DISPOSITION

Pursuant to 775 ILCS 40/45(c) and 2 Ill. Adm. Code 3500.385(b), it is the decision of the Commission that, by a preponderance of the evidence, there is sufficient evidence of torture to conclude the Claim is credible and merits judicial review for appropriate relief. This decision is based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions set forth below, as well as the supporting record attached hereto.

Findings of Fact

1. In April, 1990, Claimant Tony Anderson (“TA”) was arrested on auto theft charges and taken to Area 2 of the Chicago Police Department, where he was questioned by Detectives Michael McDermott and Anthony Maslanka.¹
2. During that questioning McDermott held a gun to TA’s head and threatened to blow his brains out. Maslanka jabbed TA with a nightstick in his thighs and back until TA was crying and agreed to confess.
3. TA made an oral statement confessing to numerous offenses committed in March and April, 1990.
4. TA was later indicted in 13 different cases. In 90 CR 11984 he was convicted of attempted murder in a bench trial and sentenced to 25 years. In 90 CR 11985 he took a jury trial and was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to 25 years concurrent. He then entered guilty pleas in 11 other cases², including a murder for which he received 50 years, also concurrent.
5. A written motion to suppress his statements was made as to all 13 cases. The written motion, filed in 1990, is consistent with his TIRC Claim, and TA testified at the

¹ Although Jon Burge had been transferred from Area 2 to Area 3 at this point, both McDermott and Maslanka had worked under Burge at Area 2.

² The prosecution used his confession at the time of the entry of the guilty pleas in 1991. People v. Anderson, 375 Ill.App.3d 121, 128, 872 N.E.2d 581 (1Dist.2007)

hearing consistently with his TIRC Claim. (Transcript of Proceedings dated May 5, 1991 at 264-65, 288) The judge denied the motion based upon his view of the credibility of the witnesses given the evidence before him at that time.

6. Since the motion to suppress was heard in 1991, the following evidence has emerged:
 - a. In 1990 the Office of Professional Standards of the Chicago Police Department concluded after an internal investigation that there had been systemic abuse at Area 2 for over 10 years. The Report was not released publicly until 1992.
 - b. On November 12, 1991, Jon Burge was suspended, and charges were later brought against him before the Police Board of the City of Chicago. In connection with that hearing the City of Chicago made a judicial admission that Burge put a gun to Shaded Munin's head and played Russian roulette.³ In his testimony at Burge's federal perjury trial, McDermott, who was forced to testify after a grant of immunity, admitted that he testified before the federal grand jury that he was present when this took place.⁴ On February 11, 1993, the Police Board separated Burge from his position as a Commander with the Department of Police after finding him guilty of abusing Andrew Wilson at Area 2 in 1982.
 - c. In 2002 Cook County Criminal Court Chief Judge Paul Biebel appointed a Special State's Attorney to investigate allegations of torture by police officers under the command of Burge at Areas 2 and 3 to determine if criminal prosecutions were warranted. The 2006 Report concluded that in the case of Alphonso Pinex there was sufficient evidence to indict both McDermott and Maslanka for aggravated battery (beating Pinex so severely that he soiled his underwear) and for perjury and obstruction of justice (denying under oath that they had beaten Pinex). The Report also found that "[t]here are many other cases which lead us to believe that the claimants were abused".⁵
 - d. TIRC records, attached as Exhibit C, indicate that McDermott has 13 other complaints of abuse of which TIRC is aware, and he has pled the 5th Amendment privilege against self-incrimination when asked about abusing detainees.
 - e. As set forth in Exhibit D, Maslanka has 14 other complaints of abuse of which TIRC is aware. He has also taken the 5th when asked about abusing detainees, including TA specifically, as set forth in Exhibit E.

³ City of Chicago's Memorandum in Opposition to Motion to Bar Testimony Concerning Other Alleged Victims of Police Misconduct dated January 22, 1992 at 11-12, attached as Exhibit A.

⁴ United States v. Burge, 08 CR 846 (N.D.Ill.), Transcript of Proceedings dated June 14, 2010 at 144, 149, attached as Exhibit B.

⁵ Report of the Special State's Attorney at 16.

7. After his motion to suppress was denied, in 90 CR 11984 TA was convicted of attempted murder in a bench trial at which his confession was used, and he was sentenced to 25 years in prison. In 90 CR 11985 he was convicted of armed robbery after a jury trial, and he was sentenced to 25 years to be served concurrently with the sentence in 90 CR 11984. Thereafter, he entered guilty pleas⁶ in 11 other cases, including a murder for which he received 50 years, all of the time to be served concurrently with the sentences mentioned above.
8. In 2004 TA filed a post-conviction petition regarding the guilty pleas, and it contains the same claim of coercion he raises before the TIRC. In 2005 and 2008 TA filed other post-conviction petitions raising the same coercion claim. All of the post-conviction petitions were dismissed on procedural grounds without reaching the merits of the claims.

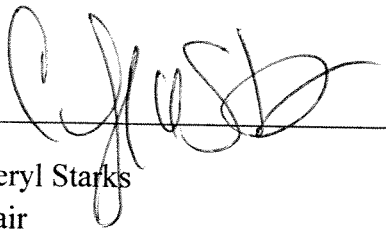
Conclusions

1. TA's Claim qualifies for summary referral pursuant to 2 Ill. Adm. Code 3500.370 in that:
 - a. TA has consistently claimed since his motion to suppress to have been tortured in the manner alleged in his TIRC Claim;
 - b. His Claim is strikingly similar to other claims of torture contained in the Reports of the Chicago Police Department's Office of Professional Standards, and the Report of the Special State's Attorney, regarding their investigation of Jon Burge and police officers under his command;
 - c. The officers accused are identified in other cases alleging torture; and
 - d. The Claim is consistent with the Office of Professional Standards' findings of systematic and methodical torture at Area 2 under Jon Burge.
2. In addition, the other available evidence set forth above indicates that the Claim is credible and merits judicial review.
3. While the complaints of physical abuse and coercion against the accused officers are allegations and not judicial findings, they are nevertheless relevant in deciding whether abuse occurred in a specific case. People v. Patterson, 192 Ill.2d 93, 114-15, 735 N.E.2d 616 (Ill.Sup.Ct. 2000); People v. Cannon, 293 Ill. App.3d 634, 640, 688 N.E.2d 693 (1 Dist. 1997); People v Cortez Brown, 90 CR 23997 (Transcript of Proceedings dated May 22, 2009 at 8, Ruling by Judge Crane) (evidence against Burge subordinates of abuse in cases other than Brown's was "staggering" and "damning"), attached as Exhibit F.

⁶ The confessions were used at the time of the entrance of the guilty pleas as part of the prosecution's factual basis to support the pleas.

4. While invocation of the 5th Amendment is not an admission of guilt, in a civil proceeding such as this a negative inference can be drawn from that fact. 2 Ill. Adm. Code 3500.375 (g).

DATED: May 20, 2013



Cheryl Starks
Chair
Illinois Torture Inquiry and
Relief Commission

EXHIBIT A:

City of Chicago's Memorandum in Opposition to Motion to Bar Testimony
Concerning Other Alleged Victims of Police Misconduct dated January 22, 1992

BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST POLICE COMMANDER JON BURGE, STAR NO. 338, CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT)	Case No. 1856
IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST POLICE DETECTIVE PATRICK O'HARA, STAR NO. 2888, CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT)	Case No. 1857
IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST POLICE DETECTIVE JOHN YUCAITIS, STAR NO. 7744, CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT)	Case No. 1858

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO MOTION
TO BAR TESTIMONY CONCERNING OTHER
ALLEGED VICTIMS OF POLICE MISCONDUCT

Respondents' attempt to bar the testimony of seven additional victims of torture tactics at Area II headquarters ignores the overwhelming precedent supporting the admission of similar acts under circumstances much less compelling than these. The testimony regarding similar acts sets forth detailed accounts of torturous treatment which are almost identical to the torture suffered by Andrew Wilson. The testimony reveals an astounding pattern or plan on the part of respondents to torture certain suspects, often with substantial criminal records, into confessing to crimes or to condone such activity. The similar acts testimony would clearly be admissible in a federal or state court, and it should be admissible in this proceeding.^{1/}

^{1/} Indeed, in a January 16, 1992 hearing in which Judge Shadur dismissed respondents' federal lawsuit, Judge Shadur stated that he knew of nothing that would foreclose the Police Board from considering this evidence. See Exh. A at 13-15.

feared for his life at the hands of the police officers. When he finally agreed to testify about the abuse he suffered, he did so only on the condition that Wilson's lawyers would move him out of Illinois. In addition, because he was afraid and did not know who he could trust, he did not file an OPS complaint. His mother, however, did file an OPS complaint in connection with his torture at the hands of the police officers. OPS reached a finding of "not sustained."

5. Shadeed Mumin

On October 30, 1985, Shadeed Mumin was pulled over and arrested by two police officers in an unmarked car. He was taken to Area II and placed in a small room upstairs. Burge entered the room and told Mumin to get up and turn around to the wall. Mumin was then handcuffed behind him to a ring or hook on the wall such that he could not sit down. Burge told Mumin that he wanted to know about the robbery, and Mumin replied that he had no knowledge of what Burge was talking about. Burge told Mumin he would talk before Mumin left there and tightened Mumin's handcuffs. The handcuffs were painful and cut off Mumin's circulation. Burge then left the room.

Burge returned after a half hour and loosened the handcuffs, asking Mumin if he was ready to talk. When Mumin said he didn't know what Burge was talking about, Burge became angry and pushed him into a wall. He then removed Mumin's handcuffs, took him to an office down the hall and handcuffed him. Burge said, "You're not going to talk, huh?" and Mumin

replied that he didn't know what Burge was talking about. Burge said, "Do you know that we can bury you in the penitentiary?" Mumin replied that he still didn't know what Burge was talking about.

Burge then told Mumin that they really wanted his son, and Mumin repeated that he didn't know what Burge was talking about. Burge became angry and pulled out a fully loaded .44 Magnum. He took out all the bullets except for one, spun it, placed it to Mumin's head and snapped it three times slowly. Burge told Mumin he was "damned lucky" that Burge didn't kill him and that he wanted to know about the "fucking robbery."

Burge became angry, jumped up from the desk and snatched a brownish, plastic typewriter cover. He said, "You'll fucking talk or I'll kill you," and placed the cover over Mumin's head. Burge held the cover over his head and pushed it down in his face so he couldn't breathe. Mumin, who was handcuffed behind his back, passed out. Burge put it on his head three times. The third time, Mumin hollered and Burge took the cover off and laughed. Burge asked him if he was ready to sign a statement and Mumin told him he would do anything. Burge told Mumin that if he told anybody, nobody would believe him because there were no marks on him and that he had better sign the statement.

Mumin testified to these facts at an October 5, 1988 hearing on his Motion to Suppress. See Exh. E.

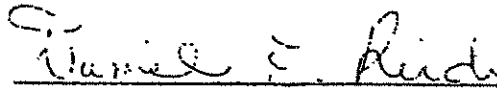
testimony of the parade of police officers who will testify that they saw and heard nothing. Indeed, as the testimony of the similar victims shows, respondents counted on the fact that their testimony would be believed over that of a convict when they persisted in their pattern of torture. They should not be permitted now to hide behind their allegations of prejudicial effect to secure exclusion of that telling evidence.

Conclusion

For the alternative and independent reasons stated above, respondents' motion to bar testimony concerning other alleged victims of police misconduct should be denied.

Dated: January 22, 1992

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel E. Reidy
June K. Ghezzi
JONES, DAY, REAVIS & POGUE
225 West Washington Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 782-3939

Special Corporation Counsel to
LeRoy Martin, Superintendent of
Police

EXHIBIT B:

Excerpts of Testimony of Michael McDermott in
United States v. Burge, 08 CR 846 (N.D. Ill.)

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.) No. 08 CR 846
)
JON BURGE,) Chicago, Illinois
) June 14, 2010
Defendant.)

EXCERPT OF
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS - Michael McDermott testimony
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JOAN HUMPHREY LEFKOW, and a jury

APPEARANCES:

For the Government: HON. PATRICK J. FITZGERALD
219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604
BY: MR. M. DAVID WEISMAN
MS. APRIL PERRY

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION
CRIMINAL SECTION
601 D Street NW
Room 5339
Washington, DC 22314
BY: MS. ELIZABETH L. BIFFL

NOTE: THIS IS A PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT. IN THE EVENT OF AN
APPEAL, PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF A FULL TRANSCRIPT IS ON FILE.
IF ONE IS, USE THE PAGINATION OF THAT TRANSCRIPT.

PAMELA S. WARREN, CSR, RPR
Official Court Reporter
219 South Dearborn Street, Room 1928
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 294-8907

1 A. Yes, ma'am.

2 Q. There was an open-ended question asked, what type of abuse
3 you saw, and you brought up Mu'min. Is that right?

4 MR. BEUKE: Objection, Judge --

5 THE COURT: Overruled.

6 MR. BEUKE: -- asked and answered.

7 BY THE WITNESS:

8 A. Yes.

9 BY MS. PERRY:

10 Q. Now you have complained that you didn't really get a chance
11 to explain what happened in Mu'min's case. But isn't it true,
12 sir, that you were asked an open-ended question to tell the
13 truth in the grand jury everything you had seen take place?

14 MR. BEUKE: Objection, Judge.

15 THE COURT: Overruled.

16 BY THE WITNESS:

17 A. Yes.

18 BY MS. PERRY:

19 Q. And you did explain everything you had seen take place, is
20 that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And during that explanation you explained how you saw Jon
23 Burge point a gun at Mr. Mu'min, is that right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And you explained how he put some kind of plastic material

1 BY MS. PERRY:

2 Q. Sir, were you asked this question, and did you give this
3 answer?

4 "Question: What happened after that, after he pointed
5 the gun at him?"

6 MR. BEUKE: Page, counsel?

7 MS. PERRY: 17.

8 BY MS. PERRY:

9 Q. "Answer: He approached Shadeed Mu'min, and he put
10 something over his head.

11 "Question: Do you recall what he put over Mu'min's
12 head?

13 "Answer: It appeared to be something that was, you
14 know, transparent, plastic of some sort."

15 MR. BEUKE: Objection, Judge. That's not impeaching
16 as to anything he said.

17 THE COURT: Overruled.

18 BY MS. PERRY:

19 Q. Were you asked those questions, and did you give those
20 answers?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And that item that you saw Jon Burge put over Shadeed
23 Mu'min's head that, sir, could have been a typewriter cover,
24 isn't that correct?

25 A. I don't know. And I clarified it later that it -- I didn't

EXHIBIT C:

TIRC database of abuse allegations against Detective Michael McDermott

McDermott, Michael (granted immunity in Burge federal perjury trial)

Victim	Date	Allegations	Source
Franklin Burchette	1984	Threatened w/electric prod and beating; denied sleep	Affidavit and Testimony in People v. Burchette; Special State's Attorney's Case Summary
Shaded Mumin	1985	Pushed into wall; threatened with .44 magnum silver revolver to head in Russian Roulette fashion; suffocated with typewriter cover until unconscious; threatened with worse treatment and repeatedly called "nigger"	5/13/87 Testimony in People v. Mumin; 1/22/92 Admission by City in Burge Police Board Hearing
Alphonso Pinex	1985	Severe beating	Testimony in People v. Pinex; Special State's Attorney Case Summary: would have indicted but for Statute of Limitations
Jerry Thompson: codefendant of Maxwell and Howard	1986	Kicked; beaten with flashlight to the body; slapped in the face during interrogation	7/23/87 Testimony in People v. Maxwell, Thompson and Howard
Jeffrey Howard: codefendant of Maxwell and Thompson	1986	Kicked and slapped during interrogation	7/23/87 Testimony in People v. Maxwell, Thompson and Howard
Andrew Maxwell: codefendant of Thompson and Howard	1986	Hit, kicked, and stomped on foot	7/23/87 Testimony in People v. Maxwell, Thompson and Howard
Daniel Vaughn	1987	Struck and threatened	TIRC Claim Form
Tony Anderson	1990	Beaten on ribs and thighs with nightstick; gun placed to head and threatened to "blow brains out"; no food, water, or washroom during 2-day interrogation	5/1/91 Testimony in People v. Anderson

David Randle	1991	Squeezed testicles and denied medication, denied food and drink	TIRC Claim Form
Willie Pole	1994	Punched in body and beaten; allowed others to continue beating	TIRC Claim Form
John Knight	1996	Slapped, choked, gun put to head and trigger pulled, threatened w/ being killed	TIRC Claim Form
Richard Campbell	1998	Beaten on chest and ribs; deprived of food and sleep	TIRC Claim Form
Rickey Robinson	1998	Threatened to drive him to an alley and shoot him.	TIRC Claim Form
Aubree Dungey	1999	Assaulted and beaten on trunk of car; threatened; handcuffed to bench for 3 days; denied washroom and water; fed only once.	TIRC Claim Form

EXHIBIT D:

TIRC database of abuse allegations against Detective Anthony Maslanka

Maslanka, Anthony (Star No. 16161)

Victim	Date	Allegations	Source
Terry Harris	1984	Choked; arm twisted; held in underwear overnight; repeatedly threatened; sexually derogatory comments	5/29/86 OPS Statement
Alphonso Pinex	1985	Severe beating	Testimony in People v. Pinex; OSP Statement; Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; would have indicted but for Statute of Limitations
Donald Terrance	1988	Beaten	Terrance Civil Complaint
Eric Johnson: released in 2011 after pleading guilty to lesser charges in return for time-served	1990	Struck on face; knocked to ground; kicked in stomach, chest and face	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary
Tony Anderson	1990	Beaten on ribs and thighs with nightstick; gun to head; threatened to "blow brains out"	5/1/91 Testimony in People v. Anderson; AM has taken 5 th w/specific reference to this Claim
Demond Weston	1990	Slapped; beaten, psychologically coerced	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; People v. Weston, 271 Ill.App.3d 604 (1 st Dist. 1995)
Cortez Brown	1990	Beaten, including with a flashlight on arms and chest	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; Motion to Suppress Testimony in 90CR23997, 23998, 23999 and 91CR643; 5/22/2009 Ruling in Post-Conviction Petition
Marcus Wiggins: codefendant of Clemons, D. Owen and T. Green and Welton	1991	13 year old shocked, beaten, and denied access to mother	OPS C.R. #193591; Special State's Attorney's Case Summary
Jesse Clemon: codefendant of Wiggins, Owen, and Green and Welton	1991	Hit with a flashlight; beaten on chest and body	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591
Iamari Clemon: codefendant of	1991	Physically beaten	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591

Wiggins, Owen and Green, and Welton				
Demoni Clemon: codefendant of Wiggins, Owen, Green, and Welton	1991	Shocked; threatened with a pistol	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591	
Clinton Welton	1991	16 year old beaten w/flashlight & fists	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591; testimony in Motion to Suppress in 91CR25414	
Diyez Owen	1991	16 yr old beaten on chest & stomach	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591	
Travis Richardson	1991	Head slammed on table	8/11/04 Richardson Affidavit; OPS Statement	
Tremaine Green: codefendant of Wiggins, Clemons, Owen and Welton	1991	Struck in eye, back and chest	Special State's Attorney's Case Summary; OPS C.R. # 193591	

EXHIBIT E:

Detective Anthony Maslanka pleading the Fifth Amendment privilege
against self-incrimination

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT-CRIMINAL DIVISION

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
ILLINOIS,

Petitioner,

vs.

CORTEZ BROWN, a/k/a
VICTOR SAFFORLD,

Respondent.

No. 90 CR 23997
Post Conviction

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the hearing
of the above-entitled cause before the Honorable
CLAYTON CRANE, judge of said Court, on the 18th day of
May, 2009, at the hour of 11:20 a.m.

PRESENT:

HON. LISA MADIGAN
Attorney General of Illinois, by
MR. VINCENZO CHIMERA and
MR. PAUL BERVID and
MR. ERIC LEVIN

Appearing on behalf of the Plaintiff;

MR. LOCKE BOWMAN and
MR. FLINT TAYLOR and
MS. JOEY MOGUL and
MS. SARAH GELSOMINO

Appearing on behalf of the Defendant.

Paul W. O'Connor
Official Court Reporter
Circuit Court of Cook County
County Department

1 ANTHONY MASLANKA,
2 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
3 sworn, was examined upon oral interrogatories and
4 testified as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 By Mr. Taylor:

7 Q. Your name, sir?

8 A. Anthony Maslanka, M-A-S-L-A-N-K-A.

9 Q. You understand you're under oath?

10 THE COURT: Sustained. Ask him some
11 questions.

12 MR. TAYLOR: Q Did you previously work for
13 the Chicago Police Department under the command of John
14 Burge at Area Two?

15 THE WITNESS: A Upon advice of counsel, I
16 respectfully decline to answer this question and invoke
17 my constitutional rights and privileges against self
18 incrimination. As guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment to
19 the United States Constitution. By Article One,
20 Section 10 of the constitution of the State of
21 Illinois. On the grounds that any answer I may give in
22 whole or in part to such question may tend to
23 incriminate me.

24 MR. TAYLOR: May we have an agreement that in

1 the future he won't have to read that entire statement,
2 he can just invoke his Fifth Amendment right and maybe
3 shorten the process a little bit.

4 Is that all right with you, counsel?

5 MR. RODDY: That would be fine.

6 MR. TAYLOR: Q Did you also have as a
7 supervising sergeant at Area Two, sergeant John Byrne?

8 THE WITNESS: A Like to invoke my Fifth
9 Amendment right.

10 Q. While at Area Two, were you involved in a
11 series of cases where suspects under your supervision
12 and interrogation were abused and tortured?

13 A. I like to invoke my Fifth Amendment rights.

14 Q. Specifically with regard to the following
15 individuals, did you participate in or witness with
16 John Paladino or sergeant John Byrne, the abuse or
17 torture of any of the following suspects: Alphonso
18 Pinex, Donald Torrence, Keith Eric Johnson, Tony
19 Anderson, Roosevelt Taylor; Steve Zahora, Jessie and
20 Damony Clemons. Any of those individuals?

21 A. I like to invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

22 Q. Could you tell us your -- in 1990 could you
23 tell us your height, your weight, your hair color?

24 A. I like to invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

EXHIBIT F:

Detective James O'Brien pleading the 5th Amendment privilege
against self-incrimination

1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
2 COUNTY DEPARTMENT-CRIMINAL DIVISION

3 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
4 ILLINOIS,

5 Petitioner,

6 vs.

7 CORTEZ BROWN, a/k/a
8 VICTOR SAFFORLD,

9 Respondent.

No. 90 CR 23997

Post Conviction

10 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the hearing
11 of the above-entitled cause before the Honorable
12 CLAYTON CRANE, judge of said Court, on the 18th day of
13 May, 2009, at the hour of 11:20 a.m.

14 PRESENT:

15 HON. LISA MADIGAN
16 Attorney General of Illinois, by
17 MR. VINCENZO CHIMERA and
18 MR. PAUL BERVID and
19 MR. ERIC LEVIN
20 Appearing on behalf of the Plaintiff;

21 MR. LOCKE BOWMAN and
22 MR. FLINT TAYLOR and
23 MS. JOEY MOGUL and
24 MS. SARAH GELSOMINO
Appearing on behalf of the Defendant.

Paul W. O'Connor
Official Court Reporter
Circuit Court of Cook County
County Department

1 all your answers still be the same, you're asserting
2 your Fifth Amendment right?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, I would continue to
4 assert my Fifth Amendment right to not answer any of
5 those questions.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Cross?

7 MR. CHIMERA: No questions, judge.

8 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, judge.

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

11 MR. BOWMAN: Petitioner's next witness is
12 James O'Brien, who I believe is in the back.

13 (Witness sworn)

14 JAMES O'BRIEN,

15 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
16 sworn, was examined upon oral interrogatories and
17 testified as follows:

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 By Mr. Bowman:

20 Q. Could you please state your name, sir.

21 A. Detective James O'Brien, O-B-R-I-E-N.

22 Q. Mr. O'Brien, are you currently employed as a
23 detective in the Chicago Police Department?

24 A. Yes, sir I am.

1 Q. Mr. O'Brien, in September of 1990, did you
2 work as a violent crimes detective at Area Three third
3 watch?

4 A. Counsel, at this time upon advice of counsel,
5 I respectfully decline to answer this question and
6 invoke my constitutional rights and privileges against
7 self incrimination as guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment
8 to the United States Constitution. And by Article One,
9 Section 10 of the Constitution of the State of
10 Illinois.

11 Q. I have a few more questions to ask you, sir.
12 And I think we can probably just boil that statement
13 down to assert the fifth.

14 Specifically on September 21st and
15 September 22, 1990, was John Byrne the third watch
16 supervising sergeant?

17 A. Again I revert to my previous answer and
18 assert my Fifth Amendment right.

19 Q. On September 21st, and September 22, 1990,
20 was John Burge your commanding officer?

21 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
22 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

23 Q. On September 21st and 22nd, 1990, did you
24 participate in the interrogation of Cortez Brown, then

1 known as Cortez Brown, in fact Victor Safforld?

2 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
3 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

4 Q. Did John Byrne directly supervise this
5 investigation?

6 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
7 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

8 Q. Did John Byrne participate in this
9 investigation?

10 A. Again, I revert to my previous answer and I
11 invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

12 Q. Did John Burge directly supervise this
13 investigation?

14 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
15 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

16 Q. Did John Burge participate directly in this
17 investigation?

18 A. Again, I revert to my previous answer and
19 invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

20 Q. During the course of the interrogation of
21 Cortez Brown, Victor Safforld, on September 21st and
22 22nd, 1990, did you, sir, pin Mr. Brown against the
23 wall of an interrogation room with the weight of your
24 body?

1 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
2 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

3 Q. At that time, did you refuse to honor
4 Mr. Brown's request that questioning cease until he
5 could have a lawyer present?

6 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
7 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

8 Q. Did you fail at that time to give Victor
9 Safforld known as Cortez Brown, his Miranda rights?

10 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
11 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

12 Q. Did you tell Mr. Brown, Mr. Safforld, that
13 everybody else involved in the matters under
14 investigation was pinning both the Curtis Simms murder
15 and the Delvin Boelter murder on him?

16 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
17 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

18 Q. Did you tell Mr. Brown that if he did not
19 confess to the Simms murder and Boelter murder, he
20 wouldn't be coming back?

21 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
22 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

23 Q. Did you slap Mr. Brown on the side of his
24 head with your open hand?

1 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
2 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

3 Q. Did you strike Victor Safford then known as
4 Cortez Brown, with a flashlight?

5 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
6 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

7 Q. Did you strike Victor Safford with fists in
8 the chest and sides of the body?

9 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
10 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

11 Q. Did you do all of these things that I just
12 asked you in order to coerce Victor Safford into
13 confessing to the murder of Curtis Simms against his
14 will?

15 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
16 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

17 Q. As of September 21st, and 22nd, 1990, had you
18 learned, sir, that in the course of conducting
19 interrogations under the command of John Burge, how to
20 physically abuse a suspect in such a way that no mark
21 of the physical abuse would be left on the suspect's
22 body?

23 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
24 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

1 Q. When you struck Mr. Brown, Victor Safford,
2 with your hand, your fists and a flashlight, did you
3 strike him in such a way that no mark of your physical
4 abuse would be left on his body?

5 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
6 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

7 Q. On November 8th, 1991, did you lie under oath
8 at the motion to suppress hearing in this very case,
9 when you denied any of the things that I have asked you
10 about?

11 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
12 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

13 MR. BOWMAN: If I may briefly approach. I
14 have a deposition, just to be clear, I have a
15 deposition of Mr. O'Brien that we are going to move
16 into evidence. These matters I'm going to place before
17 him were not covered in that deposition.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MR. BOWMAN: Q I'm going to hand up at this
20 time Mr. O'Brien, what's been marked for identification
21 as Petitioner's Exhibit No. 53, a complaint register
22 involving an individual by the name of Steven Riley.

23 My question, on April 4, 1989, while
24 under the command of John Burge at Area Three, did you

1 repeatedly strike Steven Riley with a flashlight during
2 the course of arresting him?

3 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
4 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

5 Q. I'm now placing before you, sir, what's been
6 previously marked as Petitioner's Exhibit No. 69. An
7 affidavit of an individual named Richardson.

8 My question, on September 28, 1991,
9 while under the command of John Burge at Area Three,
10 did you slam on a table Mr. Travis Richardson's head in
11 an effort to cause him to confess to a crime under
12 investigation?

13 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer
14 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

15 Q. I'm placing before you now, what has been
16 previously marked as Petitioner's Exhibit No. 70. An
17 Office of Professional Standards interview of one
18 Michael Peterson.

19 My question, on September 28, 1991,
20 while under the command of John Burge at Area Three,
21 did you choke, punch, kick and attempt to burn with a
22 cigarette, Mr. Michael Peterson, in an effort to cause
23 him to confess to a crime under investigation?

24 A. Again counsel, I revert to my previous answer

1 and invoke my Fifth Amendment right.

2 MR. BOWMAN: With respect to the other
3 matters involving Mr. O'Brien, we will stand on the
4 record that's made in the deposition, which has been
5 marked for identification as Petitioner's Exhibit
6 No. 5.

7 THE COURT: Mr. O'Brien, if you were asked
8 any additional questions with reference to your
9 employment with the city as a detective, would your
10 answer still be the same, you invoke your Fifth
11 Amendment right?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes your Honor, it would.

13 THE COURT: Any cross.

14 MR. CHIMERA: No.

15 MR. BOWMAN: That's all I have.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.

17 MR. BOWMAN: At this time we call Petitioner.

18 (Witness sworn)

19

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EXHIBIT G:

Transcript of Proceedings dated May 22, 2009 in People v. Brown
90 CR 23997: Ruling by Judge Crane

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2) SS:
3 COUNTY OF C O O K)

4 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
5 COUNTY DEPARTMENT-CRIMINAL DIVISION

6 THE PEOPLE OF THE)
7 STATE OF ILLINOIS,)

8 Plaintiff,)

9 vs.)

10 CORTEZ BROWN a/k/a)
11 VICTOR SAFFORLD,)

12 Defendant.)

No. 90 CR 23997

Charge:

13 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS of the
14 hearing had before the HONORABLE CLAYTON J.
15 CRANE, on the 22nd day of May 2009, in Chicago,
16 Illinois.

17 APPEARANCES:

18 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, by
19 MR. VICENZO CHIMERA, PAUL BERVID
20 and ERIC LEVIN,
21 Assistant Attorney Generals,
22 on behalf of the People;

23 MR. LOCKE BOWMAN, MR. FLINT
24 TAYLOR, MS. JOEY MOGUL and
MS. SARAH GELSOMINO,
on behalf of the Defendant.

Sandra Battaglia
Official Court Reporter
Criminal Division
C.S.R. #084-003168

1 THE COURT: Okay. The next matter before
2 the Court is the People of the State of Illinois
3 versus Cortez Brown also known as Victor
4 Safforld. You can take a seat over there.

5 Okay. Hopefully this is the last
6 time in this issue. Counsels, announce your
7 names for the record from the Petitioner's table
8 first.

9 MR. BOWMAN: My name is Locke Bowman on
10 behalf of Victor Safforld.

11 MR. TAYLOR: Flint, F-L-I-N-T, Taylor on
12 behalf of Mr. Safforld.

13 MS. MOGUL: Joey Mogul, M-O-G-U-L, on
14 behalf of Mr. Safforld.

15 MS. GELSOMINO: Sarah Gelsomino,
16 G-E-L-S-O-M-I-N-O, on behalf of Victor Safforld.

17 MR. LEVIN: Eric Levin, L-E-V-I-N, on
18 behalf of the Attorney General's Office.

19 MR. BERVID: Paul Bervid, B-E-R-V-I-D, also
20 on behalf of the Illinois Attorney General's
21 Office.

22 MR. CHIMERA: Good morning, your Honor.

23 Vincenzo Chimera, C-H-I-M-E-R-A,
24 from the Attorney General's Office.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 I indicated today that I would
3 have my ruling. My ruling is not in writing. I
4 ran out of time. But I shall give the ruling.
5 And I am sure that's what most people are
6 concerned about.

7 This Court had the ability to
8 observe the interest, bias, and credibility of
9 the various witnesses who testified in this
10 matter. This Court took into account only
11 competent, relevant, and material evidence.

12 Although there are over 100
13 exhibits recovered in this case, those matters
14 which were considered by the Court as concerns
15 those various exhibits which were admitted were
16 only to the limited purpose for which each
17 exhibit was admitted. Those issues of hearsay
18 were not considered. Those issues of opinion
19 were not considered.

20 This is a third stage
21 postconviction hearing. The issue is whether or
22 not the Petitioner in this matter incurred a
23 substantial denial of his constitutional right
24 during the initial prosecution of this case.

1 This narrows down to whether the statement that
2 the Petitioner gave implicating himself was
3 voluntary or that his will was overborne by the
4 actions of the police causing him to confess.

5 This hearing was essentially a new
6 motion to suppress statements. At this hearing,
7 the only person that was in the room who
8 testified was the Petitioner. The present or
9 past detectives were silent. I am taking that
10 silence into consideration.

11 As concerns September 21st, 1990,
12 there were some circumstantial witnesses. Those
13 included the Assistant -- two Assistant State's
14 Attorneys, one of each -- each one who took a
15 statement in this matter, and the court
16 reporter.

17 They indicated in their testimony
18 they saw no visual signs of any harm caused to
19 the defendant, and the defendant did not
20 complain of any harm. It is also fair to note
21 that in the pictures taken of the defendant on
22 that particular day, I can't see any visual
23 signs. I am not a doctor.

24 He was wearing long pants. He had

1 a long-sleeve shirt on. He was dealing with
2 experienced -- very experienced detectives.

3 Much was made of the fact that the
4 defendant -- the Petitioner, excuse me, in this
5 particular matter -- Petitioner may no
6 complaints. The fact of the matter is, the
7 Petitioner is staying in the custody of the
8 Chicago Police Department after he makes the
9 statement. He is not going home with the
10 State's Attorneys.

11 On the other hand, Mr. Safforld is
12 not a good witness. I have been exposed to
13 Mr. Safforld, known as Cortez Brown by me, for
14 an extended period of time. I found him to be a
15 mature, streetwise individual. He sure didn't
16 testify that way.

17 I don't know what he was like 19
18 years ago. I can only glean that from his
19 testimony and from his behavior at the time of
20 the original incident.

21 When he was interviewed by
22 Sergeant Baker, he lied about his age. He used
23 13. That's the magic number to get you treated
24 as an individual. He didn't give the right

1 name. He figured maybe nobody would be able to
2 track him down.

3 I will indicate that Sergeant
4 Baker was the best witness in this case. I
5 believed absolutely everything he said. The
6 defendant did sign that statement. That is the
7 defendant's signature. He was given his rights.

8 The Petitioner's various
9 explanations of the events that occurred in the
10 room don't help his case. The issues where did
11 you get hit, how did you get hit, what did you
12 get hit with, seem to adjust themselves based
13 upon where he was testifying.

14 Given that, I understand the
15 original ruling in this case. I understand who
16 the witnesses were, and I understand what the
17 outcome of that ruling was.

18 In this hearing, I had an
19 advantage over the judge in that hearing. I
20 also had a disadvantage over the judge in that
21 hear. The disadvantage I had in this hearing
22 was I have no testimony from the other
23 individuals in that room. My advantage is I
24 have some additional evidence as to the

1 behaviors of some, if not all, of the detectives
2 in this case.

3 That evidence is staggering. That
4 evidence is damning. The Petitioner has met his
5 burden. Petition granted. Motion for new
6 trial.

7 Court is in session.

8 THE SHERIFF: Court is still in session.

9 THE COURT: Court will be in recess for
10 five minutes.

11 If you want to celebrate or
12 whatever you want to do, go outside. I
13 apologize for making the Sims' family victims
14 again.

15

16

17

18

(WHEREUPON the case was passed
and later recalled.)

19

THE COURT: Cortez Brown.

20

21

Bring out Mr. Brown, okay -- if
they are not up here -- or Mr. Safford.

22

23

MR. BERVID: They are not in the hallway.
I know that.

24

THE COURT: Okay.

1 THE SHERIFF: They all went downstairs. Do
2 you need them back up?

3 THE COURT: Yes. Tell them I want them
4 right now.

5 Okay. This matter is -- we need a
6 date.

7 MS. MOGUL: Good morning again, your Honor.

8 Joey Mogul and Sarah Gelsomino on
9 behalf of Mr. Safforld.

10 Your Honor, we would ask -- and I
11 have discussed this with Mr. Chimera -- if we
12 can set this down for next Friday.

13 THE COURT: Does that work for you?

14 MR. CHIMERA: That's fine. By agreement,
15 Judge.

16 THE COURT: By agreement to next Friday,
17 which is the 29th. Okay. See everybody back
18 here then.

19

20

21

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23

24

(WHEREUPON the above-entitled
cause was continued to
5-29-09 in Courtroom 600.)

1
2 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
3) SS.
4 COUNTY OF C O O K)

5 I, SANDRA BATTAGLIA, Official
6 Shorthand Reporter of the Circuit Court of Cook
7 County, County Department, Criminal Division, do
8 hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the
9 proceedings had at the hearing of the
10 above-entitled cause, and that the foregoing is
11 a true and correct transcript of the proceedings
12 had.
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Official Shorthand Reporter
C.S.R. #084-003168
Circuit Court of Cook County
County Department
Criminal Division
Dated this 3rd day of
June, 2009