

ARREST WARRANT

S. A. CASE NO. 17AH012484AD
DIVISION CRC
ASST ST ATTY Mac D. Heavener, III

CCR NO. 94060511223
JUDGE Tatiana Salvador

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
TO ALL SINGULAR THE SHERIFFS OR DEPUTY
SHERIFFS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA


WHEREAS, upon the sworn affidavit, complaint or other sworn testimony of **Detective Sgt. Jimmy Watson**, the undersigned Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida, in and for Duval County, has found that there exists probable cause to believe that one **RONNIE L. HYDE**, did on or about **June 5, 1994**, in Duval and Columbia Counties, Florida commit the below-listed offense(s), contrary to the provisions of Florida Statutes:

1 MURDER, §782.04, LI

You are HEREBY COMMANDED to arrest **RONNIE L. HYDE**, Last Known Address: **836 4th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250**; Race: **White**; Sex: **Male**; DOB: **06/02/1956**; Ht: **6'2**; Wt: **Unknown**; Hair: **Brown**; Eyes: **Unknown**; Scars, Marks: **Unknown**; if he be found in your county, and safely keep him so that you have his body before a Judge of the Duval County Circuit Court, at the Courthouse in Jacksonville, instantler, to be dealt with according to law.

Appearance bond is fixed per count at: 1) \$ NO BOND 2) \$ 3) \$

Given under my hand and seal this 6th day of March, 2017.



Judge of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial
Circuit in and for Duval, County, Florida

Extradition Code C / Z / S / E / O / D (Circle One)

ASA Approval:  _____

Received this Arrest Warrant the _____ day of _____, 20____, and executed it on the _____ day of _____, 20____, by arresting the within named _____ and having him / her now before the Court this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Arresting Officer: _____ ID# _____
Agency: _____
Duty Section: _____

JAIL DOCKET NO. _____

AFFIDAVIT FOR ARREST WARRANT

S. A. CASE NO. 17AH012484AD
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CCR NO. 94060511223
JUDGE Tatiana Salvador

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF DUVAL)

Before me the undersigned Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, in and for Duval County, Florida, personally came **Detective Sgt. Jimmy Watson**, who, being duly sworn deposes and says that he has reason to believe and does believe that one **RONNIE L. HYDE**, described as follows: Last Known Address: **836 4th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250**; Race: **White**; Sex: **Male**; DOB: **06/02/1956**; Ht: **6'2**; Wt: **Unknown** Hair: **Brown**; Eyes: **Not Defined**; Scars, Marks: **UNKNOWN**; did in Duval and Columbia Counties, Florida, on or about **June 5, 1994**, commit the below-listed offense(s), contrary to the provisions of Florida Statutes:

1 MURDER, S782.04, LI

Affiant's reasons for so believing are as follows:

Investigator Background:

I, your affiant Jimmy Watson, am a Deputy Sheriff with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) where I have been employed since September of 2007. I also served for three years as a Police Officer with the Lake City Police Department. I am a Certified Law Enforcement Instructor and work at the Florida Gateway College Law Enforcement Academy as an adjunct instructor. I am a certified crime scene investigator through the International Association for Identification. I am also employed as an adjunct instructor at CSI Academy of Florida, a private institution that specializes in training focused on forensic investigations.

I hold many duties and responsibilities in my capacity as a Law Enforcement Officer. I am assigned to the CCSO Crisis Negotiation Team and fill various roles on that team as needed. I am assigned as the CCSO Internet Crimes against Children Investigator (ICAC) and am a member of the North Florida ICAC Task Force. ICAC is a nationwide Organization of Law Enforcement Officers that are assigned to regional task forces for the purposes of investigation of child sexual exploitation facilitated by the internet, including such crimes that involve the sexual exploitation of children, the trade, sale, purchase, sharing, and production of images of child sexual exploitation (child pornography), and the investigation of sex trafficking of minors.

I am currently cross-sworn as a Special Deputy United States Marshal and am assigned to the FBI in Jacksonville Florida as a member of the Violent Crimes Task Force for the investigation of crimes against children, including the crimes previously described in my ICAC duties.

I was previously assigned as the primary investigator for sex crimes at CCSO, but those duties have now been shared with other Detectives due to my numerous commitments. I still investigate or assist with investigations of sexual crimes as needed, particularly in crimes that involve the victimization of minors.

In addition to these assignments, I currently investigate cold cases for CCSO. Cold cases usually involve a violent crime and an extended period of time that has passed during the investigation without the identification or apprehension of a suspect. Cold cases also may comprise missing persons' cases where the missing person has not been located for an extended period of time under circumstances that would indicate the person is endangered or may have come to harm. The time frame of these investigations can vary from weeks to years and is largely dependent of the circumstances of each individual case.

In the performance of my duties, I have investigated and assisted in the investigation of various crimes that are being alleged in this affidavit. I have participated in numerous death investigations of various types, including incidents of homicide, suicide, accidental death, vehicular death, and unexplained deaths.

Statement of Probable Cause

I have probable cause to believe, and do believe, that Ronnie L. Hyde has committed the crime of Murder in violation of Section 782.04, Florida Statutes. This Affidavit does not articulate each and every fact I know about the investigation. Instead, the facts that are being presented are those that tend to establish probable cause to support the arrest warrant I am requesting and are as follows:

Background of Investigation and Facts Establishing Probable Cause

The probable cause detailed below is based on information provided to me both verbally and in written documentation from other federal and state law enforcement officers and personnel, including special agents and lab personnel with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO), the Jacksonville Beach Police Department, and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), as well as through investigation that I personally conducted as set forth herein.

The Recovery of a Human Torso with Missing Head, Hands, Legs, and Buttocks

On Sunday June 5, 1994, CCSO Detective Calvin Fenner began an investigation following the report of a dismembered human torso located behind a dumpster ("Dumpster") at the BP service station ("the BP") located at U.S. Hwy 441N and I-10 in Columbia County. The I-10 westbound off ramp is approximately 80 feet from the BP entrance and would be easily accessible to someone travelling on I-10 westbound, the direction of travel that someone coming from the Jacksonville area would take. Detective Fenner has advised me of the following information, some of which was set forth in written documentation that I have reviewed.

- A. On Sunday June 5, 1994, at approximately 10:09 am, Deputies with CCSO responded to a report of a human torso. The torso was found behind a dumpster at the BP service station located at U.S. Highway 441N and I-10.
- B. On arrival, CCSO Deputy Brian Rix was able to see the torso section of a white male lying behind the dumpster. The head and both legs had been severed from the torso, and the hands had been severed from the arms. The head, hands, and legs were missing and not located. Deputy Rix secured the crime scene and notified on-call investigators, which included Detective Fenner for the crime scene investigation and Detective Mike Hodges for the investigation.
- C. Deputy Rix spoke with those present at the scene. Deputy Rix learned the body was discovered by Rebecca F. Hunt, who was walking her dog in the parking lot. Mrs. Hunt notified the station owner, Walter D. Barry, who then called CCSO. Deputy Rix stated in his report that prior to law enforcement arrival only one other person went near the body, the station mechanic G.W. Risner. Deputy Rix also learned from speaking with BP employees the station had closed at 10:00 pm the night before and had reopened 8:00 am the following morning, June 5, 1994.
- D. Another witness, Mr. William Leon Gilbert, spoke with Det. M. Hodges and also drew a diagram on June 6, 1994. Mr. Gilbert stated that he saw a vehicle backed up to the dumpster at approximately 7:00 am on June 5, 1994. Mr. Gilbert stated that while passing the BP, he recalled seeing a newer model Chevy Camaro or Firebird, grey, black, or dark blue in color, backed up to the dumpster. Mr. Gilbert reported the car was very well kept and was "shiny" looking. Mr. Gilbert stated the driver door was open and the back hatch, or trunk, was also open. Mr. Gilbert stated he was not able to see the driver. I spoke with William Leon Gilbert in May 2016. His recollection was consistent with his prior statements.
- E. CCSO Investigator Hodges and Deputy Rix briefed Detective Fenner on the scene, and shortly thereafter, Detective Fenner began a Crime Scene Investigation. Detective Fenner went to a location northeast of the dumpster and was able to see the torso. From a point immediately in front of interior of the dumpster, Detective Fenner saw what appeared to be a number of plastic bags with blood like stains on them. Detective Fenner also saw a red, white, and blue checked long sleeve flannel shirt (the "Flannel Shirt") that also had a blood-like stain on it. Detective Fenner noted there was a similar plastic bag in the right rear corner of the dumpster that appeared to have items in it.

- F. The front of the dumpster had a smear of apparent blood that began at the upper left while facing the dumpster. This would be on the south side of west face of the dumpster. The blood smear continued downward to a point near the lower middle of the dumpster. The apparent blood smear then continued along the ground to behind the dumpster on the north side and around to the east side where the torso was located.
- G. Detective Fenner documented the scene with still photographs, video, and measurements.
- H. The recovered Flannel Shirt had blood-like stains and rips in its back and side. Blood-like stains were found on the sleeves, tail, and lower front of the shirt.
- I. The large plastic bag from the right rear, or southeast, corner of the dumpster was removed and its contents were examined. Within this bag, Detective Fenner found an apparent blood soaked egg crate style mattress topper. Wrapped within the mattress topper, two black handled "Tri-star" knives were located. One knife had a serrated edge and an approximately 8" blade. The other knife, a paring knife, had a 3" blade. Both knives had the same blood-like stains present on them. No latent prints were observed on the knives.
- J. Detective Fenner also located a pair of orange colored gloves inside the plastic bag, similar to those used to do household work. The gloves had been turned partially inside-out. The gloves had spots of blood-like stains on their exteriors.
- K. In the folds of the recovered mattress topper, Detective Fenner located five pieces of decorative non-slip bathtub adhesives (otherwise referred to as "bathtreads," or "bath appliques") of a floral design. These non-slip bathtub adhesives are commonly used in bathtubs to prevent falls. Detective Fenner additionally found pieces of what appeared to be hair, bone, and tissue that had adhered to the foam mattress topper.
- L. The torso appeared to have been washed. The torso did not have any noticeable blood coming from it. The head had been removed just above the shoulders. As a result of the removal of the hands, no fingerprints could be developed from the body for identification purposes. The legs and buttocks had been removed completely. The genitals were intact. There was no rigor mortis present in the torso.

On June 6, 1994, an autopsy was conducted on the torso at the District Four Medical Examiner's office in Jacksonville, Florida, by Doctor Margarita Arruza. I have read Detective Fenner's supplemental reports which provided me with the following information:

- A. The cause of death was determined as Homicide.
- B. The victim was in good health, a non-smoker with a past history of pneumonia, no contents in the stomach, still possessed his appendix, and was estimated to be below the age of 25.
- C. An anthropological examination was also requested to further refine the estimated age of the victim. Several bones were removed from the torso for further examination by a forensic anthropologist.

On February 24, 2017, I received another report from the Jacksonville Medical Examiner's Office indicating the cause of death to be homicidal violence with etiology, or manner of death, undetermined.

On June 29, 1994, Dr. William Maples of the University Of Florida C.A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory provided a written report which I have reviewed and learned the following information:

- A. At the time of the examination, the body appeared to be quite fresh, with only minor beginning of decomposition.
- B. The victim was a white, teenaged male, conservatively aged between 16 to 19 years.
- C. All cuts were consistent with knife, not saw, damage.

Dr. Maples' findings were later reassessed in 2016 through an exam conducted by Dr. Heather Walsh-Haney of Florida Gulf Coast University. Dr. Walsh-Haney's results concluded that the skeletal remains (previously examined on June 7, 1994 by Dr. William R. Maples) were most likely those of a 14 to 17 year-old male who was

approximately 5'6" to 5'11" and whose remains presented with evidence of postmortem dismemberment with a knife.

Missing Persons Investigation:

On February 17, 1995, the Duval County Sheriff's Office (now Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) was called in reference to a missing person. I have reviewed the relevant written documentation and have learned the following:

- A. JSO responded to the home of a civilian whose initials are [REDACTED] reported that her [REDACTED] year old brother [REDACTED] had been missing since June 1994. [REDACTED] stated no one in the family had heard from her brother since this time. She stated it was unusual for him to stay out of contact with the family for an extended period of time. [REDACTED] provided a photo of [REDACTED] and stated he left with only a few items of clothing.
- B. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was last seen by a family friend, Ron Hyde (w/m/30's) ("Hyde," "Ron Hyde," or "Ronnie Hyde"). [REDACTED] reported that her brother was in a band that often played at Jacksonville Beach, the location I know where Hyde resided. [REDACTED] reported that Hyde had told her that [REDACTED] had gotten out of Hyde's vehicle somewhere in the Ocean Way area.
- C. [REDACTED] advised that she and her brother, [REDACTED] went to the Police Memorial building in Duval County as well as the Nassau County Sheriff's Office on or about July 1, 1994 to report their brother [REDACTED] as missing but were unable to report him missing at Nassau County.
- D. There is no record of their contact with law enforcement in July 1994.
- E. [REDACTED] indicated that Hyde was residing at Thelma Street in Duval County.
- F. There is no record indicating any law enforcement contact with Hyde regarding [REDACTED] or his disappearance.

On May 13, 2014, I spoke with Carol Schweitzer from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children ("NCMEC") about this case. NCMEC determined to advertise this case via their website. The text of the website advertisement read as follows; "On June 5, 1994 a torso of an unidentified male was found in Lake City, Florida. His body was found at a gas station along the north side of Interstate 10 near the intersection of Highway 441. The male had been deceased less than 1 day prior to being found. He is estimated to have been 16-19 years old, stood 5'05"-5'11" tall, and weighed between 170-205 pounds. The victim's hair might have been light brown with the tips bleached. His eye color could not be determined. No tattoos or scars were visible. He had a mole on his lower right chest. The male had traces of over-the-counter medication in his system that was consistent with having flu or cold like symptoms. No clothing was found on the male but a long sleeve, button-up red plaid shirt was found with him and thought to have been worn by the him. Several dark green flower shaped non-skid bathtub adhesives and a foam crated mattress pad were also found with him. A digitally enhanced image of the shirt and bathtub adhesive is pictured above."

Identification of the Torso as [REDACTED]

On September 14, 2015, after seeing the NCMEC website advertisement, a civilian whose initials are [REDACTED], reached out to the CCSO to advise that she thought the NCMEC case could potentially be about her missing brother, [REDACTED].

On September 15, 2015, I and other members of CCSO met with [REDACTED] an individual whose initials are [REDACTED] and an individual whose initials are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated they believed the unidentified torso could have been that of [REDACTED] twin brother, [REDACTED]. They indicated that [REDACTED] went missing from Jacksonville, Florida in June 1994. The sisters stated that the last person believed to have contact with [REDACTED] was a family friend named "Ron Hyde." Since the date of [REDACTED] disappearance, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that Hyde had given them different stories about Hyde's last contact with [REDACTED]. They last saw [REDACTED] when he left their sister's [REDACTED] house. Later, [REDACTED] spoke with [REDACTED] via telephone, and [REDACTED] advised he was with Hyde. No one in [REDACTED] family had seen or spoken with [REDACTED] since that time.

On September 30, 2015, I spoke with Melody Josserand at the University of North Texas Center for Human Identification (UNT) to explore the possibility of conducting familial DNA testing on the unidentified victim's remains. UNT requested a family reference sample to compare to the Victim Profile to determine whether a familial relationship could be determined between the unidentified victim and the Laster siblings.

On November 3, 2015, I obtained a DNA swab from [REDACTED] (sister). This along with the sample already obtained from [REDACTED] (twin sister) were sent to UNT.

In February, 2016, UNT reported "The genetic data obtained from [the swabs] are consistent with the unidentified human remains originating from a biological sibling of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]."

More specifically, UNT reported "These genetic data (autosomal STRs and mitochondrial DNA) are approximately 208,333 times more likely to be observed under the scenario that the unidentified human remains originated from a biological sibling of [REDACTED] as opposed to the unidentified remain originating from an unrelated individual from the Caucasian population."

On February 17, 2016, I met with [REDACTED] and informed them that the familial DNA results indicated that the previously unidentified torso was that of their brother, [REDACTED].

The Flannel Shirt Recovered from the Dumpster Reveals DNA from Victim and Wearer

On June 7, 1994, the Flannel Shirt was submitted to FDLE for forensic analysis. On September 1, 1994, FDLE issued its report indicating that human blood was identified on the Flannel Shirt.

On August 17, 2010, Detective Fenner resubmitted the Flannel Shirt and other items to FDLE for further forensic examination as advancements had been made in DNA testing capabilities.

On November 18, 2010, FDLE reported that partial DNA profiles were obtained from cuttings taken from the Flannel Shirt. One partial profile was obtained from a red-brown stain on the shirt that matched the victim's DNA profile at seven loci. A partial DNA profile was obtained from the collar of the shirt, and the victim's DNA profile was excluded as the originator of this profile. A mixed DNA profile was obtained from underarm areas of the Flannel Shirt that included a profile that matched the victim's DNA profile and an unidentified DNA profile originating from someone else.

On December 2, 2014, FDLE issued a report after conducting additional analysis with Identifiler and Minifiler products. This report indicated that FDLE obtained partial DNA profiles from two cuttings of the left underarm area of the shirt that were consistent with being from the same individual (the "Unknown Wearer's DNA Profile") and the possibility of an additional contributor to one of the cuttings that was consistent with the Victim Profile. Additionally, two cuttings from the right underarm area showed the presence of a mixture, with the victim being one donor and another unknown individual being the second contributor.

The Unknown Partial Wearer's DNA Profile from the Flannel Shirt was entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), but no CODIS hit took place. I know from my own personal experience that unless the contributor of a DNA profile's actual profile is present in CODIS, a CODIS hit will not take place when unknown DNA samples are submitted to the CODIS system. The lack of a CODIS hit is consistent with the contributor of the unknown DNA being from a person with no qualifying criminal offenses, such as Ronnie Hyde.

In summary, the December 2 report indicated the presence of the Unknown Wearer's DNA profile from both cuttings of the left underarm area, the presence of a mixture of DNA profiles from the right underarm cuttings, with the Victim Profile included as one of the donor, and a partial DNA profile from a red-brown stained area that matched the Victim Profile at eight loci. The frequency of occurrence for this partial DNA profile is one in twelve million individuals.

The Wearer's DNA Profile is Matched to Ronnie Hyde

On April 12, 2016, a trash pull was conducted at the residential address of Ronnie Leon Hyde, 836 4th Ave. N, Jacksonville Beach, Florida, 32250. Two garbage bags were removed from the trash bin which had been placed on the roadside of this address. The following was recovered:

A. In the first bag, at the top of the bag, I found a piece of mail with the name "Ron Hyde."

B. I also located a red SOLO cup that contained several used Zicam nasal swabs.

I know from my investigation that Ronnie Hyde has maintained a residence at the 4th Avenue address and appears to be the only person living there. I know this from my interviews with the victim's family members, such as [REDACTED] the victim's brother. He advised that he once lived with Hyde, but has not done so for many years. The victim's other family members that I interviewed have also advised that Hyde lived in that residence. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Also, surveillance has demonstrated that Hyde resides at the residence alone.

On April 14, 2016, the Columbia County Sheriff's Office delivered the Zicam swabs to FDLE for DNA testing and comparison to the Unknown Wearer's DNA Profile.

On May 14, 2016, FDLE reported the DNA profile obtained from the Zicam swabs ("Zicam DNA Profile") collected from Ronnie Hyde's trash matched the Unknown Wearer's DNA Profile obtained from the Flannel Shirt collected from the Dumpster in 1994. I have reviewed an FDLE report dated May 14, 2016, prepared by Crime Laboratory Analyst Supervisor Nadine Flanagan. According to that report, the Zicam DNA Profile matched the Unknown Wearer's DNA Profile at 12 loci. The frequency of this partial profile is rarer than 1 in 700 billion. Also, the Zicam DNA Profile matched one of the mixture profiles from the right underarm mixture at three loci. The frequency of this partial profile is one in 280.

In summary, DNA analysis on the Flannel Shirt reveals a partial DNA profile from one of the blood stains matches the Victim Profile, a partial DNA profile from left underarm cuttings match the Zicam DNA Profile, partial DNA profiles from right underarm cuttings show a mixture that includes both the Victim's DNA Profile and the Zicam DNA Profile, and an unknown partial DNA profile is present of the collar of the shirt. Based on these results, I have reason to believe that Hyde wore the Flannel Shirt recovered from the Dumpster.

Statements Provided by [REDACTED] Family

On April 29, 2016, JSO Detective Warkentien and I interviewed [REDACTED] sister, [REDACTED] I asked [REDACTED] if she knew of anyone who might be involved in [REDACTED] disappearance. She stated, "Ron Hyde." She stated she had questioned him on multiple occasions over several years, with their last meeting sometime in 2003. She recounted the following differing accounts that Hyde had given her of what had happened to her brother after leaving with him:

- A. Ron dropped [REDACTED] off in the Pecan Park area.
- B. Ron dropped [REDACTED] off at the first bridge on U.S. 17 going into Nassau County from Duval County.
- C. Ron dropped [REDACTED] off at the second bridge rather than the first, on U.S. 17 going into Nassau County from Duval County.
- D. Ron dropped off [REDACTED] at his grandmother's house in Yulee, Florida.
- E. [REDACTED] was at his house and left a ball cap on the hedges in his yard.

[REDACTED] told me they first met Ron Hyde sometime in the 1980s. She stated when they first met Hyde they attended the Strength for Living church in Jacksonville, and Hyde had worked there as a youth pastor. She said Hyde lived in a bus behind the church. [REDACTED] advised that she and her brother, [REDACTED] had stayed the night at Hyde's house located at 836 4th Ave. N, Jacksonville Beach, Florida, 32250 approximately a year before [REDACTED] disappearance because Hyde was going to take them to the bus station the next day. She awoke to find Hyde nude, attempting to quietly awaken [REDACTED]

On April 29, 2016, JSO Detective Warkentien and I interviewed [REDACTED] sister, [REDACTED] During the interview, [REDACTED] stated the last place she saw [REDACTED] was at her apartment on Eubanks in Jacksonville in June 1994. She stated [REDACTED] was upset that day and wanted to leave. [REDACTED] asked her to leave with him and she told him no and tried to calm him down. She said she gave him several reasons why they could not go away. She told me [REDACTED] made a phone call and then told her "Ron" (Hyde) was coming to pick him up from her home. [REDACTED] left to get

████ twin, █████, to talk to █████ and urge him not to leave. She asked him to stay at the house until she got back with █████ when she returned, █████ was gone. █████ called █████ later that night and told her he was with Hyde. She asked if Hyde came and picked up him from her house, and he told her yes. She stated the last time she talked to him she heard a sound like there was wind in the background of the phone and thought he must be making the call from somewhere outdoors. She stated █████ sounded distant, emotional, and she asked him if he was ok. This was the last time she spoke with █████ and █████ stated Ron had given them each different stories about █████. Ron told them Fred jumped out of his car in the area of Oceanway. Ron also told them he had dropped █████ off in the area of Pecan Park and the flea market. Another time, Ron told them that he dropped Fred off at the first bridge into Nassau County on Highway 17, and then later said it was the second bridge. Finally, Ron told them █████ had been in his yard and left a hat there. She further stated that Ron was always taking her brothers off with him, and he was always spending time with young male boys. She stated Ron always wanted to take up his time with young male boys with problems.

On December 21, 2016, I traveled with Special Agent A. Beccaccio to New Orleans to interview █████ brother. During that interview, █████ advised me of the following information. Hyde later told █████ that █████ threatened to get out of the car, and █████ had taken his seat belt off. Hyde told █████ that he stopped somewhere on Highway 17 (between Pecan Parkway and Joel Road), and █████ got out of the car. Hyde could not see █████ after he left the car because it was nighttime and Highway 17 was very dark. Hyde told █████ he believed █████ had gotten into a black truck that pulled over, but due to the darkness, was not able to verify this. Hyde left when he could not locate █████ and went to work the next day.

During █████ interview, █████ advised that he did not recognize the Flannel Shirt. █████ stated the shirt did not look like something Hyde would wear and indicated that the Flannel Shirt looked like one of Hyde's father's. █████ explained Hyde still had most of his father's possessions in his home following his father's death. █████ stated Hyde would wear his father's clothes to perform work when he didn't want to soil his regular clothes. █████ was asked what types of knives Hyde had in the home/kitchen. █████ stated Hyde owned a set of Ginsu-style knives which were kept in the kitchen. The description of the knives is consistent with the knives found at the crime scene. █████ stated Hyde has some medical training and has taken numerous prerequisites for the nursing program. This leads to the belief that Hyde has anatomical knowledge and would be familiar with joints, bone structures, and bodily organs placement, which would be of value to him during dismemberment of a body.

The Bath Mats, Treads, or Appliques

As noted above, investigators recovered pieces of what appear to be bath mats, treads, or appliques from the same plastic bag as other evidence recovered from the crime scene. The mats, treads, or appliques appear to be rubber or plastic and of floral shape.

During my interview with █████ family members, several of them recalled seeing these types of mats, treads, or appliques in Hyde's residence at 836 4th Ave. N, Jacksonville Beach, Florida, 32250. █████ advised that she remembered those types of bathtub mats at Hyde's house. She remembered the house had a 1970's type tile on the floor, and there were the bath mats [bath treads or appliques] in the tub. She said the house was cluttered and that the only bathroom she could access was the one with the bath mats.

During my interview with █████ stated that Hyde also had bath mats in his home, but █████ could not recall the colors. █████ stated that mats would most likely have iron stains on them from the water that the house had. █████ reviewed a photograph and recognized the bath mats recovered from the Dumpster as being consistent with the ones in Ron's home, but was not familiar with the color. █████ stated he has not been to the home in the last several years.

The presence of the bath mats in the dumpster provides circumstantial evidence that Hyde committed the murder and dismemberment and that the murder and dismemberment took place at Hyde's residence at Jacksonville Beach, Florida.

The Camaro


During my interview with █████ described Hyde's car as gray, possibly a Camaro, two-tone with silver up top and a darker color on the bottom. During my interview with █████ described Hyde driving a Camaro or Firebird that was gray or silver with a burgundy stripe. During my interview with █████ he stated that he was present when Hyde purchased a charcoal gray Chevy Camaro. █████ did not know what happened to the car and believed Hyde sold it in the years following █████ disappearance.

During my investigation, I learned that Digby Hyde was Ron Hyde's father. In addition to the statements of the witnesses noted above, I have learned the following information about a 1987 Camaro that was owned by Digby Hyde and operated by Hyde during the period under investigation:

- A. A query of the Florida DAVID system revealed Digby Hyde to be the last registered owner of a gray, two door 1987 Chevrolet Camaro, VIN 1G1FP21S6HN100984, Florida tag VKI09X. Digby Hyde obtained title number 43811374 for the Camaro on 11 May 1990. This tag was issued on 3 September 1996.
- B. According to information I have reviewed in Accurant, a database routinely used by members of law enforcement, on Tuesday, September 14, 1993, Hyde was involved in a traffic accident. The accident took place on or around UNF Drive. The Accurant report indicates that Hyde was operating a 1987 Chevrolet with a VIN number of 1M1P2156HN100984. The vehicle's owner was listed as Digby Hyde, Hyde's father. The last eight digits of the vehicle are the same as the 1987 Chevrolet Camaro described above. I have reviewed correspondence from JSO Crime Analyst Ashley Hammette, and she advised that the tenth to seventeenth positions in a VIN are classified as the vehicle identifier section (VIS). Manufacturers use the VIS to identify a specific vehicle. In both VINs listed above, the VIS are identical (HN100984), meaning that the VIN that was entered for the Camaro during the 1993 wreck was likely incorrect. No vehicles exist with the VIN number listed in the Accurant report for the vehicle that Hyde was operating during the accident, so I believe the VIN was incorrectly recorded.
- C. I have also reviewed a query of the NICB database of insurance claims. That query revealed that Ron Hyde was involved in a traffic crash in which he was the operator of the Chevy Camaro on or about April 16, 1997.

Records, therefore, establish that Hyde was operating the Camaro prior to and after the disappearance of [REDACTED] and the dismemberment and discarding of [REDACTED] body in 1994.

FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.


Affiant, Detective Sgt. Jimmy Watson
Agency: Columbia County S.O. and FBI
Duty Section: FBI Violent Crimes Task Force

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of March, 2017, by the aforementioned Affiant [] who is personally known to me or ☒ who has produced FL. D.L. as identification and who did take an oath.


Judge of the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial
Circuit in and for Duval, County, Florida