

B

Courts

1 JOHN HENRY YABLONSKY
#2309342444- AL0373
2 9500 ETIWANDA
R.C.,CA 91739
3 IN PROPRIA PERSONA

4
5
6 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
7 COUNTY OF SANBERNARDINO

8 JOHN HENRY YABLONSKY,
9 PETITIONER

Case No.: FV1900518

10 vs.

**NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION IN
PURSUIT OF ANCILLARY FUNDS PC987.2
THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF GS MEDIA GROUP
FOR THE SECOND PHASE OF THESE EXPERT
ADUIO FORENSICS ANALYSIS**

11
12 THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA
13 RESPONDENT

THE HONORABLE ZARAHARA T.ARREDONDO

14
15 If it pleases the Court John Henry Yablonsky (PETITIONER) moves the court as a
16 humble pro- se litigant since September 29, 2023, and consistently since. Petitioner is before the
17 court addressing felony- murder post trial challenges pursuant to PC 1172.6. The court de-
18 signated briefing schedules which motivated the district attorney into producing evidence that
19 was extrinsically false, alleging that this evidence is proof petitioner was guilty as an actual
20 killer. PC189(e)(1) The court has recognized petitioner's allegations that this evidence is false,
21 which has now being investigated by court experts. This court appointed GS MEDIA GROUP -
22 19210 Dearborn st, Northridge, Ca. 91324 (818) 399-1255 on June 6, 2025. That appointment
23 produce compelling scientific evidence, legally supporting petitioners claims, that because of
24 development would entitle petitioner to relief. (SEE ATTACHED DECLARATION BY
25
26 **THOMAS GUZMAN-SANCHEZ- GS MEDIA LAB FORMERLY GS MEDIA GROUP)**
27

GS MEDIA

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1

I. RELEVANT FACTS

2 On 2-3-2011 petitioner was convicted of felony- murder with the deliberate use of false
3 and misleading evidence that was material to the issue of guilt, that evidence was designated as
4 states exhibits 49 & 49A, (RT403. 455- 508-09) in this case, where there was no other
5 incriminating evidence, that was material to the issue of guilt, (RT 317, 491) and the false
6 fabricated misleading evidence was used in this case to manipulate the jury into a verdict which
7 resulted in an LWOP sentence. On 12-12-2023 petitioner filed a verified petition pursuant to
8 PC1172.6 to recall this judgment. On 1-26- 24 the district attorney's office submitted into this
9 record evidence as a memorial of the trial evidence used for the jury to decide guilt. That
10 evidence was presented to the jury as unaltered, and original media which the district attorney
11 knew was not. The evidence presented to the jury was nothing like the evidence now presented
12 into this record during 1172.6 proceedings. On March 14, 2025 the Court appointed Naum Ware
13 private investigations as a preliminary investigator to evaluate and verify the state's evidence
14 described as a 113 page text transcript of the March 8, 2009 interrogation. That investigation
15 produced physical proof that this states exhibit 49A was not only falsely altered by the district
16 attorney who altered petitioner's answers to incriminate him, and was illegally seized (THE
17 NAUM WARE REPORT IS NOW BEFORE THIS COURT AND THE 1172.6 COURT) That
18 report proves;

- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23 1) The defendant should have been read his MIRANDA rights but was not
 - 24 2) When defendant invoked MIRANDA detectives forced interrogatory questioning
 - 25 3) That defendant was in fact under custodial control, making the interview an interrogation
 - 26 4) That SBSD as well as SBDA office altered defendant's answers to incriminate him

27 Petitioner then submitted a motion to this court for the appointment of GS MEDIA
28 GROUP for access to forensics examinations of states exhibit 49 (March 8, 2009 interrogation)

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1 On June 6, 2025 the court appointed GS MEDIA GROUP for these investigations. Naum Ware
2 investigating provided exhibit 49 (audio compact evidence) to GS MEDIA GROUP. THIS
3 FOUR HOUR INTERROGATION RECORDING DESCRIBED AS STATES EXHIBIT 49
4 WAS THEN EVALUATED THROUGH MODERN SCIENTIFIC SOFTWARE RX IZOTOPE
5 WHICH DISCOVERED VALUABLE AND RELEVANT RESULTS. The audio expert
6 technician using audio clarification, file verification software which discovered and detected
7 **EXTREME DECEPTION** within this evidence that had been tampered with, altered and
8 spliced more than fifty (50) **DROPS- CUTS WHICH SHOULD NOT LEGALY EXIST IN**
9 **ORIGINAL EVIDENCE.** According the GS MEDIA GROUP there is a legal need for the
10 second phase of this examination and the writing of legal report which defendant can now prove
11 scientifically that the states key centerpiece evidence had been fraudulently altered, destroying
12 potential exculpatory & impeaching evidence. **(SEE ATTACHED VERIFIED GS MEDIA**
13 **LAB REPORT UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY)** According to the technician, this
14 evidence had been so badly destroyed that it consumed the twenty hours this court originally
15 appointed them to perform and requires more time. Within this sworn declaration by GS MEDIA
16 they provide visual photographs of this evidence where the “ORIGINAL RECORDING
17 MATERIAL SHOULD NOT CONTAIN [ANY] SPLICING”. Those results instigated the need
18 to use modern technologies and software that was designed to detect **TAMPERING.** This
19 scientific technology meets all of today’s demands for scientific credibility thresholds. KELLY/
20 FRYE CA EV 84. This court {must} take notice of these **EXTEREME DEFECTS THAT**
21 **COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED IN 2009 AND NOW QUALIFY AS NEWLY**
22 **DISCOVERED EVIDENCE WHICH SUPPORTS ENTITLEMENT TO RELIEF!**

GS MEDIA

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POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

Indigent defendants are entitled access to the courts ancillary funds PC 987.2 FAXEL 91 CA3d @330; HURLEY 95 CA3d @899; TORRES 50 CA3d @785 There is a legal relevance into the integrity of states evidence. It was and still is the states entire case that the defendant lied about an extramarital affair which was attached to DNA evidence that predated the alleged crime by days. (RT317 several) (RT491 at least one and a half days). Since the scientific forensic evidence did not incriminate the defendant, the district attorney was compelled to manufacture some! NAPUE 360 US @ 269; MIRANDA 384 US @ 479; INNIS 446 US @301; IN RE SASSOUNIAN 9 Cal.4th @545; TROMBETTA @488; YOUNGBLOOD @58; Cal. Const. Art.I sec. 28(f)(2): Ca Ev 1521 When it appears to the court that a party requires appointment of experts relative to facts where an expert may be required, the court [may] authorize access. PC 987.2 These funding's for indigent defendants for the presentation of credible evidence is governed under due process of the 14th amendment US Constitution. When evidence was used and was material to guilt, and that evidence had been discovered that it was unreliable, this discovery requires expert analysis through modern scientific methods that protect the integrity on the defendant's right. This was states centerpiece! The urgency now becomes legally necessary in order to prevent a miscarriage of justice. MURGIA 15 C3d @298; People v Superior Court (BAEZ) 79 CA4th @1189(2000); ARMSTRONG 517 US @468 **"THE COURT SHOULD TAKE JUDICIAL NOTICE- CA EV 452"** (SEE ATTACHED) **IN RE RICHARDS 63 C4th 291(2016) CONVICTED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF SANBERNARDINO THROUGH THE USE OF FALSE EVIDENCE; THE COLONIES CASE WHERE JEFF BURAM, PAUL BIANE, MARK KIRK & JEFF ERWIN**

GS MEDIA

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ALL FELL VICTIM TO THE USE OF FALSE EVIDENCE BY THE SANBERNARDINO

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (SEE ATTACHMENTS) The United States Constitution

14th amendment due process clause requires appointment. FAXEL 91 CA3d 327(1979); DOE 39 CA4th 538; CORENEVSKY 36 C3d @ 321 "ancillary services are necessary at this time"

ANALYSIS

Because of the gravity of this sentence and the nature of the misconduct that was discovered by Naum Ware and now GS Media Group shows that deception was deliberate, strategic and then presented to trial and post-trial counsel in the altered condition to deprive post-trial relief, and presented to Naum Ware & GS Media Groups investigations. This modern technology recently became available, which is how these misconducts were discovered. The Court is urged to personally contact GS Media Group, now, GS Media Lab @ (818) 399- 1255, or Naum Ware @ (909) 935-5818 for personal verification. As a direct result there is a legal & constitutional significance in whether this evidence was in fact altered and unreliable, whether it was material to the issue of guilt and whether this evidence is reliable enough to meet today's modern burdens..

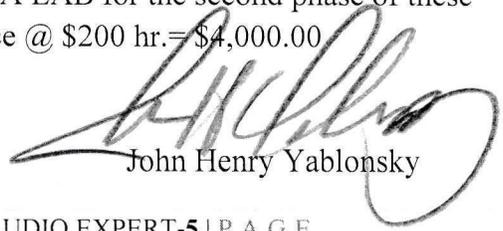
VERIFICATION

I John Henry Yablonsky, an adult and party to this action now declared under the penalty of perjury that the forgoing facts are true and accurate according to belief and knowledge. That I am still indigent and cannot afford access to these experts. That I am legally and factually innocent of these charges which I was convicted of, which support the constitutional gravity of this request now before this court.

PRAYER

- 1) That this court appoint GS MEDIA LAB for the second phase of these investigations for 20 hours service @ \$200 hr.= \$4,000.00

October 3, 2025


John Henry Yablonsky

GS MEDIA

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PROOF OF SERVICE

GS MEDIA LAB 987.2

I George Yablonsky an adult and not a party to this action declare under the penalty of perjury to the fact that I personally served the following party a motion entitled motion for ancillary funds filed by John Henry Yablonsky.

This service was conducted on October 2025 to;
Superior Court
14455 civic center dr.
v.v.,Ca 92392

Geiger Yablonsky (LEGAL RUNNER)

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GS MEDIA



September 29, 2025

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF EXPERT

I, THOMAS GUZMAN-SANCHEZ, declare as follows:

I am a member of the Los Angeles Superior Court Expert Witness Panel.

On June 06, 2025 I was appointed to conduct audio forensic lab services for the defense (John Henry Yablonsky case #FVI900518). I was authorized to provide twenty (20) hours of non-testimonial services for the defense. I have proceeded to do the requested analysis, lab services and consultation. Additional analysis and production services are required for the completion of this appointment

I have prepared an initial preliminary report reflecting the results from phase one of the analyses, which is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A**. I have also provided details of service provided and what is needed to complete the appointment, which is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT B**. I need to continue to phase 2 and 3 to complete the requested phonetic transcription and complete report to the Defense.

Based on the twenty (20) hours I've expended so far on this case for review, clarification and analysis, I am requesting the Court approve an additional twenty (20) hours of lab services and forensic production. This includes: phonetic transcription continued analysis, file authoring and preparation of the final report.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the facts stated in the foregoing are true and correct.

Executed on this 29th day of September 2025, in Los Angeles, California.

By 

THOMAS GUZMAN-SANCHEZ
AVF - Expert
GS Media Lab

GS MEDIA LAB
19210 DEARBORN ST. NORTHRIDGE, CA 91324 USA
VOICE: 818.727.1979 CELL/TEXT: 818.399.1255
e mail: vfi@gsmedialab.com

Exhibit A – Preliminary Report:

Introduction And Summary

I am an audio and video forensics expert, and my area of expertise includes the science of both digital and analog video, film, and audio media including security/CCTV video.

Methodology:

I followed the exacting procedures required by the professional standards of the Scientific Working Group on Digital Evidence (SWGDE) applicable to this type of work. On June 06, 2025 I was appointed by Judge Zahara Arredondo to conduct analysis. I was directed to forensically analyze an audio file. I was asked to clarify audio and conduct phonetic transcription of the audio file. I received the digital media evidence from Nalm Ware, P.I. for Mr. Yablosky.

Production Preparation:

I was asked to analyze key aspects of an audio file. In conducting this work I followed the professional standards of SWGDE applicable to this type of work. In conducting this analysis I used the following equipment and software:

MacPro Mac OS X ver. 10.7.5

Processor: 2.8 GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon

Memory: 3 GB 1066 MHz DDR3 ECC

Graphics: ATI Radeon HD 5770 1024 MB

Digital Media Contents:

YABLONSKY Recorded Interview

- Dssl211E.exe
- Interview John Yablonsky (03-08-09) H #100-85.DSS
- InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3

File Meta Data Example (Invisor : Version 3.13 (887.190914))

InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3	
File	
Name	InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3
Size	264 MB (264062433 bytes)
Kind	MP3 audio
UTI	public.mp3
Location	/Volumes/PACE_PRVT-1/San Bernardino Submissions/YABLONSKY naum ware VICTORVILLE/ YABLONSKY Recorded Interview
Created	November 11, 2020 10:35:22 AM
Modified	November 11, 2020 10:35:22 AM
Container	
Format	MPEG Audio
Duration	3 h 40 min 3 s 121 ms
Overall bit rate mode	Constant
Overall bit rate	160 kb/s
Writing library	LAME ^{aa} 8x 4d ^u > ³ Y?c`2a
Audio	
Format version	Version 2
Format profile	Layer 3
Duration	3 h 40 min 3 s 121 ms
Bit rate mode	Constant
Bit rate	160 kb/s
Channel(s)	1 channel
Sampling rate	22.05 kHz
Frame rate	38.281 FPS (576 SPF)
Frame count	505432
Compression mode	Lossy
Stream size	264 MB (100.0%)
Writing library	LAME ^{aa} 8x 4d ^u > ³ Y?c`2a
Format	MPEG Audio

Dssl211E.exe

File	Dssl211E.exe
Name	Dssl211E.exe
Size	2.17 MB (2173358 bytes)
Kind	Microsoft Executable
UTI	com.microsoft.windows-executable
Location	/Volumes/PACE_PRVT-1/San Bernardino Submissions/YABLONSKY naum ware VICTORVILLE/YABLONSKY Recorded Interview
Created	February 20, 2019 9:20:42 AM
Modified	February 20, 2019 9:20:42 AM
Container	
Format	MZ
Format profile	Executable / Intel i386
Encoded date	UTC 2001-09-05 17:02:57

Interview John Yablonsky (03-08-09) H #100-85.DSS

Interview John Yablonsky (03-08-09) H #100-85.DSS
22.9 MB (22875648 bytes)
Unix Executable File
dyn.ah62d46dzqm0gw23ssz1gw8brqz6gn25zsvu0e5dfhk2x43dxsq
/Volumes/PACE_PRVT-1/San Bernardino Submissions/YABLONSKY naum ware VICTORVILLE/YABLONSKY Recorded Interview
March 9, 2009 7:30:40 AM
March 9, 2009 7:30:40 AM

Extraction:

The extraction technician for the files is unknown and there was no official extraction report included with this DME.

Extraction Details:

1) InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3

Created: November 11, 2020 10:35:22 AM

Modified: November 11, 2020 10:35:22 AM

Encoded & Tagged: None

2) Interview John Yablonsky (03-08-09) H #100-85.DSS

Created: March 9, 2009 7:30:40 AM

Modified: March 9, 2009 7:30:40 AM

Encoded & Tagged: None

3) Dssl211E.exe

Created: February 20, 2019 9:20:42 AM

Modified: February 20, 2019 9:20:42 AM

UTC: 2001-09-05 17:02:57

Verification Analysis:

The audio files appear to be from a digital recording device. The file was said to be an original byte-to-byte copy. The DME had no accompanying extraction report giving any details.

This title and verbal slate shows it was originally recorded 03-08-09. Meta data information show that file 2 was created on March 9, 2009, which corresponds with the title and slate date. File 1 is a copy of the original file 2 created on November 11, 2020 10:35:22 AM. The file is a byte-to-byte copy of the original and appears to be intact.

Frame stills for analysis are PNG, which is best choice because a PNG file is not compressed and gives a true representation.

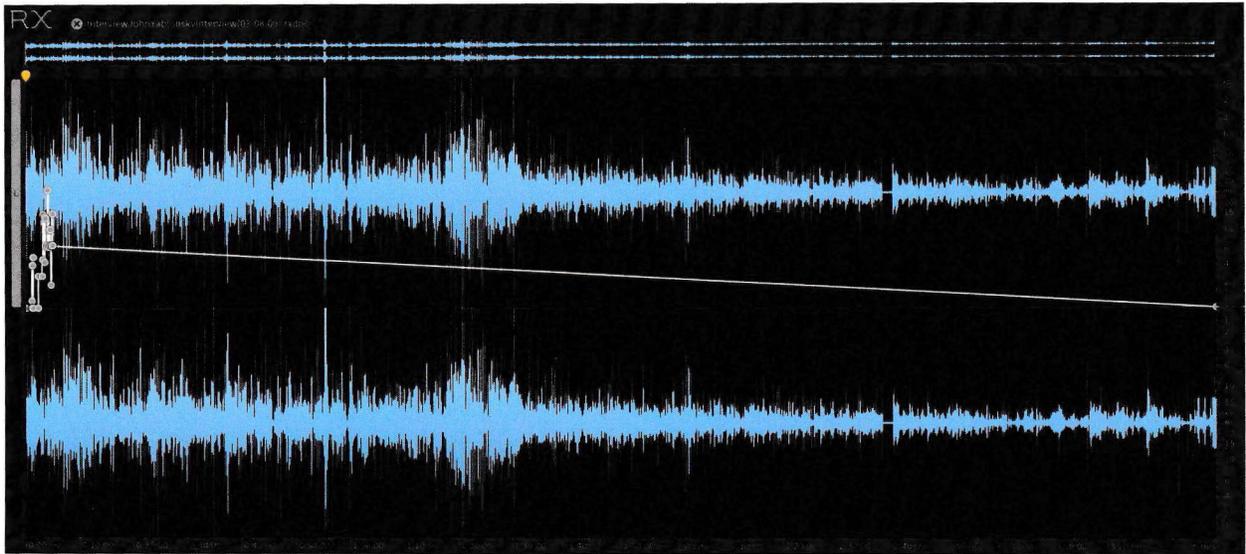
File Preparation:

The audio file sound wave imagery is from Izotope RX6. Images were not distorted prior to extraction. Using Screen Grab tool function, all still images were acquired directly from extracted audio images in a PNG format.

IMAGE CLARIFICATION

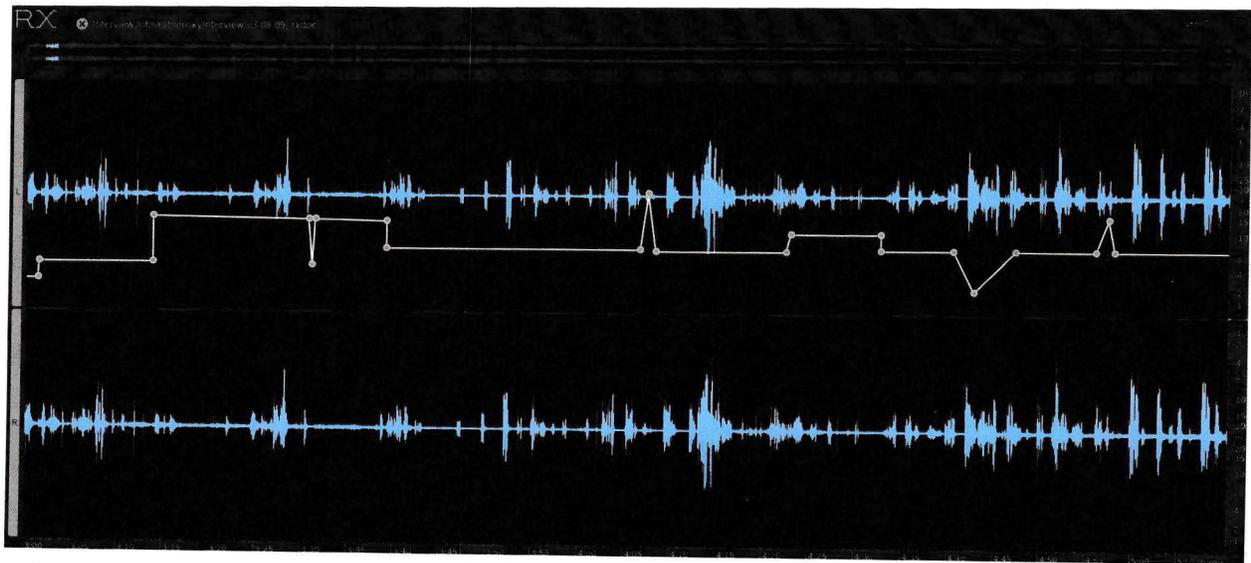
The audio file was imported into Izotope and clarified.

A



1) InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3

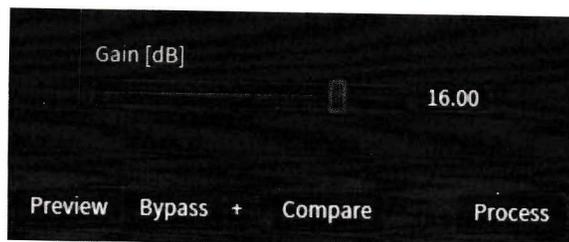
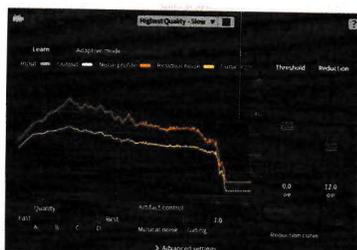
B



Phase 1 completed

Filters applied:

C

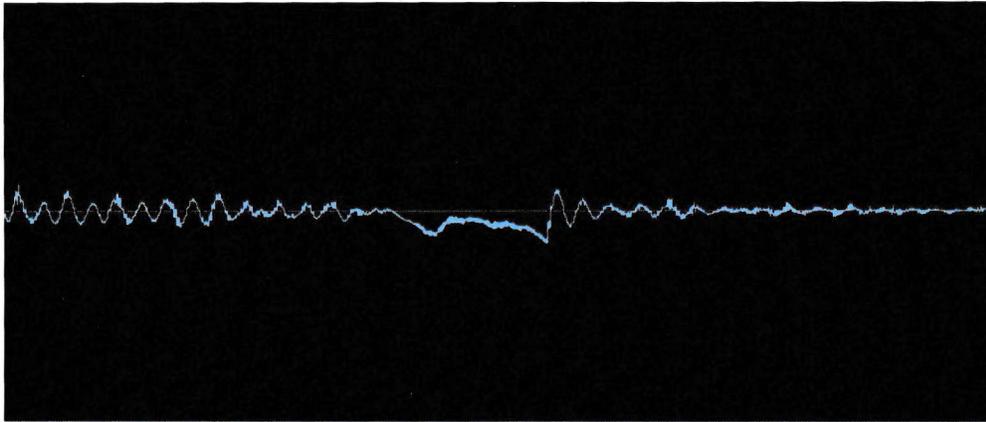


6

Drop/cut examples from file:

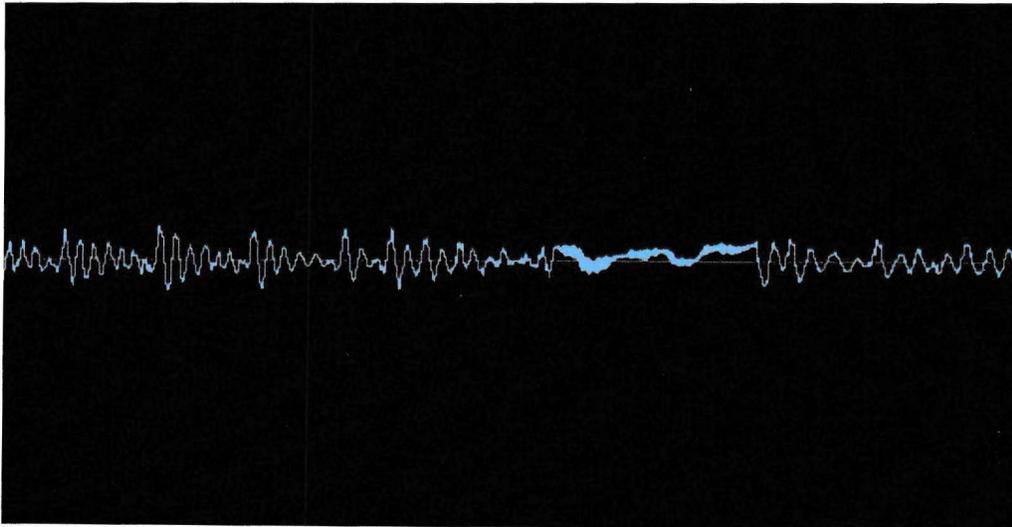
1) InterviewJohnYablonskyInterview(03-08-09).mp3

D



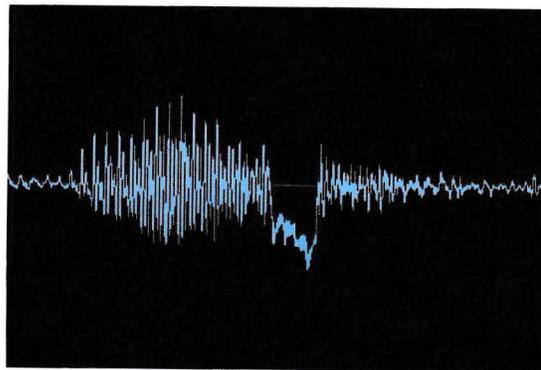
A) Drop/cut 00:04:05.328 ↑

E



B) Drop/cut 00:04:56.684 ↑

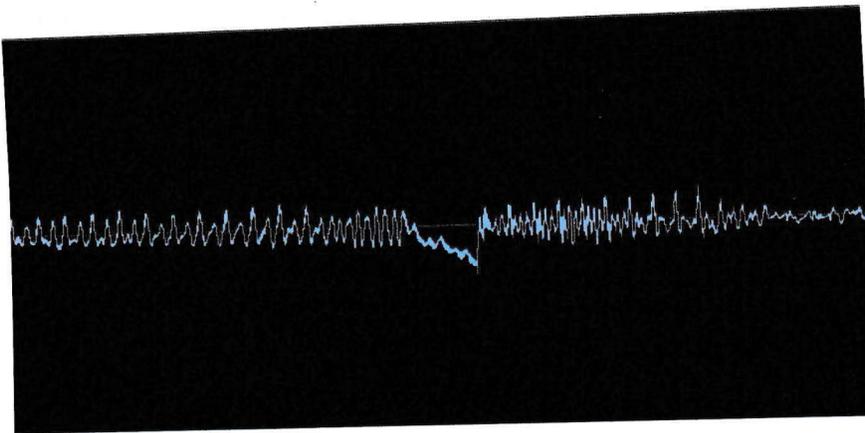
F



C) Drop/cut 00:05:11.192 ↑
7

DROP CUTS SHOULD NOT EXIST IN UNALTERED EVIDENCE
SPlicing OF AUDIO, PROOF OF DECEPTION,
DESTROYING POTENTIAL EXCULPATORY,
IMPEACHING EVIDENCE

6



D) Drop/cut 00:05:36.863



THERE ARE OVER FIFTY OF THESE
SPLICINGS IN A 3H 40m 3s AUDIO RECORDING
THAT WAS PRESENTED AS ORIGINAL AND
UNALTERED

Preliminary Conclusion

Based on the digital media evidence I received these are four of the many anomalies were discovered in the recorded audio. The drop/cuts are abnormal due to how often they occur in the recording. Phase 2 (which is complete clarification of the 3 hour and 40 minute recording) and phase 3 (The phonetic transcription) needs to be completed before a final result of the analysis can be revealed.

AT THIS POINT OF INTERROGATION
PROCESS OF CUSTODIAL IN A NON-MIRANDIZED
CONTACT AND QUESTIONING

Exhibit B - Details of Services:

6/24/25 - 5 Hours:

I received the digital media evidence. Verification of digital file and listening to the file in real time for content and integrity was started.

6/25/25 - 5 Hours:

Audio clarification began examination of the audio file for audibility. Began working in RX6 and applying spectral repair and EQ filtering.

6/26/25 - 5 Hours:

Audio clarification continued with examination of the audio file for audibility. Continued working in RX6 and applying spectral repair and EQ filtering.

6/27/25 - 5 Hours:

Audio clarification continued with examination of the audio file for audibility. Continued working in RX6 and applying spectral repair and EQ filtering. Completed phase 1 of clarification.

20 Hours:

The complete clarified file will be phonetically transcribed along with continued consultation with Mr. Yablonsky. All master files need to be rendered and outputted. An MP3 file needs to be authored for court presentation. A final scientific report needs to be completed and delivered to the defense.

Re: John Henry Yablonsky vs. The People - Case - FVI900518 - PC1172.6

From: nlw41@aol.com (nlw41@aol.com)
To: yablonsky@yahoo.com; nlw41@aol.com
Date: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 08:56 AM PDT

h
DISCOVERY
L

Morning Kenneth,
I just talked with the audio expert on Yablonsky's case so please take note:

1. How Yablonsky was convicted appears to be by rumor not evidence for fact.
2. There is a lot of mumbling in the tape which the audio tech can get out.
3. There are numerous DROPS and CUTS, this is found via dictaphone use or DSS.
4. Chops and cuts change words and there are at least 50 (fifty).
5. Your focus should be on that instead of conspiracy.
6. **To mess with the integrity of a tape, that is the issue.**
7. The verbal slate (time and date) at one location is turned off. Then when it is turned on again it leaves the appearance that it was continuance, but it was not. This is your issue, this makes your case.

Get another motion so the audio expert can show all of this because you are entitled to a Non-Cut recording.

There should be concentration only on fact of what exist in evidence.
The time line will show verbal slates are off.

NWIS

Naum Ware Investigative Services

2230 S. Malcolm Ave

Ontario Ca. 91761

Private Investigator

California P. I. Lic # 27647

909 935-5818

Email: nlw41@aol.com

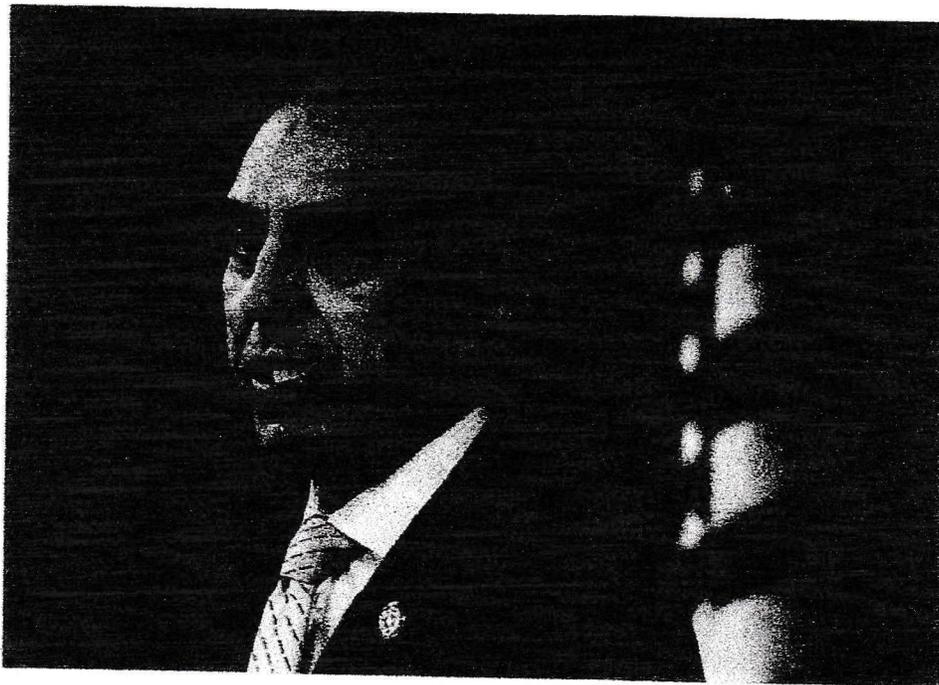
9A

Exhibit X

NEWS • News

Former San Bernardino County DA suspended, sanctioned by State Bar for misconduct

'Given their power in our justice system, holding prosecutors accountable is the most important function of the State Bar,' said a plaintiff's attorney



HANDWRITING

10-~~15~~12

Innocent man

William Richards spent 23 years behind bars over wrongful conviction in his wife's killing

By Joe Nelson
JNELSON@SCNG.COM

It's been nine years since William Richards was released from prison, but the emotional scars still linger from the 23 years he spent behind bars for a crime he didn't commit.

Every day was hell. You just

keeps saying, 'I don't deserve this. I didn't do this,'" Richards, now 75, said in an interview with the Southern California News Group.

Indeed, the California Supreme Court agreed with Richards that he was wrongly convicted, blaming overzealous San Bernardino County Sheriff's

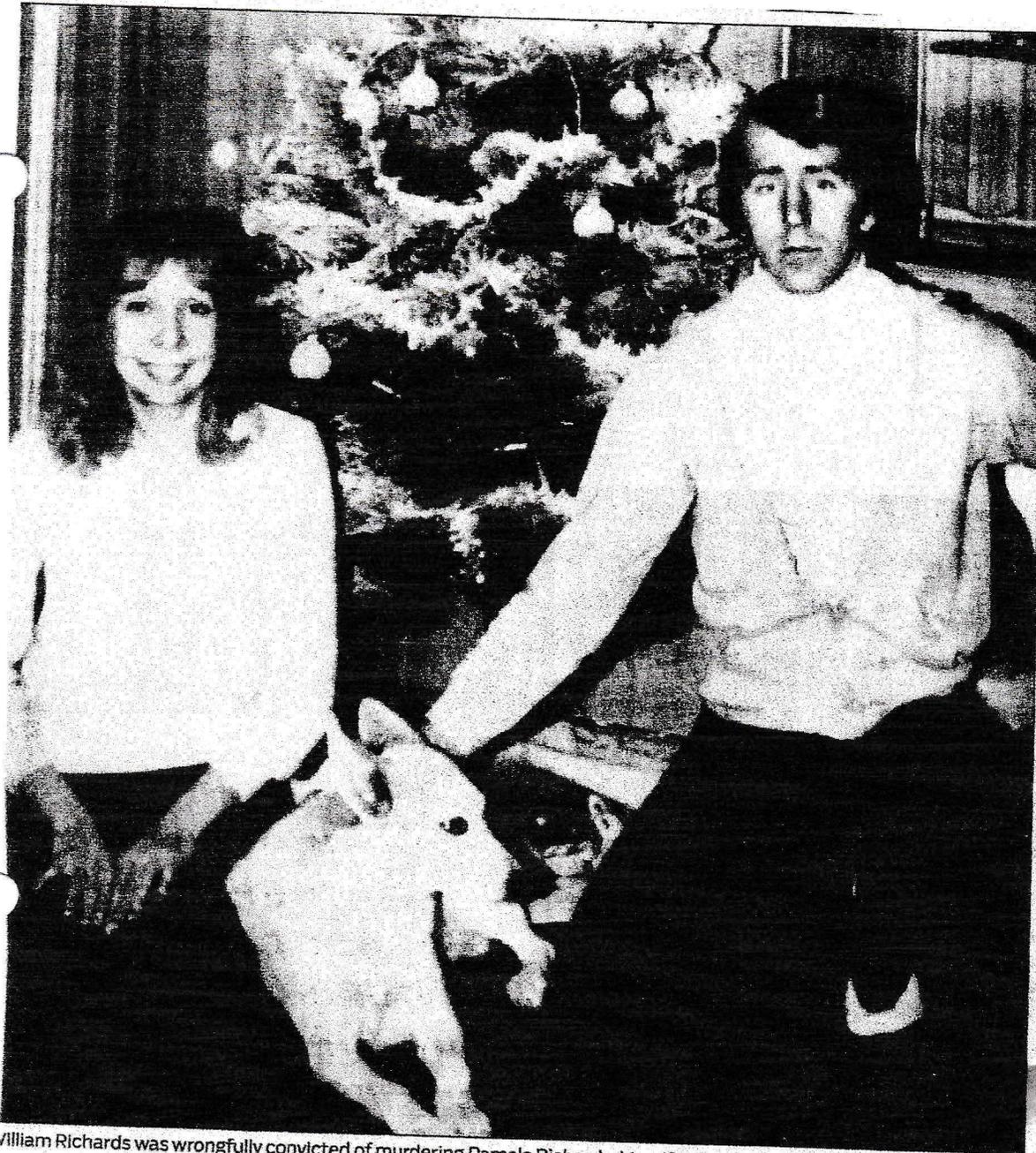
Department investigators and prosecutors for botching the investigation into the murder of Richards' wife, Pamela Richards, who was killed in 1993 by someone who strangled her, beat her with rocks and crushed her skull with a concrete stepping stone.

And last week, a federal court jury ordered San Bernardino County to pay Richards \$25.2 million for his wrongful

See RICHARDS on Page A7



William Richards, now 75, was wrongfully convicted of the 1993 murder of his wife, who was found dead at their Summit Valley property, and spent 23 years behind bars. COURTESY OF WILLIAM RICHARDS



William Richards was wrongfully convicted of murdering Pamela Richards, his wife. COURTESY OF WILLIAM RICHARDS

Additionally, a bite mark on Pamela Richards' thumb, which prosecutors argued was inflicted by her husband, was not introduced as evidence until his third criminal trial. A prosecution expert testified that William Richards' teeth matched the bite mark, but then later admitted he was wrong. It was unclear if DNA testing was ever run on the bite mark to see if it matched that of William Richards.

While McLane believes the county will appeal the verdict and attempt to get the jury award reduced, county spokesperson David Wert said that decision will ultimately have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

"The Board of Supervisors will be advised of the verdict and decide what the next steps will be," Wert said in an email on Tuesday.

District Attorney Jason Anderson declined to comment on the jury verdict.

Released from custody after 23 years, William Richards found himself in a world unfamiliar to him — with no money, no family and no home.

"Everything I had was gone. All my friends died, all my family died," William Richards said.

He wound up staying indefinitely with the family of an attorney for the California Innocence Project, which took up William Richards' case and helped in his fight for freedom.

Five years after his release, on June 18, 2021, a San Bernardino County Superior Court judge granted a motion filed by William Richards' attorney and declared him factually innocent. Since that qualified him for reparations from the California Victim Compensation Board, William Richards filed a claim with the board. Two weeks later, he was granted more than \$1.1 million.

William Richards said the money allowed him to travel, purchase a home and vehicle, and settle down in Oklahoma, where he lives with his new wife, Marcella.

He feels justice is complete with the recent jury award.

"I find it very satisfying," he said. "After more than 30 years of this, I can pick up the pieces and move on."



Pamela Richards' body was found by William Richards in a sleeping bag on the couple's undeveloped 5-acre property in the Summit Valley area, south of Hesperia, on Aug. 10, 1993. COURTESY OF MCLANE, BEDNARSKI & LITT

at 11:58 p.m., reporting two more times before the first deputy arrived on scene his wife's death. He called

at 12:38 a.m.

Investigators and prosecutors argued that William Richards killed his 40-year-old wife sometime between the time he arrived home and the time he made his first 911 call.

McLane said exculpatory evidence that could have helped prove William Richards' innocence — such as a blond hair found under Pamela Richards' fingernail that belonged to neither her nor her husband — was never presented to the defense during any of the criminal trials.

While Pamela Richards had blond hair at the time of

her death, McLane said she bleached her hair and had naturally brown hair.

"This hair was blonde at the root. If that hair came from Pamela Richards, that hair should have been brown. And that evidence was suppressed from the defense," said McLane, adding that DNA testing confirmed the hair strand belonged to an unknown third party.

DNA testing also revealed that hair and blood samples taken from a cinder block and concrete paver used to crush the victim's skull was not that of either the victim nor her husband, court records show.

Former District Attorney Ramos Destroyed Evidence, Federal Judge Concludes

Posted on April 24, 2020 by Venturi

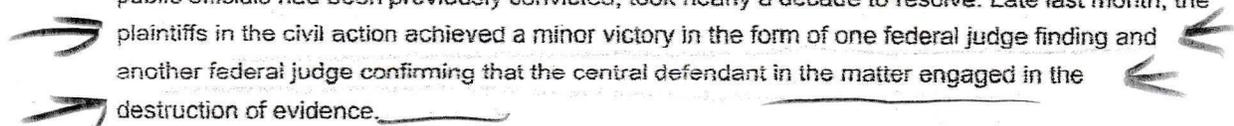
By Mark Gutglueck

More than two-and-a-half years after prosecutors failed to obtain convictions against three former San Bernardino County public officials and the wealthy developer accused of bribing them, pretrial skirmishing in the federal civil case the four once-accused brought against the county for what they say was malicious prosecution continues apace. That political corruption case, in which three public officials had been previously convicted, took nearly a decade to resolve. Late last month, the plaintiffs in the civil action achieved a minor victory in the form of one federal judge finding and another federal judge confirming that the central defendant in the matter engaged in the destruction of evidence.

That finding and its accompanying ruling by the trial judge is significant from the standpoint that the offending party was Mike Ramos, the district attorney whose office had prosecuted the four individuals who now say they were wrongfully caught up in the criminal matter, which dealt with events that took place in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 and went to trial in 2017.

Of note is that much or all of the erased or destroyed information in question consisted of emails and text messages relating to Ramos's personal, political and professional communications during his 2018 reelection campaign, which came after the trial of the four individuals – Jeff Burum, Paul Biane, Mark Kirk and Jim Erwin – took place the previous year.

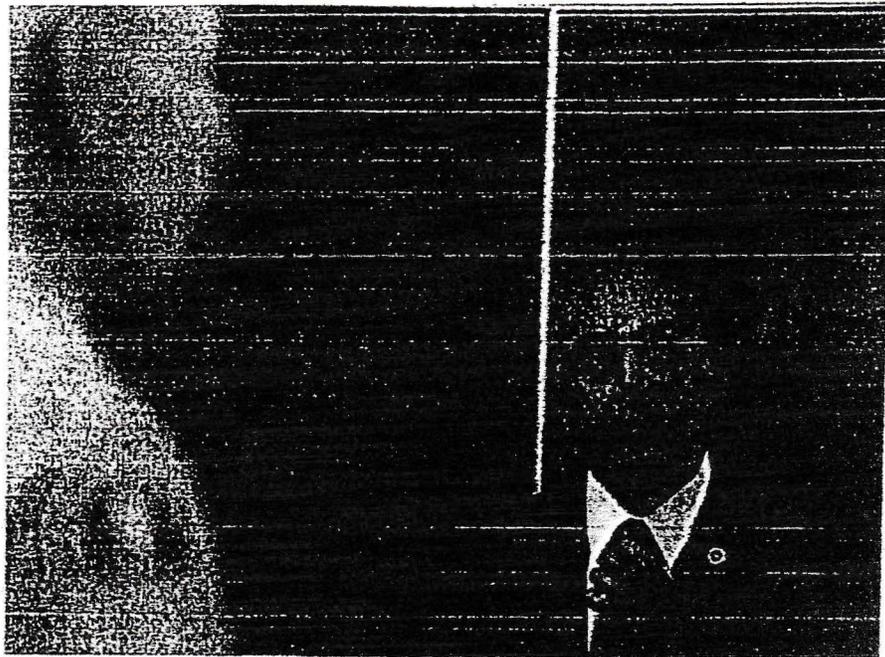
A key player in the matter is Bill Postmus, one of the most dynamic political entities in San Bernardino County at the turn of the Third Millennium and arguably the most powerful personage within San Bernardino County government through most of the current century's first decade. Postmus's reign came at the end of a several-decades-long period now known as San Bernardino County's "Golden Age of Corruption," an era in which individuals such as Fifth District County Supervisor Robert Hammock, Second District Supervisor Cal McElwain, Fifth District Supervisor Jerry Eaves, sheriffs Frank Bland, Floyd Tidwell and Gary Penrod, county administrative officers Robert Covington, Harry Mays and James Hlawek, district attorneys Jerome Kavanaugh and James Cramer, County Treasurer Tom O'Donnell, County Investment Officer Sol Levin, Fontana Mayor Nat Simon, Fontana City Manager Jack Ratelle, Hesperia City Manager Robert Rizzo, Colton Mayor Karl Gaytan, Colton councilmembers James Grimsby, Don Sanders and Abe Beltran among others freely participated in an openly pay-for-play environment in which bribes and kickbacks and the use of governmental authority to perpetuate political power and enable financial empires were the common ethos, a circumstance that some believe persisted throughout Postmus's tenure and beyond to the current time in the personages of former Upland Mayor John Pomierski, former Upland councilmen Michael Libutti, Ken Willis, Brendan Brandt and Tom Thomas, Upland City Manager Robb Quincey, First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Fourth District Supervisor Curt Hagman and Third District



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OPINION

District Attorney Michael Ramos is a roadblock to justice



District Attorney Mike Ramos straightens his tie before a press conference for Operation Desert Guardian on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. Operation Desert Guardian, conducted in the High Desert by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, began on Friday, June 2, 2017. Throughout the Operation deputies seized multiple firearms, drugs, and made several arrests in the cities of Victorville, Azuseno, Apple Valley, and Hesperia. (Sarah Alvarado for The Sun)



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