

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

ACISS Investigative Report

Report Number: DCIR13280/38

Report Date:

Priority Information

Report Number: DCIR13280/38
Type Of Report: Investigative
Description: dci2intkusche
Approval Status: Approved
Approved Date: 04/12/2004
Approved By: Conversion User (Criminal Investigation / Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation)

Narrative

CASE ACTIVITY REPORT Wisconsin Department of Justice
DJ-DCI-2 (Rev. 8/91) DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

1. Case Number

GC-13280

2. Date

10/10/2003

3. Case Title

STEVEN AVERY PROSECUTION

4. Activity

Interview/Eugene Kusche

5. Date of Activity

09/24/2003

6. On 09/24/2003, Special Agents Amy A. Lehmann and Debra K. Strauss interviewed EUGENE KUSCHE, residing at 2001 S. 10th Street, Manitowoc, WI, 920-684-7095 (h) and 920-901-2027 (c). KUSCHE is currently retired from the Manitowoc Sheriff's Department. However, in 1985 during the STEVEN AVERY prosecution, KUSCHE was the Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Department. KUSCHE provided the following information regarding his involvement with the AVERY case.

KUSCHE stated that prior to the arrest of AVERY, he had been attending Mount Senario College, taking some classes. One of the classes that he took was a composite drawing class. KUSCHE stated that he had no training in this topic prior to taking the class but found out while attending the class that he had some natural skill in the area of composite drawing. So, on the night of the attack on PENNY BEERNTSEN, KUSCHE stated that he had been sitting at home when he received a telephone call from dispatch, who told him that he was needed at the hospital and to come right away.

KUSCHE stated that he went to the hospital and met with WILLIAM BECK, who briefed KUSCHE on what had occurred in relation to the attack on BEERNTSEN. KUSCHE stated that at the hospital BEERNTSEN provided a verbal description of her attacker. After giving the verbal description, KUSCHE stated that he could remember someone saying, "sounds like STEVE AVERY". KUSCHE believed that the Sheriff TOM KOCOUREK was not there at the time. Around that same time there was someone on the telephone calling for photographs to get a photo line-up together. KUSCHE stated that at that time he did not know who AVERY was and had not heard of him before. *← include Avery?*

Kocourek
KUSCHE stated that he was very careful to tell individuals that he did not want to see any photographs prior to drawing the composite of the suspect. KUSCHE stated that he sat with BEERNTSEN in the hospital to do the composite drawing. KUSCHE said that the drawing of the suspect was the first composite sketch he had done for an investigation and it was done in charcoal.

This report is property of Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation. Neither it or its contents may be disseminated to unauthorized personnel.

lehmannaa 04/13/2005 13:31

005574

Page 1 of 3

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

ACISS Investigative Report

Report Number: DCIR13280/38

Report Date:

Narrative - Continued

KUSCHE stated that BEERNTSEN was very good in describing her assailant. BEERNTSEN had good accuracy and changes that she asked for in the drawing were good. KUSCHE stated that he could remember BEERNTSEN saying that at one point the drawing looked too old and so KUSCHE made the face look younger. KUSCHE estimated that the drawing took 1-1 1/2 hours to complete.

After the composite drawing was completed, a photo line-up was brought in for BEERNTSEN to look at. Based upon the photographs collected, KUSCHE stated that he could pick out AVERY as the person who most closely matched the composite drawing. KUSCHE relayed that he was not in the room when BEERNTSEN picked AVERY out of the photo line-up. When KUSCHE finished his drawing, he stated that he left the room. KUSCHE said that he currently has the original composite drawing in his possession.

KUSCHE was asked if he knew who GREGORY ALLEN was at that time. KUSCHE stated that he did not.

KUSCHE stated that in addition to doing the composite drawing he was also involved in the case with helping in the neighborhood canvass and KUSCHE may have also been involved in going to Green Bay to obtain a receipt at Shopko.

KUSCHE said that would have been the extent of his involvement because shortly thereafter, in August of 1995, he had a heart attack. KUSCHE stated that he could not recall who would have conducted the investigation as the lead investigator.

KUSCHE relayed that years later on one of the appeals he had to interview DON BELZ, LARRY CONRAD, AL KOLANCZYK and LEO JADOWSKI, all former Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department Detectives. There was some talk of another suspect being involved from the Sheboygan area. KUSCHE stated that none of the detectives in their interviews recalled another suspect being mentioned in the BEERNTSEN attack.

KUSCHE stated that he did not sit through the trial of AVERY. KUSCHE said that based upon what he did hear about the trial he did not think that there seemed to be enough to convict AVERY.

KUSCHE said that after BEERNTSEN picked AVERY out as her assailant, he could not remember hearing about any other suspects in the case.

KUSCHE stated that last Friday, 09/19/03, he saw LEROY BEILKE, a former Detective, at a retirement party. At that time BEILKE made reference to having told DON BELZ at the time of the BEERNTSEN attack that there was someone else that looked like the composite drawing.

KUSCHE was unable to provide any additional information and the contact was terminated.

13280 dci2intkusche 09242003 lehmannaa

Record Status Information

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Record Origination Operator: | Conversion User (Criminal Investigation / Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation) |
| Record Origination Date: | 04/12/2004 14:13 |
| Last Update Operator: | Conversion User (Criminal Investigation / Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation) |

This report is property of Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation. Neither it or its contents may be disseminated to unauthorized personnel.

lehmannaa 04/13/2005 13:31

005575

Page 2 of 3

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

ACISS Investigative Report

Report Number: DCIR13280/38

Report Date:

Report Status Information - Continued

Last Update Date: 04/12/2004 14:13

This report is property of Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation. Neither it or its contents may be disseminated to unauthorized personnel.

lehmannaa 04/13/2005 13:31

005576

Page 3 of 3