

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

Investigative 05-1776/23

Report Date: 11/12/2005

Primary Information

Description: TERESA MARIE HALBACH: Interview/Steven A. Avery 11/06/2005  
Occurrence From: 11/06/2005 08:40  
Occurrence To: 11/06/2005 09:55  
Dissemination Code: Agency  
Reporting LEO: Skorlinski, Kim J (Appleton Special Assignments DCI / Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation)  
Backup LEO: O'Neill, Tony (Detective / Marinette County Sheriff's Office)  
Report Status: Approved  
Report Status Date: 11/22/2005  
Approved By: Kelly, Carolyn S (Madison Arson DCI)

Addresses

Relationship	Address
Interview Location	[REDACTED] Crivitz, Wisconsin 54114 United States of America

Subjects

Relationship	Name	Bio	DOB
Mentioned	Auto Trader (Business)		---
Subject of Interest	Avery's Auto Salvage (Business)		---
Interviewed	Avery, Steven Allen Sr (Person)	43 yr. old, White, Male	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Avery, Allen K (Person)	68 yr. old, White, Male	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Avery, Charles Earl (Person)	51 yr. old, White, Male	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Avery, Delores A (Person)	68 yr. old, White, Female	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Avery, Earl Kevin (Person)	35 yr. old, White, Male	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Dassey, Bobby A (Person)	19 yr. old, White, Male	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Janda, Barbara Ellen (Person)	41 yr. old, White, Female	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	Stachowski, Jodi (Person)	36 yr. old, White, Female	[REDACTED]
Mentioned	[REDACTED] (Person)	Unknown, Male	---
Victim	Halbach, Teresa Marie (Person)	25 yr. old, White, Female	[REDACTED]

Telephones / E-Addresses

Relationship	Number/E-Address
Suspect Telephone	[REDACTED]
Suspect Telephone	[REDACTED]

Narrative begins on the following page.

On Sunday, November 6, 2005, at approximately 8:40 a.m., S/A Kim J. Skorlinski and Investigator Tony O'Neill, of the Marinette County Sheriff's Department, interviewed Steven A. Avery, DOB [REDACTED] at his parents' residence, [REDACTED], Town of Stephenson (Crivitz), regarding this investigation. This was a follow-up interview with Steven.

Inv. O'Neill introduced S/A Skorlinski to Avery and asked if he would speak with the investigators again. Avery said yes, he had no problem talking to the investigators. The interview was conducted in Det. O'Neill's squad car, which was parked in the Avery driveway. Det. O'Neill and Avery sat in the front seat and S/A Skorlinski sat in the backseat. Also, Det. O'Neill recorded the interview on a digital recorder and subsequently provided S/A Skorlinski with a CD containing the interview recording.

Avery was asked if Teresa Halbach had been in his house on Monday, October 31, 2005, when she came to his residence to take photographs of a van for the Auto Trader magazine. (This was a maroon 1989 Plymouth Voyager mini van that was owned by Avery's sister, Barb Janda.) Avery said Halbach was not in his house on Monday. Avery said she has been in his house before, but not that day. Then he said she just came to the door, but has never been inside.

Avery was asked if yesterday, November 5, 2005, was the first time he has been at this residence at [REDACTED] since that Monday, and he said yes.

Avery was asked what he did on Monday after Halbach left. He said he took the Auto Trader book that she gave him and put it in his house by his computer. Then he went next door to his sister Barb's residence to see if her son Bobby had left. Avery said Bobby was home, but had already left by the time he walked over to Barb's house. He said he did not go into Barb's house.

Avery said he then went back to his house and stayed home all afternoon. He said his mom (Delores Avery), came over with his mail and stayed maybe 5 minutes. Avery said he listened to his stereo in his house that afternoon. Avery said later, he went over to his mom's house for supper. Avery said after supper he went back home and stayed home all night. He did not recall going anywhere else. Avery said he was home so his fiancée, Jodi Stachowski, could call him. (Jodi is an inmate at the Manitowoc County Jail.) He said she can call out at anytime. He said he received two calls from her on his home phone number, [REDACTED], during Monday evening. Avery did not recall if his brother, Chuck, (Charles Avery), went to dinner at mom's residence.

Avery was asked about Tuesday, November 1, 2005. He said went to work at 8:00 a.m. with Chuck and his other brother Earl Avery and his dad, (Allan Avery). Avery said his dad father, Allen, came back to the Avery Auto Salvage property on Tuesday. He said he worked until 5:00 p.m., with a lunch break.

Avery was asked about Tuesday night and he said he may have eaten supper at mom's house. He said he eats at mom's quite a few nights every week. He said sometimes it's all week. Avery said on Tuesday evening he went to visit Jodi in the Manitowoc County Jail. He believed this was

from 7:00 p.m. to about 8:00 p.m. He said he is the only one on her jail visitation list and he drove his Pontiac Grand Am. Avery was asked about any other stops he made and he said he might have stopped at Super America on Main Street in Manitowoc for gasoline. He believed he was home by 9:00 p.m.

Avery was asked about Wednesday, November 2, 2005, and he said he worked that day and worked with Chuck, Earl and his dad. He said he started work between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Avery was asked about Thursday, November 3, 2005, and he said he got up at about 6:00 a.m., showered, dressed, and went to the auto auction in Fond du Lac with Earl.

Avery was asked when he was first contacted by law enforcement regarding Halbach missing. He said a cop came on either Wednesday or Thursday. He did not know his name, but he was with the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department and was asking questions about Halbach. Avery said the cop asked if Teresa somebody took some photos and if she was there. Avery said this was at supper time, because he was eating at mom's house. He said he spoke with the cop outside his mom's door. Avery said he was asked if Halbach was there and what time. He said he told him she was there between 2:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Avery said the cop did not look around the salvage yard and did not look into his residence.

Avery was again asked about Thursday, and he said they returned from the auto auction at about 2:00 p.m. He said they did not take any cars over and did not purchase any, because the prices were too high.

Avery said he worked at the auto salvage yard on Friday, November 4, 2005, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and then they loaded up the flatbed, which was Chuck's tow truck, with a big television from his mom's residence and Chuck drove that up to the residence on [REDACTED] on Friday night. Avery said another item on the flatbed was insulation for his brother's cabin. Avery said he drove up to this residence on Saturday morning.

Avery was asked about sighting in one of Earl's rifle's in the salvage yard on Friday. He said he was with Earl when Earl was sighting in his rifle for hunting. Avery believed the rifle was a 30/06. He said they sighted the rifle in down in the pit where they crush cars.

Avery said they have a car crusher down there that is owned by Norb's Salvage, Denmark. He said they have had it for about a month. Avery said Norb's does most of the crushing, but he and Earl have crushed cars too. He said they crush about 3 to 4 loads at a time and there are about 12 cars in a load. Avery was asked when was the last time they operated the car crusher, and he said last week. He said all the crushed cars down there, which he estimated were 12 to 18, were crushed last week by him and Earl. Avery said before they crushed them, Earl took out the motors, transmissions, engines, gas tanks, and tires.

Avery said Chuck came up to the residence on [REDACTED] on Friday. He said on Thursday night, Chuck had to get lumber and as they were leaving the property, Avery noticed car taillights going past his residence. Inv. O'Neill asked Avery to draw a diagram of the Avery Auto Salvage

property, which he did and dated it 11-06-05 and initialed it, S.A. This diagram has word "pond" written on the top and it is circled. On the diagram, Avery identified various buildings and locations on the property, including burn barrels and vehicles such as his mother's golf cart, his sister's van that was for sale and Halbach's vehicle.

Avery was asked where he was when Halbach pulled in and he said at his house. He confirmed that she drove a green SUV and was home since 11:00 a.m. He said when Halbach arrived, Barb's son Bobby Dassey was home. Avery said on the way home from the shop, he stopped at Barb's house to talk to Bobby. Avery said it might have been closer to 12:00 p.m. rather than 11:00 a.m., when he stopped at Barb's house. He said then he went to his house and waited for Halbach. Avery said after Halbach left, he went over to Barb's house to talk to Bobby, but Bobby had left. Avery noticed that Bobby's Chevrolet Blazer was no longer parked in the driveway. Avery said he went home and stayed there until suppertime.

Avery was asked what time he talked to Jodi, and said before he went to supper at his mom's house. This call would have been between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. He said he talked to her after supper too. Avery said she usually calls him every day around 5:00 pm.

Avery was asked about a garbage pit, and he said there is a garbage pit in the back corner of the property by the pond. Avery was asked if they burn anything, and he said no. He was then asked about burn barrels and he said there are also several burn barrels on the property that they use. Avery said there are several burn barrels by Barb's house, his mother has one, he has one and Chuck has one. Avery said the last time he burned in his burn barrel was about 2 weeks ago, which he uses for garbage.

Avery was asked about equipment such as a loader, and he said they have a loader and forklift that they keep in the shop. Avery said he drives both of these pieces of equipment on occasion. Avery was asked when the last time he drove either one of these pieces of equipment, and he said it might have been the week before last week, when they were crushing cars. He said not last week, because he was working in the shop, and they did not crush any cars. Avery said he was in the shop last week cleaning up, sweeping and taking parts off cars.

Avery was asked what he did during the afternoon hours of Monday, when he did not return back to work. He said he made a couple of phone calls. Avery said Chuck and Earl did not know that he was not coming back to work. He said this was the first time that he ever left work that early and stayed home all day. He said the phone calls he made were to Jodi's probation officer, Shannon, from Manitowoc; and to Jodi's attorney, Steve Wyes, Madison. Avery said he is trying to get Jodi out of jail on an appeal. He said Jodi received a 9-month jail sentence for OWI and has 3 more months to serve. Avery could not remember any other phone calls he made.

Avery was asked if Halbach said anything to him about going to some other residence to take photographs of vehicles. He said no, she never tells him anything. He said all she does is take the photographs, write down the serial number and he pays her the money. Avery said sometime she gives him a receipt, but not the last 2 times because he did not need one. Avery was asked if Halbach mentioned the name [REDACTED] and he said no.

Avery was asked when was the last time he drove the front end loader. He said he may have driven it last week to move a car around. Avery was asked when the last time was he drove his mom's golf cart and he said Friday, November 4, 2005.

Avery was asked about the taillights he saw on Thursday night, November 3, 2005. He said he saw the taillights going down the road past his house towards Radant's gravel pit. Avery said Radant's pit is adjacent to their auto salvage yard. Inv. O'Neill asked Avery to draw another diagram, and Avery did that. On this diagram, Avery wrote the name "Redon's Gravel" and put a square around it. He also dated it 11-06-05 and initialed it, S.A.

Avery was asked about access to this area of the auto salvage yard and he said anyone could drive from Radant's pit into the back side of the salvage yard. He said they put a car there to block access, but there are other ways in. Avery also indicated that someone does not need to know the area to find there way in. He was asked if he knew where Halbach's car was found in the salvage yard, and he said no.

Avery was asked if he could remember what Halbach was wearing, and he said he does not remember. He was asked about any conversation he had with her and he said he never has any conversation with her. Avery said when he met Halbach on Monday he gave her \$40 and it may have been folded in a piece of paper. He said this paper contained the information on the van that would appear in the Auto Trader book, such as a 1989 Dodge van, make any offer and had his and Barb's cell phone numbers. Avery was again asked what Halbach was wearing and he said he did not know.

Avery was asked about the money, and he said he gave that to her right away when she was taking the photos. He was asked about the Auto Trader book, and he said she always gave him one. Avery was asked how he got the book from her this time after she was done taking the photos, and he said she opened her driver's side door, got in, reached across to the front passenger seat and picked up the book. Avery said Halbach then remained seated in her vehicle and handed him the book. He said her driver's side door was open during this time. He said she then shut her door and drove away.

Avery also said that Bobby was home during this time, because he saw Bobby's Blazer parked over at Barb's house. He did not know if Bobby saw anything. Avery said Bobby was home when Halbach was leaving, but by the time he walked into his house to put the Auto Trader book down and walked back outside to talk to Bobby, he was gone. Avery indicated that they must have left at about the same time.

Avery was asked if he knew where Halbach was, and he said no. Avery was asked if he had something to do with her disappearance, and he said no.

Avery was asked about the last time that Halbach came to his residence to take photographs of a vehicle. He thought it was 1 to 2 weeks ago when he was selling his car. Avery said she knocked on his door and he came out with the money and paper made out. He said he had it on

the bar by the computer. He said she never comes inside his house. Avery said at that time he also received an Auto Trader book from her and she always gave him a book.. Avery believed that was on a Monday, around 3:00 p.m. He said he called her and then she called him back stating she would be late. Avery said on previous occasions Halbach may have knocked on his door. He also said that she is the only one from Auto Trader that comes out to his residence.

Avery was asked if Halbach called him prior to coming over last Monday, and he said no. He was asked whose phone number is [REDACTED] and he said his sister, Barb. Avery said the van they are selling is under Barb's name. Avery was asked about a 2-minute telephone call that Halbach made to this telephone just before noon on Monday. He said he did not know anything about that phone call and he was not at Barb's residence at that time. Avery was asked if Halbach mentioned the phone call when she arrived, and he said no.

Avery was asked about the receipt that he usually receives from Halbach. He said when he tried to sell his Pontiac he did not ask for a receipt because he got good service and trusted Auto Trader. Avery believed that Halbach had the receipt made out beforehand. He did not know if she had a receipt made out this last time, but he told her he did not need one.

At approximately 9:35 a.m., S/A Skorlinski exited Det. O'Neill's vehicle to speak to the other investigators.

At approximately 9:45 a.m., S/A Skorlinski re-entered Det. O'Neill's vehicle. Avery was asked if he would write out a statement, and he said not until he talks to his lawyer. The investigators told Avery they hoped he would continue to cooperate, and he said he would.

Avery was asked who he thought could have put Halbach's vehicle on his property, and he said Manitowoc County, specifically the ex-sheriff, Tom Kocourek. Avery was asked if he had any other enemies who would do this to him, and he said no.

Avery was asked if he would take a polygraph examination and he said he would talk to his lawyer, but he had no problem taking it. When told that the polygraph would validate him as being truthful, Avery said he had no reason to lie. The interview was terminated at approximately 9:55 a.m.

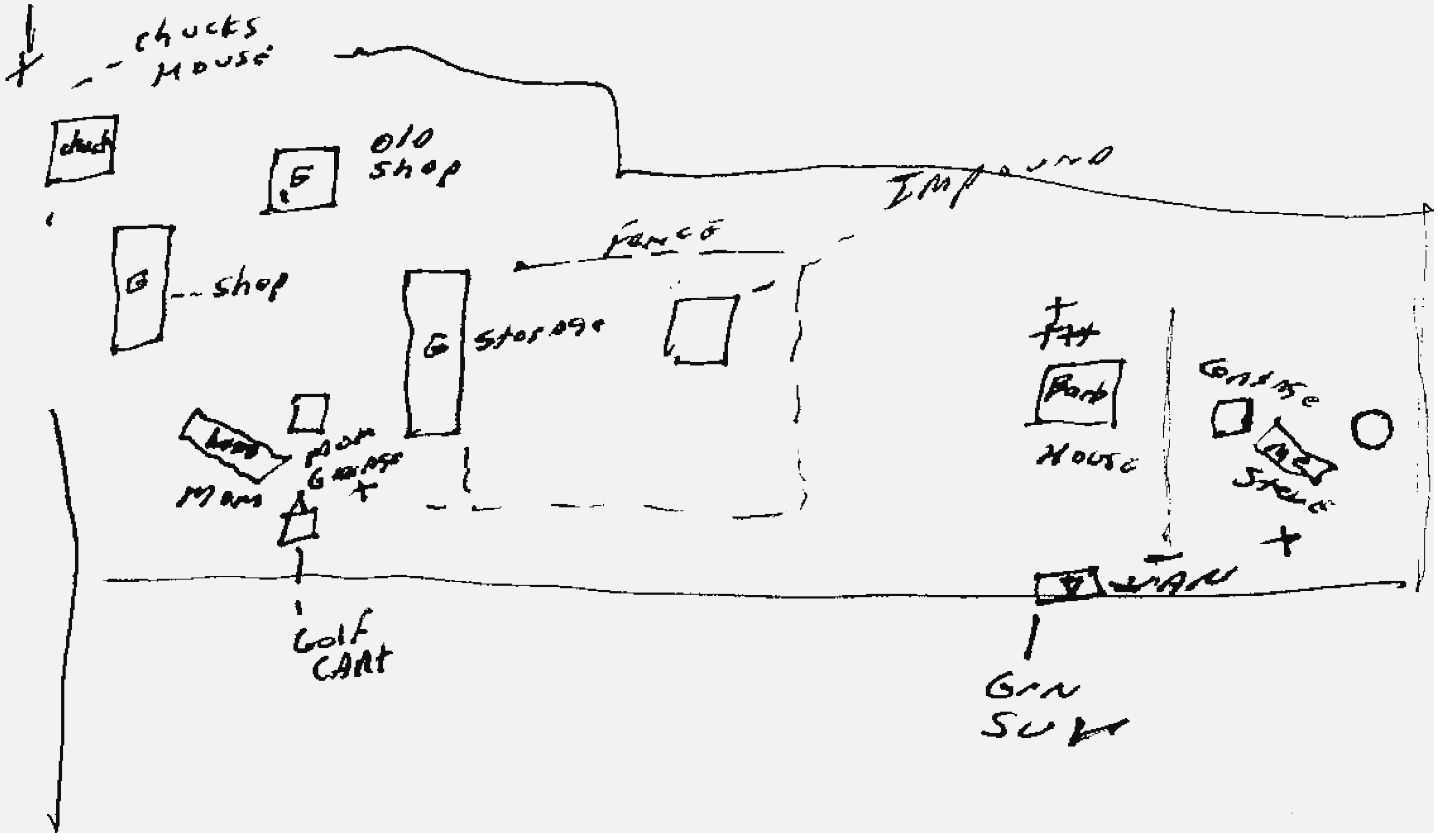
The two diagrams that Avery drew will be electronically attached to this report and copies placed into the case file.

pond

Junk yard pit

11/6/5  
S.A.

Crusher



x = Burning Barrels



11/6/15  
-/-  
S.A.

