

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

Investigative 05-1776/199

Report Date: 01/23/2006

Primary Information

Description: **05-1776/199 TERESA MARIE HALBACH: Menards Store Video / Interview 11/07/2005**
Occurrence From: **11/07/2005 00:00**
Occurrence To: **11/07/2005 00:00**
Dissemination Code: **Agency**
Reporting LEO: **Sielehr, James A (Madison Arson DCI / Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation)**
Report Status: **Approved**
Report Status Date: **01/26/2006**
Approved By: **Kelly, Carolyn S (Madison Arson DCI)**

Addresses

<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Address</u>
Interview Location	5120 Calumet Ave, Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220 United States of America

Subjects

<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Bio</u>	<u>DOB</u>
Charged	Avery, Steven Allen Sr (Person)	43 yr. old, White, Male	████████
Interviewed	MEIDL, STACI A (Person)	38 yr. old, White, Female	████████
Interviewed	VANSTRATEN, RANDY T (Person)	45 yr. old, White, Male	████████
Interviewed	ZIMMERMAN, RYAN J (Person)	30 yr. old, White, Male	████████
Person of Interest	Avery, Charles Earl (Person)	51 yr. old, White, Male	████████
Victim	Halbach, Teresa Marie (Person)	25 yr. old, White, Female	████████

Documents

Document
DOJ / DCI Property Receipt # C-5069
Menards Store Documents related to AVERY family

Narrative begins on the following page.

On Monday, November 7, 2005 from approximately 10:40 am until 11:35 am, S/A James A. Sielehr and S/A Kevin Heimerl traveled to the MENARDS store in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. MENARDS Store # 3141 was located at 5120 Calumet Avenue, Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220, business telephone (920) 686-4288. The purpose of the visit to the MENARDS store was due to the fact that information had been received that CHUCK AVERY and STEVEN AVERY might have been present at the MENARDS store on November 3, 2005 at approximately 9:00 pm.

S/As Sielehr and Heimerl met with MENARDS store General Manager RANDY T. VANSTRATEN, (white male, DOB: [REDACTED]). VANSTRATEN currently resided at [REDACTED], Manitowoc, WI 54220, home telephone number [REDACTED], work telephone number (920) 686-4288. Also present during this interview was STACI A. MEIDL (white female, DOB: [REDACTED]). MEIDL currently resides at [REDACTED], Valders, Wisconsin 54245, home telephone number [REDACTED]. Also taking part in this interview, via telephonic contact, was RYAN J. ZIMMERMAN, (white male, DOB: [REDACTED]), currently residing at [REDACTED], Green Bay, Wisconsin 54302, telephone number [REDACTED] and cellular number [REDACTED]. ZIMMERMAN is the Assistant Store Manager at MENARDS store # 3141.

The interview with VANSTRATEN, MEIDL, and ZIMMERMAN took place in the employee break room area within the MENARDS store.

VANSTRATEN, MEIDL and ZIMMERMAN voluntarily provided the following information:

VANSTRATEN provided S/As Sielehr and Heimerl with a computer print out of guest order summary reports and transactional inquiry data as related to CHUCK AVERY, STEVEN AVERY and other members of the AVERY family. (SEE ATTACHED COPIES OF DOCUMENTS).

Both CHUCK AVERY and STEVEN AVERY were present at the MENARDS store on Thursday November 3, 2005 between approximately 8:00 pm and 9:00 pm. MEIDL specifically recalled personally observing STEVEN AVERY with another unknown male, believed to be CHUCK AVERY, and that they were driving a flatbed type truck and STEVEN AVERY was wearing flannel type clothing. MEIDL recalled STEVEN AVERY, due to the fact that STEVEN AVERY'S photo had been quite visible in the local newspapers and television news reports. MEIDL had been working at the front desk/service desk area when MEIDL observed STEVEN AVERY and the other unknown male.

ZIMMERMAN recalled being present at the MENARDS store on Thursday November 3, 2005 when fellow MENARDS employee DEREK JOHNSON recognized STEVEN AVERY and then DEREK JOHNSON advised ZIMMERMAN that this particular individual was STEVEN AVERY. JOHNSON had recognized STEVEN AVERY due to

the fact that STEVEN AVERY'S photo had been visible within the local newspapers and television news reports.

After VANSTRATEN had reviewed the computer printouts related to order forms and transactional inquiries, VANSTRATEN advised S/A Sielehr that CHUCK and STEVEN AVERY appeared to have been purchasing building material for an 18 foot by 14 foot structure, which was believed to be some type of storage shed.

S/A Sielehr then requested that VANSTRATEN check the MENARDS store security video system to see if there was any recorded video showing STEVEN AVERY and CHUCK AVERY at the MENARDS store on Thursday, November 3, 2005 between approximately 8:00 pm and 9:00 pm. S/As Sielehr and Heimerl and VANSTRATEN then walked over to the security video room within the MENARDS store and viewed VHS tapes containing recorded security video footage of the MENARDS store on November 3, 2005.

At approximately 8:06 pm on Thursday, November 3, 2005, the MENARDS store security video system captured video footage of STEVEN AVERY and CHUCK AVERY passing through cash register # 14, which was captured on video by camera #11, with employee SUSAN VANG being the cash register clerk. S/A Sielehr requested that VANSTRATEN provide S/A Sielehr with the two VHS tapes covering the security video footage of this time in question. VANSTRATEN voluntarily relinquished custody of the two VHS tapes to S/A Sielehr for evidentiary handling.

VANSTRATEN advised that the MENARDS store security manager was DENNIS ANDERSON of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, business telephone (715) 876-2404. VANSTRATEN advised S/A Sielehr to contact ANDERSON if S/A Sielehr had any questions regarding the recorded video on the two VHS tapes.

S/A Sielehr assigned DOJ/DCI-37 property receipt # C5069 to the above denoted two VHS security tapes. On December 15, 2005, S/A Sielehr relinquished custody of the two VHS tapes denoted under DCI – 37 property receipt # C5069 to LARRY FLESSERT, forensic video technician, for further analysis and enhancement for better viewing purposes. On January 17, 2006, FLESSERT relinquished custody of the two VHS tapes to S/A Sielehr for storage in the DCI evidence room. FLESSERT also provided S/A Sielehr with a DVD, which contained a copy of the video footage from the VHS tapes, specifically related to CHUCK & STEVEN AVERY going through the cash register line as mentioned above. S/A Sielehr immediately forwarded the DVD to S/A Tom Fassbender, Appleton DCI regional office. (SEE ATTACHED COPY OF THE DCI -37 PROPERTY RECEIPT # C-5069).

The interview with VANSTRATEN, MEIDL and ZIMMERMAN was terminated at approximately 11:35 am on November 7, 2005.

RT