

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

ACISS Investigative 05-1776/8

Report Date: 11/08/2005

Primary Information	
Description:	TERESA MARIE HALBACH: Interview/Brent Behnke
Occurrence From:	11/06/2005 13:00
Occurrence To:	11/06/2005 13:20
Dissemination Code:	Agency
Reporting LEO:	Heimerl, Kevin L (Appleton Arson DCI / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)
Backup LEO:	Wilson, Lisa A (Arson DCI / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)
Approval Status:	Approved
Approved Date:	11/14/2005
Approved By:	Kelly, Carolyn S (Madison Arson DCI)

Related Addresses	
Address	Relationship
9315 Fox Ln, Two Rivers, Wisconsin, United States of America	Interview Location
12930 Avery Rd, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241, United States of America	Suspect Location

Related Subjects					
Name	Type	Sex	Race	DOB	Relationship
Avery's Auto Salvage	Business	---	---	---	Subject of Interest
Behnke, Brent G	Person	Male	White	11/18/1980	Interviewed
Avery, Charles Earl	Person	Male	White	07/13/1954	Mentioned
Avery, Earl Kevin	Person	Male	White	06/10/1970	Mentioned
Avery, Steven Allen Sr	Person	Male	White	07/09/1962	Mentioned
Guex, Brian M	Person	Male	White	11/03/1980	Mentioned
Wenzel, Gerald J	Person	Male	White	12/24/1958	Mentioned
Halbach, Teresa Marie	Person	Female	White	03/22/1980	Victim

Record Status Information	
Record Origination Operator:	Knutson, Andrea L (DCI Appleton Field Office / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)
Record Origination Date:	11/09/2005 12:56
Last Update Operator:	Kelly, Carolyn S (Wisconsin Statewide Intelligence Center DCI)
Last Update Date:	11/14/2005 09:15

Reporting LEO	Date	Supervisor	Date
Heimerl, Kevin L (Appleton Arson DCI / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)		Kelly, Carolyn S (Madison Arson DCI)	9/12/2016

Narrative begins on the following page.

On November 6, 2005, S/A Kevin L. Heimerl and S/A Lisa Wilson assisted with the investigation of the missing person Teresa Marie Halbach, in the Town of Gibson, Manitowoc County, WI. S/A Heimerl and S/A Wilson conducted an interview with Brent G. Behnke, W/M, DOB 11/18/1980, who resides at 9315 Fox Lane, Two Rivers, WI, cell phone 920-323-4924. Investigators interviewed Behnke after receiving information from Brian Guex, a friend of Behnke's, that Behnke had been at Avery's Auto Salvage on the morning of Saturday, 11/05/2005.

The interview with Behnke occurred on 11/06/2005, at 1:00 p.m., at Behnke's residence. Brent Behnke stated that he is familiar with the Avery family and their business, as he has done business with the Avery salvage yard on many occasions in the past for the purpose of purchasing automotive parts. Behnke stated that on Saturday, 11/05/2005, at approximately 9:30 a.m., he went to Avery's salvage yard for the purpose of finding a pair of headlights for a vehicle he was working on. He stated when he arrived at the business, Earl Avery was present at the business. Behnke stated he went into the salvage yard looking for the pair of headlights and ultimately prepared to leave the business at approximately 11:00 to 11:15 a.m. Behnke stated when he was preparing to leave the business he was in contact with Earl Avery. Behnke stated he did not have to pay for this pair of headlights and believed he did not have to pay for the headlights because he does business with the Averys very often and there have been occasions in the past when Behnke has not had to pay for small parts. Behnke also stated that Earl Avery had given Behnke a junked transmission for Behnke to examine, as he was repairing a similar type transmission.

Behnke stated when he was leaving the business, and earlier that morning while he was at the business, he noted that the business was quite busy. He stated that he did not see Steve Avery at the business that morning. Initially Behnke did not share with investigators the information concerning Earl Avery acting unusual. Investigators asked Behnke if anything unusual occurred while he was at the business. Behnke stated that, when he was preparing to leave, he was speaking with Earl Avery and asking Earl Avery questions. He stated that Earl Avery appeared to be very distracted, which was abnormal for him. Behnke stated that he was standing outside near the "old shop" speaking with Earl Avery, when he asked Avery a couple of questions and Avery was looking around and appeared distracted and was not responding to Behnke's questions.

Behnke also provided information concerning an observation he made on the evening of Thursday, 11/03/2005. Behnke stated that he was at the Menard's store in Manitowoc at approximately 9:00 p.m. He stated while at Menard's he saw Chuck and Steve Avery in their new flatbed tow truck. He stated that Chuck and Steve Avery were just leaving Menard's and had building supplies, to include lumber and insulation, on the flatbed of their truck. Behnke stated on 11/05/2005, while he was at Avery's salvage yard, he asked Earl Avery which of his brothers he saw at Menard's two nights earlier and he was told that Chuck and Steve Avery would have been at Menard's and they were gathering building supplies to go up to their cabin in northern Wisconsin.

Investigators asked Behnke if he had seen the recent news coverage involving the missing female and he stated he has. He stated he did not know Teresa Halbach previously. He stated that he

has not seen that female in the area. Behnke was also asked if he had seen Teresa Halbach's Toyota Rav 4 at Avery's, or any other Toyota Rav 4's at Avery's while he was there, and he stated that he did not. Behnke was asked when he was last at Avery's salvage yard prior to 11/05/2005. He stated it would have been approximately 2 to 3 weeks earlier.

Behnke was asked if he recalled seeing any other customers at Avery's salvage yard on the morning of 11/05/2005 that he was familiar with. He stated that he saw a farmer from the area that he knew, however, he does not know that farmer's name. He also stated that he saw a subject who he knows by the name of Jerry Wenzel and Wenzel's son, at Avery's salvage yard that morning. Behnke stated he only knows that Wenzel lives on Memorial Drive in Manitowoc. He stated he is aware that Jerry Wenzel and his son work on automobiles.

Behnke provided no further information, and the contact was terminated at approximately 1:20 p.m.