

Wisconsin DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation

ACISS Investigative 05-1776/100

Report Date: 11/16/2005

Primary Information	
Description:	TERESA MARIE HALBACH: Interview/Thomas Janda
Occurrence From:	11/12/2005 09:50
Occurrence To:	11/12/2005 11:17
Dissemination Code:	Agency
Reporting LEO:	Heimerl, Kevin L (Appleton Arson DCI / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)
Backup LEO:	Dederling, John (Investigator / Calumet County Sheriff's Department)
Approval Status:	Approved
Approved Date:	11/18/2005
Approved By:	Kelly, Carolyn S (Madison Arson DCI)

Related Addresses	
Address	Relationship
1914 Michigan Ave, Manitowoc, Wisconsin , United States of America	Interview Location
12930 Avery Rd #A, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241 , United States of America	Suspect Location

Related Subjects					
Name	Type	Sex	Race	DOB	Relationship
Auto Trader	Business	---	---	--	Mentioned
Woodland Face Veneer LLC	Business	---	---	--	Mentioned
Avery's Auto Salvage	Business	---	---	--	Subject of Interest
Janda, Thomas Lee	Person	Male	White	09/26/1965	Interviewed
Avery, Charles Earl	Person	Male	White	07/13/1954	Mentioned
Avery, Earl Kevin	Person	Male	White	06/10/1970	Mentioned
Dassey, Blaine A	Person	Male	White	12/03/1988	Mentioned
Dassey, Bobby A	Person	Male	White	10/18/1986	Mentioned
Dassey, Brendan R	Person	Male	Unknown	10/19/1989	Mentioned
Dassey, Bryan J	Person	Male	White	07/15/1985	Mentioned
Dassey, Peter	Person	Male	Unknown	--	Mentioned
Janda, Barbara Ellen	Person	Female	White	11/07/1964	Mentioned
Janda, Daniel J	Person	Male	White	10/02/1938	Mentioned
Osmunson, Mike	Person	Male	Unknown	--	Mentioned
Pribl, Joseph	Person	Male	Unknown	--	Mentioned
Stachowski, Jodi Marie	Person	Female	White	09/11/1969	Mentioned
Avery, Steven Allen Sr	Person	Male	White	07/09/1962	Person of Interest
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:	11/17/2005 12:12
Last Update Operator:	Kelly, Carolyn S (Wisconsin Statewide Intelligence Center DCI)
Last Update Date:	11/18/2005 14:53

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Report Date: 11/16/2005

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 12, 2005, at 9:50 a.m., S/A Kevin L. Heimerl and Calumet County Sheriff's Department Investigator John Dederling conducted an interview of Thomas L. Janda, W/M, DOB 09/26/1965, who resides at 1914 Michigan Avenue, Manitowoc, WI, 920-684-6327. Thomas Janda agreed to meet with investigators for this interview, after S/A Heimerl spoke with him on approximately two occasions to schedule the interview. The interview was conducted at Janda's residence. For the purpose of this report, after subjects are first identified they will be referred to by their first names.

Approximately five minutes after initiating the interview, Janda's father, Daniel J. Janda, W/M, DOB 10/02/1938, arrived at the residence. Thomas requested to have his father present during the interview. Daniel remained present during the interview.

Thomas spoke very openly with investigators and did not appear to withhold any information. Thomas also became emotional and cried at several points during the interview. Thomas provided the following information:

Thomas stated he currently resides at this residence with his brother. Thomas stated he is employed at Woodland Face Veneer, in Two Rivers, WI. He stated he has been employed at that business for approximately two years. Thomas does not have any children. Thomas is currently married to Barbara Janda, and they were married on 03/13/1998. This was Thomas' first marriage and Barbara's second marriage. He stated Barbara was previously married to Peter Dassey. Peter and Barbara had four children, identified as Bryan Dassey, Bobby Dassey, Blaine Dassey, and Brendan Dassey. At the time of Thomas and Barbara's marriage they resided in Whitelaw, WI with Barbara's 4 sons. They resided there for approximately five years. They then moved to the Avery Road residence and lived there for three years with Barbara's four sons. Thomas stated he and Barbara were the first ones to live in that residence, at an address he identified as 12930A Avery Road. Thomas stated he knew Barbara for approximately eight years prior to their marriage. He stated he has known the Avery family for approximately 15 years, which began at the time that he first began dating Barbara.

Thomas stated that, along with his employment at Woodland Face Veneer, Barbara also works at Woodland Face Veneer. She has been employed there for approximately three to four years, since the business started. He also stated that Barbara's son, Bryan, has been employed at Woodland Face Veneer for one year. He stated all three of them work the day shift.

Thomas stated that he first met Steven Avery while Steven was incarcerated in the Wisconsin State Prison System. He stated that he first met Steven after he began dating Barbara. Thomas stated he did not know any of the other Avery family members prior to meeting and dating Barbara.

Thomas stated that he and Barbara are currently split up, and he stated he moved out of the residence on 10/15/2005. He stated that the divorce proceedings have been filed pro se, however, they are not legally separated. Thomas stated that he has been told by Barbara that she "fell out of love" with him and believes that is the primary reason the relationship has deteriorated. He stated the relationship has been deteriorating for some time.

Thomas was asked if he had ever met Teresa Halbach or had ever seen her on the Avery property, and he stated he never saw Teresa and was not aware of her until he saw the media coverage surrounding the investigation.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning any previous knowledge he had regarding vehicles being sold by any Avery family members through Auto Trader. He stated that he and Barbara had a 1987 Porsche 924S, which was black in color. He stated that they attempted to sell this vehicle, however, the vehicle was never sold. He stated he and Barbara attempted to sell the vehicle through Auto Trader a couple of months previous. He stated Steven was attempting to sell the vehicle for them because he and Barbara were normally gone to work during the day. Thomas stated that he did not know for sure if Steven ever had the vehicle published in Auto Trader. He stated that he believes Steven told him at one point that someone had come to the property to take a picture of that vehicle, however, he was not sure. Thomas further stated that he and Barbara had talked about putting a 1969 Lincoln in Auto Trader, however, they did not.

Investigators spoke with Thomas about his knowledge of Steven's involvement with Auto Trader. Thomas stated that, approximately one year earlier, Steven began working with Auto Trader. He stated, prior to that time, the Averys would not sell cars. He stated it was his belief that the involvement with Auto Trader was Steven's endeavor.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning a 1989 Plymouth Voyager van that was owned by he and Barbara and had apparently had been for sale. Thomas stated that this vehicle was Barbara's van and Barbara had been trying to sell the vehicle for some time. He stated that, prior to he and Barbara splitting up, she had tried to sell the van by word-of-mouth. Thomas did not know what the asking price was for the van.

Thomas was questioned concerning his knowledge and involvement at the salvage business owned by the Averys. He stated that he "tended to stay away from the salvage business." Thomas stated that, approximately three to four years after meeting Barbara, he began working at the business on his free time. He stated he would go down to the salvage business and help with duties, to include stripping cars or removing materials from the vehicles. He stated he did this mainly to gain knowledge of vehicles so he could do his own vehicle work on his own vehicles. He stated that this occurred mainly during the summer months, and he did it for one summer and then quit because, as he stated, he always "got the crap jobs." Thomas stated after this occurred, he quit hanging around the business and at about the same time he began devoting his free time to fishing with Barbara's sons.

Thomas discussed the impound area of the business and stated that the Averys built the impound area thinking they would get a lot of business through Manitowoc County, however, he stated they never really got the business they expected.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning his relationship with the Avery sons. He stated that he got to know Chuck and Earl Avery better than he got to know Steven Avery. He stated, after Steven's release from prison, Thomas was "skeptical." He stated that he went to visit Steven in

prison, always with Barbara, and estimated that he visited Steven approximately 20 times. Thomas stated, after Steven was released from prison and came home, Thomas did not want to be "in his picture." Thomas was asked if he noticed any change in Steven after Steven's release from prison. Thomas stated he did see changes in Steven and described them as emotional changes. He stated, after Steven was released from prison, he found that Steven was "giddy" and further described him as acting like a kid. He stated, after some time, Steven began doing "stupid things." Investigators asked Thomas for examples of these stupid things, and Thomas stated that Steven began arguing down at the salvage yard if things did not go his way, he would get mad. Thomas further stated it seemed to him like Steven was depressed a lot. Thomas stated that several of the Avery family members suggested that Steven get counseling, however, he did not believe that Steven ever got any type of counseling.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning the media attention surrounding Steven after his release from prison. Thomas stated he believed that Steven loved the media attention, however, after some time, Steven expressed a wish that the media would leave him alone. Thomas stated that Steven appeared happier when the media was not present.

Investigators asked Thomas if he was aware of any crimes committed by Steven after his release from prison. Thomas replied to that question "yes." Thomas stated that he was aware that Steven had beat up his girlfriend, Jodi, the previous year, while she lived with Steven. Thomas stated he did not see this occur. Thomas stated he believed that Steven had gotten arrested for that incident.

Thomas was asked if he had ever been inside Steven Avery's home. He stated he had been in Steven's home on several occasions, but described it as always being "in and out" and he never spent much time in Steven's home. Thomas stated he has never seen firearms in Steven's home. Thomas stated it was his understanding that Steven was not a convicted felon. He stated he believed that, because of Steven's release, his prior record had been wiped clean. Thomas was not aware that Steven had been convicted of felonies prior to the long incarceration. Thomas stated he knows that Steven deer hunted in the past. He stated he knows that Steven deer hunted the previous year in Stephenson Township in Marinette County. Thomas stated he saw Steven with a firearm in his possession last fall. Thomas stated he believed Steven also hunted the previous year, the fall of 2003. Thomas stated he believed that Steven shot a deer two hunting seasons previous, in the fall of 2003. He stated he has never seen Steven hunt around the Two Rivers or Manitowoc County area, and has never seen Steven in possession of a firearm in the Manitowoc County area.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning his knowledge of Steven's income. He stated that Steven's primary income comes from the salvage yard business. He also stated he believed that Steven had received \$25,000 from the State of Wisconsin after his release from prison. Thomas was asked if he had ever seen Steven driving the newer large black pick up truck. He stated Steven did drive this truck for awhile, however, he believed that Steven stopped driving this truck as often as he had previously.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning his knowledge of burning done by Steven on the property. He stated that Steven often burned in the pit behind his garage and stated that Steven would often burn as many as two times a week, however, there were occasions when he would not burn at all during the week. He stated Steven would burn tires and scrap wood and would normally burn at night to disguise the smoke generated by the burning tires. Thomas stated that, while he resided at his residence with Barbara, he would normally burn his household garbage. When the burn barrel would become approximately half full of ash, he would take the burn barrels to the dump in Whitelaw. He stated Steven would normally burn his own household garbage in Steven's burn barrel in the front of Steven's residence. Thomas was asked if there was any certain pattern as to when Steven would burn his household garbage. He stated that Steven always changed the day or time when he would burn his garbage and there did not appear to be any specific pattern to it. Thomas was asked if he had ever seen Steven put tires in the burn barrels. He stated he has seen Steven put tires in the burn barrels in the past. Thomas was asked if a tire would fit in the barrel, and he stated that Steven would place the tire on the rim on top of the burn barrel. Thomas was asked if he felt it would be uncommon for Steven to burn a car seat. He stated this was not uncommon and stated that, if the car seats were no good, Steven would normally get rid of them by burning them.

Thomas was asked if he knew whether or not Steven locked his home. Thomas stated he did not know if Steven locked his home.

Thomas was asked if he had ever heard Steven speaking in a negative manner about women. He stated it was not uncommon for Steven to speak in derogatory terms about women. He stated he would refer to them as "stupid bitches."

Thomas was asked if he had ever returned to the Avery property or his residence after he moved out on 10/15/2005. He stated he only returned once, and stated that was on a Friday after work on the date which he believed was two weeks previous to the interview. Thomas stated on that date he went over to his residence, and stated this was a date when Barbara was off work that day. He stated after he finished with work he went to his residence, and arrived at approximately 3:30 p.m. He stated he was going there to get his tree stand out of the woods in Kewaunee County. He stated Barbara went with him and they traveled to the woods in Kewaunee County. He stated Barbara traveled in her own vehicle and he traveled in his own vehicle. He stated this property is located on Manitowoc Road, and this property is owned by Joseph Pribl. He stated, while he was at the Avery property prior to leaving to go to the Kewaunee County land, he recalled seeing an airplane flying extremely low over the Avery property. He stated the airplane was flying so low that he could see the pilot inside. He stated he asked Barbara about the low-flying airplane and Barbara explained to him that someone was missing. Thomas stated that he was at Barbara's residence that day for approximately ten minutes. He also stated he recalled that Bobby Dassey and his friend, Mike Osmunson, were present at Barb's residence at the same time.

Investigators asked Thomas when he first learned about the investigation surrounding Teresa. He stated he first learned about it when he saw it on the news the weekend prior to the interview. Thomas stated on the morning of Saturday, 11/05/2005, he went hunting off of Krueger Road,

north of STH 147. He stated on the following Monday, 11/07/2005, he went to work and everyone at work was asking him if he had seen the news about the Averys. He stated he did not believe that Barbara was present at work that Monday and he knows that Bryan was not present at work on that Monday. He stated he believed that Wednesday, 11/09/2005, was Barbara's first day back at work.

Investigators asked Thomas if he had any conversations with Barbara concerning the investigation. He stated that initially Barbara did not believe that Steven had "done it." He stated on Friday, 11/11/2005, Barbara told him that if he is convicted of it with DNA, then he deserves what he gets. Thomas further stated, however, that Barbara believes that the evidence was planted. Thomas stated, aside from Barbara, he has not spoken to any of the other Averys during the second week of November.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning Steven's residency in an ice shack on the Avery property after his release from incarceration. Thomas stated he believes that Steven was living in that ice shack for publicity reasons. He stated at that time all of the Avery family members invited Steven to move into their homes, however, Steven declined all of the invitations. He stated at that time all Steven ever talked about was the money he was going to make from the lawsuit.

Investigators spoke with Thomas concerning the presence of headlights or vehicles in the salvage yard during the evening hours. He stated when he lived with Barbara at the Avery property, on occasion there would be headlights seen in the salvage yard at night. He stated it was customary for one of the brothers to go and investigate the headlights. He stated at times one of the brothers would go down into the pit to look for people associated with the vehicles traveling in the salvage yard during the evening. He stated it is not an uncommon occurrence for headlights to be seen in the salvage yard at night.

At the conclusion of the interview, Thomas explained that there have been several occasions in the recent two weeks where a suspicious blue/green two-door car has followed either he or his parents home to his residence. Thomas stated that he is concerned about this vehicle and has no idea who may be operating this vehicle.

Thomas Janda provided no further information and the interview was concluded at approximately 11:17 a.m.